



The Meeting House

Washington United Methodist Church

August 2019

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Contact Us 319-653-5446

Office hours:
Mon. - Fri.: 8:30-4:00pm

Pastor Kwang Song
kwang.song@iaumc.net

Financial Secretary
Tim Johnson
officewashumc@gmail.com

Church Secretary
Melody J. S. Merritt
churchofficewumc@gmail.com



washunitedmc

“God is omnipotent(all-powerful) not because God can do anything in the universe but because God can love everyone as an individual at the same time.”

It's hard to remember exactly where the line came from, but, I think it tells us how God's love works in our lives and also helps us understand how God cares about each and every one of us. It is amazing that God can have loving relationships with millions and billions of people not as a group but each as an individual, at the same time. This is a unique character of the power that God has and the way God exerts the power.

About 120 miles south from Moscow, there is a small town called 'Tula', the hometown of the great Russian writer Leo Tolstoy. A few miles south from this town, there is a great farmland, called 'Yasnaja Polyana', where Leo Tolstoy was born and grew up. I was there with my family and friends to visit his small and humble grave. It was well maintained but it was just a small grave, nothing else, not even a tombstone. It shows his humble heart he learned from Jesus. However, what caught my curiosity was not the grave but 'a Tree' on the prairie. It was not originally one tree but two trees even though it looked like one. They each had their own roots but had grown together as one in some way. One of our friends, he was good at guiding us, told us that it is a popular place for young Russian couples to visit to ask for blessings for a life full of happiness, particularly just before getting married. It might even be a part of their wedding ceremony.

One tree with two different roots stands for the life of the family in Christ. We had been strangers to each other, or merely just neighbors in the earthly world. I came originally from South Korea. I think I am a sort of transplanted tree from a place far from here in Washington, from a foreign country, like the Jews in Babylon. But now God made us one in his love and grace. We are still individuals, each and every one of us has our own personality and characteristics. But it is clear that we are one family in one Christ.

We are a tree with diverse roots under the ground. We are a tree beside the river of grace and love of Christ. Christ nurtures us and provides us with moisture and nutrients. We all grow together and are expected to make fruit. You know what? More roots better get moisture and nutrients from the soil, in times of drought particularly. Our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to be together, work together and bear fruit together.

God's Blessing and Loving Care to All
Kwang



**Mission and Outreach Committee
New Information About the Backpack Program**

Prior to this spring, there was no program at the middle and high school that was similar to the elementary school backpack program. In the process of setting something up to provide weekend food assistance to middle and high school students, the elementary system changed a bit also. The schools are able to get food (at no cost to them) from the HACAP Hiawatha food reservoir, just as our HACAP food pantry does. Food is delivered each week to the schools. Students in need of this assistance are identified by the guidance offices and food is sent home with them every Friday afternoon.

At the high school and middle school, the food pantry food arrives on Thursday. Students are taken to the storage area where they select what they want to take home. School staff bags the food and the students may pick it up in the guidance office on their way out of the building at the end of the school day on Fridays. The elementary schools will continue to send food home with children on the weekends. At this time, they are not certain whether their procedure for getting the food will change due to the availability of deliveries from Hiawatha.

Donations for this program (for any of the school buildings) will still go to support food for school kids. There are some food items that are either not included or only in limited quantities in the food coming from Cedar Rapids. This would include perishables like milk, lunch meat, fresh fruit, snack crackers, energy bars and more. Also, some items disappear faster than others, even if they are included in deliveries from the food reservoir.

Missions and Outreach are hoping that church members will purchase (or donate funds for) some of highly desired food items, such as milk and peanut butter and meats such as lunch meats and hot dogs. (Things a young person may prepare easily.) Our thought is that we could purchase some things each week and deliver the items to the schools.

How you can help? Money donated for the Backpack program will still buy food for school kids. We need volunteers who would be willing to help organize, purchase, and deliver to the schools. We are hoping that we can get a team of interested church members that will adopt this need as their mission project to have a system organized to be a reliable service for the schools.

