



# UP Church

*Love God. Love Others.*

January 2018

[www.upcwash.org](http://www.upcwash.org)

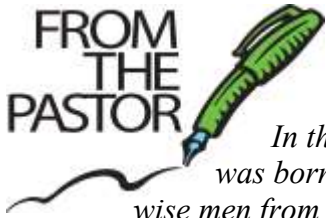


*Year in Review*

## January Highlights

5 Mobile Food Pantry  
 9 PNC Meeting  
 10 PW Meeting  
 16 Finance Meeting

17 Session Meeting  
 18 Book Club  
 21 Officer Training  
 26-28 Quake  
 28 Annual Meeting/Potluck



*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem ...*

Following a star  
Searching  
Searching for one who will change the world

Unlikely king  
Child  
Born king of the Jews

Overwhelming joy  
Doing worship  
Offering gifts

Us too  
Searching in unlikely places  
Changed by our encounter with Christmas

Wishing you and yours the blessings of a New Year. Pastor Bill



ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

**The Annual Congregational Meeting and Lunch** will immediately follow the 10:30 worship service on **Sunday, January 28 .**

We will gather in the fellowship hall for a potluck meal. (Meat and drinks are provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share).

Following our meal there will be a brief meeting which will review the highlights of the past year and look ahead into 2018.

Please plan to attend for fellowship and discernment of God's will for our church.

It's a new year and that means unveiling our **new logos!** Many people were involved in the process of creating and designing these logos, but we'd like to especially thank April Cuddeback and Diana Rich for all of their hard work!

Below you will find the 6 new logos (and their accompanying colors) and a description of what they will be used for. We hope they are helpful in finding information in the different areas of the church.



Main UPC Logo, Worship Info, Office Info



Adult Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study, etc.



Music Info, Praise Band, Choir, Bell Choir, etc



Nursery-Elementary Aged, VBS, Day Camp, Sunday School, etc.



Mission Info, Mission Trips, Local Missions, Deacons, etc.



Middle-High School Aged, Crew, Inside Out, etc.



One of life-in-Iowa's great contradictions is the fact that just a few days ago, we celebrated a gift from God that was to be the Light of the World! Yet Iowa in January is dark and cold. We wake up in the dark, we work all day while the sun is up, and we drive home in the dark again.

Researchers have found that humans have an annual cycle that we go through. It has to do with the amount of light and darkness in our lives. Doctors have tested attention levels of people who have been exposed to large amounts of light and darkness in clinical tests to see if we really do respond to situations differently according to our light vs. dark environment.

It's not totally surprising to find out that we respond more positively in summer months than we do in winter months. We can hold our attention longer on the tasks at hand, and our attention is of greater detail during summer. Generally, the highest level of attention to detail was recorded at the summer solstice, and the lowest level is at the winter solstice.

If you're feeling like the long dark nights are getting you down, it's highly likely that you're not the only one who dislikes the weeks surrounding the winter solstice.

But researchers, as they often do, tend to leave off one very important element in their research. They leave off the element that is the most un-measurable, the most under-estimated, yet the most important in our lives. They leave off the affect the gift of Jesus has on us.

As followers of Christ we have a light that burns in our hearts 24/7. This light never fails, never goes out, never gets shut off because we forget to pay the bill. This light will never leave us cold because we stumble and fall on our journey. This light will never leave the path to Jesus un-lit.

Ours is the light of the world. And it lights our way even as we walk through overwhelming struggles and monumental challenges in our lives. Ours is the light of all time that illumines our steps and shows us the way to salvation. Ours is the light of the universe that dwarfs the sun and shadows the moon. Ours is the light that moves angels to sing of His glory.

Our light is the light of Christ, our Savior and our friend, who knows our grief, who understands our confusion, who eases our frustration and forgives our short-comings. Our light does not judge us one against another, but offers total and unending grace to all. Ours is the light of love, charity, hope, and peace.

Our light is Jesus, the newborn babe. It's Jesus, the great teacher. Our light is Jesus the great sacrifice, the great Redeemer and Savior.

Even as we go through a season of short days and long nights, His light is never dimmed, never extinguished, and never denied. In 2018, carry the light of Jesus close to your heart, and share it with the world as often as possible.

