



# THE MEETING HOUSE

## WASHINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# July 2025

### Inside This Issue

Pastor's Message	1
Mission of the Month	2
Mission Update	3
Finance Update	4-5
Confirmation & Baptisms	6
Ad Council Update	7-8
This & That	9
Recipe Corner	10
Birthdays	11
Anniversaries	12
Calendar	13

#### Contact Us:

319-653-5446

#### New Office hours:

Mon. - Fri.: 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Pastor: Alyssa Nantt

#### Church Secretaries:

Sue Meeks and Jennine Wolf  
churchofficewumc@gmail.com

July's flower is the Larkspur. The birthstone is the Ruby July 4 is Independence Day. July 20 is the Full Buck Moon.



Greetings! My name is Pastor Alyssa Nantt, and I am happy to serve alongside you at Washington UMC!

A little about me. I was raised in Wisconsin. I went to high school in Prairie du Sac, graduated with a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and earned my master's in education at Edgewood College, also located in Madison. I moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 1998 and spent over 20 years teaching high school students who were struggling with mental health issues in three different school districts. When my job was cut, I asked God about what was next. I then found myself applying to seminary and to work as a student pastor. I pastored several small, rural churches and worked on my Master of Divinity at Wesley Theological Seminary located in Washington, DC. When many of the United Methodist Churches disaffiliated in my conference, I was called to serve a rural charge of three churches in a 45-mile radius located in north central Montana, which I did for two years. I graduated this May at Washington National Cathedral and received the C.C. Goen Award in Church History. Due to Church closures, leadership changes, and the shrinking resources of the Mountain Sky Conference, I was happy to accept an appointment with the Iowa Conference to serve at Washington UMC. I'm glad to be back in the Midwest.

I have a Siberian Husky named Bart who is about 10 years old. I rescued him from North Carolina. He reluctantly resigned from his position as Chief of Security at the parsonage and Church to move to Iowa with me.

My Dad's name is Dennis, and he is a retired Civil Engineer with the State of Wisconsin. He lives in central Florida and has been a huge help with all of my moves. Sadly, my mother passed in 2012. Dad is looking forward to meeting you and is eager to check out the local golf courses.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you as your Pastor! I am grateful for all of the hard work you all have done to prepare for my arrival. God bless you!



CREATE A LIFE THAT  
FEELS GOOD  
ON THE INSIDE,  
NOT ONE THAT  
JUST LOOKS  
GOOD ON  
THE OUTSIDE.





**DONATIONS FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
GIVEN TO LOCAL CHILDREN**

**Christmas in July**

Renella Crawford, manager of HACAP,  
organizes **Christmas in July** each year.

The money raised for this project will help buy the basic clothing and school supplies for local families in need.

It can cost between \$50 to \$70 to get the supplies needed to start a new school year.

Many of these families are struggling financially and this helps the children have what they need to start the new school year.

***LOOK FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN  
THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY***

**P**ick an ornament off the tree

**P**ut your donation in the pocket behind the ornament

**P**lace in the collection plate

***Thank You!***





## JUNE 19, 2025 MISSION MEETING MINUTES

Present: Deb Lueck, Sue Meeks, Dianne Gray, Roger Schroeder, and Jennine Wolf

Deb recited the amounts given by the congregation and paid out to the various missions selected for January through May. We are currently finishing up our June mission, Growing Hope Globally.

In July our mission will be "Christmas in July". These donations will go to HACAP for them to purchase essential supplies & clothing items for back-to-school kids in need. In August we will be receiving donations for school kits and the backpack program. And in September our mission is dignity kits. At Deb's suggestion, Dianne will check to see if there will still be an active "Clothes Closet" at the school that the kids in need can discretely utilize. If so, we would like to donate to that as well.

Deb said Alison had approached her to see what mission the GGG (Grateful Generations Gathering) group might donate to. It was discussed and decided that it would be very helpful if bags of small items, such as shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc., could be bagged and ready to put in the Blessing Box. Deb will let Alison know.

Bus Passes were also discussed. Currently a person can come in and get credit at Mini Bus through the Church for 5 round-trips, but they can only do this every 6 months. The intent is that they use these passes for essential trips to the doctor or to get groceries. Jennine said she had been approached recently by a woman who had three kids and wondered about her kids getting passes as well. It was decided that in the future if someone with children asked about this, they would be allowed one extra round-trip pass per child every six months. That way if that child needed to go to the doctor, for example, that trip would be covered.