We could get started as early as this summer because there is still an operating food bank at Stuart school which sends food home with families in the summer. The children get free lunches every week day, but there continues to be food needs on the weekends. These are example of food items that would fill in where the HACAP deliveries fall short: bread, milk, meat (such as ham, lunch meat, hot dogs), cereal, and fresh fruit. Other than the cereal, however, these items would need to be purchased and delivered the week they are to be handed out. Anyone interested in adopting this project as part of a team can contact Dianne Gray or Roger Schroeder at 319-653-4816, Shirley Pfeifer at 319-653-5283 or Kim Charlier at 208-221-0864.

UMW News

All women are invited to join us for our meeting on August 9, 2019 at noon—it's easier to meet in August than January! We will have a special Korean lunch and Pastor Kwang will give a program on Korea. The Washington United Methodist church has been connected to Korea for many years through our long time association with missionary Gene Matthews. Gene grew up in Wapello and now lives in Iowa City.



Mission Minutes

It is time to think about ingathering kits. I expect that UMCOR will need many health kits this year with all the floods and tornados in the country. The Mission Bulletin board has a display on where UMCOR is helping.

Year-to-date Financials

General Fund	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	
This month	6,969	14,432	
Year to Date	163,200	169,794	



Get the monthly **Meeting House** via email instead of regular mail, it's faster and saves the church money on postage. Just call or email the church office and the change will be made for you. If you are receiving both email and regular mail copies, call the office to stop the regular mail issue.

Please advise the church office if you move, change or drop a landline or cell#, have a new email address or change your name. Do not hesitate to call or email to make sure the office has your correct information.



Vacationers and Snow birds!! - please let the office know what your departure and return dates are. The database can be programmed so that you will automatically continue to receive the Meeting House and any other mailings, without interruption, at your winter and/or summer locations. If you choose not to receive any mailings while you are away, please let the office know so that mailings can be stopped until you return.

CONGRATULATIONS to Shirley Pfeifer

Shirley was inducted into the 2019 Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame on Thursday, July 18th at the Washington County Fair. As a high schooler Shirley started a lifelong relationship with 4-H when she joined 4-H in Emmet County. The longtime Washington County resident continues to serve as the 4-H Garden Project leader, about 75 years after first joining 4-H. Her initial involvement included sewing and clothing, home improvement, and foods and nutrition. Shirley went on to become an elementary art teacher in the Washington School District and Columbus Community School District. She has been the Garden Project leader for around four decades. Shirley will be recognized later this summer at the Iowa State Fair.

'Therefore encourage one another and build up each other'

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Pastors will always be on the front lines of care, especially during times of crisis. But there are always many more needs for ongoing, one-to-one care than pastors can effectively meet by themselves. Stephen Ministry provides a biblical solution - *equipping God's people for ministry*. Gifted lay people are trained to support and extend the care that pastors continue to provide. Stephen Ministers reach out with God's love to people who are hurting - both congregation members and non-members alike.



'Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering' Hebrews 13:3. If you would like to do more as a Christian caregiver, consider Stephen Ministry. This is our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry.

A Stephen Minister receives 50 hours of training in providing emotional and spiritual care, and meets with his or her care receiver for about an hour each week, for as long as there's a need. Men are matched with male ministers, and women are matched with female ministers and it is completely confidential. All who serve become part of a team that helps people win life's toughest battles. To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, go to stephenministries.org or contact Jean Macenski at 319-653-6949.

Sunday Bulletin Announcements - Due in the church office no later than the preceding Wednesday afternoon.

Meeting House Articles - Due in the church office no later than the 15th of the month (for the following month), regardless of what day the 15th falls on.

All announcements and articles are subject to Pastor approval.

Church Office hours:

Monday through Friday, 8:30am - 4:00pm
319-653-5446

Pastor Kwang: 319-541-2631 (Friday is Pastor's day off) kwang.song@iaumc.net

Financial Secretary: Tim Johnson 12:00pm - 4:00pm officewashumc@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Melody J S Merritt 8:30am - 12:30pm office@washingtontumc.com