***I have come into the world as a light, Jesus says, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. (John 12:46)***



Thanks to  
all of the  
Children  
and Youth  
who  
helped  
make the  
Christmas  
Program  
so special!

## INSIDE OUT

(Senior High Ministry)

January 7: 6:30pm @ UP Church to Kick-Off 2018  
January 14: 6:30pm @ UP Church  
January 21: 6:30pm @ UP Church  
January 28: 6:30pm @ UP Church

## CREW

(Middle School Ministry)

January 7: 3:30pm @ UP Church  
January 14: 3:30pm @ UP Church  
January 26-28: Quake (more info below)

## Confirmation

January 24: 1:30pm @ UP Church  
February 2-3: Confirmation Retreat

Yes, we are sneaking in a February event in the January newsletter, but it's early February, so it's okay. Our retreat this year will be held at Crooked Creek Christian Camp. We are looking forward to a time of fun, discussion, spiritual growth, and (of course) food.

## Youth Quake

*"I HAVE TOLD YOU THESE THINGS, SO THAT IN ME YOU MAY HAVE PEACE. IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD."*  
JOHN 16:33



The Theme for Quake this year is *Overcome*, and we are excited about this opportunity to attend Quake again this year as part of our Middle School Ministry.

We will be leaving Washington on Friday after school (26th) and heading to the event in Des Moines. We will be back mid-afternoon on Sunday (28th).

See Jared if you would like to attend with us ([upwashyouth@gmail.com](mailto:upwashyouth@gmail.com))!



## Children's Christmas Program

For those of you unable to attend our joyful Children's Christmas Program on December 10<sup>th</sup>, you missed a very special service – full of energy and some laughter, too.

The pre-school nursery kids began by so enthusiastically singing their song about what the animals "said" when baby Jesus was born. Following that were several small skits, including a "story time" for the parents in attendance!

The kids and youth were well-prepared, the costumes were fabulous, the scenery perfect and . . . the kids did a wonderful job of sharing the story of Jesus' birth from many perspectives!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE OF YOU WHO MADE THAT SPECIAL MORNING POSSIBLE: Jared Long, Krista Gaal, Julie Zahs, Kori Rich, Tracy Strabala, Jordan Youngman, Brenda Miles, Barb Schreur, Carolyn Bollman, Ginny Bordwell and Butch Zwicky.

# the saturday kitchen

taste and see that the Lord is good!

## Saturday Kitchen Touches ALL – Hosts AND Guests!

Below is a copy of a thank you note our church received from our friends of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints following their Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, first hosting of the Saturday Kitchen. It's just a reminder of how blessed we are to have the opportunity to share ourselves and our church facility with others in our community each Saturday.

*"Presbyterian Church,  
We just wanted to thank you for the opportunity to serve the wonderful people in Washington at the Saturday Kitchen. We all had a humbling experience as we served each of them. We all loved seeing their faces light up as we spoke to them. They loved our youth and that brought smiles to each of their faces. Thank you so much for letting us use your piano. We love music and could tell the people enjoyed it also. We are excited to serve the people again in this great community. Thanks again.*

*Ellen Branham, Relief Society President  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints"*

We are so fortunate here in Washington to have so many caring churches and groups, like the Mormons, wanting to be a part of the special, Saturday Kitchen Ministry. If you have questions or would like to help when our church family hosts in the future: Contact Joe or Marde McConnell: Call 653-3884 or email at [mconnellmj@mchsi.com](mailto:mconnellmj@mchsi.com).

## LET LOVE AND JUSTICE FLOW!

As 2017 comes to a close and a new year is upon us, we, your Board of Deacons, are taking a look at the ministries that we coordinated this past year and then where we want to be heading in 2018. When deacons are ordained and installed, we vow to “share the love and justice of our Lord Jesus to all, by showing concern and extending help to the friendless and to all those in need.” Another way of saying this is to “Live as Examples of Jesus.” It is a short phrase but it includes quite an overwhelming list:

Inspire faithful use of gifts & talents.	Teach us to be merciful
Prompt us...to worship God with our whole being.	Minister to the rich and poor alike.
Be compassionate to the needy.	Respect their need for dignity.
Be sensitive to victims of harm.	Reach out to the lonely
Encourage with words that create hope.	Encourage with deeds that bring joy.
Be proactive to those victims of injustice.	

