



THE MEETING HOUSE

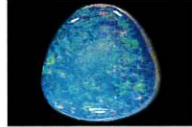
Washington United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2025

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October's flower is the Marigold. The birthstone is the Opal. Oct. 5 is World Communion Sunday. Oct. is Adopt a Shelter Dog month. Oct. 31 is Halloween.



BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

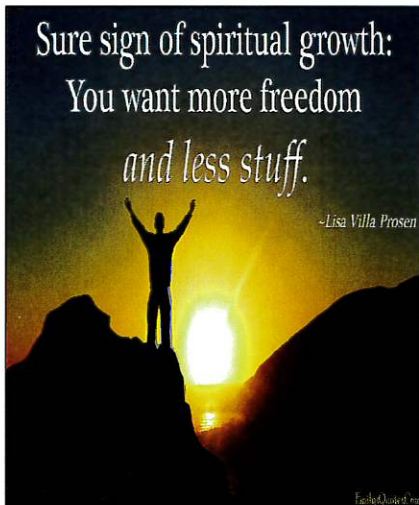


Bruce Timmins-paid for and installed new ceiling tiles in the library.



Jeff Lueck working with Pastor Alyssa on the Daycare proposal.

"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



Chris Marshall volunteered to be elected Treasurer for the Church



Deb Cady volunteers to plant and weed the church's flowers

astor's Corner



This month we will be looking at some texts in 2 Timothy. It's an interesting book. It's traditionally considered to be the last letter that the Apostle Paul wrote before he died. Timothy and Paul had a very close relationship, and Timothy was someone Paul trusted to go on missionary journeys to spread the teachings of Jesus Christ. This letter was written between 90 and 140 CE (Common Era). It may surprise you that since the early 19th century, Bible scholars expressed doubt that Paul actually wrote the letter. During ancient times, even before Paul's lifetime, it was common for people to write letters and texts that were attributed to a teacher that was well respected or even famous. Whoever the author is, there is evidence that this person was familiar with Paul's life before he died and the letter consists of things that Paul said or wrote.

Even so, there is a lot of value in 2 Timothy. There is much love and tenderness between Timothy and Paul. It's a great vision of the love that we are to have with one another through Jesus Christ. The letter also gives practical advice to Timothy, who is still young at this point. We will be looking at growing as disciples of Jesus this month. I look forward to exploring this text with you!

I would like to ask for your prayers for myself, the staff, and the leadership of the church. There are a lot of things going on in the life of the church. The Bible study on Daniel and Esther is rolling along, and I would encourage you to be involved with a Bible study, either with the men on Monday mornings, with Shirley after church on Sunday, or with me on Thursday evenings. It's a great opportunity to be in fellowship and to learn something new about God. Please pray for these leaders. The office staff is also busy getting things ready for Charge Conference in November and completing the large workload of keeping the church running smoothly. Pray for them. We have folks working hard to enhance the worship experience with music. Pray for them. We also have a group working hard with our young people. They need our prayers. Your church leaders are also working hard with completing the necessary paperwork for the annual Charge Conference in November. Pray for them. I am so grateful for these folks and for all of the unsung heroes who work hard for the love of the church!

I will be gone for a week to travel to Montana. One of my best friends who I consider as a sister lost her husband and I will be officiating part of the funeral. I will have the dates of my absence listed in the bulletin. My Dad is also traveling with me and will arrive in Iowa in early October. Please pray for us, as Dad and I are very close with this family and hopefully we will not encounter any snow or ice on our travels! I am grateful for the time away to spend with the family and to support them in this difficult time. I will also be attending a clergy meeting in Ankeny when I return from Montana. Dad and I thank you for your prayers and support.

I am grateful for all of you. You have shown me so much love and grace. I'm very thankful to be on this journey with you! Let us continue to pursue transformation together to be more like Jesus.

Pastor Alyssa

A Few Words About Apportionments



Not too long ago, we used the word “apportionments” to describe money that was given by the United Methodist Churches to the conference. Now the term “**Mission Shares**” is used. Mission Shares are used for many different purposes. The money is pooled together to pay for different things in the United Methodist Church at the district, conference, national, and international level. Let me give you some examples of how your mission shares are used.

Thanks to the Mission Shares this church and other churches paid, it enabled me to fly and stay in Iowa to meet with your SPRC to see if I would be a good fit to serve you. In addition, the Mission Shares also helped me pay for my moving expenses. Thanks to the mission shares, you are also enabling me to have health insurance, training, and a retirement account.

Thanks to the Mission Shares this church and other churches paid, we have access to a District Superintendent and other resource staff to help guide our church. We also have access to training, grant funding, and other resources to help us live out our church’s mission. Churches who run independently do not have access to the resources, information, and training that are easily available to us.

