

UPChurch

Love God. Love Others.

December 2020



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,

In our family we have a favorite Christmas album that gets a lot of airtime during the month of December. It's called 'A Christmas Together' and was released in 1979. The chief singers are John Denver and the Muppets. Yes, you read that right, the Muppets, as in Kermit and Miss Piggy and Fozzie and Gonzo and the rest of the crew. There's a song called 'A Baby like You', and I wanted to share the lyrics with you.

*The season is upon us now, a time for gifts and giving
And as the year draws to its close I think about my living
The Christmastime when I was young, the magic and the wonder
But colors dull and candles dim and dark my standing under*

*Oh little angel, shining light, you've set my soul to dreaming
You've given back my joy in life, you've filled me with new meaning*

*A savior king was born that day, a baby just like you
And as the Magi came with gifts, I've come with my gift too
That peace on earth fills up your time, that brotherhood surrounds you
That you may know the warmth of love and wrap it all around you.*



We are offered the priceless gift of a Savior King, born a baby just as we were. We are offered the gifts of peace and joy, of eternal life and love. May you know them, may you share them, in this season and always.

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
December 24th and
25th in observance of
Christmas



December Highlights

3rd Mobile Food Pantry
6th Congregational Meeting
15th Finance
16th Session
24th Christmas Eve
25th Christmas
31st New Year's Eve

Worship News

Christmas Eve

Virtual Service Only, available at 4:30 pm December 24th on the website (upcwash.org) or the church Facebook page (Washington United Presbyterian Church). A packet for the worship service will be available for anyone who wants one by December 20th. It will include candles and other special items to help celebrate this special night.



December 27th

Virtual Hymn Sing, available December 27th at 10 am on the website (upcwash.org) or the church Facebook page (Washington United Presbyterian Church). Join your church family online as we sing and celebrate the birth of Jesus!



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 Linda Boston
2 Nick Shelman
3 Henry Tompkins
5 Emma Alderton
5 Jim Buitendorp
7 Lois Holland
12 Barry Johnson
13 Lisa Buitendorp
16 Kaitlin Buchholz
19 Jamie Rich

20 Sarah Robison
21 Joe McConnell
24 Sue Reed
26 Erin Thorius
26 Colton Twinam
28 Alecia Goff
28 Krystle Moore
29 Dorothy Koehler-Yoder
30 Emory VanGerpen

30 Lorraine Williams
31 Jayse Thorius



Son City

Dec 6th: 8:45am -
Virtual Week 4 of "Wait for it"
Dec 13th: 8:45am -
Work on virtual Christmas Eve video
Dec 20th: 8:45am -
Work on virtual Christmas Eve video
Dec 27th: 8:45am -
NO Sunday School... Merry Christmas!

Inside Out (Senior High Ministry)

Dec 6th 6:30pm @ UP Church
Dec 13th or 20th: Christmas party/dinner
TBD!
Dec 27th: NO meeting... Merry Christmas

Inside Out: Christmas Dinner

With the current state of this pandemic, we won't be able to go too far for our Christmas dinner. We still want to do something special so stay tuned as we work out some details!

Sunday School Christmas Program

Our traditional Christmas program will have to look different this year as we are still being as careful as possible. We are hoping to begin recording our Sunday school kids reciting the Christmas story to be played during the virtual Christmas Eve service.



CREW (Middle School Ministry)

Dec 6th: 3:30pm We shall see what we can do! Stay tuned!
Dec 20th: 3:30pm Christmas Party!

A scavenger hunt outside of Washington doesn't look too promising this year but the possibility of shopping for a family in need might be able to happen! We will plan to do a little shopping at Wal-Mart for those who are comfortable with it on December 6th for a family in need. On the 20th, we will do a little Christmas party, complete with a \$5 or less gift exchange! More details to come. Let's bring a little JOY to a family in need and a little JOY to our group this month!



Meals on Wheels Happened in November!