August 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 5:30pm Kids Club Meeting	2	3
4 10am Services Rev. Bob Bell 10am Children's Sunday School 	5 6:30pm Worship Committee	6 9:30am Prayer Grp 11:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Missions/ Outreach	7 6pm Praise Team	8 6:30pm Trustees	9 12:00pm UMW	10
11 8am & 10am Service 10am Children's Sunday School	12	13 9:30am Prayer Grp 11:30am Staff Meeting	14 6pm Praise Team 6:30pm SPRC	15 6:30pm Finance	16	17
18 8am & 10am Service 10am Children's Sunday School	19	20 9:30am Prayer Grp 11:30am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Children's Ministry	21 6pm Praise Team	22	23	24
25 8am & 10am Services 10am Children's Sunday School	26	27 9:30am Prayer Grp 11:30am Staff Meeting	28 6pm Praise Team	29	30	31



I want to THANK EVERYONE involved in the 150th UMW Celebration for a spectacular success!! The food, beautiful tables, the entertainment, fellowship & clean-up was very much enjoyed by me!! A special Thank you to Marilyn Whitenack for all the extra work and to the committee that planned it!! Vic Patterson

We wish to thank the United Methodist Church and everyone for birthday cards and for the lovely red roses in recognition of our "90s" birthdays, which were delivered to us by Pastor Kwang. Blessings to all, Bob and Donna Koehler.

Thank you for helping me go to Crooked Creek Christian Camp. I had a lot of fun! Sincerely, Parker English

Thank you, thank you. You all made my hospital and house bound stay less painful with your cards, visits, and flowers. Some of you will be interested to know I even got a call from Wanda Boyer. But I must admit the highlight was when Ann Williams came through the door with her Boggle game. Anyway - many thanks to all of you. I am so blessed! Jackie Wells

August Birthdays!



<u>1</u> Leslie Thomas	<u>8</u> Fletcher Brower	<u>17</u> Angie Bodkin D. Galen Jarrard	
<u>2</u> Craig Arbuckle Iris Peterson	<u>9</u> Heath Van Winkle Natalia Vergara	<u>18</u> Phil Ealy	
<u>3</u> Keaton Crawford Virginia Tschantz	<u>10</u> Gladys Ferguson Kara Williams	<u>20</u> Rosemarie Kaufman Matt Leeper Dwight Sutton	<u>25</u> Alicia Fredrick Cramm Lottie Schnicker
<u>4</u> Margaret Crawford Lea Smothers	<u>11</u> Makenya Liska Alberta Thornton	<u>21</u> Aimee Enfield Beth Evanovich Milton Schnicker	<u>26</u> Jennifer Stout
<u>5</u> Samantha Ellingson Nicole Enfield Virginia Reighard	<u>12</u> Jennifer Shive Heather Sterner	<u>22</u> Mary Maxted Donna Parker	<u>27</u> Amy Greiner Anita Moore Maurine Roberts
<u>6</u> Rebecca Kaufman Wendy Smith Joe Stelo	<u>13</u> Marilyn Davis *Margaret Pepper	<u>23</u> *Ardice Blankenhorn Alexis Edwards	<u>28</u> Joseph Evanovich, Jr John Kennedy
<u>7</u> Michael Garrels Lynda Jarrard	<u>14</u> Ted Thornton Jerry Young	<u>24</u> Jason Charlier Alexis Moore	<u>29</u> Kolten Hinrichsen
	<u>15</u> Keith Lazar Helen Reschly Linda Soukup	*Bold names indicate 90+ birthdays!	<u>31</u> Bess Llewellyn Alex Thode



August Anniversaries!



<u>1</u> Martin & Judy McCarthy Vern Jr. & Amy Miller	<u>10</u> Eric & Diana Schoonover	<u>18</u> Jim & Barb Millward Ira & Sharon Wagner
<u>2</u> Russell & Donna Parker	<u>14</u> Dirk & Connie Larsen Don & Jan Lawless	<u>22</u> Mike & Jacki Williams
<u>4</u> Edward & Nancy Crites Jerry & Jennifer Young	<u>16</u> James & Ann Williams	<u>27</u> Bob & Norma Roddy
		<u>30</u> Robert & Peggy Helscher

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Meeting House

Washington United Methodist Church
206 West Second St.
Washington, IA 52353-1925
319-653-5446
churchofficewumc@gmail.com

Sunday Worship
8:00 & 10:00am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Washington United Methodist Church
206 West Second Street
Washington, IA 52353-1925



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