

UPChurch

Love God. Love Others.

December 2022



18th 10am Children's Christmas Program

24th 7pm Christmas Eve Service

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...

The prophet Isaiah wrote, 'For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder.

And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'

Isaiah was probably talking about a new baby in his own time, but his words have been used to reference the birth of Jesus, the Messiah. As we enter the season of Advent, the time in the church year when we prepare for the birth of Jesus, I invite you to consider with me what Isaiah's words mean when we apply them to Jesus. Each week of Advent, beginning November 27, we will explore one of Isaiah's names for Jesus.

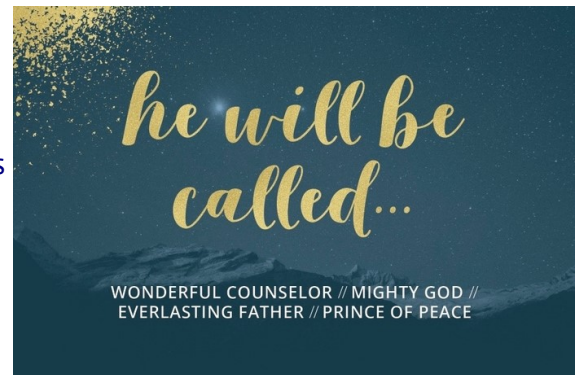
While I have been preparing my sermons, the song, 'O Lord how shall I meet you' has been playing in my mind. The first verse is especially meaningful to me as I prepare for the birth of Jesus.

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!

Oh, kindle, Lord most holy, your lamp within my breast to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

How do we prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus? We hope for him, we look for him, and we seek to serve him humbly. As we learn about the names that Jesus is called, let us continue to look for his arrival with hope and humility.

Blessings,
Pastor Erin



Erin will be on vacation December 28th– January 3rd.
Anna Sheetz will be preaching on January 1st.



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



December Highlights

4th Communion
4th Congregational Meeting
9th Family Movie Night
13th Finance
14th PW Circle
14th Worship Meeting

14th Session
15th Blood Drive
18th Children's Christmas Program
24th Communion
24th Christmas Eve Service
25th Christmas
31st New Year's Eve



Please have all receipts for this year turned into the office no later than the 21st of December.

The office will be closed December 26th and 27th in observance of Christmas.



WE ARE BLESSED AND A BLESSING:

We are blessed to have had Jean Frazer donate so many hours in creating our fabulous new, church directory, which everyone loves!

We are blessed to have had a great stewardship team who were so creative and committed in leading our 2022 Stewardship Campaign: How Will You Measure Your Life?

We are blessed to have many different members of our church family participate in worship, very young and not so young – even a clown made an appearance with his orangutan last month!
We were a blessing in providing a warm space to

many of those affected by the recent Greiner fire.

We were a blessing to the community and Kitch Shatzer, volunteer for ship (Senior Health Insurance Information Program). For nearly 6 weeks, Kitch met with community members in our building as she helped them navigate their health insurance choices for 2023.

We were a blessing to our community in sharing our fellowship hall/gathering space twice on Nov. 26th – early morning for the Chamber Meet With Santa Breakfast and then for our Saturday Kitchen guests! It's such a blessing to be able to share our space.



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
9 Katie McWhirter
12 Barry Johnson
13 Lisa Buitendorp

15 Nate Conrad
19 Jamie Rich
20 Sarah Robison
21 Joe McConnell
24 Sue Reed
26 Erin Thorius
28 Krystle Moore
28 Alecia Goff
29 Dorothy Koehler

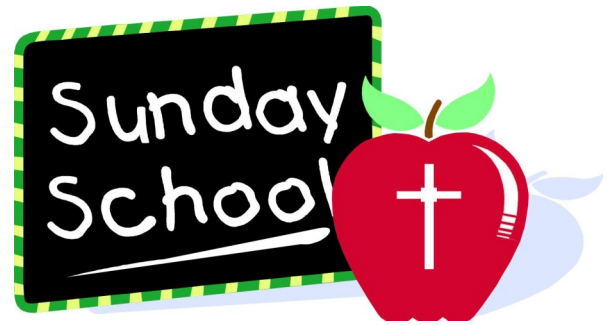
30 Emory VanGerpen
30 Lorraine Williams
31 Jayse Thorius



Son City (K-4th Grade)

The kids have been busy learning about Jonah. They enjoyed folding origami whales and drawing Jonah inside. Some made greeting cards with the folded whales that said "Have a whale of a great birthday!" The middle school class and our 4th graders did the shadow puppet show of Jonah and the Whale. The younger kids will be the pit orchestra and play the "storm" music during the play in church. The K-4th graders will get to do shadow puppets when the stage is moved downstairs and put on a lower table so they can reach. The kids also acted out drama scenes from the Jonah story. 2-4th graders did a crossword on Jonah, which required them using their *Bibles* to find the clues. Now it's time to start Christmas activities.

