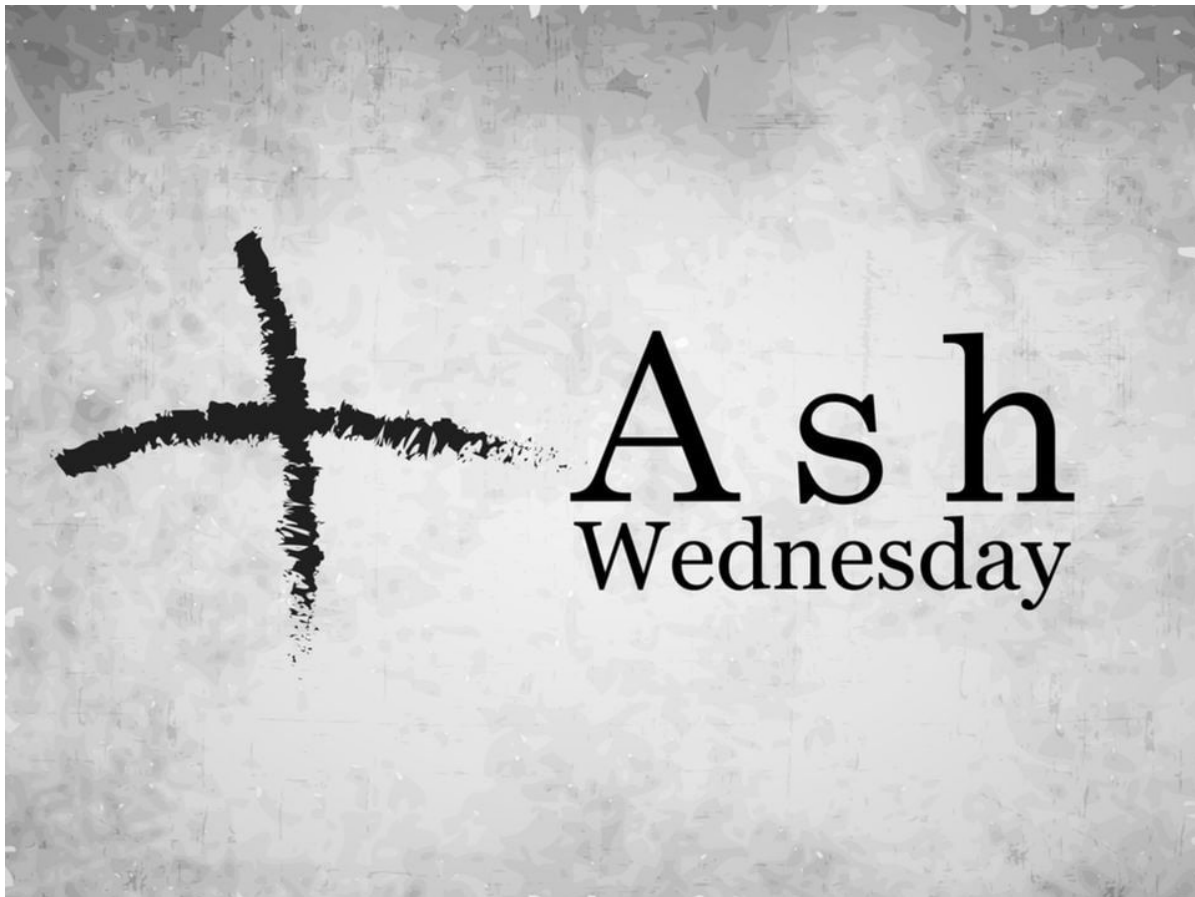




February 2024



February 14th, Service at 6:30pm

Church Contacts

P.O. Box 32
209 E Main Street
Washington, IA, 52353
319-653-6588

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8am-12pm Office open
**Phone will be answered during
the following hours:**
Monday- Friday 8-12pm
Monday- Thursday 1-4pm

Pastor Erin Kaye

pastorerinkaye@gmail.com
319-461-8765

Secretary/Treasurer

Krystle Moore
upsecretary@gmail.com

Family Ministry Director

Dan Frost
upfamilyministry@gmail.com

Organist

Virginia Bordwell
Virginia@washingtontitle.org

Worship Band

Mary Jo Koehler
aceofspace99@gmail.com



From the Pastor...

Friends,

Easter is early this year! It will happen on March 31st. This means that Ash Wednesday, which is the kick-off to the season before Easter, will be on February 14th. Happy Valentine's Day! Let's be romantic and go get an ash cross smudged on our foreheads...

Silly, I know, but maybe it's actually an appropriate thing to do. Ash Wednesday is a day meant to remind us of our humanity, and part of being human is loving others. I hope you'll have time to join us for worship that evening, at 6:30 pm, at the church. The season from Ash Wednesday to Easter is called Lent. This six week period is a time to go deeper into our faith, so that when we get to Easter we can truly appreciate the gift of Jesus' death and resurrection. We will be using a sermon series called Come Thou Fount, written by a group called Sanctified Art. Here is what they have to say about the series:

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

As we were studying Peter's faith journey, the lyrics of "Come Thou Fount" came to mind. It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God.

