



Inside This Issue

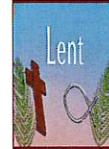
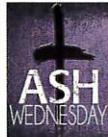
Pastor's Corner	2
Pastor Thank You's	3
Lenten Study	4
What is Ash Wednesday	5
Esther Bible Study	6
CAT Study	6
Camp Sunday	7
February Mission	8
Mission Update	9
UWF Update	9
Finance Update	10-11
Worship Update	12-13
Trustee Update	14
This & That	15-16
Recipe Corner	17
Birthdays & Anniversaries	18
Calendar	19

THE MEETING HOUSE

Washington United Methodist Church

FEBRUARY 2026

February's flower is the Violet. The birthstone is the Amethyst. Feb. 14 Valentine's Day. Feb. 18 is Ash Wed. Feb. 21 is President's Day. Feb. 22 is the start of Lent. Feb. is Black History Month.



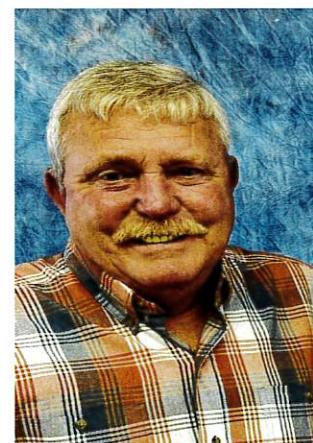
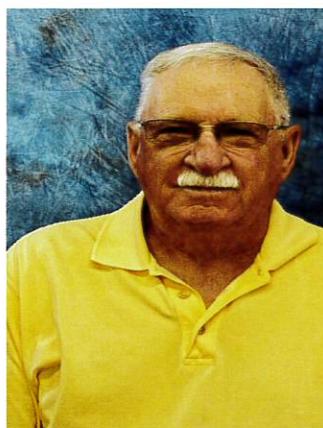
BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS



Marilyn Whitenack comes in early to prepare the coffee and treats in the Sanctuary every Sunday morning.

Barb Wehr volunteers to help with Communion and is a greeter on Sunday mornings.

"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



Not all storms come to disrupt your life, some come to clear your path.
~Amen~

Dave Birney has served on multiple committees over the years. He takes attendance, helps with communion, and the offering every Sunday morning.

Rick Meeks is the Chair of the finance committee for three years. He oversees check requests and signing checks. He opens the library and makes coffee for the Monday Men's bible study.



Pastor's Corner



Pastor's Corner January 2026

This Christian icon portrays the Scripture that is commonly referred to as The Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew in chapters five through seven. According to most Biblical scholars, the Sermon on the Mount was probably a collection of Jesus' teachings over several days, weeks, months, or even over a two-year time span. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, called the Sermon on the Mount, "the sum of all true religion". A similar version, called The Sermon on the Plain is found in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 6:20-49. During the month of February, we will be looking at the beginning sections of the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes.

On Thursdays, we are going to continue to study the Book of Esther. We will be taking a break in the middle of the book for Lent. I would encourage you to join us as we look at this somewhat strange, but interesting book in the Old Testament. Everyone is welcome to join us! Even if you are unfamiliar with Scripture, this is a good book for you to start your journey with the Bible.

Then we will begin the turn towards the season of Lent with Transfiguration Sunday and Ash Wednesday. I hope you will be able to attend the Ash Wednesday service, as it is a powerful service that will help you (and me!) advance through the season of Lent. We start the season of Lent at the end of February, and we will be using Matt Rawle's book *The Grace of Les Misérables* to guide us through Lent. I hope you will be able to join us for the book study and dinner on Sunday nights during Lent. We will also show a version of the musical in Fellowship Hall before we start the book study.

In January, we installed new leaders to serve on our different leadership committees in the church. Please keep your leaders and staff in your prayers. I appreciate your love, support, and continued prayers as I continue to serve at the best church in Iowa.

God bless you,
Pastor Alyssa



Pastor Alyssa's Thank Yous!

Thank you for allowing me to take some vacation time to see my Dad in Florida after Christmas. We had a nice time together and spent a few days in Savannah, Georgia.

Thank you for allowing me to attend the Clergy Retreat at Wesley Woods in Indianola. It was great to meet some other Iowa clergy and to check out the Wesley Woods camp.

Thank you for supporting the staff and volunteers who work very hard to keep things running here at church. I appreciate all of their time and effort!

Thank you to the Trustees for moving ahead with different building projects and repairs in the Wesley Center and in the Sanctuary. We are grateful for the monetary support of the church to get these projects done. Thank you, Trustees, for all of your time and effort! Maintaining aging buildings is not easy!

