


UPChurch

Love God. Love Others.

January 2022



**Do not be afraid to face life.
This New Year has a lot of
promises for us. Trust God
and everything will be fine.
Happy New Year!**

Happy New Year

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,

It is amazing to consider that January marks my third year here at UP Church. In many ways it does not feel as if we have been here that long, and in others I feel totally settled in. I am incredibly thankful to God for the call to come to this community and serve this church. I am thankful for the people I get to interact with, and for the love God offers all of us that allows us to love each other. I am hopeful for a bright future as we look toward the hiring of a full time Youth Minister, and as we continue to be an active part of this community. Sharing the love of God is a big task, but one I look forward to daily.

At the end of the month we will have our Annual Meeting during the worship service. During the meeting we will get to hear from our committees about their work during 2020, we will have music from a variety of sources, and we will vote on my terms of call, or contract. These are important things that you, as a congregation, are asked to do as part of your membership. Presbyterians believe in the importance of being connected - when we listen to what committees are doing we become more connected to each other and to the work of the church. I am hoping that the music we hear will include an adult choir and some children singing or performing, as well as pieces on the organ and with the worship band. We are all different, we all enjoy different musical styles, and this is a chance to enjoy a wide variety together. Also, one of the important duties of the membership of the church is to provide for the needs of your pastor as I work among you. The Personnel Team, Finance Committee, and Session have worked hard to bring you what they consider a fair proposal, and I encourage you to be a part of the discussion and voting.

Beloved, as we enter 2022, I invite you to remember the words of the prophet Isaiah, from chapter 41.

But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
you whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant,
I have chosen you and not cast you off";
do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

We are all upheld by the God who loves us. Let us move forward together, with joy.

Blessings,
Pastor Erin



Director of Youth Ministry Position

The search is on..... A committee has been formed to seek out God's plan for our next Youth Ministry Leader. We have compiled a job description, and are in the process of advertising and accepting letters of application. We need your support! Please pray for our committee as we continue the search, and for that perfect person that God has chosen for us. If you know of someone who would be a great fit, please encourage them to apply. The job description is on our Facebook page and website. Thank you from your search committee - April Cuddeback (chair), Jake Thorius, Isabella Lujan, Erin Kaye, Amanda Burke, Christy Buchholz, and Brenda Miles.



January Highlights

2nd Communion
6th Mobile Food Pantry
9th All Saints
12th PW Circle
18th Finance
19th Session

Annual Meeting

January 30th

During worship

Potluck after worship. Please bring a side dish to share. The meat and dessert will be provided.

We will also be installing new Elders and Deacons at this time.

WE ARE BLESSED AND A BLESSING:

Quietly, and behind the scenes each week, Ken Wulf cleans all the berries off the church's, two, northwest sidewalks. We know it's a chore and we're so grateful to have our sidewalks cleaned. We're blessed to have Ken's caring - thank you, Ken!

Six HACAP families, parents and kids, had a Christmas complete with gifts due to our generosity. We were a blessing!

The mitten tree is filling up, we will be a blessing for those who receive from the mitten tree bounty.

Mary Saforek created the lovely church office Christmas window. Mary shares her creative and technology talents with our church family in so many ways. Additionally, each week she puts together all the slides used during worship. We're so blessed to have you share your many talents, Mary.

Our church received a thank you/Christmas card from the local Lions club, sharing their appreciation in using our church facilities for their recent fund-raising meal. We were a blessing!



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 Grace Smith
1 Kathy Hunt
4 Aaron Rich
5 Kyle Anderson
5 Esther Bordwell
6 Gabriela Anderson
8 Mary Oviatt
9 Linden Brinning
10 Roy Carter

10 Clem Griffith
13 Noah Rich
13 Tracy Strabala
16 Vivian Griffith
16 Gary Herlein
17 Larry Krotz
19 Randy Fehr
19 Jake Thorius
22 Vernie Lowry

23 Sarah Miles
25 Julie Mangold
27 Megan El Haoud
28 Jillian Goff
28 Lyle Stacy
28 Shirley Whisler
29 Rick Bordwell
30 Cyndy McCall



Sunday School Class Structure for 2021-2022

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

CREW (Middle School Ministry)

Because of some Sunday afternoon conflicts and numbers, we are going to be meeting once a month. Our meeting for this month is TBD. We will be in touch!