Deb recently had contact with John Hays and found that he is still providing his water purification systems to countries and areas that would otherwise have unsafe drinking water. Our Committee feels this would be a good cause to donate to and we will plan to add it to our 2026 mission list.

Deb has talked with Chris Marshall and Chris will be pulling money from the foundation account which is earmarked for Missions so that we can pay all amounts budgeted for the 2025 missions.

Our next Mission Meeting will be July 17 at 1 p.m.

Sue Meeks



## **Finance Meeting June 9, 2025**



Present: Chris Marshall, Tom Patterson, Karen Norman, Rick Meeks, Lori Bauer, Bob Helscher, Jeff Lueck and Jennine Wolf

Rick opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.

Tom made a motion to approve the minutes, Karen seconded; Motion passed.

Chris talked about the amount of information everyone would like to have at the meetings. The check detail and the P & L detail are a lot of the same information. Everyone agreed it would be better to have this information emailed to them ahead of the meeting to save paper and time. Chris could bring a copy to the meetings and answer any questions.

Lori asked about Right Now Media and Spotify. Right Now Media is being used by several people. She said to find out if anyone is using Spotify, and if not, we can cancel that monthly subscription. Bob said he uses Right Now Media often. It was agreed that an effort should be made to educate the congregation about this resource and how to use it. Chris mentioned to talk about the information at the next Town Hall meeting in July. The Meeting House and the bulletins are other sources of education.

Rick asked if Pastor Anthony's salary will end on June 30<sup>th</sup> and does Pastor Alyssa start on July 1<sup>st</sup>? Chris said that is correct. She explained that she and Jennine will contact Clergy Financial and ensure this will be taken care of.

Chris explained the Profit & Loss sheet shows a negative net income, but that this information is both Consolidated and General funds together. The group discussed expense items from the May financial reports and made a couple of corrections to allocations. Employee job duties were explained, and salaries were updated with the June payroll at rates determined by the SPRC Committee that are within our budgeted numbers for 2025.

Bob talked about the Endowment Fund. He explained part of the Eva Schell fund is for the Wesley Center and the \$50,000 donation for the boiler is in a separated fund within the WUMC Foundation total. Chris asked if there are any changes or additions to be made on the capital listing. The Trustees and any other committees as needed will work on adding amounts and prioritizing the list, and let Chris know what to update.

Jennine prepared a list for the names on the Church's bank account and safety deposit box at the bank. Jeff said he needed to be on the Safe Deposit account, in addition to the two others who have access. Karen Norman made the motion to add Jeff Lueck to the Safe Deposit account. Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Finance con't...

It was discussed on the General Fund that Mike Moore should be removed since he is no longer on the Finance Committee, and Tom Patterson takes his place on the signature card. Karen made the motion to remove Mike Moore from the General Fund signature card and add Tom Patterson. Bob seconded. Motion passed.

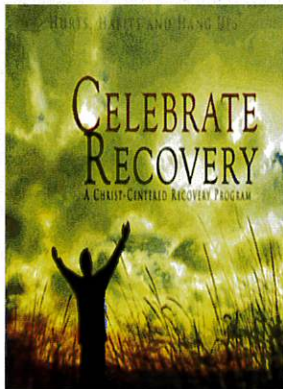
The other accounts-Consolidated checking account at Washington State Bank and the Visa credit card account will remain the same.

The documentation Chris completed for the Trustees about the boiler inspection (the inspector came when she was watching the office for Jennine) was reviewed, in relation to the proper placement of the boiler designated donation at Wells Fargo. Jeff Lueck explained that the oldest boiler, in place since 1988, would be the one replaced in the next few years, using the donated funds. The inspector stated the boiler is in good condition for its age. Trustees will put this on their agenda at their next meeting.

A document from Kids Coral was shared with the committee members so that they could read and be aware of the Day Care's proposal for a partnership between that organization and the Church. Jeff Lueck explained that there would be some adjustments and questions to be answered regarding several aspects of the partnership, including use of the kitchen and location of the dining area used by the children. Jeff stated that we would likely determine a designated committee to work on this request/proposal determination.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with a motion by Karen, seconded by Tom.

## Celebrate Recovery



This recovery program is a Christ centered curriculum with foundations firmly established in the Bible.

**Recovery from drugs, alcohol, trauma,  
physical/mental/emotional abuse  
or any other hang-ups or hurts you have experienced.**

Every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
Supper and childcare provided.

