



# THE MEETING HOUSE

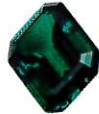
Washington United Methodist Church

## MAY 2026

May's flower is the Lily of the Valley. The birthstone is the Emerald. May 10 is Mother's Day. May 24 is Pentecost Sunday. May 25 is Memorial Day. May 31 is Peace with Justice Sunday

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### BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS



Jennine Wolf is the Finance Secretary for the Church. She does the Meeting House, is on the Mission committee and fills in where ever needed.



Lisa and Roger Crawford have been very generous with their time and donations to the Church in many various ways. They are committed to the growth of our Church.

#### Contact Us:

319-653-5446

#### Office Hours:

Mon.-Thur: 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Church Secretaries:  
Sue Meeks and Jennine Wolf  
churchofficewumc@gmail.com



Ann William has been involved with the youth for many years. She organizes the Church's turn at Saturday Kitchen every year. She has volunteered for many church activities over the years.



Kim Charlier serves on the Missions Committee and Tom Charlier serves on the Trustees Committee. Kim is involved with Bridges out of Poverty program and many other activities in the Church.

PEACE IS NOT  
THE ABSENCE  
OF TROUBLE  
BUT THE  
PRESENCE OF  
CHRIST.

-SHEILA WALSH



## May 2026 Pastor's Corner

May is just a really odd month in the liturgical year of the Church. We are transitioning from the Easter season to the Pentecost season. There are three special Sundays in May that we acknowledge. On May 17, we observe the Ascension of the Lord. On May 24, we observe Pentecost Sunday. On May 31, we observe Trinity Sunday. And don't forget to throw Mother's Day and Memorial Day into the mix. It's a little disjointed.

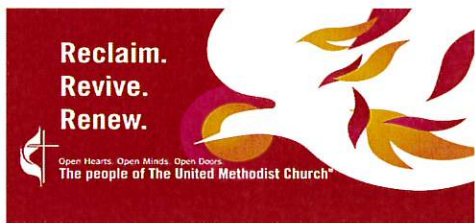
During the first Sunday in May, we read this from John 14:1 with Jesus speaking to the disciples before he is arrested: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me." May is a time for us to look at some theological truths we believe as Christians. We will look at the three members of the Trinity: God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. We will look at how they work together in the Scripture lessons in May.

The doctrine of the Trinity is tough to understand. The early Christian Church wrestled with this doctrine for a long time. Many church councils were held in which there were vigorous debates. One debate that became very ugly was the question of the nature of Jesus in relation to God, as well as the Holy Spirit. A popular church leader named Arius who lived in what is now known as Libya, came to the conclusion that Jesus could not be equal to God because Arius believed that Jesus was created by God, called the Son of God. Another popular church leader called Athanasius, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, argued that God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit were "of the same substance" and therefore fully equal with one another.

Church leaders were divided, with some in Arius' camp and others in Athanasius' camp. The fight between these two became ugly. There were times of exile and persecution for both of these men. In fact, things got very political when Emperor Constantine (and his wife) became involved, as well as the emperors who ruled after Constantine died. Arius and Athanasius were both jockeying for higher positions of church leadership and for political influence with the emperor.

Eventually, Arius was declared a heretic and exiled from the church. It's even argued that he died by being poisoned from one of Athanasius' supporters (although dying from food/water poisoning was not uncommon during this time period). However, Arius' beliefs did not die with him. His beliefs are a part of the theology of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (also called Mormons), Jehovah's Witnesses, and Unitarian Universalists.

Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me." What do you believe about the Trinity? We'll explore this a bit in May. See you in Church!



## Are you interested in becoming a member of the Church?

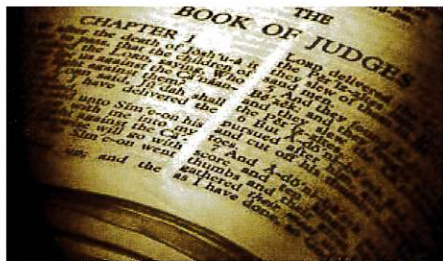
Pastor Alyssa is opening up an invitation for you to become a member of Washington UMC.