Thank you to all of the musicians for your beautiful music each week during the service and to Alison for working so well with the young people.

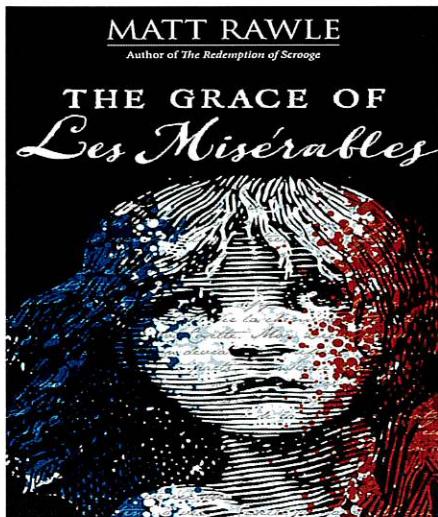
Thank you for all of those who have served on committees, those currently serving on committees, and those who are beginning their service to the committees. I appreciate all of the hard work the committees do to engage in the ministry of the church. You folks are the ones that keep us all on track!

Thank you to all who teach Bible studies and run support groups to help people grow spiritually. You are appreciated!

Thank you so very much for all of your monetary support for the ministry of the church. Thanks to your generous donations, if we subtract the apportionments, we ended the year in the black. That is something to celebrate! I am grateful for your faithful giving and generous hearts!

Thank you for your support and prayers for me. I appreciate your kindness and love shown to me as we journey together in ministry. I also appreciate the birthday wishes, thank you!





Lent Book Study at Washington United Methodist Church

Please join us for our Lent Book study starting on Sunday, February 22 at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall! We will be studying this book by Matt Rawle. It will be in a similar format to the Advent study with a short video introduction to each chapter, along with a discussion and dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. There is also an opportunity for students age middle school and older to participate. The last day of the study is on March 29 and will include a sermon series as well.

The study will run for six Sundays and will include the following topics found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope. There will be a sign-up sheet if you would like the Church to order a book for you as well as a sign-up sheet to help provide a crockpot meal with dessert. Drinks will be provided.

You can order the book from Amazon, Thrift Books, Barnes & Noble, or other book sellers. Please make sure your book looks like the one above. If you need more information, please contact Washington United Methodist Church at 319-653-5446.

Join us for a movie night at church to kick off our Lent study!

On Sunday, February 15, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30PM to watch a movie version of Les Misérables. We will be watching the Les Misérables 10th Anniversary Concert edition from 1995 that was filmed at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Please be aware that the movie will run approximately 2.5 hours and there is some mild language and suggestive language.

The youth group will be selling snacks during the presentation. Feel free to wear comfy clothes to settle in and watch a fabulous concert. Please see Pastor Alyssa if you have any questions.



What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is an opportunity for us to mark the beginning of Lent. We see a tangible mark of this as we receive ashes on our foreheads during this service. During Lent, we observe a season of fasting, repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline. **We will have an Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary at 7PM on February 18.**

Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The service focuses on both themes, helping us realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Why are ashes used? Ashes have been used to signify sorrow and to acknowledge our sinfulness. In the Book of Job, we read that Job was covered in ash when he mourned the loss of his family and his property. In Genesis, God reminds us that we exist in frail bodies made of the dust of the earth and that God created humanity from this earthly dust. When we pass away from our earthly lives, our bodies will return to the earth as dust.

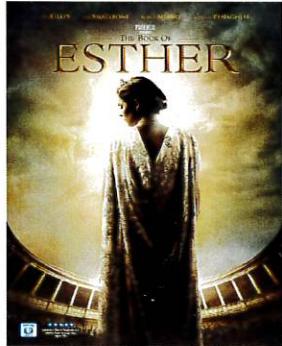
In the days of the early church, ashes were sometimes given to individuals who were separated from the church because of serious sins and put ashes on their foreheads as a sign of wanting to be readmitted into the church. They sometimes wore sackcloth clothing as well.

The Western church has been observing Ash Wednesday since the 10th century. The Eastern (Orthodox) churches do not observe Ash Wednesday as part of their tradition.

The United Methodist Church first adopted an official ritual for Ash Wednesday using ashes in 1992, although many churches held Ash Wednesday services before this time. Many churches take the palms from Palm Sunday and burn them for ashes to be used for the Ash Wednesday service.