*Please consider volunteering your time  
to help with this program*

## SATURDAY KITCHEN

**Our next Saturday Kitchen is on August 2nd.**

If you would like to volunteer to help please sign up in back of the Sanctuary

Or contact Lori Bauer at 319-461-4916

**MONETARY DONATIONS** would be very helpful!



# Confirmation

**Washington United Methodist Church  
2025 Confirmands on June 29th**



Lillian Young



Alivia Young



Jaedyn Moore

**Washington United Methodist Church  
*Baptisms on June 29, 2025***



**Jaedyn Moore**

**Betsy Timmins**

**Emma Timmins**

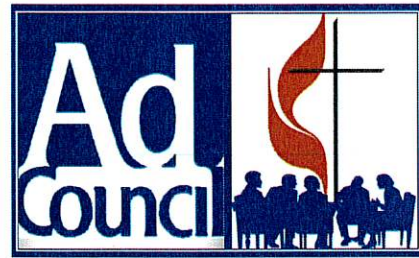
**Tinley Timmins**

**Hallie Timmins**

**Payton Timmins**



## Ad Council Meeting 06/24/2025



Present: Robin Plattenberger-Gilmore, Richard Gilmore, Jeff Lueck, Deb Lueck, Lori Bauer, Dave Birney, Alison Greiner, Linda Soukup, Chris Marshall, Rick Meeks, Jennine Wolf.

Robin gave the opening prayer.

### FINANCE REPORT

Chris presented the finance report for June. The following was discussed:

- It was decided to email most of the Finance reports to cut down on paper.

- It was decided to keep Right Now Media-a resource for personal study of the Bible.

- There needs to be education for the congregation about how to use it.

- It was decided to cancel Spotify-an internet music source.

- The bank accounts and safety deposit box signatures were renewed. Mike Moore will be taken off to sign checks as he is no longer on the Finance committee. Tom Patterson will take his place. Jeff Lueck will have his name added to the safe deposit box.

- Jennine will work with Clergy Financial to remove Pastor Anthony from the payroll and add Pastor Alyssa.

- The Endowment fund was discussed for repairs to the Wesley Center.

- Trustees had voted not to allow Pastor Anthony to take his computer with him.

### SPRC REPORT

Robin gave an update about Pastor Alyssa Nantt. At this time, she will arrive at the parsonage on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Her start date for the Church will be July 13<sup>th</sup>.

The parsonage inspection was conducted, and the parsonage was in very good shape. The following things need corrected:

- Wheels of the kitchen island need replaced.

- The surface of the island needs repaired.

- All batteries in smoke alarms need replaced.

- A couple fire extinguishers need to be bought.

- Robin will get the name of someone who would be interested in mowing and landscaping at the parsonage if Pastor Alyssa would want a reference.

- Robin explained about the on-boarding process that is a new procedure being adopted by the Methodist Church. This process will be conducted by Jaye Johnson. A meeting will be called with the congregation and the Pastor. Jaye Johnson will meet with the congregation without the Pastor in the room. They will answer a series of questions anonymously. Johnson will then meet privately with Pastor Alyssa, going through the questions and answers, and identifying key themes. Afterward, the congregation and the Pastor will join in an honest and open discussion.



Ad Council con't...

### **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Jeff presented the following:

Rental agreement between the Church and the Pastor for the parsonage. The agreement addresses responsibilities of Pastor regarding mowing, snow removal, pet responsibilities and other matters. This also includes getting renter's insurance.

The Sanctuary roofing company issue is still not resolved. There will be further action taken.

The baseboards in the kitchen will be replaced and Bruce Timmins is going to resurface the butcher block countertop.

It was decided to hire someone to run the sound system on Sundays in the Church. It is an expensive and complicated system so care should be taken to get someone who knows what they are doing.

The radon mitigation system in the Wesley Center is not working and needs to be repaired. The Church building needs to have a radon test done.

Trustees are looking for a different snow removal company. The one we have now is very expensive.

The driveway at the Church needs to be resurfaced as it is rough and some places are higher than others, causing tripping hazards.

It was discussed to use some of the Elva Shell endowment money earmarked for the Wesley Center to replace ceiling tiles, paint and replace curtains in the library.

The final inspection at the parsonage is completed.

The Trustees voted not to allow Pastor Anthony to take the desktop computer with him.