And there is more! Make sure that your lives are above reproach and that you are living as an example of Jesus. As 2018 rolls in, may each of us strive to “Live as Examples of Jesus”. What an impossible standard that is! Can all those things really be expected of us? Yet to each of us Jesus says, “Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, learn from me, and you will find rest for your souls, for the yoke is easy and His burden is light.”

Happy New Year from your Board of Deacons!



Did you know that when you make a prayer request for our church email prayer chain, 91 households in our church family will be receiving this and lifting you up in their daily prayers! If you would like to be on this prayer chain, please contact Deacon Mary Atwood ([maryjoyatwood@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoyatwood@gmail.com)). If you would like to request a prayer, that request must be made by the individual to Mary. Let us continue to strive to be faithful servants as we offer up prayers of thanksgiving, for hope and peace each day!



*Thank You!*

The Deacons would like to thank the following people for their help delivering Meals on Wheels: Mary Atwood, Kevin Caldwell, Diana Henry, Kathy Hunt, Terry Mangold, Ally, Bailey, Blaine, and Mindi Rees, and Megan Strabala, We appreciate all of your help!



Articles for the  
**February**  
newsletter are due  
**Thursday, January 18th**



There is a tree in fellowship hall where you can add decorations of hats, mittens, gloves and scarves we are collecting to help children in our community stay warm.

Thank you to the bell ringers! We rang all day, Friday, December 15, for the Salvation Army. It is fun to greet so many passersby and help raise funds for our community. We had a schedule change last minute and it was great to have a congregation willing to help, some had to cancel and others filled in...thank you one and all.

### **Presbytery of East Iowa Houston Mission Trips!**

- \* These trip opportunities are to assist in disaster recovery, clean-up, and rebuilding from Hurricane Harvey
- \* Two Options: February 3-10, 2018 (10 Spots) and April 14-21, 2018 (25 Spots)
- \* Cost is \$100/person (does not include incidentals including food, souvenirs, possible hotel room, etc.)
- \* Registration online at <http://fullercenter.org/disaster-rebuilders/> Click on the link to register for the Texas location. Please indicate you are with the Presbytery of East Iowa and the dates in which you are attending.
- \* If you need help with this or have any questions, please contact Sarah Hegar, [sarah.f.hegar@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.f.hegar@gmail.com) or 319-217-9444.



Working the concessions at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. A great church mission-trip fundraiser!

Karen Dillon, Joe & Marde McConnell, Andy McCall, Erika Davis,  
Kathy Knutson, and Karen Trotman.

## Session Update

Everyone is busy getting ready for Christmas and then some, like the session, are looking beyond into the New Year. It was time to say “good bye” to members Billie Bruns, Jacob Thorius, Terry Mangold, and Meredith Raber (youth elder) and thank them for their years of service. We look forward to welcoming the new members at our January meeting. Pastor Bill made special mention of and gave thanks for Pastor Herb Yoder, our visitation pastor, and the Deacons for their wonderful, caring ministry.

During the meeting the Session approved the 2018 budget presented by the Finance Team and a budget for the Pastor Nominating Committee for costs incurred during the search for a new pastor. The date January 28, 2018 was set for the annual congregational meeting.

Even though it may not be apparent, the work in the sanctuary has begun again and we are reminded that we need to be patient and flexible during this time.

The Stewardship Committee was thanked for their great effort in getting pledges turned in. We're thankful that the Property team reports they have snow removal plans in place and we know sooner or later that will be needed. Mission reported, along with many other activities, they had adopted 10 HACAP families for Christmas!

There were reports from the Pastor Nominating Committee, the Music and Arts Director, Worship Task Force, the CE team, Treasurer, and Clerk. Terry Mangold reported on the Presbytery Meeting he attended in November.

For the New Year let's remember and live our Vision statement: “transforming lives by sharing the experience of God's love and acceptance” and our Values: “of demonstrating our commitment to being loving, welcoming, serving, nurturing, and generous.”

I hope all were able to experience the love and joy of Christmas this year and I wish you all God's blessing in the New Year.



The Feed & Read Book Club will next meet on **Thursday, January 18,** at 11:45 am in the Church Library.