Here are several options for you to consider:

**Baptism**-if you are interested in baptism of yourself or of a child, Pastor Alyssa would love to do a baptism for you at the end of May. Please call the office or speak to Pastor Alyssa. You will need to meet with Pastor Alyssa before the baptism takes place.

**New Members Class**-if you are interested in transferring your membership to Washington UMC or becoming a full or associate member, Pastor Alyssa is planning on scheduling some classes in July. Please note that you need to be baptized before you can become a full member of the Church. Please call the office or speak to Pastor Alyssa.

**Confirmation**-if there are any young people who are interested in Confirmation classes, Pastor Alyssa is planning on scheduling some classes starting late summer or early fall. Please note that you need to be baptized before you will be able to be a full member of the Church. Please call the office or speak to Pastor Alyssa



## A New Old Testament Bible Study starts in May!

**On Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. starting on May 7, Pastor Alyssa will lead a Bible study on the book of Judges.** We already read about the time of exile in Daniel and Esther. The book of Judges helps us understand why the Jewish people were sent out of their promised land and into exile more in depth.

The book starts out with the Jews entering their promised land after being released from slavery in Egypt. The judges are appointed to help run Israel and we will look at these judges in the study. We will look at the well-known judges such as Deborah, Gideon, and Samson, as well as others who are not well known, such as Othniel, Ehud, and Jephthah.

The book of Judges shows the best and the worst of the Jewish people. There is violence and some disturbing events. God does not stay silent and is active in the lives of the Jewish people.

This study is a starting point that will help us look at the history of Israel and will perhaps help us understand the cultural conflicts of modern-day Israel. This book will also be the beginning of a longer Bible study in which we will study 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings.

You are encouraged to come any time you are available. It's a fascinating study and you will enjoy it. It's also a good study to start off with if you are unfamiliar with the Bible. Pastor Alyssa will provide the Scripture readings and questions. See you then!



May 17, 2026

## Miracle Sunday!

Support the Endowment  
for Theological Education  
Outside the United States!

## Love Boldly

by helping people answer the call to ministry.

## Serve Joyfully

by contributing to the worldwide connection.

## Lead Courageously

by lifting up a new generation of pastors.



Our Church has weathered a global pandemic, navigated disaffiliation, and responded with compassion amid conflict, war, and disaster. Now, congregations are invited to embrace a renewed vision and engage in the mission of preparing 500 students annually for pastoral ministry.

A leadership gap persists in The United Methodist Church. In the U.S., 71% of clergy hold a master's degree in theology, supported by robust denominational funding and healthy seminary endowments. Outside the U.S., in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, fewer than 5% of clergy have such preparation. Over 20 theological schools in these regions receive little or no endowment and face significant challenges:

- Seminaries are often too far away or too expensive
- There is a shortage of well-trained professors and library resources in the needed languages Courses of Study must be developed in local languages
- Scholarships are needed for both initial and post-graduate studies

Professors are needed who can teach and equip in a Wesleyan mindset and identity. The UMC is growing in these regions, with clergy and laity engaged in God's mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Yet too many barriers prevent quality theological education that could transform communities around the globe.

*We can and must do better. By raising funds for The Endowment for Theological Education outside the U.S., we aim to equip 500 additional graduates each year to Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, and Lead Courageously.* Together, we can provide our future leaders with the tools and resources they need—rooted in a Wesleyan mindset of joining knowledge and vital piety—to impact lives and communities for generations to come.