In this series, we want to affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We want to affirm the ways Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter's story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people—in fact, time and again, that's precisely who God claims and calls.

This Lent, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.

I invite you to join us as we explore Peter's story, and to invite others along on the journey!

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



February Highlights

4th Communion
8th Blood Drive

10th Parents Night Out/Kids Craft Night
14th PW Meeting

14th Ash Wednesday
16th M.S. Lock In
19th Sewing Day
20th Finance Meeting
21st Session
22nd-24th Quilt Exhibit



WE ARE BLESSED AND A BLESSING:

We were blessed to have all four Dillon “kids” (now adults and not living in Washington!) help with the Dec. 23 Saturday Kitchen. It’s wonderful that they wanted to share their family time helping with the Saturday Kitchen.

We were blessed Julie Murphy shared a lovely, winter, evergreen arrangement with us. It was beautifully displayed in our church, north entrance.

We were blessed to have so many of our church family help with the set-up and removal of our many Christmas decorations. Many hands made light work! Thanks to all the helpers.

We were a blessing to our friends at the Police Dept., Sheriff’s Dept. and U.P. Home Care Center workers on Christmas Eve. Plates of cookies and goodies were delivered to them, thanking them for their service and wishing them a Merry Christmas.

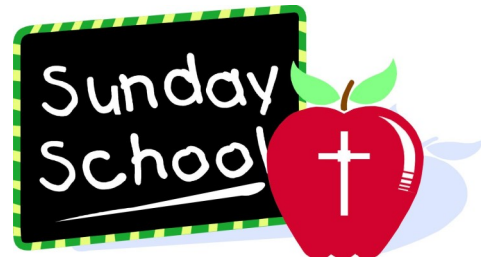
We are a blessing to our Lutheran friends in Pastor Erin’s willingness to prepare and preach each week with them . . . and then come “home” to us.

We are a blessing to the children at Stewart and Lincoln Schools through our generous donations of winter gloves, hats and mittens.



United Youth M.S.

(6th-8th grade Ministry)
Sundays, 4pm @ UP Church



Class Structure for 2023-2024

8:45am

Birth - 4 yo Preschool: Upstairs in the Nursery
Kindergarten - 5th grade: Downstairs in Son City
6th - 8th grades: Rat Pack Room
9th - 12th grades: Youth Room



United Youth H.S.

(9th-12th grade Ministry)
Sundays, 6:30pm @ UP Church

2 Ethel Moothart
7 Grace Schiebel
8 Ellen Twinam
9 Terry Anderson
10 Teresa Anderson
11 Luke Schiebel
12 Beth Clark
14 James Strabala
14 Phil Kleese

14 Scarlett Schwenk
17 Brian Strabala
20 Lincoln Kleese
22 Alice Martin
23 Amanda Burke
27 Erik Buchholz
28 Abigail Kleese
28 Bev Young
28 Ed Lins

29 Travis Shelman



UNITED FAMILY NEWSLETTER

All We Need is Love



In Matthew 22 the religious leaders ask Jesus a question in an attempt to trap him. The question that they pose to Jesus was "Which is the greatest command of the Law?" Jesus' response was that we need to "Love God" Jesus does not stop there he adds a second command to it. "Love Others." Jesus tells the religious leaders that all of the Law is contingent on these two commands.

The Christian life is summarized in these two commands. "Love God" and "Love Others." In the Book of 1 John we are told that "God is Love." Let us live today with a complete love for our Savior. That love for our Savior will compel us to love others the way that he does.



New Logos

You may have seen the new logos on the newsletter. This rebranding is designed to help new families to our church understand all of the ministry opportunities that we have available for the individuals in their families. You will be seeing more of these logos in the coming weeks and months.

Parents Night Out/ Kids Craft Night

On Saturday, February 10th from 4-7PM we are hosting a Parents Night Out & Kids Craft Night. This is to provide an opportunity for parents in our community to have night out while we as a church provide fun for the kids. We will be making Valentines for the residents of the UP Home, The police department, and the fire department. . Here are areas where we can use your help:

- Helping to lead and facilitate a Valentines Craft
- Help with Food (Pasta Bar)
- Someone to take pictures at photobooth.
- We need to invite young families to attend the event.

We are so excited to help reach out to our community. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to volunteer at UPfamilyministry@gmail.com.