Jennine sent an email of the Kids Corral proposal to many of the congregation asking for input. Jeff thought the Town Hall meeting in July would be a good time to discuss the proposal with members of the congregation.

### **WORSHIP REPORT**

Linda stated that Alison and Ruby will take care of the July 6<sup>th</sup> service.

July 13<sup>th</sup> is Pastor Alyssa's first sermon.

June 29<sup>th</sup> will be Pastor Anthony's last day. Also, there will be six baptisms and 3 confirmands.

### **YOUTH REPORT**

Plans are being made for the Vacation Bible School GGG (Grateful Generations Gathering) July 28, 29, and 30. The youth are putting together kits for the Blessing Box. The youth are also giving a gift to Pastor Anthony. Alison shared that the youth group may not be very big, but they enjoy participating in the Church activities and are dedicated to following the Bible. She is very proud of them.

Robin gave the closing prayer.





## INVITATION TO GGG 2025!

Please plan on joining our church family at our GGG generational gathering on July 28, 29 and 30th from 5:15-7:15.

All ages are invited. After eating supper together, we will enjoy time in fellowship, prayer and working towards blessing others.

You can sign up in the church office. We are also accepting monetary donations and small sized toiletries for our blessings box. These can be brought to the church office. Please contact Alison Greiner (319-530-1470) if you have any questions or need more information.

Check  
this out  
→



### **ENCORE EXPRESS MEALS –Heritage on Aging**

Immanuel Lutheran Church Meals for seniors 60+  
on 2nd & 4th Thursday each month

These meals are **for all seniors over 60**  
**no income requirements**

Great food-socializing-educational information available.

There is a suggested donation of \$5.00

**For reservations and any questions call 319-653-3950**



### **KIDS CORRAL DAYCARE**

The Kids Corral Daycare has expressed an interest to rent additional rooms in the Wesley Center so they would be able to move their daycare to our church.

They have submitted a proposal and Jeff Lueck would like your views, opinions, questions and help with this opportunity. There is a committee being formed to oversee this venture. Please consider being on this committee.

Please call the office for a copy of the proposal or with any questions you may have.



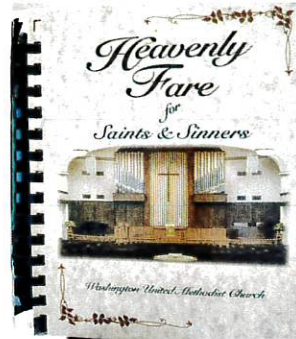
### **Hawkeye Cans for Cancer**

Cindy and Larry Guy would like to remind the congregation that Hawkeye Cans for Cancer is still going strong in memory of their son, Nathan Guy.

If you redeem cans at the Redemption Center in Washington, please tell them you want to donate the deposits to Hawkeye Cans for Cancer. Your donation goes to help other families who need financial sup-

## THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:  
*"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners"* Cookbook  
(page 100 & 193)



### Chicken Tortilla Casserole

From the kitchen of Bev Moiser

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1 pk. Corn tortillas (12)    | 1 can cream of chicken soup            |
| 6 chicken breast             | 1 can cream of celery soup             |
| 1 lg. onion                  | $\frac{3}{4}$ can milk                 |
| 1 lg. can green chilies      | 1½ lbs. shredded cheddar cheese (mild) |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup |  |

Cook chicken breasts for 1/2 hour, debone and cut or break into small pieces. In bowl mix soups, milk, onions and chilies. Cut tortillas into strips. Spray or grease bottom of oblong baking pan. Line with the tortilla strips and top with 1/2 of chicken, spread 1/2 soup mixture on top of chicken and top with grated cheese. Repeat layer, top with cheese, cover and bake in 350° oven for 1-1/2 hours. Let set 15 minutes before serving.



### Great Grandma Plattenberger's Brown Sugar Cookies

From the kitchen of Robin Plattenberger Gilmore

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 c. brown sugar     | 1 tsp. baking soda      |
| 1 c. shortening      | 1 tsp. nutmeg           |
| 2 eggs               | 1 tsp. vanilla          |
| 1 tsp. salt          | $3\frac{1}{2}$ c. flour |
| 2 tsp. baking powder | 3 T. hot water          |

Cream thoroughly brown sugar and shortening. Add eggs, salt, baking soda, baking powder, nutmeg, vanilla, flour and hot water, mixing well. Chill before rolling, cutting, and baking in 350° oven for 8 to 10 minutes.





