



THE MEETING HOUSE

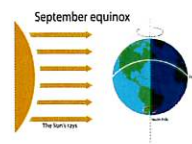
Washington United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 2025

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September's flower is the Aster. The birthstone is the Sapphire. Sept. 1 is Labor Day. Sept. 7 is Grandparents' Day. Sept. 22 is Autumn Equinox.



BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS



GGG participants putting together personal hygiene kits for the Blessing Box

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" – Matthew 25:40

Contact Us:

319-653-5446

New Office hours:

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

Pastor: Alyssa Nantt

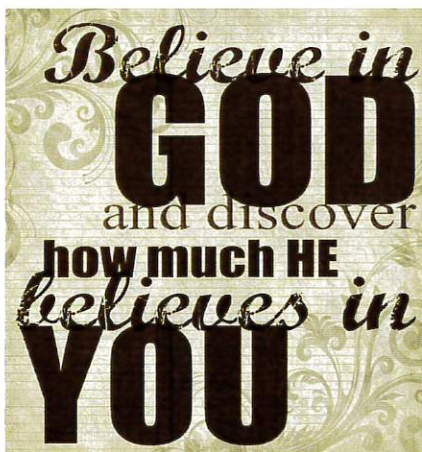
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Church Secretaries:

Sue Meeks and Jennine Wolf

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Saturday Kitchen Volunteers



GGG participant's working on the loom to make mats for the homeless

astor's Corner



In Psalm 14:2, we read the following: ***"The Lord looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God."*** During the month of September, we will be "Pondering Some Psalms" for the monthly sermon series. We will be looking at the following Psalms:

September 7-**Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

September 14-**Psalm 14**

September 21-**Psalm 79:1-9**

September 28-**Psalm 24**

September is a busy month for our Church! Things are starting up again, such as Sunday School, Youth Group, Choir, the Daniel/Esther Bible Study and Bell Choir, to name a few. We will also be celebrating Rally Sunday and Stewardship Sunday. Never mind that kids and grandkids are back at school, sports are in full swing, and Fall officially starts on September 22. Change is in the air, and we are making the shift with that change.

With change, we sometimes get overwhelmed and distracted. Speaking for myself, I am still adjusting to my change with my appointment to Washington UMC. As it says in Psalm 14: ***"God is looking for those who are wise, who seek after God."*** I'm working on seeking God more and more and I encourage you to do this too.

How can we seek after God? I have a few suggestions.

1. Join a Bible study or do more Bible reading on your own. If you need some help with this, please let me know!
2. Go out to eat with an individual or a small group and talk about God with each other.
3. Pray on your own and with a partner or small group. Have a conversation with God and pray about your financial commitment to the church and ministry. Pray and support your Church leaders.
4. Consider contacting the Church to volunteer your time. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please pray about it and let me know.
5. Invite a friend or family member to Church and pray for them. People are much more comfortable coming to Church when they can do it with someone they are familiar with. Talk to others about the Church and why you like going to Church.
6. Visit those you know who are homebound and in assisted living/nursing homes. If you would like to give them Holy Communion, I'd be happy to facilitate that with you! Send an encouraging card/letter/email/text/phone card to those who need it.

I am honored to be on this journey with you, friends. Thank you for your prayers, love, and support as we seek God together! I am truly grateful to be of service to you and to the Washington community.

What is Pastor Alyssa reading?



Someone recently asked me what books I like to read. I am a huge fan of non-fiction. I thought that perhaps you may be interested in the different books I am reading this month. I typically read four (or more!) books per month and I switch back and forth between these books. So, here is a list of books I am tackling this month in no particular order.

The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine. This book is written by a professor that has taught at several university and theological seminaries. She describes herself as an unorthodox Jew who attends an Orthodox Jewish Synagogue. Dr. Levine has been very helpful to Christians to help them understand Jewish culture. While I don't agree with all of her views, she is a valuable help for me to interpret Scriptures from the Old and New Testaments in context.

Out of Sorts: Making Peace with an Evolving Faith by Sarah Bessey. On page 2 of her book, Sarah writes the following: "It's a book about making peace with unanswered questions and being content to live into the answers as they come. It's about being comfortable with where we land for now, while holding our hands open for where the Spirit leads us next. It's about not apologizing for our transformation and change in response to the unchanging Christ." This book has been helpful for me while grieving my losses in Montana and embracing the joy of starting a new pastoral appointment in Iowa.

