

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION 2023



In the spirit of collaboration, this year's Thanksgiving Proclamation comprises voices and wishes from within and beyond our Association. You are invited to share the headlines in large font in unison and ask individuals in your congregation or at your holiday gathering to read the offerings that follow.

WE GIVE THANKS
for God's plenty

Hands, time, dedication, men, women, children,
volunteers, music, family, second-chances

The pastors hug each other here
and our city smiles.

into the wild
alone yet held close
sacred sylvan space

The Bell Well gift for the Mission School of Hope,
emblematic of abundant generosity and the im-
pactful ministries of our global partners

WITH UNITED HEARTS,
we humbly pray

For our neighbors without adequate housing
in the "Land of Plenty"

Hesed over brokenness, Healing over
fracture, Hope over darkness, Shalom

If we are to help create peace in the Middle East,
Africa, and Ukraine, then we must with our
whole hearts that creating this
peace is possible.

AS FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS, we resolve to

be humbled by
Your Grace;
thus obedient
to Your word

be thankful,
awake, and
respond with
radical love

respond to God's loving
generosity through the
same spirit of generous love
in acts of justice and peace

see all others the way
Jesus sees us

MAY IT BE SO.
Amen.

With gratitude for our writers

Joseph Leggett, First Congregational Church of Spencer, IA | *Rev. Jacob Richards*, First Congregational Church of Portland, MI | *Kim Davis*, Grace Church, Columbiana, OH | *Amana Mbise*, First Congregational Church, Anchorage, AK | *Rev. Bette Bond*, Second Congregational Church, Warren, ME | *Tim Uthmann*, Pilgrim Center for Reconciliation, Edina, MN | *Rev. Dr. Daniel Rodriguez Schlorff* (he/him), Third Congregational Church, Middletown, CT | *Pastor Matt Stafford*, First Congregational Church, Hutchinson, KS | *Rev. Tesha Kathryn Urban*, First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, WI | *Rev. Michael Carter*, First Congregational Church of South Paris, ME | *Benjamin Fisher*, Olivet Congregational Church, Olivet, MI