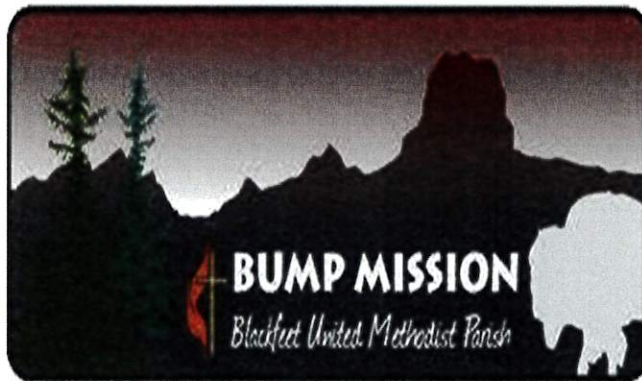
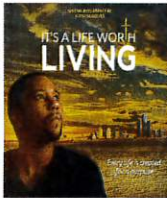
con't...

Miracle Sunday con't...

## About the Endowment Fund

The 2012 General Conference has established a theological education fund for the regions outside the USA (Central Conference Theological Education Fund - CCTEF). It enables:

- Development of theological schools
- Development of courses of study
- Development of libraries and contextually developed resources
- Scholarships and faculty development
- Support for associations and networks of faculty
- Support for new and innovative approaches to theological education.



The BUMP Mission is located on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in north central Montana. It consists of two churches, Browning UMC and Babb UMC. Both Churches are led by Pastor Gail Hoyt, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe.

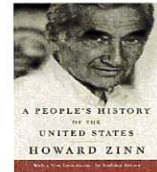
Substance abuse is a part of everyday life on the Blackfeet Reservation. Pastor Gail has started three sobriety programs and they are growing in number. These groups gather together to talk about the challenges of living in sobriety and they discuss strategies to help them live sober lives. The groups also spend time in fellowship, watching Christian movies and programs on a DVD player. They also create Native American arts and crafts to sell.

Pastor Gail and Pastor Alyssa have worked together in ministry when Pastor Alyssa lived in Montana. Pastor Gail is asking if there are Christian DVDs that our Church would be willing to donate for the sober living program participants to watch during their meetings.

Pastor Alyssa spoke with the missions committee and they agreed to by two DVD sets for the BUMP Mission: The Chosen and Women of the Bible. If you wish to donate any DVDs for the BUMP Mission sobriety programs, please bring them to the Church office by June 30. Pastor Alyssa will take the collection of DVDs to the BUMP Mission when she goes on vacation in July.

Thank you for your consideration to help our Native American sisters and brothers in Christ!

## What is Pastor Alyssa reading?



Howard Zinn writes this interesting book on perspectives on American History that are not typically taught in school classrooms. In his research, he explores documents that were written by people who were considered nontraditional historians. Starting with the arrival of Columbus, he considers writings from the viewpoints of Native Americans, women, factory workers, the working poor, African Americans, and immigrants. The book also considers how these nontraditional groups were exploited by the wealthy and political elite.

Issues affecting these nontraditional groups such as safe working conditions, higher wages, voting rights, racial equality, and more equal opportunities for education are discussed. Systems are explored that are set up and rigged to benefit the wealthy and political elite. According to Howard Zinn, this book portrays a different side of history from the more traditional “fundamental nationalist glorification of this country”

While not a perfect book as it does have a certain amount of bias, it is easy to read, and it is interesting to consider other historical writings that perhaps have not been considered before. *A People's History of the United States* was originally written in 1980 but was updated in 2009.

Howard Zinn was a professor at Spelman College and Boston University. He was a veteran of World War II. He passed away in 2010.

The poster features a photograph of a person with their hair in a bun, wearing a blue shirt, sitting on a rocky cliff edge. They are looking out over a vast landscape of rolling hills or mountains under a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow hues. The text 'MAY 31' is in the top right corner. The main title 'Peace with Justice Sunday' is in large, bold, black letters on the left side. At the bottom left is the United Methodist Church logo, a stylized white cross with a flame-like shape. To the right of the logo is the text 'Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church®'.