Journey Through the Psalms by Denise Dombkowski Hopkins. I'm actually rereading this one to prepare for the sermon series on Psalms. Dr. Hopkins was a Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) professor at Wesley Theological Seminary during my first semester at Wesley. Honestly, I couldn't stand her. I made it a point not to take the second part of the class with her and took it with another professor that helped me fall in love with the Hebrew Bible. However, she wrote an excellent book that explores different types of Psalms and how they were used in worship in the past and in the present.

Our Hearts Were Strangely Lukewarm: The American Methodist Church and the Struggle with White Supremacy by John Elford. I am reading this book as a part of my monthly circuit group from the Southeast District. It discusses the complicated history of Methodism in the United States. It's not a pretty picture in terms of racism and White Supremacy. For me personally, there's a lot that I can connect with. At the last Church I served at on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, a pastor of the Church went out to visit the plantation where Frederick Douglass worked as a slave. The plantation owners converted and began to attend the Church. However, as Douglass describes in his books, his owners actually became more abusive because they used Scripture to justify their abuse. These plantation owners, the Auld family, are buried in the cemetery behind my former church, St. Luke's UMC in St. Michaels, Maryland (it was called Sardis Chapel during Douglass' time, until it merged with another Methodist Church and renamed to St. Luke's).



A Few Words about Stewardship Sunday

On September 28, we will be celebrating Stewardship Sunday during the worship service. Yes, it is a celebration. As we read in Psalm 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it." We will be celebrating all that the Lord has given to us.

Washington UMC is similar to a business in some aspects. The church needs money to pay for the expenses in running a Church. Salaries need to be paid to the clergy and to the support staff. The utilities need to be paid so that we can be comfortable during the worship services and meetings. The trash needs to be removed. The Church needs Internet and telephone access. The Church and the parsonage need money to maintain and fix the facilities. Insurance premiums need to be paid. The lawn needs to be mowed and the snow removed. The copier needs ink, paper, and maintenance to run off Sunday bulletins, newsletters, and other materials. We need funds for postage and office supplies. We are also committed to the mission of the United Methodist Church and we need to fulfill our commitments to pay our mission shares (also called apportionments). As you have noticed, the costs of running a Church have continued to increase, just as your own personal costs of living have increased.

Allow me the opportunity to relay to you how important it is to honor our commitments. I realize that mission shares (also called apportionments) are controversial and is a cost concern for many churches. I will outline some examples of how your mission shares are being used in a newsletter article.

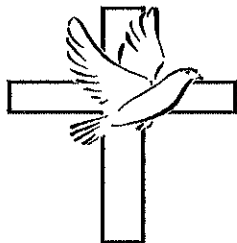
As we get ready for Stewardship Sunday, I am asking that you return your pledge card that you will be receiving so that the Finance Committee will be able to use your information to develop an accurate budget. The leadership of Washington UMC is committed to using your money wisely and we can only do that with your help. In order for us to create an accurate budget, we need to know what your financial commitment to the Church will be. It is critical that you fill out your pledge card and turn it in on time. We also realize that life sometimes happens and that your financial commitment may change.

I am asking that you prayerfully consider your financial commitment to the Church. As the costs of living are increasing, the costs of running a Church are also increasing. Please consider increasing your financial support to help the Church with the shortfall. Your commitment to the Church and to the ministry is deeply appreciated. I am thankful for your tithes and your financial gifts to the Church we love.

**Please turn your pledge cards into the church
office no later than Friday, October 3.**

On Sunday, October 5, we will have a blessing over the pledge cards.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Pastor Alyssa Nantt



Some thoughts and things to consider about funerals

from Pastor Alyssa

I realize that funerals are not something you want to be thinking about. However, I would encourage you to put plans in place if you have not done so already. In my experience, I have sat through meetings at the funeral home with the loved ones of the deceased and if plans have not been discussed beforehand, arguments sometimes happen, and angry tears begin to flow. I would encourage you to do all you can to help your loved ones avoid this situation.

If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to contact the funeral home of your choice and have a conversation with a representative to discuss different options that are available. You may want to consider pre-paying for funeral expenses, because they will continue to go up over time. Feel free to shop around and talk to different funeral homes, as prices and services vary greatly. Ask lots of questions to make sure you are clear on the options available for the service and for burial, as well as an estimate of the costs.

