

UPChurch

Love God. Love Others.

September 2020



**All Youth, Families of Faith, and
Pathfinder's Sunday School resuming the 13th
Pathfinder's meeting in Sunset Park the month of September
Library Sunday School resuming at a later date
Inquiry Sunday School to be determined**



Please remember for in-person worship:

Wear a mask (we will have some available if needed)

If you are ill or vulnerable, please remain at home

Practice physical distancing as much as possible

Only the South doors will be open (parking lot entrance)

Arrive slightly earlier than usual, if possible.

Church Contacts

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

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, and Fridays
9am-12pm Office open
**Phone will be answered during
the following hours:**
Monday- Friday 9-12pm
Monday- Thursday 1-4pm

Pastor Erin Kaye

pastorerinkaye@gmail.com
319-461-8765

Secretary/Treasurer

Krystle Moore
upsecretary@gmail.com

Youth (Elementary/Middle School)

Erin Thorius
upwashyouth@gmail.com

Youth (Senior High)

Jake Thorius/Krista Gaal

jmthorius@yahoo.com
kgaal1965@gmail.com

Organist

Virginia Bordwell
Virginia@washingtontitle.org

Worship Band

Mary Jo Koehler
aceofspace99@gmail.com



From the Pastor...

Friends,

At our July meeting, I asked the Session what they felt were some of the biggest challenges we might face as a congregation over the next 6-8 months. After some discussion, we agreed that one especially important challenge was reconnecting, and feeling connected in general to God and each other. We have been through a period where we were (and still are!) encouraged to be physically distant from others. In love for the vulnerable, and out of caution, we suspended in-person worship and activities. Slowly, we are returning to being together, but it is still difficult, and potentially dangerous, especially to people in greater risk categories. As we journey forward, I want to encourage you to remain connected to your church family and to seek connection with others. God did not create us to be alone, or to live out our faith alone. God created humans for community, and has encouraged us through the ages to work and live and love each other, though both good times and bad. My prayers continue to be with you, as we continue together.

Blessings,
Pastor Erin

Volunteers Needed!

We will be packing sack lunches again the week of August of 31– Sept 4 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. These will be for the volunteers helping to clean up Cedar Rapids from the Derecho.

Items that are needed are bread, peanut butter, chips, dessert items, fruit, plastic bags for the sandwiches, and sacks for the lunches. Items can be dropped off at the church on Monday August 31 from 9-12 and Wednesday September 2nd from 9-12.



If you'd like to make an online donation to the ministry of United Presbyterian Church, go to our webpage (upcwash.org)

Checks may be sent to:
United Presbyterian Church
PO Box 32
Washington, Iowa 52353

Offering
Giving Back
To God



September Highlights

3rd Mobile Food Pantry
 7th Labor Day (Office will be closed)
 13th Sunday School Resumes
 15th Finance
 16th Session

Updated Office Hours:

The office will be open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-noon

Phone will be answered during the following hours: Monday– Friday 9-12pm
 Monday– Thursday 1-4pm



We're still working with Public Health and HACAP to plan when would be the safest and best time to re-open (and keep open) the Saturday Kitchen. Again, it will be take-out meals only and our UP Church Family will be the first hosts the first Saturday we re-open.

Church Family News

Did you know...

Lots of GREAT things are taking place by church family members while “things” are so “different” in our church and in our world!

Basement lighting improvement project has begun. YAY, we know how much we all love “the light” upstairs and can’t wait “to see” downstairs, too. Many thanks to those volunteers.

Outdoor yard work volunteers are watering new plantings, pruning back bushes, and pulling weeds. We're grateful to these volunteers, too!

Our youth coordinators and others in our church family are working hard to stay connected with our “church” kids: very little ones through high school and on to college. Sometimes it takes some creativity right now. We're SO appreciative of all their efforts to have our kids and their parents feel our love and caring.



Our website: <http://www.upcwash.org/>

Other ways to connect if the website isn't working:

Facebook - Washington United Presbyterian Church

Smart TV - download the Boxcast app and look for UPCWash - you can watch the stream from your TV this way!