Do you have a real belief that homebound folks in Washington should be able to receive a hot and healthy meal every day? —and also have human contact with at least one person each day? Our church once again has helped be a part of the Meals on Wheels ministry in Washington that reaches out to serve as Jesus taught us to! This past month our Board of Deacons were responsible in seeing that those deliveries were made. Terry Mangold is our deacon coordinator who organized drivers for each week. Those who volunteered to deliver were Nic and Sue Reed, Sara and Larry Barlett, Terry and Julie Mangold, and Sandy and Doug Dunlap.



The YMCA coordinates the list of individuals who have requested meals, the local hospital prepares the meals, and nine local churches alternate in the delivery of the meals to the individual homes. At this time, about 20 meals are being delivered daily. This is an increase from around 10-12 daily in pre-COVID days. Our church usually delivers for 4-5 weeks in the spring and for a month in the fall. Due to COVID, the Y took over the delivery responsibility in the spring. We lift up our thanks to the Reed's, the Barlett's, the Mangold's, and the Dunlap's for serving our Lord in this way!



PW Circle Meeting

We meet the second Wednesday of the month
in the church lounge at 9am
All are welcome to come, please wear a mask
Karla Maxwell, Circle Leader



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



Jan-Oct represents 83% of the year.
Our income came in at 69.23%
Our expenses came in at 76.91%



Articles for the January
newsletter are due
Wednesday, December 16th



Re-Connect to Our Church UPDATE

November was Stewardship Month, a time we generously commit toward the future of our church's missions. Hopefully you received in the mail our committee's letter, informative brochure, and your pledge card. If you were somehow missed, please call the church office at 653-6588 and we will send you the materials.

During the month of December your Stewardship Committee will be contacting those of you who may have forgotten to return your pledge card. We need your information and commitment to help us reach our goals.

As you know, our church's mission is to Love God and Love Others. Together as a church family, we can do great things supporting that mission . . . but we need your help. Please do your part so we can maintain and hopefully grow our "connection of love" with each other, within our community and in the world. Thank you from your Stewardship Committee: Sandy Dunlap, Julie Johnson, Steve Liebe, Mary Saforek and Joe McConnell



HELP!!

With the approval of Session, we're looking for a new home for this furniture piece. It's sat in the front entry of the church for a very long time, having not been used in many years. We feel it's time for us to let it go.



Please contact the church office, Pastor Erin or one of the Welcome Team members listed below by January 1, 2021 if you're interested in the piece or have some suggestions for its new home.

Welcome Team: Megan Alderton, Teresa Anderson, Christy Buchholz, Ann Conklin, Marde McConnell, Julie Murphy or Angie Schluetter

HAVE YOU NOTICED?



The Welcome Team is pleased with all the positive comments we have received on our church's "new look" - our newly painted, teal-colored, entry doors. We think the eye-catching, pop of color is a warm and inviting way for us to say, "Come Join Us."



Words for Advent

What does this word remind you of?
Does it recall any memories or experiences?
How might God be speaking to you through this word?

December 1 - Dreamer
December 2 - Seek
December 3 - Awe
December 4 - Dwell
December 5 - Rest
December 6 - Learn
December 7 - Play
December 8 - Imagine
December 9 - Listen
December 10 - Justice
December 11 - Awareness
December 12 - Patience
December 13 - Reflect
December 14 - Change
December 15 - Health
December 16 - Silence
December 17 - Hospitality

December 18 - Forgiveness
December 19 - Laughter
December 20 - Appreciation
December 21 - Friendship
December 22 - Creativity
December 23 - Freedom
December 24 - Draw Near
December 25 - Share
December 26 - See
December 27 - Heal
December 28 - Generosity
December 29 - Clarity
December 30 - Story
December 31 - Confidence
January 1 - Vision
January 2 - Commitment



Church Family News

Did you know...

Fifty-four completed and beautiful quilts were blessed on Sunday, November 22, Thank Offering Sunday. These lovingly created items were made by about 10 people, part of our church Sewing Group. The sharing of time and talents in making the quilts and then passing them on show God's Love as they are examples of how to Love Others.

Thanks to several volunteers there are pretty holiday lights outside our church - working in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce in supporting our downtown. As you check out the church at night, look at the windows on the north, which are newly lighted and decorated this year. Thanks to everyone who helped us "Shine Brightly" in 2020.