I hope that you are able to attend our Ash Wednesday service. It's not to make you feel bad or guilty. It's a sobering reminder that we struggle with sin and we need to repent. We also recognize that we are not super-humans, but humans that exist in frail bodies that eventually break down and will return to the earth. It's a reminder of the forgiveness that we have in Jesus Christ and a reminder that we can do better as human beings. See you in church!

Old Testament Bible Study-The Book of Esther



A new Bible study will start with Pastor Alyssa that will run on Thursday nights, starting on **January 15 from 5-6PM**. We will be looking at the Book of Esther. The study will run for 9 sessions total, but we will be taking a break in the middle for a book study during Lent.

Esther is a good companion book to Daniel. There is some overlap between the two books, but Esther was written during a different time period and for a different purpose.

Please join Pastor Alyssa in the Fellowship Hall to discuss this interesting and strange book in Scripture. Pastor Alyssa will provide copies of the Scripture for you, along with some questions. Please bring something to write with. Feel free to invite your friends!



Coming Soon, the CAT Survey!

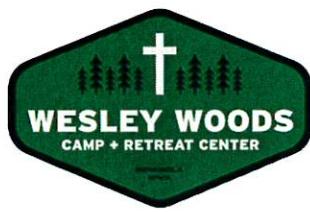
In the next few weeks, you will be getting some information to complete the CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) survey. Each United Methodist Church in the Iowa Conference is being asked to complete this survey. It is a survey conducted by Holy Cow Consulting, LLC that provides congregations and the Iowa Conference with objective organizational information through 91 base questions, with a few additional questions that may be asked by the local church.

Washington UMC is assembling a team to help with the completion of this important survey. The survey will be done online. However, we realize that doing the survey online may be difficult for some folks and we want as many people to participate as possible. The team will help those who are unable to complete the survey online.

This survey will help Pastor Alyssa and the leadership committees know more about what you think about different aspects of Washington UMC and will be helpful to us to know what we do well, and to identify some areas of improvement. We can also use this information to plan for the future ministries of the church. Your responses will be anonymous, so please feel free to respond honestly.

Please stay tuned and we will provide more information on when this will take place. Most likely the survey will be completed sometime in February. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Alyssa.

We appreciate your time and attention in completing this survey!



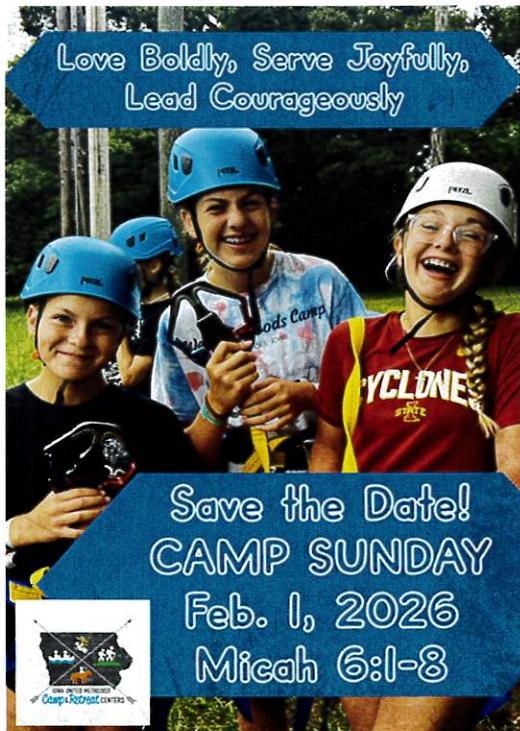
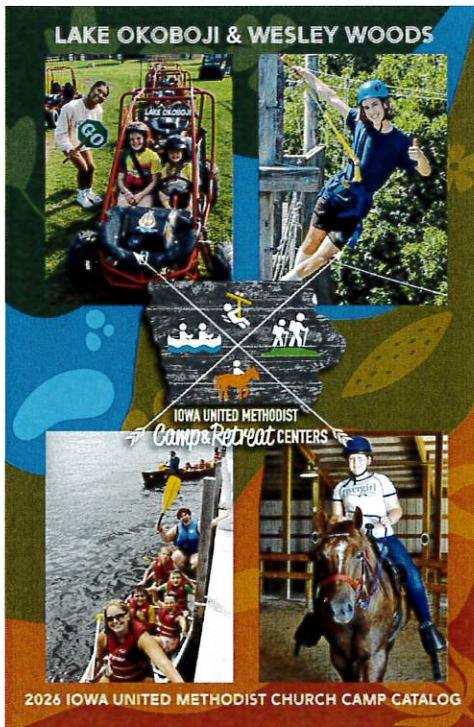
Pastor Alyssa would like to encourage our young people to attend a United Methodist Camp this summer! It's a great opportunity to do fun things and develop new relationships with other campers. Camp also provides an opportunity to learn new skills and to deepen your relationship with God.