Computer- Use the following link: <https://boxcast.tv/channelaozvuoqohexe93npq2xjr> for our boxcast page

If you do not have the technology to connect in these ways, or you're having problems using the technology you have, and you'd like help, please call the church office at 319-653-6588.

1 Emma Kaye	11 Jerry Flory	21 Steve Liebe
2 Hoyt Burke	13 Karen Murphy	21 Nick Reed
4 Frances Batterson	14 Vicki Brinning	22 Jules Schuster
5 Marissa Gaal	14 Megan Strabala	25 Matthew Kaye
5 Kitch Shatzer	15 Elise Gaal	28 Tom Bollman
6 Betty Beenblossom	19 Jim Cuddeback	29 Mary Case
8 Peyton Cuddeback	19 Lindsay Hippen	29 Maridee Woods
11 Kaden Bex	21 Betty Gipple	



KICK-OFF SUNDAY!

Join us Sunday, September 13th as we begin our children and youth programming for the school year. Sunday school will begin at 8:45, we will hand out Bibles to our 3rd graders during the church service at 10, and the youth groups will meet at their regularly scheduled times that evening. Don't miss it! Contact Erin Thorius, Jake Thorius, or Krista Gaal if you have questions! See details below...

Class Structure for 2020-2021

Birth - 4 yo Preschool: Upstairs in the Nursery
 Kindergarten - 5th grade: Downstairs in Son City
 6th - 8th grades: Jr High Room (Rat Pack)
 9th - 12th grades: Youth Room/Fellowship hall



Inside Out (High School Ministry)

It's time to join back together and see where God is taking us! Bring your friends! We will meet at the church at 6:30 and have things wrapped up by 8:30 each meeting.

Sept. 13th: 6:30pm @ UP Church - Join us for a wild and crazy time!
 Sept 20th: 6:30pm @ UP Church - TBD (check your messages for info!)
 Sept 27th: 6:30pm @ UP Church - TBD (check your messages for info!)

Summer CREW (Middle School Ministry)

Crew will get started on the 13th and 27th of September but will then begin their regularly scheduled 1st and 3rd Sundays in October

We are excited to get back together to laugh, play, and dig a little deeper into what God has in store for us! We will do what we can outside as long as the weather allows. We will always meet at the church at 3:30 & finish up by 5. Bring your friends!

Sept 13th: 3:30pm @ UP Church - We will head outside to play!
 Sept 27th: 3:30pm @ UP Church - Plan ahead for the Drive-In Diner (Oct 4th)!

CREW Drive-In Diner is back!

Put **Sunday, October 4th at 5:00pm** in your calendars! This has always been one of our favorite fundraisers for our group. You won't want to miss it! More details coming soon.





Son City

We are excited as we prepare for a new year of Son City @ UP Church. We will plan to be outdoors as much as the weather allows and will then begin a new curriculum designed just for kids. We will have an online component in case we have some who are unable to join us in person. It should be a lot of fun and we look forward to a year of sharing, laughing, and learning together.

JAM Kids UPDATE

At this time, we are choosing to hold off on our JAM Kids program. We hope to revisit it later this fall for a potential start-up in January 2021. We will keep those families in the loop as we see what the school year brings.

Team UP and Friends Update

Washington County Relay for Life, like so many events, is looking different in 2020. We, as co-chairs of Team UP and Friends, are grateful for your support in 2020 despite the pandemic.



Through fund-raisers at Pizza Ranch and Unc and Neph's and individual donations we have raised about \$1000 so far in 2020. We're thrilled and thank you for your generosity once again - together we're supporting cancer research and cancer patients and their families!

Co chairs Ann Conklin and Marde McConnell

United Presbyterian Church,

Your gift of the used piano has brought much joy to the residents at the United Presbyterian Home. It is in a Stewart Hall Lounge where a couple of residents play while others open their doors to listen or venture down the hallway to get a better view and sound.

We appreciate you thinking of us.

UPH Residents and Staff



United Presbyterian Church

United Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for donating your old copier to our daycare! We are putting it to good use on a daily basis!