Julie Zahs, Tracy Strabala, Jane Cuddeback



Sunday School

Class Structure for 2022-2023

8:45am

Birth - 4 yo Preschool: Upstairs in the Nursery
 Kindergarten - 4th grade: Downstairs in Son City
 5th - 8th grades: Rat Pack Room
 9th - 12th grades: Youth Room

Inside Out (9th-12th grade Ministry)

Sundays, 6:30pm @ UP Church

(check your messages for info!)

Dec 4th: regular meeting

Dec 11th: Christmas dinner and gift exchange

Dec 18th: regular meeting

Dec 25th: Merry Christmas!- No meeting

CREW (5th – 8th grade Ministry)

Our November Crew meeting was cold, but delicious! We made apple cider. Thank you to Erin Thorius for helping transport the group and taking pictures, thank you to the Sell's for hosting us and letting us use their cider press and thank you to Jane Cuddeback for donating apples! Here are some pictures of our day.



The next Crew meeting will be:

December 11th 3-5pm

We will go shopping for our adopted HACAP family, then return to the church to wrap the gifts and celebrate Christmas.

No need to bring anything except a giving spirit!

Brad and Megan Alderton
 Travis Moore



If you are interested or have questions, please feel free to call the church at 653-6588. Hope to see all 5th to 8th graders soon!



Lately we've been having over 80 guests each Saturday at the Saturday Kitchen! How blessed we are to Love God and Love Others in helping to coordinate and host this event each Saturday.

We're grateful for the recent donation of four #10 cans of green beans from First Baptist Church and two #10 cans of fruit cocktail by HACAP to be used by our host groups, as we serve others in our community.

Joe and Marde McConnell, Saturday Kitchen Coordinators

BRRRRR..... Baby It's Cold Outside!!!!

It's that time of the year again when we need to bundle up the little tikes to head off to school or play and they need hats, gloves and mittens! We will have a mitten table up in the back of the sanctuary for the last week of November and the full month of December. Please leave new or gently worn mittens, hats, gloves or scarves on the mitten table. They will then be delivered to the local elementary schools for those who need them.



Thank you for your compassion for our little friends!



Mark Your Calendar!



Family Movie Night
December 9th
7pm
Movie being shown: Elf

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 18th
During worship
Refreshments to follow afterward



Dec,
24th
7pm



Christmas Day Worship

10am



Online-Pre-recorded service
In person- fellowship hall, carols and the Christmas story, cocoa and treats, wear something comfy and/or Christmassy



Jan-Oct represents 83% of the year.
Our income came in at 70%
Our expenses came in at 66%



Articles for the January newsletter are due
Wednesday, December 21st



BABY SHOWER NEWS – SHOWERING WITH LOVE



Thanks to all of you who helped us share our love with the Youngman family - so many packages of diapers and wipes for new baby Jules and even a few gifts for big sister Jayden. Blessings to all!

We're now honored to be "showering" Dayton Schluetter, our directory photographer, on the upcoming Dec. birth of her little one. Our financial donations will be used to purchase a much-desired, larger item: a stroller/wagon. Financial donations or other gifts may be made in Fellowship Hall or the church office.

Thank you, as always, for sharing your love toward these parents and their beautiful, new, little ones.



Nursery Volunteers Needed

If you would be interested in volunteering in the nursery during worship, watching and taking care of our young children please contact the office at 319-653-6588 and Krystle will assist you. We would need two individuals yet for these dates: Dec 18th, Dec 24th (7pm service), and Feb 26th. We need one individual to volunteer on Jan 29th with another church member already signed up.



Trunk or Treat

What a very fun evening it was at UPC on Oct. 31st! We were thrilled to have over 150 kids and their parents attend our Trunk and Treat event. We had cute games led by our Crew kids, coordinated by the Alderton's, and many trunks opened with special treats for the trick or treaters, too!

This year we made a very concerted effort to give very little candy, a much-appreciated plan by parents! However, we had lots of other cool things such as bracelets, magnifying glasses, key chains, glow in the dark sticks, plastic teeth, pencils, bookmarks, erasers, and fruit snacks.

Thanks to all in our church family who helped us reach out to kids and families in and around Washington.