Thanks to the Mission Shares this church and other churches paid, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), is able to quickly and efficiently send teams in the US and around the world to assist with disaster relief. The Mission Shares pay for their travel, training, and accommodations. The year before I started my appointment at Immanuel UMC in Crisfield, Maryland, an UMCOR team stayed at the church and worked on projects around Crisfield to help those whose homes were damaged by flooding.

Thanks to the Mission Shares this church and other churches paid, scholarships are available for students attending a United Methodist college, university, or seminary all over the world. The United Methodist Church is working to increase their support of Africa University in Zimbabwe to train Africa’s Christian leaders. When I was attending Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, several students from Africa attended class via Zoom with me. In my conversations with them, I asked them why they were not attending Africa University. They shared with me that there were not enough spaces available and not enough teachers to serve the students who wish to attend that university. Some of the students lived far away from Africa University and it was not possible to attend classes in person.

If you have any questions about Mission Shares, I would be happy to share more information with you, or I can refer you to our conference treasurer who would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your generosity in helping the church pay its Mission Shares.



A few words about World Communion Sunday

Churches have been celebrating World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday of October since 1933. It is an observance to promote Christian unity and cooperation between different Christian denominations here in the United States and around the world.

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on October 5th this year. The United Methodist Church offers the opportunity to contribute funds to nurture diverse leaders for the church. On October 5, there will be a bulletin insert with more information to contribute to this ministry if you choose.

The money will be used to fund scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color who are pursuing ordained ministry. In addition, funds are used to support the recruitment, training, and retention of people of color in leadership roles in the United States and around the world.

When I was a student at Wesley Theological Seminary, a student named Moses from Kenya joined one of my classes via Zoom. Because of the time difference, he was online starting at 3AM in his country. His Internet connection was not always reliable. However, he was deeply committed to pursuing a theological education to be a clergy leader in his church that was growing by leaps and bounds. He was unable to attend Africa University, which has a theological school in Zimbabwe that the United Methodist Church has a partnership with. Africa University is too far away for Moses to travel to, and he recently became a father to an adorable son who sometimes woke up during the night and attended class with his father. Moses depended on scholarship money to help him attend this class.

Information will be provided in the bulletin on October 5th if you would like to make a contribution. If you would like to make a contribution by check, you can make the check out to the church and please make sure you write in World Communion Sunday in the memo line. Contributions will be forwarded to the conference.

Thank you for your generosity!
Pastor Alyssa Nantt



OCTOBER MISSIONS

Church World Service (CWS) Blankets & Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Your contribution to the **CWS** blankets program not only gives people around the world blankets to keep them safe and healthy, but hope, warmth and a reminder that they are loved.

In the US-blankets have gone to:

Florida-hurricanes, California and Hawaii-wild fires,
Kentucky and Mississippi-flooding

Blankets are given to the homeless and anyone in need.

Each blanket is only \$10—so please donate today!

"Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be *generous*. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God."
- 2 CORINTHIANS 9:11



 **CWS** | CWSBLANKETS.ORG



 **CWS** | CWSBLANKETS.ORG

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Child bed lessness is what we call a "**hidden crisis**." You might not see it in your neighborhood, but it's there. Research shows that **2-3% of children nationwide** don't have a bed of their own.

That's hundreds of thousands of kids sleeping on floors, couches, or sharing beds with siblings or caregivers every single night. These aren't just statistics – they're children in your community, your state, maybe even on your street.

Families who are working hard but struggling to afford basic necessities. Kids who deserve so much more. Washington County has an active chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. They provide free beds to children who need them. There are many who need this help in Washington County. Please consider helping!



Angie Van Gundy
Chapter Co President

To donate money:
There is a basket in back of Sanctuary
To donate your time call:
844-432-2337



Jeff Van Gundy
Chapter Co President



September 16, 2025

Present: Alison Greiner, Dana Rembold, Shirley Textor, Pastor Alyssa Nantt, and Linda Soukup

Devotion: *Worship that Welcomes Everyone* was shared, followed by discussion.

Committee Reports

Technology

Sound on the Livestream is improved but still not great for the Praise Team.

Gratitude

The Care Notes committee will meet Thursday, September 25, at 1:00 p.m. to write notes to visitors.

Education

Sunday School is off to a good start.

Toni Adrian served as helper and presented each child with a devotional book.

Youth Group

Room preparation on September 17.

Pizza night on September 24.

Adult Studies

After church study will finish Luke and Acts, then begin a study on the Holy Spirit (Shirley).

The Book of Daniel Bible Study is drawing a large group on Thursdays at 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (Pastor Alyssa).

Ushers/Greeters/Hospitality

SPPRC is creating a job description for a paid "Turn Key" person.

Ushers are encouraged to seat everyone by 10:00 a.m.