More information can be found online at www.iaumc.org/camps. Check out the different programs that are being offered and there is also contact information for you to reach out if you have any questions. Registration needs to be done online.

Washington UMC may also be able to provide scholarship assistance. The camps also have opportunities for scholarship assistance as well.

Pastor Alyssa recently attended a retreat at Wesley Woods and would be happy to provide some information to you or answer any questions you may have.

If you would like to provide a financial gift for the camping ministries, there is information on how to do so at the website above, or you can write a check to Washington UMC and write Wesley Woods or Lake Okoboji in the memo line and we will forward your donation to the camp. The camps greatly appreciate your support!



FEBRUARY MISSION



Hawkeye Cans for Cancer



Nathan Guy was diagnosed with ALL (acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia) in June of 2017. After a 19-month battle, he passed away in February of 2019, just shy of his 40th birthday. In his honor, his parents, Larry and Cindy Guy, and family has begun a nonprofit, **Hawkeye Cans for Cancer**, to help local families who are battling cancer. One way they are funding the nonprofit is through donations collected at the WCDC Redemption Center in Washington.

Cindy explained that although going through cancer is taxing on the body, it is also a great financial burden. Doctors' visits, travel expenses and medications can add up quickly. Their goal with **Hawkeye Cans for Cancer** is to be a support system for other families going through a similarly difficult time.

Nathan's dream was to create a non-profit organization dedicated to helping other cancer patients. To date, thousands of dollars have been raised through can and bottle redemption, donations, and fundraisers. 100% of funds raised are distributed to cancer families in central Iowa to help cover expenses such as gas, food, and lodging.

The organization takes cash donations but anyone interested in donating, can take used aluminum cans and glass bottles to the WCDC Redemption Center in Washington and tell the cashier they would like the money to be donated to the **Hawkeye Cans for Cancer** fund. The funds will stay local to support area families in need of assistance.

The WCDC Redemption Center is located at 702 E. Washington Street in Washington.

"We hope that the public will keep it going to help people in the community who are battling cancer," she said. "He'd be happy we're doing this."

So far, around 30 families have been helped with **Hawkeye Cans for Cancer** donations.

Any families who need financial assistance are encouraged to contact
Cindy Guy at 319-461-1466.

JANUARY 15, 2026 MISSION MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Deb Lueck, Jennine Wolf, Sue Meeks, Dianne Gray, Roger Schroeder, Kim Charlier

Deb passed out "Thank Yous" to review from the various Mission Groups we donated to.

Jennine prepared a report to present in church on Sunday showing the Foundation amounts given in 2025 and also the congregational amounts given. We were pleased to see how generous the congregation has been this past year in giving to our monthly missions. Jennine also laminated sheets showing a breakdown of what each mission provides.

Dianne reported that our church will be delivering "Meals on Wheels" in April this year. Jennine and Sue will put announcements in the Meeting House and Bulletin so the congregation will be aware of how and when to sign up.

Parking lot repairs between the church and the Wesley Center were discussed. Some foundation money is tagged for that and we could adopt the project as a mission to which the congregation could donate money as well.

Our next Mission Meeting will be February 19 at 1 p.m..

Sue Meeks

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN OF FAITH January 9, 2026

Eight members of the United Women of Faith met at the Halcyon House for a noon luncheon. Marilyn led us in prayer before the luncheon. Connie Pence read "*Twas the Month After Christmas*".

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Connie gave the Treasurer's report. We have \$2989.41 after paying our District dues. A motion was made, approved and passed to give \$100.00 to HACAP and \$100.00 to the Church's Resource room.

Vic Patterson's lead the installation of officers:

Marilyn Whitenack-President

Barb Wehr-Vice President

Karen Norman-Secretary

Connie Pence-Treasurer

Membership-Marilyn and Barb-with the help of everyone

Spiritual Growth-Alberta Bonar

Education and Interpretation of Response Magazine-Margaret Crawford

Call to remind of meetings-Margaret Crawford and Karen Norman

Barb had Devotions and Scripture-Luke 15:3-6, and a Reading "God's Love For All". She closed with prayer.

Connie made a motion to adjourn and Marilyn Klise seconded. Next meeting will be a noon luncheon at the UP Home.

