

# UPChurch

*Love God. Love Others.*

July/August 2019



## July/August Highlights

July 4th Office Closed  
July 10th Session  
July 21st-28th Synod School  
July 26th Summer Crew

July 2th WE HOST Saturday Kitchen  
July 29th Deacon Meeting  
August 2nd Summer Crew  
August 4th-8th VBS  
August 25th Annual Picnic



## From the Pastor...

Friends,

I have been thinking lately about how the words we choose matter. This is especially important as we consider people who come to our church to join us for worship or to participate in a program being held in our building. Are these folks visitors or guests? Here is why I think the word we choose matters...

A visitor is typically somebody who comes and goes without much preparation on our part or much thought afterward.

A guest is typically a person who is cared for and has been intentionally prepared to attend. Most of the time, a guest is somebody who is a participant... a person looking for a specific experience.

I'm curious how we treat the people who arrive at our building – sure we say we're welcoming and we're glad they're here, but do we go beyond that? Our communion service is a great example of this concept. Each time we celebrate communion, it is carefully prepared beforehand by a dedicated team of volunteers. Bread is made, juice is painstakingly poured into cups, the good silver is laid out, and the table is set. Recently we added gluten free crackers to extend the meal to those who might not be able to eat regular bread. Generally, I also include an invitation to the Table that reminds all of us that the food and drink on the table aren't ours, and we aren't the hosts. We are all the guests of a gracious God who has made the meal a possibility for all people. God cared enough to treat us as guests, not as visitors.

How do we extend the gracious welcome to others? Do we prepare ourselves and our place for guests, or do we prepare for visitors?

My prayer is that each person who enters our church will know that they are a valued child of God and that we are all guests around the table, welcomed and prepared for. My prayer also is that each of us will in turn extend an intentional welcome to others we encounter, both in our church building and in our daily lives – that we will see the people God places in our paths as guests in our lives, not visitors, and we will prepare and greet them accordingly.

Blessings on you this summer. Erin



*“Washington United Presbyterian Church”*

*“Kingdom Kids Preschool Washington, Iowa”*

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### **Kingdom Kids Preschool**

Brenda Miles  
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## Youth Mission Trip to Spirit Lake Reservation North Dakota

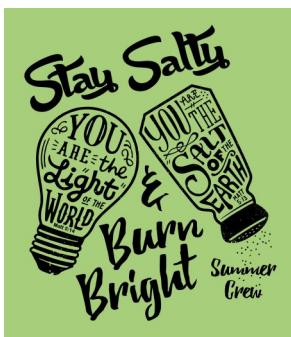
What an awesome trip! We were able to accomplish many tasks for Spirit Lake Ministry Center, meet a lot of people, and make a lasting impression on our youth. We are all very thankful for the support of this church. Please ask any of the following about their experiences on the trip as they'd be glad to share.

Gabriela Anderson	Roy Carter	Peyton Cuddeback	Sydney Cuddeback	Ori Hendrickson
Taytum Hobscheidt	Lincoln Kleese	Sophia Kleese	Chandler Mullens	Brennan Murphy
Keaton Murphy	Cooper Reed	Alec Schiefer	Ben Schiefer	Dawson Schluetter
Drake Schluetter	Dylan Smith	Jack Strabala	Ellie Todd	Cameron Westphal
Hayden Westphal				

Leaders: Jared Long, Darin Rich, Jake Thorius, Tracy Strabala, Krista Gaal



## Summer CREW (Middle School Ministry)



Another exciting season of Summer CREW is underway. The theme this year is *Stay Salty & Burn Bright* which you may recognize from the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus talks about being salt and light. We are planning a great summer of not only learning about salt & light, but being salt and light to those that God brings us into contact with. For most of our events we will meet at the church at 8am, where we will have a brief lesson before heading out to our service project. We will be at the service project until lunch time. After lunch we will head out for something fun. The only exception to this schedule will be our tubing trip, which will just be a full day of fun. Below is a list of upcoming activities, please contact Jared ([upwashyouth@gmail.com](mailto:upwashyouth@gmail.com)) or the church office with questions.

July 26th Tubing the Maquoketa  
 July 2nd Matthew 25 Community Gardens and TBA  
 Aug 18th Coralville Community Food Pantry and TBA  
 TBA Car Wash







## Vacation Bible School : Love God, Love Others

VBS this year will take place Sunday Aug 4th - Thursday August 8th, from 5:30 - 8:30pm (dinner is provided). The theme is Love God, Love Others and promises to be a fun adventure of activities and learning. As an added twist we will be having VBS in Sunset Park each night (@ UP Church if weather is bad). We are also inviting folks of all ages to come and participate, so don't think that you are too old mature for VBS - everyone is welcome. Registration is now open. Go to the webpage ([upcwash.org](http://upcwash.org)) and click on the link directly underneath the photos. We are currently in the process of recruiting volunteers. If you would like more information about volunteer needs for VBS or have any questions please see Jared ([upwashyouth@gmail.com](mailto:upwashyouth@gmail.com)).