If there are special hymns, readings, or songs you want during your funeral, please make sure that the lyrics are appropriate for Church. The same goes for pictures and videos, make sure that they are appropriate and make sure they don't include things some might find objectionable, such as gambling, smoking or drinking. Feel free to make a list of your wishes to share with the Church. We can keep it on file in the Church office. If there are things that the family wants to share that may not be appropriate for a Church service, I would suggest sharing those memories at a reception meal.

Your funeral does not have to take place in the Church. You can have it done at the funeral home or at another venue. Please note that if you and your family want the funeral to take place at the Church, the pastor appointed to the Church will conduct the funeral, and the United Methodist Church liturgy (called A Service of Death and Resurrection) will be used. If you would like to see a copy of this liturgy, I would be happy to provide it to you.

Funerals, as well as weddings and baptisms that take place in the United Methodist Church, are conducted by the current United Methodist Pastor appointed to the Church. On rare occasions, the current United Methodist Pastor may permit another United Methodist Pastor or a pastor of another denomination to assist in the service with the current pastor. However, this decision is up to the current United Methodist Pastor appointed to the local Church. All services in the sanctuary are considered religious services and the appropriate United Methodist liturgy will be followed. The pastor will spend time with the family to discuss the service and to personalize the service. However, with all worship matters, the pastor appointed to the Church makes the final decisions.

It is important to work with your funeral director to make sure to coordinate the availability of the Church and Fellowship Hall if needed for the service. Your funeral director will help you with this and assist with organizing flowers, musicians, and a reception. The pastor will also want to meet with the family to go over final details of the service and to make sure that people are available to help make sure the Church service runs smoothly. The funeral director will also work with you to make sure that those who are assisting with the service are financially compensated for their time and work. The funeral homes in Washington will have a copy of our Church's funeral policy. If you would like to see this, I would be happy to share this with you.

If I can help you navigate all of this, I would be happy to sit with you and assist you with any meetings you have with the funeral director or to answer any questions you may have. There are a lot of different decisions that need to be made, and it can be confusing and overwhelming. However, some pre-planning on your part will make the experience so much easier for your loved ones to follow your wishes. It will also make the process much smoother for the funeral director and the pastor. Please let me know how I can help you!



MISSION MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 21, 2025

Present: Deb Lueck, Sue Meeks, Dianne Gray, Jennine Wolf, Toni Adrian, Pastor Alyssa
Pastor Alyssa led the meeting in prayer.

As was discussed at our July meeting, it was decided that our September mission would be to ask the congregation to give a monetary donation or to donate essential need items to the residents of Aspire Nursing Home. Due to very limited resources, they are left with very little in which to buy toiletries and clothing or to afford a haircut now and then, among other things.

In addition, we have been approached by Mini Bus to help them out with their Scholarship Fund. The fund allows Mini Bus to provide a ride to people with very limited income to make it to doctor's appointments, the grocery store, etc. A check is done to ensure these are legitimate essential need cases. Mini Bus has experienced a large increase in the number of rides needed. It was moved by Deb, seconded by Dianne, that we donate \$500 to Mini Bus for this cause. All approved.

Pastor Alyssa said she would be glad to initiate a Stewardship Drive to educate the congregation on the importance of increased giving. September 28 will be Stewardship Sunday.

Inquiry was made as to the date for boxing for HACAP. Jennine will call Renella to find out.

Pastor Alyssa explained to us that the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, which was near where she lived in Montana, has had an alarming amount of women and girls kidnapped and/or murdered. The State Police are not allowed on the reservation because it is on federal land. The FBI is called but it normally takes them two to three weeks to arrive on the scene and by then a lot of the evidence is corrupted and witnesses don't have the incident fresh in their minds. Training for Reservation law enforcement has to be obtained off the reservation and resources are not available. There is also a lack of trust. Pastor suggests not only a Native American Mission giving, but also the possibility of a mission trip to the area next summer. We expect to discuss it in further detail soon.

We then went back to the Resource Room to ready the school kits received to date for the November In-Gathering.