Karen Norman, Secretary

Finance Meeting Minutes January 19, 2026



Present:

Chris Marshall, Richard Gilmore, Tom Patterson, Jeff Lueck, Karen Norman, Bob Helscher, Alyssa Nantt and Jennine Wolf

Alyssa opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.

Tom Patterson made the motion to accept the minutes

Bob Helscher 2nd.

Motion passed.

Chris Marshall proudly announced that the Church ended the year with a \$9866.00 profit! This is the first time the Church has shown a profit for quite a while. Chris explained on the Profit & Loss sheet that we are in the black. Alyssa wants to share this news at the next Town Hall meeting.

Bob explained the \$50,000.00 for the boiler we have in the Wells Fargo account is making the best interest rate we can for having it available immediately. Discussion about the other \$50,000.00 for the general fund to be moved from the Consolidated account to the Wells Fargo account.

Karen made a motion to move the \$50,000.00 from the Consolidate account into to Wells Fargo account.

Tom 2nd.

Motion passed

Bob thanked Chris for fine tuning the reasons for the Endowment accounts. He explained that once a year our broker, Adam Haluska, who has tutelage over our endowment foundation, needs to be reviewed. Bob researched Adam on line, reviewed his handling of our endowments and his availability to answer questions. Bob came to the conclusion Adam is doing an excellent job and highly recommends he continues.

Bob made the motion to continue with Adam Haluska from Wells Fargo

Karen 2nd

Motion passed.

Richard Gilmore discussed project goals for the Church in the next 5 to 7 years. It includes replacing the stove, refrigerators, countertops and back splash in the kitchen. Richard explained the butcher block counter top in the dishwasher side of the kitchen needs to be resurfaced or replaced with stainless steel as the butcher block is not sanitary anymore. Also, the back room off fellowship hall is being discussed to turn into the youth group room. There would be projector installed and the screens from the Sanctuary be installed. Also discussed was Fellowship Hall and most of the stairways needs to be refreshed.

Jeff Lueck asked if the plans for the city to replace the city's shut off would disrupt the Church's driveway. Richard said it will not. He also would like to look at replacing the Church's shut off's at the same time as the city.

Richard explained the insurance had concerns about the fuse box in the kitchen being the old fuses. Marie electric looked at the fuse box and said it was not hooked up to anything.

It was brought up the Worship committee would like to reimburse Marilyn Whitenack for the food she has been providing in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. They suggested \$20.00 a week starting with December 1 and in the future.

Tom made a motion to pay Marilyn \$20.00 a week for the food she provides every Sunday.

Karen 2nd

Motion carried

Bob said there is no update for the Scholarship fund. Pastor Alyssa said the nomination committee will meet in February to appoint a committee.

Town Hall meeting is scheduled for the last Sunday in January.

Chris will submit the Statistical report to the Iowa Conference by February 1.

Bob made a motion to adjourn

Tom 2nd

Motion passed.

An Invitation to Talk About Funerals with Pastor Alyssa

I would like to invite members and friends of Washington United Methodist Church to meet with me to discuss any questions or concerns about funerals. We are a transparent church, and the funeral policy answers most questions that you may have and clearly lists the fees involved with the services that the pastor and other people associated with the church provide before, during, and after the service. The policy and the fees have been approved by the Administrative Council. The fees are paid through the funeral home and the fees charged are comparable or lower to other churches in Iowa. If the family is experiencing financial challenges, the church and the funeral home will work with the family.

If you have not made any end-of-life plans, I would encourage you to do that as soon as possible. No question is too silly or crazy when you are talking about funeral services! When a loved one passes away, it is much less stressful for the other family members when a plan and arrangements are in place, and I would be happy to help you with that.

If you have any questions, please call me at the church office and I would be happy to make an appointment and answer any questions you may have.

Washington United Methodist Church

Worship Committee Minutes

January 20, 2026

The Washington UMC Worship Committee met at the Wesley Center Library on Monday, January 20, 2026, at 5:15pm.

Linda opened the meeting at 5:15pm with a devotional called, “A Winter Devotional: God at Work Beneath the Surface”, followed by prayer. Those present were: Linda Soukup, Chris Marshall, Pastor Alyssa Nant, Shirley Textor, Alison Greiner and Sue Meeks. Jean Potraz and Dana Rembold were unable to attend. Minutes from the November 18, 2025 meeting were approved.

Richard Gilmore was present at the meeting to discuss the church heating system. If you need to use the sanctuary, the temperature is set at 61 degrees. He gave instructions to increase the temperature to change the heat setting for a number of hours, and then the system will automatically go back to 61 degrees.