Preschool is on break for the summer, but Ms. Jen and Mrs. Miles are busy cleaning, purging, planning, learning, and resting up. We recently completed first aid/CPR training and will complete Universal Precautions training before school starts up again. All of these are required DHS trainings. We have also been completing classes as a Department of Education requirement. Our floor will soon be waxed and our carpets cleaned. Maybe a fresh coat of paint is in order. All in preparation for excited, eager learners in the Fall. Here's where we need your help. As you meet families (especially ones new to town), please inform them of voluntary preschool. It is free to all children who turn 4 before Sept 15. We are also accepting older 3 year olds on a tuition basis. We still run M-Th, 8:15-11:15. Call Brenda Miles for more information or to register 319-461-4327

### Session Update:

The Session met for its regular monthly meeting on May 22, 2019. Barb Liebe filled in as Clerk in my absence. Thank you, Barb for a job well done. Session members in attendance were, Diana, Rita, Julie, Joe, Barb, Brandon, Mary, Kevin, Andy and Roy and staff members Pastor Erin and Jared.

The Session approved the use of the church for the Municipal Band concert for the public to be held on Sunday, July 21 at 2:30pm. Kevin Caldwell was approved as our commissioner to attend the Presbytery picnic on July 13.

During the April meeting Pastor Erin passed out a "Church Health Inventory" by Thom Rainer with fifty (50) statements. Each session member was to

rate the statements from 1=strongly disagree to 5=strongly agree and return them to Pastor Erin. Examples of the statements were, "the church is keenly aware of its weaknesses, challenges and needs", "the staff is persistent in leading the church" and "small groups and/or Sunday school classes have a high priority at the church". There was a brief discussion of the results but as there were still some not returned there will be further discussion at the next meeting.

The Session will not meet in June so the next meeting will be Wednesday, July 10 at 6:30pm. Be safe, be well and above all thank God for His many blessings. Kay



Jan-May represents 42% of the year. Our income came in low at 36% Our expenses came in high at 45%



Articles for the September newsletter are due  
Wednesday, August 21st



Jessie Buchholz  
Malaysia

Jessie Buchholz, one of our college students and a member of this church, is serving as part of a team from her college youth group in Columbia, MO. The team is living and working in Malaysia for 2 months this summer where their assignment is to make connections to support and encourage college youth in that country who are committed to or seeking knowledge about Christianity. Their work is challenging, rewarding and uncomfortable at times. Please keep Jessie and her team in your prayers for their safety, their physical wellness, and their desire to make the love of Jesus known to students across the globe.

## Saturday Kitchen: June Update AND July Hosting!!

What a caring church family we have! June 1<sup>st</sup> we had so many wonderful volunteers to help with the meal, some even graciously helped do some prep work for the following day's Team UP and Friends Breakfast!

Our Saturday guests enjoyed a delicious meal of porkburgers, three-bean and potato salads, fresh fruit cup, veggies and dip and brownies. Over eight-five guests were served and more than twenty take-outs were given. We had brownie makers, grillers, food preparers, Fellowship Hall

set-up folks, food servers, dishwashers and a clean-up crew. A fun time was had by all!!

It is our privilege to occasionally host the Saturday Kitchen and to share our facility for this weekly community outreach to those who are hungry and / or lonely and also to serve as its coordinator. Together our UP Church family is showing ONCE AGAIN how we Love God and Love Others.

OUR NEXT HOSTING DATE IS JULY 27<sup>th</sup> AND WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOUR HELP. Contact Joe or Marde McConnell to volunteer: call 653-3884 or email at [1221mcconnell@gmail.com](mailto:1221mcconnell@gmail.com).

## The MISSION GRILL

TWO WEEKS LEFT!



Every \$5 placed in the GRILL (located in fellowship hall) buys a couple of burgers for a family in Washington! Your donation will be given to HACAP for meat cards so that a family can enjoy a picnic together.



***What a great way to share summertime!!***

**Make a commitment to pray for others!** Are you or someone you care deeply about in need of prayers? Our church has an **Email Prayer Chain** that reaches 99 different homes in our church family. To request prayers, the request must be okayed by the individual. Then contact Deacon Mary Atwood with your request ([maryjoyatwood@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoyatwood@gmail.com)). If you would like to be on this prayer chain, please contact Mary with your email address. Let us strive to be faithful servants as we offer up our prayers for others to our Loving Lord.



## Property Committee



These are the many things that happen around our church and thank you to everyone who helps out. If you see something going on and would like to volunteer-jump in and volunteer.