Michelle Wilkinson and the kids at Westside Daycare





Heifer International has been our focus for the Sunday School project. Our goal was to buy an ark which includes 2 water buffalos, 2 cows, 2 sheep and 2 goats along with bees, chicks, rabbits and more. The ark cares for entire communities with milk, eggs, honey and wool. This will provide income by supplying goods for them to sell and farmers to have livestock to work the land. Heifer International goes all around the world to help those in need.

Synod School of the Lakes and Prairies DID occur this summer!

The last week of July, we did not get to drive up to Storm Lake, sleep in dorm beds, or eat cafeteria food, but we got to take two classes, worship, sing, hear noted convocation speakers, and catch up with old friends and make new ones. This happened virtually while we in the comfort of our own homes. Those from our church family that were a part of this were: Dick and Betty Colby, Kitch Shatzer, and Mary Atwood. We were joined by 365 other Presbyterians across the nation. Once again, we were given the opportunity to learn and to grow in our faith, and enjoy the fellowship of those in our larger church family.



An Update from your Board of Deacons!

Your Board of Deacons would like to be of assistance to you! We want to assist you in whatever way might be helpful to you,— whether it is to run an errand, pray with you, pick up some groceries, or a visit over the telephone, etc. Give Deacon Larry Barlett a call and he will be glad to make the arrangements for transportation. Along with Larry, the other deacons are Kathy Knutson, Terry Mangold, Mary Atwood Marde McConnel, Sarah Robison, and Sydney Cuddeback. Feel free to contact any of these folks if we can help you stay safe and healthy. May the Peace of Christ be with each of you!



Jan-July represents 58% of the year.
Our income came in at 52%
Our expenses came in at 57%



Articles for the October newsletter are due Wednesday, September 16th



Derecho Assistance in Cedar Rapids

Thank you, Church Family

On the evenings of August 13th and 20th, 25-30 church family members gathered to assemble sack lunches to take to our friends in Cedar Rapids, who have suffered so from the derecho that did such massive destruction. Between the 2 nights of packing sack lunches over 800 were made. Additionally, several church families have given other needed items, monetary, and their gift of time to help in the recovery process.

With your generous donations of food and cash, we created an assembly line of folks spreading peanut butter and jelly on bread, then adding fruit, chips, and dessert items. These brown bag lunches were packed in boxes, loaded in the church van, and on the mornings of August 14th and 21st, volunteers of Pastor Erin, Jane Cuddeback, Barb Hinchcliffe, and Steve Liebe headed up to where PDA directed us to St Paul's Methodist Church to unload and pass out lunches. Many thanks to all of you for helping us to be the Hands and Feet of our Lord.

Here are quotes from 2 of our folks who did one of the delivery runs:

Comment from Steve Liebe: "Well Mary, we were there in church lot for about 15 minutes. The lot was full of about 50 young eager college kids from Des Moines (who were not expected). The van was emptied in about 2 minutes. The gal in charge was very appreciative for the meals."

Comments from Jane Cuddeback: "The address of the Methodist Church where we were directed to go was incorrect in the email we had received. We quickly figured it out after GPS directed us to a weedy, empty lot! A young gal greeted us when we pulled into the correct spot. We barely had the van parked when we were greeted by a group of college students who unloaded our van in the blink of an eye! They were part of a group from Des Moines that had not been expected and were anxious to work. They got set up immediately and started passing out lunches. We had thought we were going to do that, but they told us they didn't need us. They were very grateful for the food and said we were the only ones bringing meals to that sight today. We were in the Czech Village area. We definitely saw damage to trees and some buildings. There were trees and branches on the curbs waiting to be picked up. The area around where we delivered was fairly well cleaned up. On our way home I received a call from Kristin Hutson (Kristen is a pastor in our Presbytery who is helping coordinate with PDA). I told her to let us know if we could help in any way. I assured her that we like to work and are willing. Maybe we will get called for another job. We really appreciate all the food donations and all the helping hands to make the meals!"