Committee Reports:

Technology: Linda noted that things are going okay technologically. The group discussed purchasing more hand-held mics or changing out the earpieces/headsets on the ear mics. Linda will investigate options.

Gratitude: Shirley reported that in December, her group sent 162 Christmas cards. They will continue to meet on the last Thursday of each month to write care notes. For January, they will be writing to church visitors.

Youth and Adult/Education: Alison reported that things are going well so far this year. She is excited that we have kids coming to Sunday School, which usually includes an extension of the children’s sermon topic. With youth, they do socializing followed by work and food. Alison noted issues with breaker overload and lack of hot water in the youth room. Shirley noted that the after church study on the Holy Spirit began on Sunday, January 4th, 2026. Alyssa’s Bible study on Thursdays from 5 to 6pm resumed on January 15th, with the book of Esther, and will have a pause on February 12th for the Lenten Study. Pastor Alyssa explained her Lenten study on “The Grace of Les Misérables”. It will begin with watching the movie, Les Misérables, on Sunday, February 15th, and the study meetings will begin on February 22nd at 5pm in Fellowship Hall followed by a meal. This Study will continue through March 29th. Pastor Linzy Collins had a Bible class 3 times recently, but will be moving to Iowa City soon so his classes will not continue.

Ushers/Greeters/Hospitality: Jayden Moore will take a break from being an acolyte, and Dawson Guy will take this position. The Finance Committee voted to pay Marilyn Whitenack \$20 per Sunday for reimbursement of costs for Sunday morning food, retroactively to the first of December.

Altar/Decorations: The committee discussed that Christmas decorations were taken down on Sunday, 1/18/26. Linda noted that one of the window candles was left lit after church, which could have been a fire hazard. She suggested that we have one person responsible for both lighting and putting out the candles, including the Advent candles. Alyssa shared examples of regular time paraments that are reasonably priced. She also had some banners to show that are on sale. Motion by Alison to order new paraments in red, white, green and purple and advent candles using memorial money. Seconded by Chris. All voted aye, motion carried.

Worship/Music:

- February 1: Camp Sunday—Recognition of the two United Methodist Camps within the conference at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods (near Indianola).
- February 8: Scouting Sunday—Alyssa will extend an invitation to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in uniform to have a recognition and prayer for the Scouts during the church service.
- February 18: Ash Wednesday—Linda sent a message to Sara Bartlett to see if the Lutheran Church choir and the Methodist Church Choir could sing together for an Ash Wednesday service at 7pm.

Old Business:

Shirley asked about cleaning choir robes and acolyte robes. The youth group may do this as a project on Wednesday evening, January 28th, to get them back before the second Sunday in February.

New Business:

No new business not already mentioned earlier.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 5:15pm, at the church library.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.



"Prayer does work! I wasn't picked for any of the church committees."

Trustee Meeting January 8, 2026

Richard Gilmore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Richard Gilmore
Toni Adrian
Julie Timmins
Bruce Timmins

Discussion about possible repairs that may be completed needed in the future.

Discussion was open to electing Trustee Chair: Jeff Lueck and Bruce Timmins.

A vote was taken to make Bruce Timmins the Trustee Chair.

New Business:

Bruce updated the committee on the progress for repairs in the Church:

Another leak was found on the roof located by the one that was recently repaired. Tim Timmins construction will repair this leak on January 9th.

Base/Toe kick in the west side of the kitchen will be completed on Friday. There was a lot of damage to the walls and cabinets when the original pieces were removed. The walls will need to be touched up with paint and the cabinets have stain matching filler.

Stairway ceiling-4' by 7' area-will be ready to paint next Tuesday.

The ceiling peeling in the east balcony was caused by three pin holes in the roof patching. This was repaired with a rubberized repair patch. A plastic tub was placed under the area to see if this stopped the leakage. Tim will check tomorrow to make sure the patch worked.

Heat wires were shut off at the breaker so ice on the Wesley Center roof could not melt causing an ice jam. The heat wires are run on a thermostat, so please leave the breaker on.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.





THIS & THAT



*Dear Church family,
Thank you for the red rose in my honor
and the big beautiful poinsettia!*

Audrey Stark



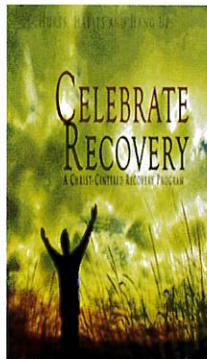
Men's Bible Study

This bible study is for Christian men to study Scripture, build relationships, and to grow spiritually with themselves and God.

