

UPChurch

Love God. Love Others.

November 2020

Stewardship season
is upon us!
Information will be
mailed mid-November



Thank you for your
continued support
of our church



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,

What are you thankful for? As we enter November, with Thanksgiving hovering at the end of the month, it's a good opportunity to think about and practice our gratitude for what we have been given. With the state of the world right now, maybe you're finding that a difficult task. Nine months ago Covid began to truly impact us here in Washington. Since then, there have been natural disasters near and far, economic challenges, illness and deaths, and political wrangling as the election approaches, along with other personal challenges. How can we be thankful?

I've preached several times about how this time in our history reminds me of the exile of the Jewish people in the Old Testament. They had been taken from normalcy, from everything they had known, and relocated to Babylon to live totally different lives. In some ways, this is what the last nine months has felt like to me. We have made changes and had changes made for us that have moved us from life as usual, pre-Covid, to life as it is now. Like the Jewish exiles, sometimes I wonder how can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? How can we think of gratitude and joy when so much is different and unknown? Thankfully, the tales of the exiles also provide us with direction. The prophet Jeremiah brought the exiles a word from God, a word, a message, that rings true for us today as well.

'Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.'

These are strong words of hope. The place where we are, like the exiles, is very different from the place we were. But where we are, God is also, and God challenges us while we are in this place to live, fully and joyfully. To live with gratitude for what we have, not with longing for what might have been. I pray that you are able to continue in hope, trusting the God who goes before us, and surrounds us with abundant love.

Blessings,
Pastor Erin

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



The church office will be closed
November 26th and
27th in observance of
Thanksgiving



November Highlights

5th Mobile Food Pantry
10th Deacon's Meeting
16th Sewing Day
17th Finance
18th Session
25th Inside Out: Soup Supper
26th Thanksgiving

Church Family News

Did you know...

The Bruns family recently donated edging bricks which have been placed along the newly-improved, attractive planting areas on both sides of the north entrance railings. We're grateful thanks for sharing, Bruns family.

Linda Boston has caringly arranged meals from our church family for her UP Home cottage neighbor, Mary Atwood, following Mary's knee replacement surgery. Mary's surgery went well and we hope her recovery goes as well. Thanks for helping us show our love to Mary.

Quinn Buckingham, daughter of Deb and Roger, recently graduated from North Dakota University majoring in Air Traffic Control, doing this in 3 years! Her goal is to one day be an air traffic controller in a large city. She's excited about her new career and the fact that she's also recently engaged. We wish Quinn the very best!

Michael Dillon, son of Karen and Ron, also recently graduated in 3 years, from Wartburg College. He received a nice scholarship to attend the University of Iowa College of Law, though his first year classes are currently virtual. Our congratulations and very best wishes to Michael, too!



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 Dean Garrett
1 Carol Winga
2 Arnel Baughman
3 Rodney Letts
3 Katelyn Moore
8 Ben Baughman
9 Gary Murphy
11 Julie See
12 Ron Brock
16 John Winga III

17 Wanda Skubal
20 Amy Kleese
20 Adele Reese
21 Halle Cuddeback
21 Julie Zahs
22 Judy Wertz
23 Myron Krotz
23 Karla Maxwell
24 Dick Colby
24 Ben Schiefer

26 Richard McCall
26 Tom Murphy



Inside Out (Senior High Ministry)

Nov 1st: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Nov 8th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Nov 15th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Nov 22nd: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Nov 25th: 5:30pm - Soup Supper
Nov 29th: 6:30pm @ UP Church

Inside Out: Leaf Raking

We are hoping to be able to help out some of our neighbors again this year by doing some leaf raking, though it is always a challenge to time it just right (if only the leaves dropped at an agreed upon pre-arranged time). We will continue to monitor the turning and dropping of the leaves, hopefully the timing will work out for us.

Inside Out: Soup Supper Mission Trip Fundraiser

On Wednesday Nov. 25th the Senior High youth will be hosting their annual Soup Supper Mission Trip Fundraiser @ 5:30pm. Take a break from all of the preparations at home for Thanksgiving and come join us for some hot soup and warm conversation. We will have Chili, Chicken & Wild Rice, and Ham & Potato. We will offer soup TO GO this year as well. Details on that process will be ironed out later. The Mission Trip Planning Team is looking into the many different options we have to serve next summer. Please pray with us as we try to navigate Covid and determine where God can use us in 2021.

Inside Out is planning to use the 2020 Mission Trip funds to help out a variety of charities/non-profits/places that need support. As part of the process to choose where we donate these funds, we would like our congregation (along with our Inside Out kids) to provide ideas for us! PLEASE EMAIL JAKE at jmthorius@yahoo.com with your ideas by the end of November.

CREW (Middle School Ministry)

Nov 1st: 3:30pm –Going to HACAP to pack food Nov 15th: 3:30pm @ UP Church

CREW: Packing Food For HACAP

On Nov. 1st CREW will load up and head over to HACAP to pack food for this local mission that does so much to help feed those who are food insecure in our community. We will meet at normal time, though we do ask folks to be punctual because we will need to head over soon after we meet. Wear masks!

A big **THANK YOU** to those who came out to our Drive-In Diner in October and to The McCall's for their donation of pork burgers! They were delicious! We appreciate everyone's generous donations toward our service opportunities for our middle schoolers.