A countdown clock on the screen may be added to help the congregation know when to be seated.

Altar & Decorations

More fall flowers may be brought down from the flower room (assistance needed for Sue).

Paraments update:

Advent/Christmas set arriving soon; blessing and thanksgiving will follow.
Lent/Easter set will be ordered next.

Regular set will be ordered next year. **Worship/Music**

Pastor Alyssa will finish the Psalms series and begin one on Discipleship.

Worship minutes con't:

Old Business

Noisy Offering:

Banks have been ordered. Children will collect the offering on September 28 during a children's sermon on this theme.

Fall Fundraiser Dinner & Dessert Auction: October 26 after church.

Movie Night: November 23 at 5 p.m.

Alison will arrange refreshments.

Pastor Alyssa will secure *The Grinch* as the movie.

Advent Study: Dates set for November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 at 5 p.m.

Funeral Policy: Purpose discussed. Shared with Marty Beenblossom and Mark Beatty. Available for anyone to review.

New Business

Pastor Appreciation Day: October 26.

UMC Awareness Days: Committee agreed to follow the United Methodist calendar of awareness days (e.g., World Communion Sunday, Human Relations Day, MLK Day, UMCOR Sunday, Native American Ministries Sunday, Rural Heritage Day).

All Saints Day: November 1.

Communion Process:

Congregation will continue taking elements back to their seats.



United
Women
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

Thirteen members and three guests met at the home of Marilyn Whitenack. A delicious luncheon was served by Marilyn, Barb and Connie. Before the meal Linda led us in singing the prayer.

After the luncheon, Pastor Alyssa talked about her life growing up and the journey to become a pastor. It was very interesting!

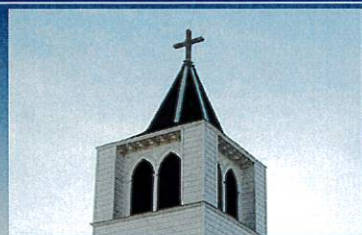
Devotions from Micah were read by Barb Wehr. It was the National Day of Encouragement and we were reminded to be more loving and less judgmental. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Connie gave the treasurers report. We have a balance of \$2004.59. Janet Graber gave a motion to give \$100.00 to HACAP and \$100.00 to the UMC Resource Room. Motion passed.

The District meeting is September 20th at West Branch. Marilyn and Vic are planning to go.

Next meeting will be a salad luncheon at the church on Oct. 10th, with everyone bringing a salad. We will talk about the budget for next year and signing up hostesses for next year's meetings.

Connie made a motion to adjourn and Evy seconded it. Motion passed.

Karen Norman, Secretary



Finance Committee

Finance Meeting September 8, 2025

Present: Chairman Rick Meeks, Pastor Alyssa Nantt,, Tom Patterson, Bob Helscher, Lori Bauer 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.

The committee reviewed the Financials for the General fund and the Consolidated fund. There were a few questions, but they will be addressed at the next meeting when Chris will be there.

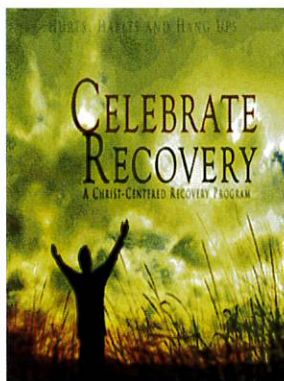
Money from the Foundation was deposited into the General Fund. The balance is \$25,180.31.

The Financial numbers for August were reviewed and approved for the September bulletins .

Pastor Alyssa will have pledge letters and cards mailed out by September 24th. She will talk about Stewardship Sunday during her sermon and will explain the importance of setting a budget for the church. Pastor Alyssa would like the Pledge cards to be due before or by October 5th. She will say a blessing over the pledge cards. She also explained she will be leaving for Montana on October 8 for bereavement leave. She will return October 17th.

The Nomination committee will meet October 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the library.

Tom made a motion to close the meeting. Lori seconded. Motion passed.



Celebrate Recovery

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

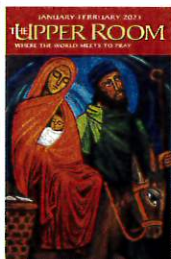
**Recovery from drugs, alcohol, trauma,
physical/mental/emotional abuse
or any other hang-ups or hurts you have experi-
enced.**

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

This & That

Vic Patterson would like to know if anyone has a *Heavenly Fare Saints and Sinners* Methodist cookbook they would like to sell.

The Upper Room



The cost of *The Upper Room* has gone up again for the Church!

**Did you know you can have
The Upper Room delivered to your email?**

If you purchase a digital subscription to *The Upper Room*, you will have access to read each day's devotional via the website and mobile app and receive each day's devotional in your email. You will also gain access to exclusive content such as author bios and photos and an audio recording of each daily devotional.

