

THE MEETING HOUSE

Washington United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 2025

Inside This Issue

Pastor's Corner	2
Advent Bible Study	3
What is Pastor reading?	4
November Missions	5
UWF Update	5
Worship Update	6-7
Finance Update	8
Thank You	9
This & That	10
Recipes	11
Birthdays & 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

ajnantt@email.com

410-443-1115

Church Secretaries:

Sue Meeks and Jennine Wolf
churchofficewumc@gmail.com

November's flower is the Chrysanthemum. The birthstone is the Topaz. Nov 2 ends daylight savings time. Nov. 4 is Election Day. Nov. 11 is Veteran's Day. Nov. 26 is Thanksgiving.



BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS



Alberta Thornton and Linda Birney volunteer their time to count money.



Steven Bay procured 4 donated pork loins for our 10/26 Fall lunch from Hy-Vee

"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, Cathie Hill and Steven Bay volunteering for the Fall Lunch on 10/26



Karen Norman volunteers every Tuesday evening for Celebrate Recovery.

"IN *Happy* MOMENTS, PRAISE GOD.
IN DIFFICULT MOMENTS, *SEEK* God.
IN QUIET MOMENTS, *trust* GOD.
IN EVERY MOMENT, THANK God."



Ecclesiastes 3:1: For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.

I am especially mindful of this Scripture during the month of November. It's a time of shifting. The weather is getting cooler and we are shifting towards winter. The season of the Church shifts from the season of Pentecost to the season of Advent, with All Saints Day and Christ the King Sunday thrown in for good measure. For everything there is a season...

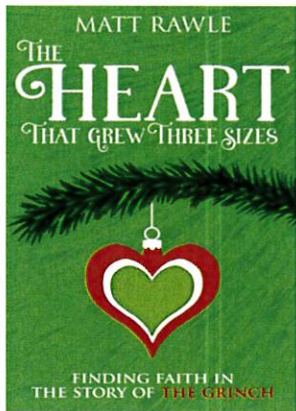
We also have Charge Conference coming up on November 16 at 3PM at Williamsburg UMC. It's our yearly meeting we have with the Iowa Conference and we will be joined with other Churches to review the state of the Church and celebrate our ministries with each other. It's a meeting that is open to everyone and I encourage you to attend to make connections with Churches in the area.

We will also be starting our Advent book study on November 30, looking at the book, *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes* by Matt Rawle. We will have a Church movie night on November 23 with "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" starring Jim Carrey (rated PG) and the youth will be selling snacks as a fundraiser. We will also prepare for Advent by decorating the church with the Hanging of the Greens on November 23 after Church. Please refer to the flyers in the bulletins and the newsletter for further information. In addition, thanks to the generous donations from memorials, we have also purchased some new paraments for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter that will be consecrated for church use on November 23.

Whew! There's a lot going on in the life of the Church! I rejoice in being a part of a Church that loves the Lord and loves each other! Now is a great time in the life of our church for you to invite a friend or neighbor to church. I continue to appreciate you and all that you do to support our Church and rural communities.

Be in prayer for our Church, staff, and leadership. So many of you work tirelessly for the Church and I remain grateful for the gifts and talents that you give to the ministry of Washington UMC. Keep doing all the good you can, just as John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, instructed us to do. It's a busy season, so hold on in expectation and see what God will do! God's got this!

With love and deep gratitude,
Pastor Alyssa



Please join the Advent Bible Study

“The Heart That Grew Three Sizes”

Hosting this inspiring study is Pastor Alyssa Nantt

Starting November 30, Washington UMC will host a book study and sermon series led by Pastor Alyssa based on “*The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*” by United Methodist Pastor Matt Rawle. During each Sunday of Advent, we will gather to study one chapter of this book and then enjoy a light dinner and fellowship together.

We will begin the study at 5PM and have a light dinner at 6:00 p.m. on the following Sundays: November 30, and December 7, 14, and 21. A sign up sheet will be available to sign up to bring a crockpot or casserole dish for dinner.

Here is a description of the book that we will be using:

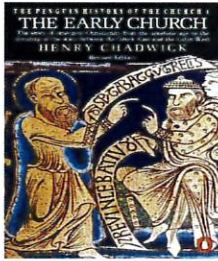
“We don’t know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this new Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* including, how did the Grinch’s heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? This Advent and Christmas season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture.”

If you would like to order this book on your own, feel free to do so, just make sure the book you order looks like what you see in the picture. If you would like the Church to order a book for you, we can put in an order with Cokesbury.

The cost is \$14 and we will need your cash, check, or money order to the Washington UMC office no later than Friday, November 14.

