



March 2021



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
8am-12pm Office open

Phone will be answered during the following hours:

Monday– Friday 8-12am
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,

As Christians we live in a world of already but not yet. God has already redeemed the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Evil has already been defeated. The Kingdom of Heaven has already been accomplished. But the time when we are gathered together in the Kingdom is not yet here. The end of suffering is not yet here. Jesus has not yet returned, as promised, to usher in the Kingdom. Already, but not yet. In many ways, as Christians this 'already but not yet' of our faith life has uniquely prepared us for the 'already but not yet' of Covid-time. A vaccine has already been created. Many have already received it. Others have already contracted the virus and (thankfully) recovered. But the time when we can gather together without safety precautions is not yet here. Some who want to receive the vaccine have not yet received it. Some are ineligible to receive it. We are not yet advanced enough in our knowledge of variants and vaccines to know if the virus is still able to spread and do significant damage. Already, but not yet.

As we move forward, I encourage you to look to God's example not only for patience as we continue through the 'already but not yet' of Covid but also for how you act in this time. Jesus loved us enough to give up his life. God loves us enough to prepare a place for us. Let us love our neighbors and each other with the same sacrificial love. Let us be patient not only with the situation but with each other as we each walk through this time. Let us encourage each other with love, knowing that we live in the 'already but not yet' of God's time and God's Kingdom.

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



March Highlights

4th Mobile Food Pantry
4th Optimist Chicken & Biscuit Supper
5th World day of Prayer
10th PW Circle
10th Welcome Meeting

10th Worship Meeting
15th Sewing Day
16th Finance
17th Session
17th St Patrick's Day
28th Palm Sunday

Church Family News

The frigid temperatures on Feb. 14th, when church was cancelled for everyone's safety, "our" MARY SAFOREK, came to the rescue! She was able to "pull off" putting together our Feb. 14th virtual, worship, service from her home! Is Mary amazing or what??

Congratulations to QUINN BUCKINGHAM, daughter of Deb and Roger, on her recent graduation from the University of North Dakota, majoring in air traffic controlling. Best wishes also on her engagement and upcoming wedding to a fellow student, studying to be a pilot.

Our congratulations also to KAITLYN BUCHHOLZ, daughter of Christy and Erik, who, in sunny Florida, just completed her Master of Arts degree in Business Administration and Forensic Accounting. We wish her the best as she looks for a job in her career field, hoping to stay in warmer weather.

"Our" DICK HENDRICKSON is the good guy who walks through the church each Monday morning checking "everything." Well, he's ALSO the "master" of the beautiful church carillon, which reaches out to all those in Washington by ringing out God's Love. Thanks, Dick.

Cheers on a job very well done to "our" UP YOUTH who qualified for the State Archery Tournament: Jack Strabala, Tyler Alderton, Josh Anderson and Emma Alderton. We know you've worked hard and we wish you continued success at the state level, Kids!!



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 Gabriel Bruns
1 Jack Carter
1 Kaelyn Johnson
4 Sophia Kleese
4 Isabella Lujan
5 Tom Hunt
7 Angie Schluetter

7 Jordan Youngman
8 Phil Morris
9 Virginia Bordwell
11 Connie Jarrad
13 Jacob Miles
21 Mildred Houseal
22 Sandra Krotz

22 Marde McConnell
22 Russ Woods
25 Judy Murphy
26 Heath Bishop
26 Leland Saforek
27 Roger Miles
28 Brenda Miles

28 Alec Schiefer



Inside Out (Senior High Ministry)

Mar 7th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Mar 14th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Mar 21st: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Mar 28th: 6:30pm @ UP Church

Son City

Mar 7th: 8:45am Week 3
“Challenge Accepted”
Mar 14th: 8:45am Week 4
“Challenge Accepted”
Mar 21st: 8:45am Week 1 “Rise UP”
Mar 28th: 8:45am Week 2 “Rise UP”



CREW (Middle School Ministry)

Mar 7th: 3:30pm @ Up Church Mar 21st: 3:30pm @ Up Church *
*Pack boxes for HACAP

Inside Out: Mission Market

It's that time of year...but things still look different. Last year we had another successful Mission Market to prepare our way for our mission trip to Colorado but as we all remember, we weren't able to go. We used a portion of our mission trip funds from last year and donated to various charities our congregation suggested.

Since we still have most of your generous donations from last year, we are looking to fulfill YOUR needs with the service of our kids! Do you need windows washed? How about leaves raked? A babysitter? Fresh cookies? A tech problem? Want to fine-tune your fishing skills? Whatever your needs are, we will help to arrange a high school kid (or 2 or 3) to help you for a free-will donation of your choice! Please email upwashyouth@gmail.com to tell us how we can help you! Please include your phone number where you can best be reached.

Also, on March 21st, we will have a meal to go after church that includes a pork sandwich and sides for a free-will donation. Your order will be taken through a Google Form (like we did for the soup supper in November) but this time **you must sign up in advance. Please have your order submitted by Sunday, March 14th.** Click here to access the [link to the Order Form](#).

Type this in if the above link doesn't work: <https://forms.gle/Ng78E1LptWDZojUo7>

We have been contacting places for our 2021 trip this summer and exploring all options based on the specific requirements/restrictions at these places. Please pray for some direction as we try to get out and spread God's love this June!