**Presbyterian Women Monthly Meeting** will be Wednesday, January 10 in the UP Home at 9am.



New Items in the Library:

“T’was the Evening of Christmas” by Glenys Nellist.

This is a beautiful children’s book that retells the classical “T’was the Night Before Christmas”. All ages will enjoy this wonderful book!

Six cd’s featuring music from the Gaither Family Band have been added to the library! Come and check them out!



## Lost & Found

Lost articles can be claimed in the coat rack area across the hall from the Women’s bathroom.

The church’s web site ([www.upcwash.org](http://www.upcwash.org)) has much useful information including the current newsletter and church calendar.

**Facebook:** “Washington United Presbyterian Church” or “Kingdom Kids Preschool”

**E-mail:** Call the church office 653-6588) if we don’t have your email so that you can get the newsletter sent to you and other important announcements.





## Church Family News . . . just so you know!

A special thank you is given to Sue Reed for coordinating our Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army on Friday, December 15. There were young and old alike, singles and groups too, who gave of their time that Friday – groups like Karen Trotman who had her grandchildren ringing with her and, since WACO doesn't have school on Friday, the Coakley kids were there with their mom, Megan. A big thank you to the above mentioned kids and adults AND TO ALL the others of you in our church family who gave of your time to “ring the bell,” raising money for this very caring organization.

One of our church family members, Randy Pierce, recently reached out to a perfect stranger in need. He became aware that a Walmart customer's car battery had died. Randy offered to help the man - he went to his shop, returned with a battery charger and charged up the man's battery. The man was so grateful that he could now get on his way. Randy did this, sharing himself and God's love, humbly as he went about his daily “walk.” Let us all be as quietly caring to strangers and friends alike.

Thank you to our Jordan Youngman. He worked with HACAP so that Sunday School Classes and other groups and individuals in our church family could help other families in need over this Christmas season. These are parents wanting items, such as clothing, as well as toys for their children. Many of these families have had unusual health or work “issues” this past year and are very grateful for any donations given them to have their children have a Merry Christmas. More than 10 families will have a merrier Christmas thanks to the generosity of you, our church family. Thanks for your help in the coordination, Jordan.

*Connect with us on Facebook:*



“Washington United Presbyterian Church”

“The CROSSing Washington, Iowa”

“Kingdom Kids Preschool  
Washington Iowa”

1 Peyton Baughman	14 Janet Conrad
1 Jason Baughman	15 Gracie Cleverly
1 Grace Buckingham	15 Lou Slight
1 Kathy Hunt	15 Shelly Stewart
1 Lucky Lindsey	16 Vivian Griffith
1 Blu Lindsey	16 Gary Herlein
1 Cherry Lindsey	17 Larry Krotz
1 Connie Schuster	17 Brennen Westphal
1 Addy Sents	19 Randy Fehr
4 Amy Bruner	19 Jake Thorius
4 Henry Raber	20 Dani Kane
4 Aaron Rich	20 Andrew Kaufman
5 Kyle Anderson	22 Vernie Lowry
5 Esther Bordwell	22 Ted Stewart
6 Gabriela Anderson	23 Sarah Miles
6 Richard Schenk	23 Tyler Rees
7 Jackie Ross	24 Mary Holden
9 Linden Brinning	24 Kaylin Long
10 Roy Carter	24 Mitchell Stewart
10 Clem Griffith	25 Julie Mangold
11 Molly Sparks	26 Chandler Mullens
12 Davida Nicholson	28 Jillian Goff
13 Sarah Hall	28 Ellen Perdock
13 Maxine Martin	28 Lyle Stacy
13 Kora Miller	28 Shirley Whisler
13 Noah Rich	29 Rick Bordwell
13 Tracy Strabala	30 Cyndy McCall
13 Nick Wollenberg	31 Emerson Smith

### Church Contacts

P.O. Box 32  
209 E Main Street  
Washington, IA 52353  
319-653-6588

### Pastor

Rev. Bill Warhaver  
upwashpas-  
tor@gmail.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

Jessica Canny  
upsecretary@gmail.com

### Music & Arts Director

Butch Zwicki  
butchzwicki@gmail.com

### Director of Youth

Jared Long  
upwashyouth@gmail.com

### Kingdom Kids Preschool

Brenda Miles  
kkpwash@gmail.com