Our next Mission Meeting will be September 25 at 1:00 p.m.
Sue Meeks

SEPTEMBER MISSION

Adopt Aspire Nursing Home Residents

There are a group of elderly in our community that needs our help. These are the elderly in nursing homes on Medicaid. This silent and helpless group of elderly are the poorest of the poor.

What does it mean to be on Medicaid in a nursing home?

In Iowa, you are allowed to keep **\$50.00 a month** from the Medicaid payment. This is all the money you have for personal needs such as:

- Clothes
- Snacks
- Haircuts
- Phone cards
- Books
- Other non medical needs

Yet, they are still responsible for:

- Medical bills
- Prescriptions
- Other health care costs

that must be **paid out of the \$50.00**. Many have no money at the end of the month.

What services are **NOT** covered by Medicaid:

- *A private room unless medically necessary
- *Any food beyond what the kitchen can prepare
- *Phone-TV-or radio
- *Personal comfort items-sweets, socks, slippers, puzzles, etc.
- *Cosmetic or grooming items beyond what is considered routine-hair cuts are not covered.
- *Clothes
- *Personal reading materials
- *Flowers or other plants
- *Special care services not considered medical necessary

Your donations will allow the mission committee to buy these people things we take for granted. Clothes, phone cards, certificates for hair cuts, small personal items, etc. that will give them pleasure and dignity.



August 19, 2025

The Washington UMC Worship Committee met at the Wesley Center Library on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 5:15 p.m..

Linda opened the meeting at 5:20 p.m. with a devotional called, "A New Way Forward". After a prayer, each member of the committee talked about their 'rose and thorn' for the day. Those present were: Linda Soukup, Chris Marshall, Pastor Alyssa Nantt, Shirley Textor, Alison Greiner, Sue Meeks and Jean Potratz. Dana Rembold was unable to attend. Minutes from the July 15, 2025, meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

Technology: Linda noted that a new projector was purchased for use in the Fellowship Hall. DB Acoustics was present this past week to walk through education on the sound board and set it up properly. We are to only turn the system on and shut it off, not adjust any knobs. They checked overhead projectors, discussed camera views and adjusted where the sound should be. Jean P. said that the sound on FB was distorted, so we may need an additional adjustment. Sue made an instruction manual that is very clear and helpful. The group discussed speakers under the balconies, and whether the sound was coming out of them. We will check on this over the next Sundays and encourage people to hold microphones closer.

Gratitude: Shirley reported that in July, the Committee completed care notes to members at the UP Home. For August 28 at 1:00 p.m. in the library, they will be sending cards to Halcyon House residents. Shirley stated that they would welcome any additional people to write thank you notes, as it takes about an hour for the three people (Shirley, Linda B, Jeff L) to write them.

Youth and Adult/Education: Shirley is continuing with the book of Acts on Sundays at 11:10am. This includes discussion around awakenings and emphasis on the Holy Spirit through history. Pastor Alyssa will also have a Bible study on Thursdays on the books of Daniel and Esther, starting on the first Thursday in September from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and will invite people from the Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches (and potentially others if they desire). The group would move from the Library to the Fellowship Hall if added space is needed.

Alison talked about the date for Rally Sunday for this Fall on Sunday, September 14, 2025. She sent e-mails out to people who will help with Sunday School starting this Fall; most appear to be able to help. Youth Group will begin on Wednesday, September 10th. Alison reported on Bible School/GGG this past July 28, 29 and 30. She noted that she talked with Rev. Erin Kaye from the Presbyterian Church regarding school supplies and she had ideas that we could do to expound on our work sessions at GGG. We discussed what could be done differently in the future to increase participation by our Church members.

Worship minutes con't:

Pastor Alyssa plans for a 4-week Advent study she will do, called "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle—finding faith in the story of The Grinch. She will also be using this as a sermon series during Advent, and there are books available for youth and children as well. The group decided to do this on Sunday late afternoon/early evening at 5:00 p.m. for the 4 Sundays before Christmas beginning Sunday, November 30th, and include both adults and youth, located in the Fellowship Hall. This would be followed by supper together at 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday night Youth Group would not be separately held. Alyssa suggested that members of the Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches also be invited.

The Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 14th. Pastor Alyssa noted that she will be on vacation for two weeks after Christmas. We could have a music Sunday on December 28th, with history of each song included.