An added benefit is you can **listen** to the devotion instead of reading it!

The cost of the digital subscription is only \$14.99 a year and you will have *The Upper Room* wherever you go!

Please go to www.upperroom.org.

Click on Subscribe

Click on the option to subscribe to the digital for \$14.99 a year.

Please call the office if you have any questions.

**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...



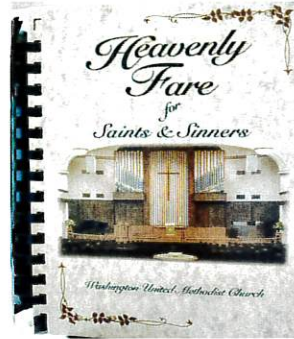
Hawkeye Cans for Cancer

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. Your donation goes to help other families who need financial support during this difficult time.

THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:
"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners" Cookbook
(page 175 & 78)



Grandma Charlotte's Pumpkin Bars

From the kitchen of Kristen Davis

4 eggs	2 tsp. baking powder
1-2/3 c. sugar	2 tsp. cinnamon
3/4 c. oil (or 1 c. applesauce)	1 tsp. salt
1 (16-oz.) can pumpkin	1 tsp baking soda
2 c. flour	

Icing:

1 (3-oz.) cream cheese, softened	1 tsp vanilla
1/2 c. butter	2 c. powdered sugar

Beat together eggs, sugar, oil and pumpkin until light and fluffy. Combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, salt and soda. Add to pumpkin mixture mixing thoroughly. Spread batter in 10 x 15-inch jelly roll pan and bake at 350° for 25 to 30 minutes. Frost when bars are cooled. **Icing:** Cream together cream cheese, butter and stir in vanilla. Add powdered sugar a little at a time, beating well, until mixture is smooth. Cuts 24 bars.



Squash Casserole

From the kitchen of Betty Severt

1/2 c. chopped onion	2 c. squash, cooked, drained and mashed
1 egg, slightly beaten	1-1/2 c. Pepperidge Farm Chicken dressing
1/4 c. oleo, melted	1 (10-3/4 oz.) can cream mushroom soup
1/2 c. cracker crumbs	1/2 c. oleo, melted

Mix together onion, egg, soup, oleo, cracker crumbs and squash. Put in a greased baking dish. Top with crushed dressing crumbs mixed with oleo. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



3

Richard Gallagher
Alexandrea Murphy
Tom Patterson
Marisa Powers

4

Trevor Tschantz

5

David Cortum
Jane Evanovich

6

Michael Carr
Gary Clark

7

Gary Pence
Diana Schoonover

8

Kim Charlier
Dianne Gray

10

Karen Crossett
Mario Savaidis
Steve Stender
Timothy Timmins

12

Brett Brinning
Pamela Green
Marc Knupp

13

William Edwards
Alison Greiner

14

Linda Van Winkle

15

Martha Hahn

16

Craig Rembold

17

Alberta Bonar
Marilyn Mangold
Kyle Fishback

18

Roberta Leeper
Madison Van Winkle

19

Ronald Marsh

21

Ed Kielenstyn

22

Judi Fredrick

23

Donna Knott

24

John Hamil

25

Jacki Williams

26

Bradley Crone
Jean Hyde
Curtis Stender

27

Grant Shive

28

Dorothy Enfield
Keider Gomez Valdez
Karolyn Leary

30

Misty Ingles
Lain Messer

31

Lester Wehr
Alyk Williams



October Anniversaries

Craig & Dana Rembold	10/04	39 years
Bill & Jeannie Edwards	10/05	51 years
Charles & Betty Thompson	10/06	69 years
Greg & Dawn Schindler	10/07	30 years
Jaden & Michele Protsman	10/09	21 years

BOLD NAMES
90+ BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Nomination Committee 2:00 p.m. Library Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	2 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	3 Pastor's Day Off	4
5 World 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	6 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Finance 1:30 p.m. Library	7 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	8 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	9 Pastor on Bereavement Leave through Oct. 16 No Bible Study	10 UWF 12:00 p.m. FH Pastor gone	11
12 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 Pastor gone	13 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Pastor gone	14 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Trustee Meeting TBA Pastor gone	15 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary Pastor gone	16 Pastor gone No Bible Study	17 Pastor back Pastor's Day Off	18
19 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	20 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library SPRC Meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	21 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	22 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	23 Mission Meeting 1:30 p.m. Library Movie Night "The Grinch" 5 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	24 Pastor's Day Off	25
26 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 Pastor Appreciation Sunday Fundraiser Dinner Time TBA	27 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	28 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Ad Council 6:30 p.m. Library	29 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	30 Care Notes Ministry 1:00 p.m. Library Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	31 Pastor's Day Off	



October 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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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