- \*Counting and Recording offering income
- \*Working in the church office on days Jess is gone
- \*Providing transportation for church members to church, appointments, hospital, etc
- \*Preparing communion and serving communion to shut-ins
- \*Sewing blankets for members who have been ill
  - \*Teaching Sunday School classes
  - \*Helping with Vacation Bible School
  - \*Leading youth programs
  - \*Both youth and adult mission trips
  - \*Painting and cleaning the church
  - \*Helping with the Saturday kitchen
- \*Walking through the church each Monday morning and making a list of items that property should address
- \*Getting screen slides ready for Sunday morning
- \*Running the computer and video equipment on Sunday morning
  - \*Providing music for worship
  - \*Lining up greeters
- \*Preparing and serving food and drink before and after worship services
- \*Ushering on Sunday mornings
- \*Removing snow from sidewalks and church property
  - \*Taking trash to the recycling center
  - \*Serving as deacons and elders
- \*Serving on other church committees
  - \*Caring for the church yard
- \*Helping with the church HACAP mission



### Team UP and Friends Thanks YOU!

Thank you to ALL who supported our first breakfast fundraiser! Everyone loved the yummy food, the uplifting and zippy music played by our Dorothy Koehler and the fun “knock-knock” jokes Ann Conklin had prepared and which were shared by the kids. For those of you who were unable to attend the breakfast - you missed a delicious meal, a good time with friends and seeing the kids have a ball . . . controlling a microphone!!



The breakfast and other recent donations have helped Team UP and Friends contribute about \$1000 in June to the 2019 Washington County Relay for Life Event, whose theme this year is: **GIVE CANCER THE BOOT!!!**



“A special thank you to everyone who helped me celebrate my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. I received 130 cards! That was a great encouragement. God bless each of you loyal friends.”  
Herb Yoder

“Thanks to Dorothy White, Jean Frazer, Joyce Letts, Mary McCall, Julie Mangold, Jane Cuddeback, Cyndy McCall, Sarah Robison, Joleen Krotz, and Janice Flory for repairing flags. The flags are flown over the Elm Grove Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend. Thanks again.” Sewing Group





WHAT: Annual Church Picnic WHEN: August 25th  
WHERE: Lake Darling

Service will be held in the lodge at 10:30am.  
Following the service, all are welcome to join us for lunch! Please bring a side, salad, dessert, etc to share!

Look in the August bulletins for more info.



Volunteer to help with Camp Reece at Lake Darling Youth Center! "Our" night will be July 31st.

Camp Reece is a Christian camp that provides a safe, outdoor camping experience to persons with disabilities, ages 5-80, for one week a year.

We need 10-12 volunteers to help serve as relief counselors. We will also need help providing cookies for those camping.

A signup sheet will be on the kitchen counter closer to the date.

Contact Kathy Knutson with any questions (461-4610)

## HOURS of OPERATION

Office hours July 1st-  
5th (Jess is gone)  
Monday/Tuesday/  
Wednesday/Friday 8am-noon.

No afternoon coverage.

Closed Thursday for the 4th of July

Check out the new staff summer  
schedules posted around the church.

The Washington Municipal Band will play  
during the 10:30 service on Sunday, August 4th.



### July

1 Heather Anderson  
2 Krew Liska  
4 Cathi Hill  
5 Reese Morris  
5 Tanya Stalder  
8 Haley Mitchell  
9 Elaine Bozman  
9 Trey Van Weelden  
10 Mike Zahs  
11 Ruth Ann Stacy  
12 Josie Miller  
13 Lexie Willers  
13 Deja Willers  
14 Karen Dillon  
14 Tanner Knupp

14 Kristene McCall  
18 Jacob Bruns  
19 Marj Lins  
19 Erin Smith  
20 Mary McCall  
20 Tyler Van Weelden  
21 Bert Turner  
22 Mary Taylor  
23 FeiFei Anderson  
23 Betty Lowry  
25 Doug Dunlap  
27 Sandy Dunlap  
27 Carolynn Guenther  
28 Diana Rich  
30 Shirley Garrett  
30 Barb Liebe

### August

1 Phillip Bruner  
3 Julie Johnson

3 Darin Rich  
3 Karen Trotman  
4 Krisi Morris  
5 Krista Gaal  
5 Jina Walton  
6 Bob Brinning  
6 Beulah Temple  
7 Donna Schoonover  
10 Megan Alderton  
10 Jeff Cuddeback  
10 Kristen Twinam  
11 Cole Anderson  
11 Emma Karugo  
11 Makenyn Liska  
12 Chris Woods  
13 Ron Dillon  
13 Rhonda Shelman  
16 Steve Batterson  
17 Casey Coakley  
18 Adam Mangold

19 Billie Bruns  
19 David Henderson  
19 Curt Rodgers  
20 Kathryn Schenk  
21 Caleb Popejoy  
21 Jazzy Wenger-Lukins  
23 Mary Atwood  
23 Michael McCall  
24 Titan Ross  
25 Maxine Davisson  
25 Lori Jaspering  
25 Bob Johnson  
25 Pam Perdock  
26 Max Anderson  
26 Hannah Anderson  
28 Megan Schiebel  
28 Ron See  
30 Katie Lujan