Ushers/Greeters/Hospitality: Linda asked if we could assign people to turn on the air conditioning and lights and to unlock doors on Sunday mornings around 8:00 a.m. Pastor Alyssa explained a position at another Church called a turnkey, who started heat or A/C, turned on the lights and unlocked the building. After the service, that person was responsible for turning things back off. He got paid \$25 per Sunday to do this. Ushers could be the person to pass around the microphone whenever needed as well. This is something to bring up at the next Ad Council meeting. Name tags have been added on Sundays this past month, and this has been very helpful, especially for Pastor Alyssa and any new members or visitors. Linda noted that we may need to have someone in charge of the sign-ups for food before Church, and to make calls to remind people, or ask them, to bring food/treats.

Altar/Decorations: Sue will be looking through banners to update the sanctuary décor for Fall. She will have hip surgery next week, so asked for any help with getting items from upstairs after that time, as needed. Pastor Alyssa asked if we would be interested in getting new paraments for the altar. Cokesbury has some nice ones available for Advent, Easter, etc., with some that are reversible. These could be purchased through memorials also. A motion was made by Alison to look into new paraments, based on cost and needs, and to potentially include one set now, and some in our new 2026 Worship Committee budget/memorials. Seconded by Jean. All voted aye, motion carried.

Worship/Music:

—August 31st—All Music Sunday

—September 3—Chancel Choir Rehearsals resume

—September 10—Bell Choir Rehearsals resume

—September 14—Rally Sunday

—September 28—Stewardship Sunday—Pastor Alyssa will do a sermon on stewardship and then pass out a letter to members/those in attendance.

—November 30—1st Sunday in Advent; we will not have all music Sunday that day

Worship minutes con't:

Old Business: October Fundraiser Dinner and Dessert Auction—We tentatively scheduled this for Sunday, October 26. Details will be discussed at our September meeting, and within the fundraising committee meetings.

Movie Night—late November (The Grinch) to coordinate with Pastor Alyssa's upcoming Advent Bible study. Pastor Alyssa said we could do this on Sunday, November 23, at 5:00 p.m., with snacks included—using the popcorn popper, and other concessions can be sold as a small fundraiser.

New Business:

The music departments and ministers from the Methodist, Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches gathered this past Thursday, August 14th, for lunch at Café Dodici, and had discussion regarding music sharing, and ideas for Church. Linda noted that one of the items discussed was to have a few special services together, such as Ash Wednesday, or services around Maundy Thursday or Good Friday.

Puppet Ministry—Barbara Meyer is interested in starting this, as the Church has many puppets available. We will talk more with her regarding how to incorporate this with our youth and/or Church times.

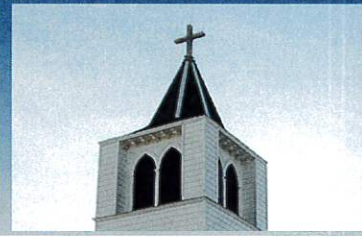
Funeral Policy—Pastor Alyssa discussed the need for a policy, based on discussion with members, local funeral directors and Rev. Erin Kaye from the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Alyssa noted a few items in the policy draft she distributed. Committee members will review the draft and give any feedback to Pastor Alyssa within the next couple of days, so that she can have it ready for the Ad Council meeting next week.

Stewardship letter—Pastor Alyssa distributed a draft letter to be reviewed. The letter will give members two weeks to fill out pledge cards. The children's message would be about giving also, and a noisy offering (coins in a metal container) would be taken. Pledge cards and a 2026 budget needs to be completed prior to Charge Conference, which is 11/16/25 at the North English UMC, at 3:00 p.m. Pastor Alyssa suggested beginning this process on Sunday, October 12th.

Budget for Worship Committee—The group discussed keeping the Worship Committee budget the same as 2025 for 2026, noting that music is not included in the General Fund budget since we have money in the consolidated fund donated for this. The group suggested adding \$1,500 to the Worship committee budget for paraments. A motion was made by Jean to budget the same as 2025 for 2026, plus \$1,500 added for paraments. Seconded by Alison. All voted aye, motion carried.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 5:15 p.m., at the church library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m..



Finance Committee

Finance Meeting July 14, 2025

Present: Chairman Rick Meeks, Pastor Alyssa Nantt, Chris Marshall, Tom Patterson, Jeff Lueck, Bob Helscher, and Jennine Wolf.

