

Vacation Bible School

Calling all Detectives!

August 3-6th

Family Meal 5-5:30pm

Program 5:45-7:45pm

Open to PK4-5th Grade

Ways to register: link on church website, Facebook, or call into the office and staff will assist you



Church Contacts

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

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8am-12pm Office open
The phone is 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 Mary Jo...

Dear church family,

It's with both excitement and sadness that I announce to you that I am moving out of Iowa to New York later this summer. The decision has been the culmination of over a year of prayer and action. This means, of course, that my time with you as worship band leader will come to an end.

First, I will briefly explain my journey that led to this decision. Some of you may know that I am an ordained Presbyterian minister. It's been a number of years since I actually served a congregation as pastor, though my time of sharing music with you has been inspirational and a wonderful way to do ministry. While attending seminary in the late 1980s, I spent one year as a student intern in a rural church in upstate New York. I loved my year there – the people and the area. It has always been one of the best years of my life. Early last year I had the opportunity to go out to New York with my brother on an errand for his business, and we stopped to visit some friends from the congregation I served there. That trip rekindled a desire to live in that part of the country and to serve a church somewhere nearby if possible. After a time of thought and prayer, I began the search, and after some time connected with a small congregation in that area. After many conversations, I accepted the position as Temporary Supply Pastor of the Charlotte Valley Presbyterian Church in Davenport, New York, which is in the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley. The congregation is small (about 60 members), and is situated in the rural foothills of the Catskill mountains, about 3-4 hours northwest of the New York City area.

I plan to move during the third week of August. My last Sunday with you will be August 11.

It's been such a blessing and joy to worship with you. I have never tired of preparing music, singing, playing, praying, and praising God each Sunday. My work with you has led me back from a time away from ministry to full-time service, and for this I am very grateful. I will be in touch through Pastor Erin and through my mother, Dorothy Koehler (take good care of them both!). I will miss you all, and I pray the very best for you in your mission, ministry and life of faith in the Washington community and beyond. You have a very important place in God's work in the world, and the light of God shines brightly through you.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

With much love and gratitude,

Mary Jo Koehler

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



July/August Highlights

July

2nd Deacon Meeting
4th Independence Day
6th Communion
8th UP Home Communion
9th Session
11th Church Pool Party and Ice Cream Social

August

3rd Communion
3rd-6th VBS
15th Blood Drive
20th Finance
21st Session

The office will be closed on July 4th in observance of Independence Day.



Nursery Volunteers Needed during Worship

We still are in need of nursery volunteers during worship on July 14th and 21st.

The August sign up will be sent out later in July or you can sign up in the nursery.



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.

July

1 Heather Anderson
2 Tymber Burke
5 Tanya Stadler
6 Katie Septer
6 Jack Septer
10 Mike Zahs
11 Ruth Ann Stacy
14 Kristene Evans
18 Jacob Bruns
19 Marg Lins
20 Mary McCall
21 Bert Turner

23 Fei Fei Anderson

25 Doug Dunlap
27 Sandy Dunlap
27 Carolynn Guenther
28 Diana Rich
30 Shirley Garrett
30 Barb Liebe

August

2 Leisha Linge
3 Julie Johnson
3 Darin Rich
4 Dorothy White
5 Krista Gaal

5 Cyrus Andrews

6 Abe Evans
10 Jeff Cuddeback
10 Megan Alderton
10 Kristen Twinam
10 Steve Linge
11 Cole Anderson
12 Leila El Haoud
13 Ron Dillon
13 Rhonda Shelman
19 David Henderson
19 Billie Bruns
23 Mary Atwood

23 Michael McCall

25 Bob Johnson
26 Max Anderson
26 Hannah Dallmeyer
28 Megan Schiebel
30 Katie Lujan





The Son City Youth had a busy spring and end of year studying about Jesus. Their lessons followed Pastor Erin's Lenten sermons, then more lessons on Jesus, including Pentecost. They looked at a timeline of events about his life. Various skits, videos, stories were used to learn about Jesus. Kids also made beautiful floral Mothers' Day cards. The final lesson was a game show with many questions about things we learned concerning the life of Jesus. The kids were on two teams.... and did GREAT!

Julie Zahs and Tracy Strabala

Church Camping Weekend

Marr Park

Sept 6th-8th

Bonfire Saturday night at 7:30pm with s'mores

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the bonfire and s'mores!

Worship Sunday at the conservation center

10am

Potluck after worship with pork burgers, drinks, and tableware provided.

Bring a dish to share.



BLESSINGS WE GAVE:

What a blessing, the sewing gals came through once again, assisting in the repair of all the American flags on display at Elm Grove Cemetery.

What a blessing that Pastor Erin and Ginny Bordwell not only share their musical talents with us each Sunday, they each had significant roles in the recent, local presentation of the musical, Sound of Music.

What a blessing to Kitch and her SHIPP clients to be able to use our facility for their appointments.

BLESSINGS WE RECEIVED:

We are blessed Megan Strabala and Hunter Craig chose to be married in our church and for us to be able to share our love for them and their marriage.

We are blessed that Katie McWhirter has come and done some outdoor yard work at the church on her own time – weed removal and bushes trimming. We appreciate her caring and doing that work without being asked!!

We are blessed that Seth Normington, Transitional Executive of the East Iowa Presbytery shared a meaningful worship message when Pastor Erin was on vacation.

Pastor Erin will be on vacation July 22nd-August 3rd.



Organ Repair

The organ repairs began June 2nd and will last until approximately July 30th.