# JULY BIRTHDAYS



2

Howard Charlier  
Krew Liska  
Marilyn Whitenack

3

Brandon Collett

4

Kayla Bodkin  
Robert Helscher  
Cathi Hill

5

Michael Coon

6

Chris Marshall

7

Christine Doonan

8

Dawn Schindler

9

Fred Stark

10

Abby Schnicker

11

Renae Crull  
Matthew Smith  
Andrew Venega

12

Stephanie Loy

13

Barbara Wilson

14

Dommenique DeVaughn  
Madeline Bohr

15

Brenda Fishback

16

John Carter  
Denise Chalupa  
Doug Tindal

17

Sydney Williams

18

Larry Guy  
Maggie Kielenstyn

22

David Adrian  
Beverly Zwicky

23

Dan Stauffer  
Jennifer Young

24

James Peterson

25

Addison English

26

Jaimee Edwards  
Stephanie Fishback

27

Greg Sinn

28

Sue Basten  
Rich Crull

29

Kiara Gomez Valdez  
Nicole Greiner  
Cindy Guy  
Mike Maxted

30

Gary Collins  
Vicki Helfrich  
Sandi Ropp  
Brenna Weidman



Do I smell  
birthday  
cake?



**BOLD NAMES**  
**90+ BIRTHDAYS**



Duane & Linda  
Van Winkle

07/06

40 years

Gary & Linda  
Collins

07/07

62 years

Chris & John  
Marshall

07/09

49 years

Christine & Trent  
Doonan

07/07

13 years

Timothy & Elizabeth  
Timmins

07/07

18 years

Dianne Gray &  
Roger Schroeder

07/14

7 years

# Happy Anniversary

Wayne & Rebecca  
Kaufman

07/22

53 years

Michael & Elaine  
Moore

07/26

35 years

Larry & Brenda  
Fishback

07/27

34 years

James & Nicole  
Peterson

07/28

24 years

Jamie & Matt  
Schneider

07/31

15 years

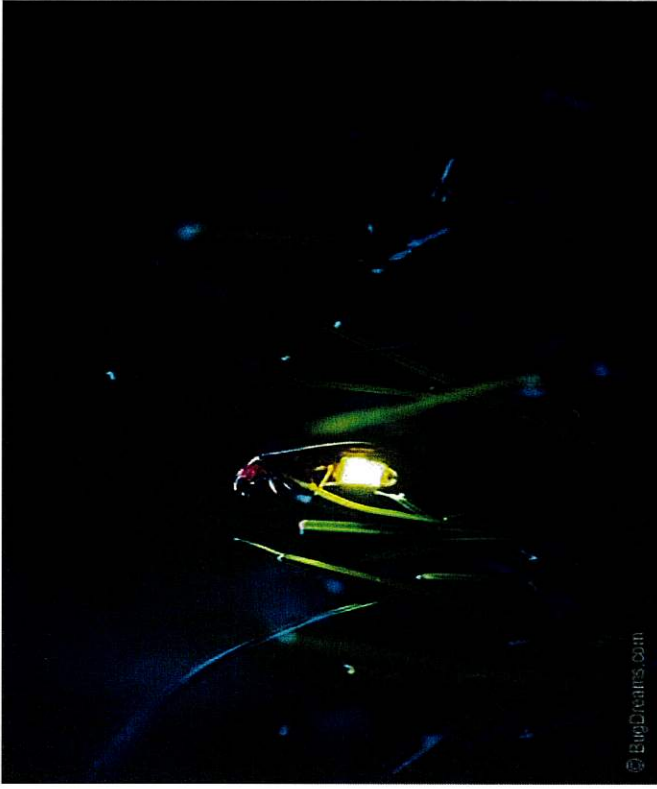


# July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 WELCOME PASTOR ALYSSA NANTT	2	3	4 <b>OF JULY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	5
6 COMMUNION  Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	7  Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	8 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Trustee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	9	10	11 Pastor's Day Off	12
13  Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	14 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library  Finance 1:30 p.m. Library  SPRC meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	15 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library	16	17  Missions 1:00 p.m. Library	18 Pastor's Day Off	19
20  Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	21  Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	22 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Ad Council Mtg 6:30 p.m. Library	23	24	25 Pastor's Day Off	26
27  Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	28  Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library  GGG 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	29 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. GGG 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	30  GGG 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	31  1:00 Care Note Ministry		

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# JULY

## Meeting House

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

**Sunday Worship**  
Traditional Service: 10:00 a.m.