Son City

Nov 1st: 8:45am - Unit 1: Blast Off! Nov 8th: 8:45am - Unit 2: Road Trip
Nov 15th: 8:45am - Unit 2: Road Trip Nov 22nd: 8:45am - Unit 2: Road Trip
Nov 29th: 8:45am - Unit 2: Road Trip

Thank you to Carrie Septer, Julie Zahs, and the Alderton's for helping teach our first unit through October down in Son City. Thank you to Tracy Strabala who is helping us each week! If you would like to help out down in Son City, please let Erin know! You can do 1 week or work all the way through the 4-5 week unit...whatever is best for you!



Sadly, we continue to feel it's unsafe to re-open the Saturday Kitchen, unsafe for both guests and hosts. We look forward to the time we can re-open our church and our hearts to those who enjoy this free meal and the fellowship it offers.

Joe and Marde McConnell

WELCOME TEAM REPORT

Our Welcome Team looks at our church from a visitor's point of view - identifying ways we can be more inviting to visitors and more pleasant for ourselves, too. Our 2019 interior and exterior church surveys were very helpful in giving us project suggestions.

As a response to that survey we looked at some of the wall hangings in the church. We discussed with many individuals trying to learn the history of these items. With the approval of Session, a couple of items are being removed. These items will be available for adoption on a table in the church office until Thanksgiving.



Jan-Sept represents 75% of the year.
Our income came in at 61%
Our expenses came in at 70%



Articles for the December newsletter are due
Wednesday, November 18th



The Welcome Team thanks the 16 hardy volunteers who helped with our 2 hour/ Oct. 3rd Church Clean-Up. It was a chilly day and a bit wet-ish but that didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm or energy level! Tons of outdoor projects were taken care of: many weeds were pulled; all sidewalks were edged and several bushes received necessary, huge trims. We ended up with over three over-flowing pickup loads of yard waste!

We were thrilled a few, indoor, window projects were completed, too! Thanks, again to ALL those of you who helped our Welcome Team on Saturday: Rod and Joyce Letts; Ken Wulf; Julie Johnson; Jim and Jane Cuddeback; Steve Liebe; Teresa and Shane Anderson; Pastor Erin and Sam Kaye; Julie, Joe, and Keaton Murphy; Joe and Marde McConnell and lastly, thanks to Ann and Dana Conklin for the delicious baggies of fall treats.

Thank you for the kind words and gifts for our son, Heath. We are overwhelmed by everyone's generosity, and we feel blessed to be shown such love from our church family. We look forward to sharing Heath's contagious smile, zest for play, and charismatic laughter with you.

Brandon, Erika, and Heath Bishop



News travels fast! I celebrated my 94th birthday Oct 18, 2020 and I have been receiving the most beautiful birthday cards, with best wishes ever since. I am enjoying them all again every day and I want to thank you all so much.

Wilma Wright

Thank you all for acknowledging our 60th anniversary with cards and words.

God Bless you all,

Rodney and Joyce Letts

"Friends, I would like to extend my deep felt thank you and appreciation to each of you that have so generously shared your love with me as I underwent and am recovering from my knee replacement surgery. Whether you said a prayer, sent a card, rang me on the phone, prepared some food/meal for me, drove me to therapy, each of your acts of kindness is deeply appreciated. You are certainly the Hands and Feet of Christ! Blessings to each of you! "

Mary Atwood



Deacon Flower Update

As you may recall, in February many of you made monetary donations in honor or in memory of a loved one. Those donations were to be used to purchase flowering plants to be part of our Easter service and then were to be shared with church members unable to worship with us. Unfortunately, we did not have that service.



However, in October flowering plants, beautiful multi-colored kalanchoes, were purchased by the Deacons and were shared with church family members. MANY individuals' lives were brightened on "delivery day" and for days and weeks to come!

Thank you to all those of you who helped the Deacons (Kathy Knutson and Marde McConnell) with the delivery of these "Day Brighteners": Kathy Hunt, Kevin Caldwell, Dorothy White, Sarah Robinson and Connie Jarrard.

Those individuals making financial donations to this Deacon Project were:

In Honor of our daughters and their families Joe & Marde McConnell

In Memory of our parents Dean & Margaret Anderson and Bill & Becky McConnell by Joe & Marde McConnell

In Memory of Lorraine Lins by Joyce Wilson

In Honor of Pat Johnson by Rob & Julie Johnson

In Honor of Pastor Erin and all our Church Family by Anonymous

In Memory of Brian Dillon, Gladys VanderHart, and Harold & Dorothy Dillon by Ron Dillon Family

In Memory of our loved ones by Larry & Sara Bartlett

In Memory of Charles Twinam by Janice Twinam

In Memory of my parents Karen and Bill Kleese and my grandparents Catherine and Ralph Kleese by Philip Kleese

In Memory of CP & Dorothy Berkhoff and Dan Knutson by Kathy Knutson

In Memory of my husband and my mother by Diana Henry

In Memory of Orville and Glenna Flory by Jerry and Janice Flory

In Memory of Charlie and Rhua Davison by Jerry and Janice Flory

In Memory of Jordin Flory by Jerry and Janice Flory

In Memory of our loved ones by Jim and Jane Cuddeback

In Memory of our parents by Gary & Karen Murphy

In Memory of Shirley Grulke by Sandy and Doug Dunlap

In Memory of Harriett Rustan by Sandy and Doug Dunlap

In Memory of Lloyd Beenblossom by Betty Beenblossom

In Memory of our parents Wayne & Alice Mangold and Paul & Jean Rietz by Julie & Terry Mangold

In Memory of Howard and Emily Lins and Erwin and Marie Wulf by Ed and Marj Lins