Church Library Update from Laurie Wittmayer-O'Neill

I am pleased to be volunteering as the church librarian. It is a fine collection in a beautiful space. I'm brushing up on the Dewey Decimal System and the computer program for record keeping. It's a delightful challenge. I would like to increase usage of these quality books. Perhaps you could help me out by dropping me an email at upwashlibrary@gmail.com to give me the author or title of a book you found supportive, informative or entertaining. Are there books that you'd recommend we add to the collection or gently worn ones you'd consider donating? Space is limited so additions will have to be very few at this time.

As we are evaluating the usage of the media videos in VHS or DVD, how many people still have a VHS player or use a DVD player? Please drop me a note on that also. The last question is this; "Are you comfortable using the Dewey Decimal System? Or would a subject grouping or author alphabetical arrangement help you feel more comfortable to browse? I'm open to discussion as to how to make our library comfortable for everyone. The email to the library will automatically forward to my home. I'll be happy to hear from each of you.

I offer my research services. I can assist you if anyone has a topic you'd like to look over in particular, or just ideas for good reading support. Next month I'll list some topics to pick in the newsletter. Has there been a reading/sharing group ever?

The check-out sheet is on the table next to the computer. Please fill in the information there and include both first and last names to assist me until I become more familiar with each of you. Feel free to introduce yourselves to me. I hope to make this viable and fun for all ages. Let me know how I may serve you best.

Respectfully, L.W.O.

Volunteer Drivers Needed

The Deacons are still in need for volunteers to drive people to various appointments. If you are willing to volunteer please contact Larry Bartlett at (cell 319-591-1528 or home 319-563-6931) or Kathy Knuntson at (319-461-4610)



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 Bartlett a call (cell 319-591-1528 or home 319-653-6931) or Kathy Knuntson (319-461-4610) and they will be glad to make the arrangements for transportation. Along with Larry and Kathy the other deacons are Terry Mangold, Sarah Robison, Rod Letts, Betty Beenblossom, and Grace Schiebel. 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!



January represents 8.3% of the year.
Our income came in at 10.26%
Our expenses came in at 7.04%



Articles for the April
newsletter are due
Wednesday, March 17th



My church Family,

Thank you for the get well cards and get well poster! I am feeling much better. I am very grateful for the thoughts and prayers from my wonderful church family!



Dana Conklin

Washington UP Church

Thank you for allowing us to use your facilities for our robotics group. We wouldn't have had a season without your generosity!

The Eaglebots



THANK YOU, GRACE AND KEATON

Keaton Murphy and Grace Schiebel, WHS youth from our church family, have chosen to volunteer some of their time doing church projects. This not only helps us out, it gives them WHS Silver Cord volunteer hours. Yay! Thanks, Grace and Keaton, we appreciate YOU!!



From the family of Herb Yoder,

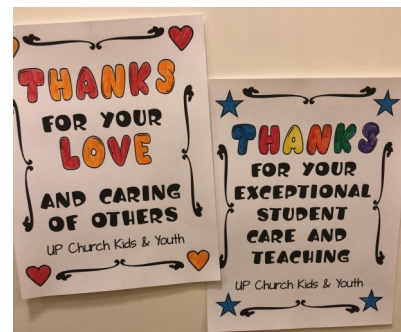
Your many expressions of love have been a comfort to us in the loss of Herb.

His time as your visitation Pastor was precious to him in his later years. He appreciated so much of your friendships and support. As we say "Thank you" we share this Bible verse which exemplifies his ministry: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23



LOVING OTHERS

The younger kids and youth of our church colored many “thank you” posters, given to Health Care Workers (physical and mental) and Education Staff (all ages), all within our church family. Additionally, other groups within our community having no church family workers also received thank you posters. In total, over 45 posters were hand-delivered or mailed throughout our community.



Thanks, Kids, for “LOVING OTHERS” and sharing your (and our) gratitude to these special individuals and groups who have worked hard, to care for and educate others during this life threatening, COVID-19 pandemic.

REACHING OUT TO OUR YOUNG ADULT MEMBERS

Our UP young adults, those working and those in college, virtually and in person, and those doing both were remembered by their U.P. Church Family, us! They each received one of our “Love God Love Others” cards along with a hand-written note from one of the Family of Faith Sunday school members. Those receiving cards also had included in that card a Subway gift certificate and a small inspirational card. We hope our caring and prayers for their future, now and always, is felt by these young adults.

United Presbyterian Church Congregation

Derecho funds update:

After the derecho our wonderful congregation felt the calling to help somehow. So many of us gathered and made sack lunches for the people of Cedar Rapids who needed help with a meal. Some couldn't or didn't feel safe in coming in to help in making the meals but wanted to contribute in some way. So many of us either dropped off food for the lunches or in some cases money to be used to buy supplies. We received so much monetary donations that the need for sack lunches diminished before the funds we received did.

So during the Christmas season it was determined that the extra funds would be used locally to help families needing a warm meal. The Washington First Assembly of God held a to go meal on Christmas day and we made a monetary donation to help in this community ministry. Washington First Assembly was very thankful that we helped support them in this undertaking. They were able to provide meals for 350 people with the help from our congregation and others in our community.

Washington First Assembly of God wanted to make sure that we know how grateful they are that we helped in this way.