Pastor Alyssa opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Tom made a motion to approve the minutes, Bob seconded; Motion passed.

Chris discussed the General and Consolidated funds. She summarized the General Fund monthly and year-to-date Profit and Loss statements for July by subtracting expenditures that were funded by Foundation transfers. These included Pastor Alyssa moving expense in July, and the 2024 apportionments balance due paid in early 2025. She also deducted August insurance as we paid for both July and August in July. This left a net loss of -\$9,245.37 for the month of July, and a net loss year-to-date at \$36,451.98. This is an average loss of \$5,207.40 per month for the seven months from January through July. She noted no unusual expenses during July, with tithes and offerings less than average compared to prior months—this is consistent with prior years for monthly variances. These numbers/totals were approved for inclusion on the August bulletins. Bob suggested noting at the bottom that the losses were covered by the Foundation, through the generosity of past member donations. The Consolidated account balances were reviewed, with no notable variances to prior months.

Bob reported on the Foundation Fund by sharing current fund balances. He had Jennine transfer \$10,000.00 today from the endowment fund to the Consolidated Fund, designated for Missions.

Based on information from Jennine, Chris told the Committee that the general fund had a balance today of \$13,973.14, a decline from about \$23,000 the prior month. The group discussed transferring money from the endowment fund to the general fund to help cover monthly costs for the remainder of 2025. After discussion, Bob made a motion to transfer \$25,000.00 from the endowment fund to the general fund. Tom seconded. Motion passed.

Chris talked about creating a potential memorial gifts list for the church. Many times someone wants to donate memorial money but is not sure what to donate it to. The list will give them ideas of where to donate the money. Bob commented that he was very much in favor of creating such a list to have on hand. Chris will talk to Jeff and other committees for ideas for the memorial list, and will present a draft at our September meeting. The group noted that Bruce Timmins donated new ceiling tiles and the labor for the library, and that this made a huge improvement. All expressed appreciation for Bruce's kind and timely donation.

Finance meeting con't...

Jeff gave an update for the daycare proposal. The Daycare Subcommittee has met twice. There was a list of questions that many of the committee members would like to have answers to. When Jeff writes up the list of questions to give to the Daycare Board, Pastor Alyssa will review it. Jeff will then deliver the questions to the Daycare Board by the end of the week. We will need the answers to the questions before we can go further with the proposal.

Jeff met with the Church insurance assessor last week. She did an assessment of the Church's physical building and some of the processes, such as what security we have in place. We will have to wait for her report to address any potential updates for the Church.

Jeff has not heard from the roofers who were to come and repair the leak in the Church roof. This is an ongoing problem concerning warranty and Trustees are considering talking to another roofer to fix the leak.

Chris presented the 2026 apportionments of \$34,093.00 received from the Conference for the Church to pay. The apportionments for 2025 are \$37,201.00, so there has been an adjustment for the overpayment for 2025.

Chris explained we will be starting the 2026 budget soon. Pastor Alyssa said we will start Stewardship Sunday in September to begin pledges from the congregation, which will help with budgeted income calculations.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m.. Bob seconded. Motion passed.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING AUGUST 8, 2025

Eight members of the United Women in Faith and two guests, Carol and Cyndie Wehr, met at the Pizza Hut for a noon luncheon. Marilyn led us in prayer. After lunch, Carol Wehr gave a very interesting talk about their bees and caring for the hives and collecting the honey. She showed us a miniature beehive and explained how the bees work inside the hive.

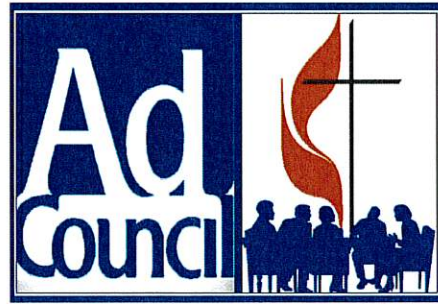
Marilyn read a letter from West Branch inviting us to their Salad Supper September 8. The District meeting will be in West Branch Saturday September 20 at 9:00 a.m.

Connie gave the Treasurer's Report. We have a total of \$2,004.76. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Our next meeting will be September 12 at the Church. Sally made a motion to adjourn and Martha seconded.