THANK YOU to all who supported our high school youth by coming to our soup supper! We raised over \$1000 that we will put towards our 2022 mission trip! Please pray for guidance as we begin planning for our trip. We appreciate your continued support.

Inside Out (Senior High Ministry)

Jan 2nd: 6:30pm NO MEETING!
Jan 9th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Jan 16th: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Jan 23rd: 6:30pm @ UP Church
Jan 30th: 6:30pm @ UP Church

Sunday School: Son City/Middle School/High School

Jan 2nd: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL!
Jan 9th: 8:45am - Sunday school starts back up!
Jan 16th: 8:45am
Jan 23rd: 8:45am
Jan 30th: 8:45am



The Youth/ Children's program was as always fun to watch. Thank you to everyone that helped the make it such a success once again. We love seeing the youth doing a great job in telling us the reason for Christmas.





Adult Mission Fundraising - Carver Concessions

For several years groups of volunteers from this church have traveled to Iowa City on wrestling and basketball game days to work a concession stand and/or ice cream stand at Carver Hawkeye Arena. This fundraising began as a way to supplement adult mission trips for the "Twenties Connection". Over the years the funds have been used for adult mission trips, local mission needs, and supporting youth of this church in different ways.

We are again working Carver stands as a way to serve others while building funds to use as the group sees need. This year Aramark, the food contracting company, has increased the per person revenue significantly. We have worked 6 events so far this year because we had people willing and able, and the need for staffing stands has increased after the COVID shutdown. Please consider your interest in being a part of this fast paced mission opportunity. Each event is about 4 hours on your feet and a 6 hour time commitment, however we select events to work based on the number of volunteers, and you are only asked to work the games that fit your schedule. Must be 16 or older, wear black pants and closed toed shoes. Need more information?? Contact Cyndy or Andy McCall (319-863-3868), Brenda or Roger Miles (319-461-4327), or talk with one of our long time volunteers.

If you are one of the Hawkeye fans enjoying an event, please come see us for your refreshment needs. Our group receives commissions and tips, and we love seeing familiar faces!!

On a side note, be watching future newsletters for information on a spring adult mission trip. It's been a while and there is great need.

New Members!

We will be welcoming new members in January, during worship on the 2nd and 16th.

Baptism

We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism on January 16th during worship.

All Saints

On January 9th we will remember those from our church family who died in 2021.

An Update from your Board of Deacons

I would like to thank the Board of Deacons for their services in November. We have twenty-six people to contact monthly, either homebound, health center, by phone or sending them a card. This month the deacons made up 38 Christmas bags to go to the homebound and Health centers for Christmas. I want to thank the Congregation for delivering them to those members. Just a reminder that the church has an email prayer chain. If you would like to be put on the email prayer chain list OR prayer request, the contact person is Mary Atwood. Her phone number is 319-653-5868. If you would like transportation to worship or appointments. Please contact Larry Bartlett for these services at 319-653-6931 or cell 319-461-1528. The Board of Deacons wishes to extend our thanks to each of you who helped us share the love and justice of our Lord Jesus by extending a hand to all of God's children.



Jan–November represents 92% of the year. Our income came in at 96.54%
Our expenses came in at 85.10%



Articles for the February newsletter are due
Wednesday, January 19th



Choir Update

A “pickup choir” is in the works – very possibly for the last Sunday in January! Keep your eyes and ears open for more information via Flocknote and plan to join us!

-- Mary Jo

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Once again you, our church family, supported our goal to Love God and Love Others through your financial pledging for 2022. We had several new pledging units and we surpassed our goal of \$190,000! Many thanks to you, our Church family.