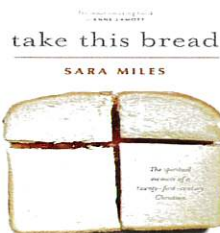


What is Pastor Alyssa reading?



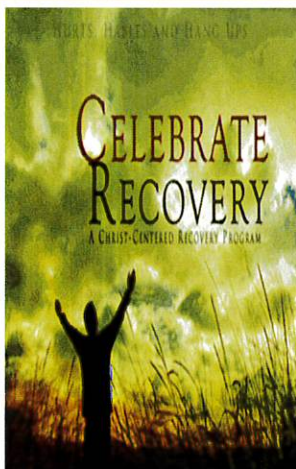
The Early Church: The Story of Emergent Christianity, Revised Edition by Henry Chadwick.

This book explores Christianity's roots from a historical perspective. It's interesting to read what other people who were not Christians thought about the spread of this new faith. It's on the scholarly side, but still an interesting read for Christian history nerds like me.



Take This Bread: A Radical Conversion by Sara Miles

Sara Miles, a self-described lesbian atheist, wandered into a church one day and took Holy Communion. She was transformed by this and embraced the Christian faith that she scorned. She then centered her faith on feeding others as she was fed by Holy Communion and established multiple food pantries in poor communities. I haven't started this yet, but it inspires me to consider how we can respond to be more Christ-like through Holy Communion and to be open to the Holy Spirit's work in our lives.



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.

*Please consider volunteering your time
Call Chuck Clifton for information
319-480-2012*

NOVEMBER MISSION

Christmas Adoption for HACAP

The money donated for **Christmas Adoption** allows us to “adopt families” through HACAP to buy presents.

The need is great this year as some families have nothing more to give financially



United Women of Faith meeting minutes October 10, 2025

Thirteen members and two guests met October 10 at the Church for a salad noon luncheon. Marilyn Whitenack, Barb Wehr and Connie Pence were hostesses. Marilyn led us in prayer and then enjoyed a wonderful lunch.

The program was presented by Chloe and Britteny from the Washington State Bank. It was a very interesting program about scams and how to recognize them.

Barb gave the devotions from Proverbs 11: 24-25. She then read an article called the “Bread of Life” and followed up with a prayer. Vic talked about the SE District meeting she attended in West Branch. The next District meeting will be in Des Moines. She talked about the ministry of MUMMS.

Marilyn talked about an article in the Response magazine entitled “Relating with Others” She also handed out jewelry she made.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Connie gave the treasurer’s report. After giving \$100 to the Resource Room and \$100 to HACAP, this left \$1,804.99.

December meeting will be at the Halcyon House It will be our pledge service and we will discuss our budget. Bring items for HACAP. Meeting was adjourned.



October 21, 2025

The Washington UMC Worship Committee met at the Wesley Center Library on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Linda opened the meeting at 5:15 p.m. with a devotional called, "God in Every Season", followed by prayer. Those present were: Linda Soukup, Chris Marshall, Pastor Alyssa Nantt, Shirley Textor, Alison Greiner, Sue Meeks and Dana Rembold. Jean Potratz was unable to attend. Minutes from the September 2025 meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

Technology: Linda noted that things are going okay technologically. The group discussed replacing mikes for the singers at some time in the future, as they are often staticky online.

Gratitude: Shirley reported that in September, the committee completed care notes to visitors. For October 30 at 1:00 p.m. in the library, they will be sending cards to the homebound.

Youth and Adult/Education: Alison reported that Sunday School progress with helpers is going well, though attendance is not always predictable. Shirley is continuing with the book of Acts and then will soon go into the topic of the Holy Spirit on Sundays at 11:10 a.m.. Alyssa's Bible study on Thursdays from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. continues on the book of Daniel.

Pastor Alyssa's plan for the 4-week Advent called "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle—finding faith in the story of The Grinch, was discussed.

The Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 14th.

Ushers/Greeters/Hospitality: Linda discussed the Turn Key position and job description, where someone would turn on the air conditioning/turn the heat up and lights and to unlock doors on Sunday mornings around 8:00 a.m. After the service, that person was responsible for turning things back off.

Altar/Decorations: Sue will put the horn of plenty on the altar for the Fall/Thanksgiving season. New paraments have arrived and are beautiful. There will be a liturgy of consecration for these on November 23rd. New paraments will be ordered in the future for Lent/Easter.

Hanging of the Greens will be done on Sunday, November 23rd, after Church.