Ad Council Meeting

07/22/2025



The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Alyssa at 6:30 p.m..

MISSION REPORT

Deb Lueck talked about Christmas in July being the mission for July. Next month is school kits. GGG (Grateful Generations Gathering/Bible School) will be making dignity kits to hand out for the blessing box. The loom to make the plastic mats for the homeless was taken down to the Fellowship Hall to be used during GGG, where they will also flatten and cut the bags for the loom.

FINANCE REPORT

Chris reported the Finance Committee met on July 14th. She presented numbers for the bulletin as of the end of June 2025 that were approved. The General Fund net income is at a negative \$25,000 for the first six months of the year. There will be a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, July 27th, right after the service in the sanctuary. Some of the subjects to be discussed include Church finances, the daycare proposal and GGG.

Regarding the daycare proposal, Chris explained that she talked with Church Mutual Insurance (as requested at the last Trustee meeting) regarding expansion of daycare use of the Wesley Center. Matt Miller from Lee Insurance Agency said that the Church's insurance would not change significantly. He recommended having the Church and Daycare insurance from the same Agency/insurance provider so appropriate wording is included in the Daycare insurance policy in coordination with Church insurance. He can make further suggestions as the discussion process continues. Jeff Lueck noted that he sent the proposal to the District Conference for review.

Jeff informed the Ad Council that he also spoke with the Bank about their rules for changing signatures at the Bank, which include completion of resolution forms. The Bank signatures need to be witnessed by Bank officials for the checking accounts and the safe deposit box. Wayne Kaufman and Mike Moore names need to be removed, and Rick Meeks, Jeff Lueck, David Birney, and Tom Patterson's names need to be added to the safe deposit box and the Church's banking accounts. Chris said she will help with completing the online resolution forms so that the group can take those with them to the Bank. Dave Birney made the motion to approve the signature changes. Seconded by Jeff Lueck, motion passed.

Ad council con't...

Chris Marshall discussed the Finance Committee's vote to pay Pastor Alyssa Nantt for unreimbursed moving fees of \$7,500 from the Endowment Fund. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to reimburse Pastor Alyssa \$7,500 from the Endowment fund. Chris noted that the appropriate form has been completed for use of Foundation money, and moving cost receipts have been attached to the form for Church records.

TRUSTEE REPORT

(Jeff's Daycare proposal update was already discussed earlier in the meeting). Wayne is concerned about the eave spouts getting cleaned out. Linda recommended a company to do that job. Jeff has contacted the roof people about the leak from the roof and said they would send someone down the week of July 20th. Bridges Out of Poverty has had successful programs in Ainsworth. They cannot do the paperwork anymore and have asked the church to take over the paperwork and the finances, similar to what we do for Celebrate Recovery. We do not have to have the meetings here. Jeff said we need to make sure groups that use the building are responsible for locking doors and turning off the air conditioning when they leave.

WORSHIP REPORT

Linda reviewed the minutes from the July Worship meeting:

- Rally Sunday is September 14
- Youth group starts September 10
- Choir practice begins September 3
- Bells will begin September 10
- There will be an Advent study for all ages TBA.
- A Stewardship Drive is being planned
- Christmas program is December 14
- All music Sunday is August 31
- Robin has worked on cleaning out many of the rooms in the church
- Saturday Kitchen is August 2
- Alison talked about upcoming youth projects

PASTOR REPORT

Pastor Alyssa said things are starting to fall into place. She is in the office from 9:00 am to noon Monday through Thursday. Anyone is welcome to call if anything is needed from her. Friday is her day off. She thanked everyone for all their generosity. She said she had a good meeting in Des Moines.

Pastor Alyssa said the Onboarding meeting will be August 31st in the Fellowship Hall. Leadership should attend, but the whole church is invited to attend. In September, there are two meetings she will be attending in Montana and Iowa. Charge Conference is November 16 in North English at 3:00 pm.

SPRC REPORT

Robin spoke about what we have done to welcome Pastor Alyssa.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45pm.

This & That



To the Methodist Church:

Thank you so very much for your donations for us here at Aspire. All will be put to good use!

Thank you!
Tammy, President

P.S.: Many blessings to you all!