In celebration of our successful 2021 “You are a Piece of the Puzzle” Stewardship Campaign, Ann Conklin made and decorated about 120 cupcakes, placed in pretty bags, complete with colorful ribbons. These yummy party treats were given to church family members in worship attendance on November. Many thanks, Ann, and to each of YOU who helped us be so successful.

Didn't Terry Anderson do a wonderful job as Norris Wisebaum, our roving radio reporter? Thanks, Terry, and thank you to all our puzzle piece speakers, too: Carrie Septer, Julie Zahs, Emory VanGerpen, Gary Murphy, Jane Cuddeback, Isabella Lujan, Tyler Alderton, Christy Buchholz, Mary Atwood, Tracy and James Strabala, and Mary Jo Koehler. Great job, Everyone!

As 2021 and our Stewardship Campaign come to a close, we thank you, Church Family, for once again sharing your time, talents, and resources. We truly are showing our Love for God and our Love for Others through ALL our giving.

Stewardship Committee: Terry Anderson, Sandy Dunlap, Julie Johnson, Steve Liebe, Marde McConnell, and Mary Saforek



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

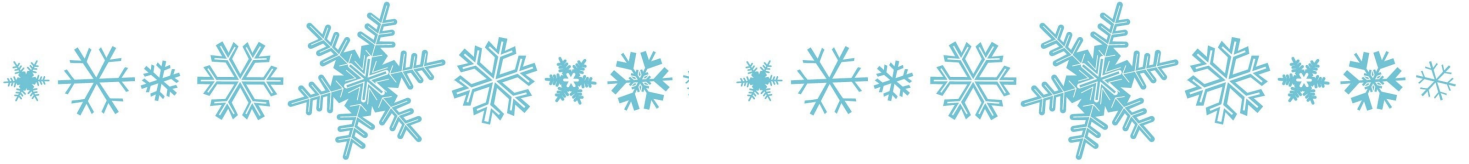
Checks may be sent to:
United Presbyterian Church
PO Box 32
Washington, Iowa 52353

Offering
Giving Back
To God



Movie Night, a Success!

Despite other things going on the same night, we had a good crowd for our first movie night since the Covid pandemic began! There were little ones, elementary kids, teens, and adults who enjoyed the Grinch movie. The second movie was also a hit. We know everyone can't wait for the next Movie Night!!



THANK YOU, DILLON FAMILY

HACAP Food Box Update:

Did you know that for many years the Dillon Family has filled the Mission Committee community outreach HACAP food boxes? We're so grateful for your caring, Karen, Ron, and family!

A few updates – a year or so ago HACAP began providing us with smaller, empty boxes – about half as large as previous years' boxes. The change was made because the larger boxes, once filled with food, were too heavy for some of the individuals in need.

HACAP provides us with the flattened boxes. The boxes are created, filled with food, labeled, and placed at the east entrance. HACAP is contacted and the filled boxes, 12 at a time, are picked up and 12 flattened boxes are left. It's a seamless operation and one most definitely appreciated by the HACAP staff and the food recipients.

During a "normal" year we contribute about 480 boxes of food!

Due to smaller sized boxes, here are a few reminders and suggestions:

Cereal Boxes: 12 oz. size (not huge, oversized boxes)

Fruits and Veggies: 14 -15oz. cans

Protein ideas: Canned chicken, canned tuna, beans

Snacks: Pillsbury's brownie bag mix for an 8x8 pan - works great

Granola bars or other wrapped, single serving items that can be split

Pasta: No additional items needed

Just a little reminder, each box contains:

2 protein 4-6 veggies 2-3 fruit

2-3 snacks 1 cereal 2 starch

Misc. hygiene items are added as available: toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, dental floss, shampoos (travel size OK)



Feel free to put any donated items in the grocery cart in Fellowship Hall or you may make a financial donation in the office toward this mission project.

Thank you to Son City Kids, our Youth Groups, and all adults who bring donations or contribute financially. We truly are Loving God and Loving Others as we reach out in caring to help feed those in need in our community.