Worship/Music:

- October 26th—Pastor Appreciation and fundraiser dinner
- November 2nd—All Saints Sunday
- November 9th—Veteran's Day recognition
- November 16th—Charge Conference at Williamsburg UMC at 3pm
- November 23rd—Christ the King Sunday; bless new paraments; Hanging of the Greens; Movie night—Grinch, 5: p.m.. Do sign-up sheet for movie nights.
- November 30—1st Sunday in Advent; we will not have all music Sunday that day
- Alyssa will be on vacation for two weeks after Christmas. We will have music called "Lessons in Carols" on Sunday, December 28th with a hot cocoa bar for refreshments.

Old Business:

The Noisy offering banks and children's participation has gone well, with over \$200 donated.

Fundraiser Dinner and Dessert Auction next Sunday, October 26. Linda and Chris shared details with the committee.

Movie Night— (The Grinch) on Sunday, November 23, at 5pm, with snacks included—using the popcorn popper, and other concessions can be sold as a small fundraiser.

Adent Study Dates: November 30, December 7, 14 and 21, at 5pm. Casseroles to share for the meal; do a sign-up list for these.

New Business:

The group will discuss the December 14th Christmas program at our next meeting.

The group discussed ordering poinsettias for Christmas, and will add requests for these in the December bulletins.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 5:15 p.m., at the Church library.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m..

**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.



Finance Committee

Finance Meeting October 13, 2025

Present: Chairman Rick Meeks, Tom Patterson, Bob Helscher, Karen Norman, Chris Marshall 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 presented month to date and year to date for the General Fund.

The big expenditure for September was roof repairs, totaling \$3,850.00. She explained about a gift of \$12,800.00 the church received in September. This resulted in the month of September being \$3,900.00 in the positive thanks to the \$12,800 gift. Chris showed where the church has a year-to-date loss of \$48,000.00.

Chris gave the consolidated report. The end of September has the consolidated fund at \$37,452.00. She explained Richard Gilmore was buying a new refrigerator for the Church kitchen with funds from the kitchen appliance account. She further explained the funds from the undesignated memorials and bank interest was moved to the general fund each quarter. A new account in consolidated is Bridges out of Poverty, that is headed by Kim Charlier. She said it is just a holding account like Celebrate Recovery.

Bob Helscher handed out information for the Endowment fund. He suggested we offer a scholarship to youth in the Church who are active members getting ready to go to college. Everyone thought this was a good idea. Bob will put together a proposal and bring it to the next finance meeting.

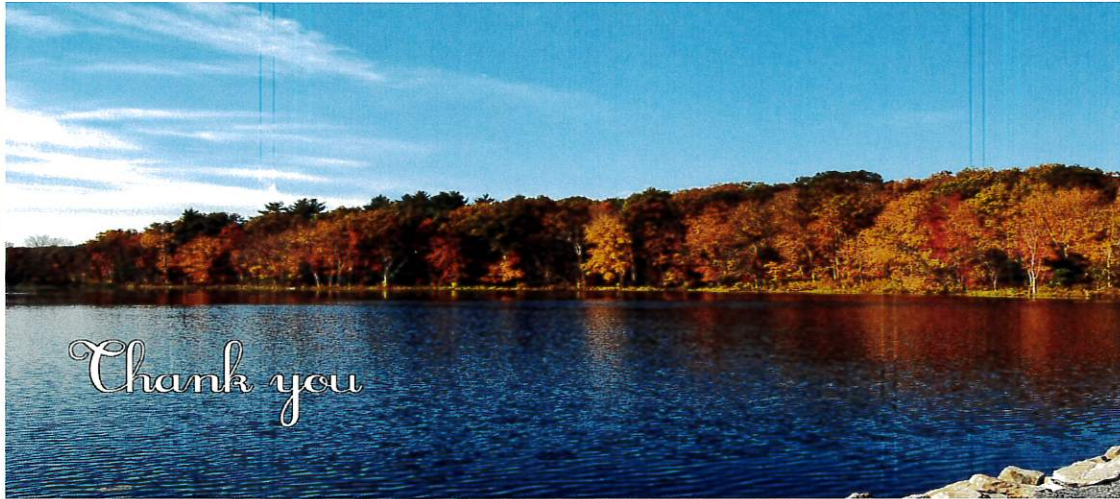
Chris presented another gift the church received of \$50,000. It was discussed what the money was to be used for. It was decided to contact the person who gave the gift to ask where the funds should go. It will go into the consolidated account until then.

There has been no update on the daycare since the last meeting on September 24. There is a nomination committee meeting for October 22.

Chris has received the budgets from the trustees, missions and worship and should receive SPRC next week.

Chris presented the financial statement for the Townhall meeting for October 19. Tom made the motion to accept the report-Karen seconded-motion passed.

Tom made a motion to close the meeting-Bob seconded-motion passed.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

Dear Washington United Methodist Church,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the hard work you all have done to serve the church and the Washington community.