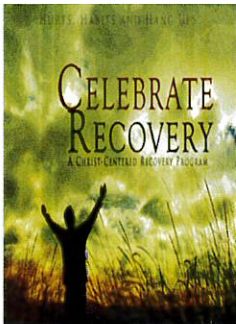


Looking for books to donate to Aspire nursing home library for the residents. They have a few, but most has been read by the residents. All different types of stories are welcome-fiction or non-fiction.

Also, magazines and puzzle books would be welcomed. Please leave in the back of the sanctuary or bring to the office.



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

The Mission Committee is asking the congregation to donate some of the following for the Resource Room:



Blankets

Bath towels

Bath toiletries

Kitchen utensils-towels

Things or gifts you may have and have never used...



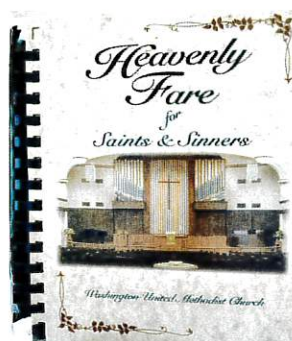
Hawkeye Cans for Cancer

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.

THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:
"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners" Cookbook
(page 91 & 7)



Cyclone Get-Together

From the kitchen of Christine Doonan

1 lb. ground beef
1/3 c. onion, chopped
1 c. cooked noodles

1 can tomato soup, undiluted
1 can green beans, drained
Velveeta cheese, sliced

Brown hamburger and onion and season with salt and pepper. Mix with noodles, tomato soup, and green beans. Place mixture in greased baking dish. Put slices of Velveeta cheese over the top. Bake at 350° until bubbly and browned, about 30 minutes.

Note: A 1-1/2 quart casserole dish is used, but can be doubled easily.



Lynn Day's Salmon Ball

From the kitchen of Craig Davis

1 (16-oz.) can red salmon
1 (8-oz.) cream cheese
3 tsp. horseradish

Sm. Amount of finely chopped onion
Parsley
2 T. lemon juice

Drain salmon discarding skin and bones. Combine with cream cheese, horseradish, lemon juice and onion. Refrigerate overnight. Form into a ball and lightly sprinkle parsley. Serve with crackers.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1

Nancy Sutton
Quincy Van Winkle

2

Michael Liska
Jill Moore
Kathy Wells

3

Connie Eberline
Russell Parker

4

Dawson Guy
William Kaufman

5

Drew Hartzler
Mary Ann Knupp

6

Joshua Wallace

7

Richard Bonar
Bruce Timmins
Evan Young

8

Heath Adrian
Mike Forinash
Nicole Peterson

11

Tina Thomas

12

Pat Hamil

13

Craig Stout

14

Noah Greiner
Amy Miller
Adisyn Protsman

15

Sara English
Abby Larsen
Kathy Wallace

16

Sally Beezley

17

Michael Unternahrer
Kurt Venega

18

Regan Enfield
Addisen Shive

20

Tammy Crull
Carolyn Dixon

21

Angela Brinning

22

Eric Manz
Barb Millward
Olivia Postl

24

Lindsay Crawford

25

Joyce Bryan
Mark English
Dean Wilson

27

Kendall Hinrichsen
Lauren Hinrichsen

28

Jordan Wallace

29

Matthew Schneider



BOLD NAMES
90+ BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Keely & Scott Brower

09/24

20 years

Jeff Debra Lueck

09/25

54 years

Charlotte & Richard Magdefrau

09/25

15 years



SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR DAY Office Closed	2 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	3 Office Closed Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	4 Office Closed Daycare Sub-committee 4:00 p.m. Library Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Library	5 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	6
7 COMMUNION SS Adult 9:00 a.m. FH SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	8 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Finance 1:30 p.m. Library SPRC meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	9 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Trustee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	10 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	11 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Library	12 Pastor's Day Off UWF 12:00 p.m. FH	13
14 SS Adult 9:00 a.m. FH SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library RALLY SUNDAY	15 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	16 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	17 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	18 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Library	19 Pastor's Day Off	20
21 SS Adult 9:00 a.m. FH SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	22 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	23 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	24 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	25 Missions 1:00 p.m. Office Care Note Ministry 1:00 p.m. Library Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Library	26 Pastor's Day Off	27
28 SS Adult 9:00 a.m. FH SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library STEWARTSHIP SUNDAY	29 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	30 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Ad Council 6:30 p.m. Library				



September 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.

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