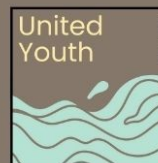
“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
1 John 4:7”

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS.**

FEBRUARY EVENTS



**Parents Night Out/
Kids Craft Night**
February 10th
4-7PM



**UNITED Youth M.S.
LOCK IN**
February 16th-17th
5pm-8am



**UNITED Youth H.S.
Mall Scavenger Hunt**
February 18th
12-5PM





Saturday Kitchen New Year's "Eve-ish" Pizza Party and 2024 Begins

Dec. 30th was fun at the Saturday Kitchen and it was a great way to end the year, thanks to caring hosts from our church family, the Lighthouse and Washington Mennonite Church. It was an easy day with little prep, disposable plates and, fun New Year's table decorations were on the tables. Lots of yummy pizza, fruit cups, fresh veggies/dip, and ice cream sandwiches were the menu.

We're so grateful to our very-willing, pizza donors: Lebowski's, Dino's, Pizza Hut, Rizza Ranch, Casey's East and Casey's West. Please thank the managers/owners of these establishments for their wonderful end-of-the-year generosity.

Then 2024 started off with the hosts being the Prairie Pride 4-H group, leaders April Cuddeback and Megan Alderton. These committed leaders and their amazing kids served 85 plates – what an exciting way to start the New Year! What an honor for our church to share our facility and facilitate this mission to serve others each Saturday, showing our Love for God and Others.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Project



Recently a group of us had the opportunity to help build 10 beds for the Washington county chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Their Mission is "NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!" This organization takes applications for beds, organizes bed builds, and delivers beds to children in need of a bed and a safe place to sleep. If you know of a child between the ages of 3-17 who might need a bed, please contact Sleep in Heavenly Peace at shpbeds.org.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Mitten Tree!

Stewart Elementary School received about 30 gloves/mittens and 20 hats. Lincoln Elementary School received about 25 gloves/mittens and 20 hats/headbands. And HACAP received 4 sweaters.



Thank you so much for the hats and mittens for our students.

Thanks to those that are using their gifts to make our little ones a little warmer!

Thanks again, Staff at Lincoln Elementary



The end of Dec represents 100% of the year. Our income came in at 87.94%
Our expenses came in at 90.49%



Articles for the March Newsletter are due Friday, February 23rd



Washington Public Library presents...

2024

Fiber Arts February

QUILT CRAWL



View quilts by artists
Erik Jon Olson,
Wendy Read,
MaryKay Hymes,
and our **community!**



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 FROM 4 - 7 PM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 FROM 10 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 FROM 9 AM - 1 PM

THE UP CHURCH
209 E. MAIN ST.

ART DOMESTIQUE
118 S. IOWA AVE.

WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
115 W. WASHINGTON ST.



Pick up a map and your ticket at any of the three locations. Get your ticket punched at all locations for a chance to win a quilt!

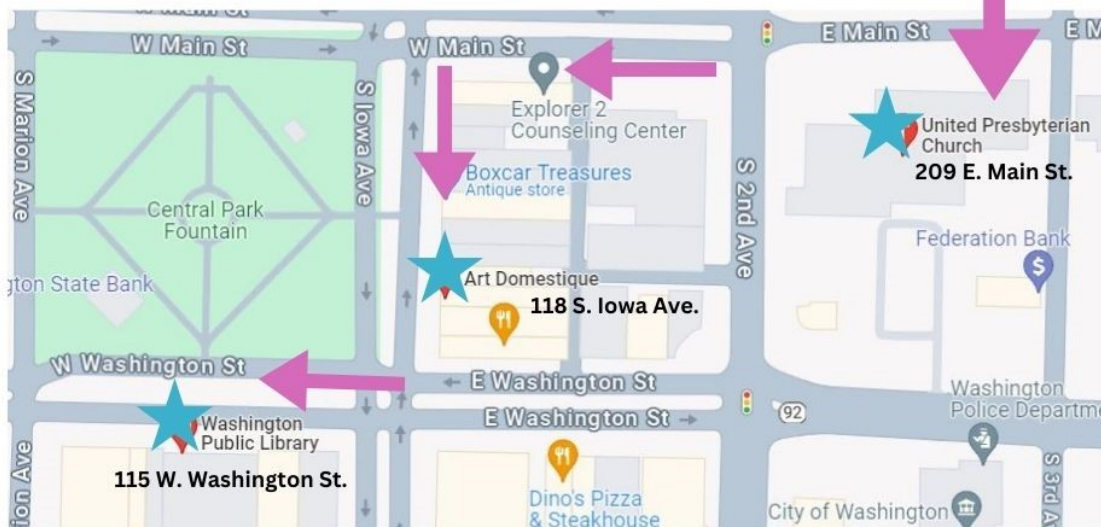
#3

LAST head west
Washington Public Library
115 W. Washington St.

#2

Next head west, then south
Art Domestique
118 S. Iowa Ave.

#1 START HERE:
UP Church
209 E. Main St.



Washington Public Library presents...

Fiber Arts February

Washington, Iowa

★ = QUILTS

Pick up a ticket to be punched at each location for a chance to win a quilt.