We had a wonderful Fall Dinner and fundraiser and I am so grateful to the many people who donated their time and talents to make the event a great success! Thank you to all of you who donated food, money and baked goods, you are appreciated! The free will offering for the lunch was \$1002.00! The dessert auction was \$1330.00!

Thank you also for the love and gratitude you showed to me at Pastor Appreciation Sunday. I was truly overwhelmed by your generous gifts and I am so very glad to be here at Washington UMC as your pastor. I look forward to the things we will continue to do as a church to love and serve the Washington community. I am so very thankful for you!

With Gratitude,
Pastor Alyssa

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



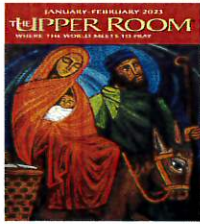
**Blankets
Bath towels
Bath toiletries
Kitchen utensils-towels**



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



This & That



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.

Thank You WUMC Missions for your loving generosity!

From:



**Women at the Well
for your \$500 donation**



**Red Bird Christian School
for your \$1000 donation**

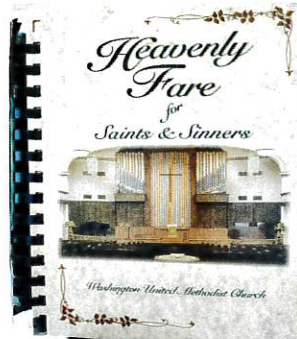


**Washington County Mini Bus
for your \$500 donation**

**Your gift gives us the power to inspire, empower
and uplift the people we serve!**

THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:
"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners" Cookbook
(page 104 & 32)



Turkey Casserole

From the kitchen of Betty Stephens

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 c. Turkey, diced (or chicken) | 1/4 c. mayonnaise |
| 1 c. celery | 2-1/2 T. chopped onion |
| 1 can cream of chicken soup | 3 hard cooked eggs |
| 4-oz. can sliced mushrooms, drained | 1/2 c. slivered almonds |
| Potato chips | |

Mix ingredients together. Crumble potato chips in bottom of casserole and on the top. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes. Freezes well.



Easy Cranberry-Orange Salad

From the kitchen of Winnie Marshall

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 (3-oz) pkg. orange Jello | 1/2 c. boiling water |
| 1 (8-oz) can whole cranberry sauce | 1 (8-oz) can crushed pineapple |
| 1/2 c. chopped celery | 1/2 c. chopped nuts |

Dissolve Jello in water. Add cranberry sauce, mix until dissolved. Add pineapple (undrained), celery and nuts. Mix well and pour into mold.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1
Ryan Frieze
Duane VanWinkle

2
Kayla Beatty
Noah Enfield
George Moore

3
Eric Schoonover

4
Lyle Thomas

5
Lisa Carr
Jeff Lueck
Joey Wallace

8
Ryan Loy

9
Barbara Wehr

10
David Ross

11
Collin Murphy
Tanner Murphy

12
James Kennedy
Judy McCarthy

14
Jeff Crone

15
Shannon Powers
Bruce Watson

16
Jack Greiner

17
Jennine Wolf
Cora Young

19
Ty Stender

20
Karen McFarland
Aidan Miller
Oma Munn

21
Dana Crawford

22
Mark Bohr
Cathy Ross
Abby Threkeld

24
Michelle Sisco-Ortiz

25
Fran Darbyshire

26
Kira Ropp
Linda Sturdevant

28
Henri Charlier

30
Shawn Loy
Blakley Williams

BOLD NAMES

90+ BIRTHDAYS

November Anniversaries



David & Toni Adrian	11/04	42 years
Lester & Barbara Wehr	11/19	42 years
William & Linda Quigley	11/24	17 years
Paul & Sally Beezley	11/26	67 years

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Turn clocks back 1 hour
2 Communion All Saint's Sunday 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	3 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	4 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	5 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	6 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	7 Pastor's Day Off	8
9 SS Adult 9:00 a.m. FH SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Veteran's Day Recognition Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:10 a.m. Library	10 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Finance 1:30 p.m. Library SPRC Meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	11 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Library Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH VETERAN'S DAY	12 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	13 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	14 UWF 12:00 p.m. FH Pastor's Day Off	15
16 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 Charge Conference 3:00 p.m. Williamsburg	17 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	18 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	19 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	20 Care Note Ministry 1:00 p.m. Library Mission Meeting 1:30 p.m. Library Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	21 Pastor's Day Off	22
23 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 Hanging of the Greens Movie night -5:00 p.m.	24 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	25 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH Ad Council 6:30 p.m. Library	26 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 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 Advent Study & Meal 5:00 p.m. FH						





November 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