Jeff Lueck would like to share the following with all of you:

**On January 14, Jeff drove himself home
after three month's of Deb's driving!**

He is graduating to a cane from his walker! Improvement!!



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.-supper and childcare provided.

Please consider volunteering your time to help with this program

Contact Chuck Clifton at 319-480-2012 with any questions

ENCORE EXPRESS MEALS

Immanuel Lutheran Church on 2nd & 4th Thursday each month at 11:30 a.m.

Meals for seniors 60+-no income requirements

These meals are **for all seniors over 60**

There is a suggested price of \$5.00 if you have it.

Great food-socializing-educational information available.

For reservations call 319-653-3950 and leave your name to attend.



THIS & THAT



Dear Community Christmas Dinner Partner:

We would like to say thank you so much for your support of our 10th annual Community Christmas Dinner. On Christmas Day, your partnership helped us provide 857 meals to the community of Washington and the surrounding areas. The smiles on the faces of those who received meals were made possible because of your generosity. We had numerous individuals express their thanks and gratitude for the meals they received, and were asked by many to express their thanks to our individual and business sponsors of the event.

One story that really stands out in this event was of a single mom who was not working due health reasons who told us that *"she had no idea how she was going to make this Christmas special for her kids. This meal helped her to do that."*

Another person expressed their thanks by saying *"My family did not come home for Christmas this year, and I thought I was going to be alone, but I was able to come and eat here and enjoy a holiday meal. Thank you"* These are just a couple of the comments that were shared with us. We want you to know that you helped make a difference in the lives of our community.

Thank you again for your generosity and trust in our organization. We look forward to partnering with you again in the future. If there is ever anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out. We pray that your 2025 ends amazingly and your 2026 is filled with hope, joy, love and peace. Happy New Year and thank you again.

Sincerely,
Washington First Assembly Community Christmas Dinner Team

APRIL MEALS ON WHEELS

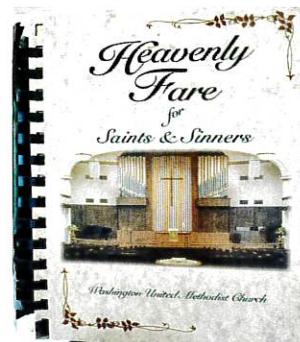
April is Meals on Wheels
for Methodist Church.

We are looking for volunteers to help.
Please call Dianne Gray at **319-461-4792**
if you would like to volunteer.



THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:
"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners" Cookbook
(page 101 & 175)



Crockpot Swiss Chicken

From the kitchen of Peggy Helscher

6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts	1/4 c. milk
6 (4 x 4-inch) slices Swiss cheese	2 c. herb stuffing mix
1 can cream mushroom soup, undiluted	1/2 c. margarine, melted

Spray crockpot slow cooker with cooking spray. Arrange chicken breasts in crockpot. Top with cheese, layering cheese if necessary. Combine soup and milk; stir well. Spoon over cheese; sprinkle with stuffing mix. Drizzle melted margarine over stuffing mix. Cook on low 8 to 10 hours or on high 4 to 6 hours.

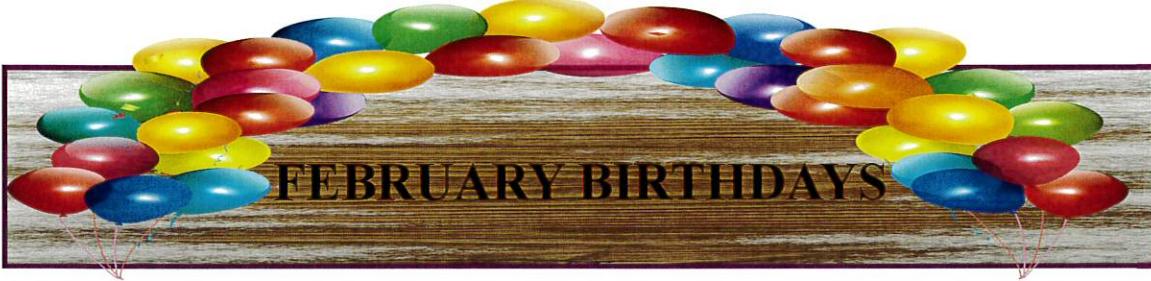


Mungon Reunion Bars

From the kitchen of Kristin Davis

1 c. chocolate chips	1 c. margarine
1 c. butterscotch chips	2 eggs
1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk	2 tsp. vanilla
2 T. margarine	2-1/2 c. flour
1/2 tsp. salt	1 tsp. soda
2 c. brown sugar	1 tsp. salt
2-1/2 c. oatmeal	

Melt on low heat or microwave: chocolate chips, butterscotch chips, milk, margarine, and salt. Reserve. Cream together brown sugar, margarine, eggs and vanilla. Combine flour, soda and salt and add to creamed mixture mixing well. Add oatmeal. Spread 2/3 of creamed mixture in 10 x 15-inch jelly-roll pan. Pour chocolate mixture over top. Form "islands" with remaining batter on top. Bake at 325° for 20 to 25 minutes. Cuts 48 bars.