Washington County Fair

July 14th-19th

If you plan on attending the County Fair, keep a lookout for our church family members who will be participating in various events throughout the week.





UP FAMILY MINISTRY



JULY 2024



Mission Trip Thank You

Thank you to all who supported our high school students on this year's mission trip. The students had a great experience of serving others, having community together, and understanding how God can use them to help others. Thank you to our church family for all of your support for our students.

Bingo Night

July 17 our middle school and High school students will host a BINGO night for the residents of the UP Home. Arrive @ the UP Home at 5:30 for a great night of serving the UP Home residents.

VBS Update

VBS is August 3-6. You can register your child with the QR code below. We also have need for volunteers. Contact Dan at UPfamilyministry@gmail.com

Coming Events

July 7 Youth Games and Ice Cream
Middle School 4-5:30
High School 5:30-7:00

July 11 Family Night at the Pool 7:15-8:45

July 17 Youth Bingo Night @ UP Home 5:30-7:00

August 3-6 Vacation Bible School





FREE FAMILY MEAL

5-5:30PM

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

CALLING ALL DETECTIVES

JESUS

GAMES

FUN!

FRIENDS



JOIN US FOR ON THE CASE VBS

AUGUST 3-6TH 5:30PM-7:45PM

UP CHURCH 209 E MAIN ST. WASHINGTON

OPEN TO PK4-5TH GRADE



As coordinators for the Saturday Kitchen, we create the hosting schedule for the year, keeping in mind the requests and needs of the over 25 hosts groups. As a result, in 2024 we ended up with two back-to-back dates!! June 22nd the host was our Pathfinders Sunday School class and June 29th was the entire church family.

We had great crowds (80-90 plates and many take-home meals) both weeks. We're so grateful you, all our UPC Church Family, for your support of this local mission on June 22nd and on the 29th!

Joe and Marde McConnell (319-653-3884)

We will host again August 10th

Meals-On-Wheels

We are responsible for delivering Meals on Wheels in August. There will be a sign-up sheet available in July. You may also contact Teresa Anderson if you are available to help deliver meals at 319-361-5804.



Church Directory Update

Thanks, Church Family, for taking your directory and delivering many others, too! A special thanks to those who helped with the U.P. Home deliveries: Randy and Jane Fehr, cottagers; Linda Boston, Kerr Hall apartment dwellers and Dorothy White, Care Center and Stewart Hall residents.

While this directory is not a picture one it has updated information we know you'll appreciate. A special thanks to the Welcome Team for their efforts on this project, along with Krystle for her important role, too!

Welcome Team: Teresa Anderson, Barb Brown, Christy Buchholz, Marde McConnell, Angie Schluetter, Rita Schonhoff, and Pam Vongpanya.



The end of May represents 42% of the year. Our income came in at 32.60%
Our expenses came in at 66.17%



Articles for the September Newsletter are due Friday, August 23rd

The Nelson Family

Happy summer everyone! After finish a crazy school year half spent in the States, half spent in Jordan- we find ourselves catching and reflecting on what God has done this year so far. In this update, we want to catch you up on what He has done thus far in our family and in our team and what is to come!

End of an era

This year ended up my 10th (and final) year of teaching at Whitman Academy in Jordan. This job not only provided a steady visa for our family the last 9 years, it also provided me the opportunity to stay connected with my kids, being available if they needed anything. With Beatrice's needs, it has been a comfort to be nearby if she was having a hard day. I also was able to develop my skills as a teacher. Leaving this job is a big step of faith, to step away from a stable residency platform in order to give more time to our passion of seeing Arabs following and worshipping Jesus.

Commitment to Prayer

While we were away in the States in the Fall, our team committed to numerous prayer initiatives including Jordan's 2nd annual country wide prayer event, a first-time all women's day of prayer and worship (co-led by Arab believers) and a weeklong prayer trip to a Gulf country by our teammate Johanna. Since returning in January, our other teammate Joel traveled to the KSA for another prayer trip and our entire team traveled to a nearby country for a weeklong prayer conference focusing on the Cousin World. In addition God spoke to us in our team prayers times about prayer being the fuel for movement in our country and region! We are believing this in faith!

Hungry Believers

Speaking of movement, our teammate Joel has partnered with other workers while we were away to connect with a growing network of Druze (an off-shoot of Islam) seekers and believers. Since the Fall, Joel has had the opportunity to "dunk" 3 new believers! And there are still others showing a hunger to know the Truth. We are looking to work with this network to see indigenous worship become a part of their house churches.

Faith and Doubt

A reality of discipleship is that there are ups and downs in everyone's faith journey. Louie, a friend of ours that we have posted about in the last couple years, has expressed doubts in his belief due to enduring some difficult life circumstances. Basam, on the other hand though he has yet to profess faith, his growth and hunger for truth has only continued. In the months since we have returned we have meaningful conversation, where truth was shared and received. He also asked for (and gladly received) a copy of the Psalms in Arabic as he found the words beautiful and encouraging. Pray for both of these young men to continue to move towards Jesus, the ultimate source of truth and peace.

THE FUTURE

As we approach our 12 year anniversary of coming to Jordan, we are excited for what we believe is going to be a year of breakthrough and transformation in our country. Just a reminder that we will be in America from **June 18-July 17th**, if you would like to hear more about where God is leading in the future, please reach out to set up an appointment. Right now we have 2 church visits booked where you can catch us. We are also open to connecting with you small groups, just let us know!

June 30th @ 10:00am, Genesis Church- Big White House, Coralville, IA
July 7th all services, Steamboat Rock Baptist Church, Steamboat Rock, IA