2
Toni Adrian
Jeannie Edwards
Nancy Rash

3
Sawyer Manz
Betty Thompson

4
Nicholas Williams

5
Teri Hartzler

6
Robert Bennett
Anna Collett
Hannah Young

8
Deb Hensel
Thomas Lowe
Elaine Moore

9
Sue Gilmere

10
Linda Wilson

11
Rick Murphy

12
Frances Cortum
Dirk Larsen

13
Nancy Westphal

14
Ann Logan
Amanda Meyers
Mallory VanWinkle

19
Sara Bailey
Travis Bodkin
John Shive

21
Penny Miller
Karen Moenck

23
Renee Guy
Leah Soukup

24
Aaron Kaufman
John Moenck
Alivia Young

25
Paul Beezley
Kennedy Shive

26
Karen Arbuckle
Jake Bodkin
Jacob Brinning

27
Connie Forinash
Michelle Hinrichsen

28
Lauren Carter
Vicki Dempsey

**BOLD NAMES
90+ BIRTHDAYS**



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



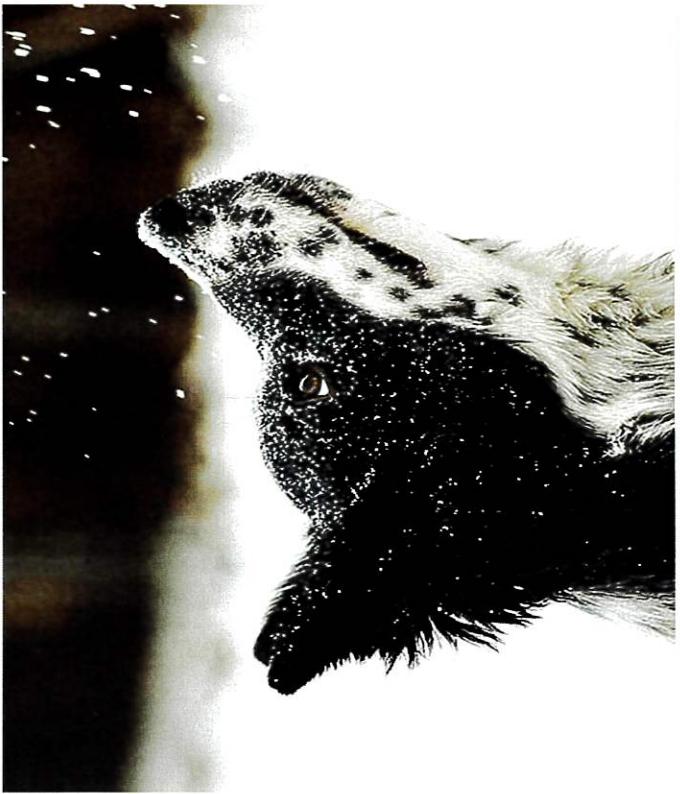
Lyle Moen & Nancy Rash **41 yrs.** **02/16**

John & Pat Hamil **33 yrs.** **02/27**

Darrell & Denise Chalupa **45 yrs.** **02/28**

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library Camp Sunday Noisy offering for Wesley Woods	2 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	3 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	4 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	5 Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	6 Pastor's day off	7
8 SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library Scouting Ministries Sunday	9 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Nomination Com. 5:00 p.m. Library	10 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	11 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	12 Trustee Meeting 6:00 p.m. Library Bible Study 6:00 p.m. FH	13 UWF 12:00 p.m. at UP Home Night to Shine 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. FH	14
15 SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library Les Misérables Movie night 4:30 p.m. FH	16 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library Finance 5:30 p.m. Library	17 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	18 MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Ash Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.	19 Mission Meeting 1:00 p.m. Library	20 Pastor's day off	21
22 SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library Lenten Study 5:00 p.m. FH	23 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	24 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m. Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	25 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	26 Care Note Ministry 1:00 p.m. Library	27 Pastor's day off	28



February 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