# MAY'S MISSIONS

## Latinos for Washington and Becoming a Citizen of the United States

### LATINO'S FOR WASHINGTON

Latinos for Washington, Inc. is a non-profit organization with a mission to serve as an outreach to the Washington community and surrounding areas. Our services include community partnerships with area businesses and organizations for the benefit of the community, promoting philanthropy and education, and cultural representation through an array of community involvement and celebrations. In addition to the above, we strive for youth development by outfitting recreation and college readiness workshops. Our ultimate goal is to serve as a support and through our work connect the diverse members of the Washington region.

We sponsor a Latinos for Washington scholarship for a high school senior who is a member of the Latinx (Latino/a) community in Washington, Iowa who demonstrates academic excellence, leadership skills, and a desire to pursue higher education.

We are a resource for new Latinos who move to this community to help them get acquainted with where things are.

We support people who are studying for their citizenship with financial assistance and tutoring of all ages.

### BECOMING A CITIZEN IN THE UNITED STATES

There are **7 steps** to complete before you can become a citizen of the United States:

- 1) Determine if you are eligible to become a citizen
- 2) If you are eligible, you must get a green card
- 3) Complete a N-400 application
- 4) Complete a biometrics requirement
- 5) Attend a Naturalization interview
- 6) Pass the Civics and English exams
- 7) Take the Oath of Allegiance

**How long does it take to become a citizen?**

**3 to 10 years**

**How much does it cost to become a citizen?**

**\$5,000 to \$20,000**

## MISSION MEETING MINUTES APRIL 16, 2026

Present: Deb Lueck, Sue Meeks, Dianne Gray, Roger Schroeder, Pastor Alyssa

April is WUMCs turn to deliver Meals on Wheels and Dianne Gray reports that it is going well.

Everyone agreed that Renella's HACAP presentation on Sunday was very good and informative.

Our May Mission will be the Latinos Citizenship Fund. Dianne will check into arranging someone to give a presentation to the congregation about that.

Our June Mission is Growing Hope Globally and Deb thinks she can arrange a speaker, who is also a Pastor, to give both a presentation and a sermon for this mission. Jim Cluney is planning to give the sermon while Pastor Alyssa is gone to Iowa Conference in June, but perhaps he could switch to a date when Pastor will be gone on vacation in July. Or, if not, we could switch our June and July missions. Deb and Sue will work together to get this arranged.

Pastor Alyssa announced that the Blackfeet Reservation in Montana has groups who are working to maintain sobriety and getting together to make Native American crafts to sell. They would also like to watch Christian movies during these group gatherings and have asked for our help in providing Christian movie CDs. Our Missions Committee decided to purchase the Box Set of The Chosen and Women of the Bible. We will also ask the congregation for Christian movie donations and Pastor Alyssa can deliver them all to the Blackfeet Reservation when she goes on vacation in July. We will put announcements in the Bulletin and Meeting House asking for donated CDs. It was also mentioned that our congregation would likely be interested in purchasing some the Blackfeet Native American crafts.

Our next Mission Meeting will be May 21 at 1:00 p.m.

Sue Meeks

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING APRIL 10, 2026

Thirteen members of the United Women of Faith and 6 guests: Veta Thode, Lisa Crawford, Deb Cady, Deb Lueck, Barb Millward and District Officer Cindy Seberg. We met at the Wayand restaurant for a noon luncheon. Marilyn Whitenack led us in prayer before we started lunch. Devotions were led by Alberta Bonar entitled "*Gods' Beauty in Creation*" followed with a prayer. Barb Wehr read scripture *1 Timothy 4-10*.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Connie gave the Treasurer's report ending with a balance of \$1,860.17. Janet made a motion to give \$100.00 to Choices. Motion passed. Marilyn said most of the quilts were given to people in nursing homes. There is a napkin quilt that needs to be finished.

Cindy Seberg gave a talk about Mission Day on April 18. She passed a sheet around for members to sign up to attend. Cindy also reminded us about some of the upcoming events of the Conference.

Janet made a motion to adjourn and motion passed.

The next meeting will be May 8, in Fellowship Hall at noon. Everyone was asked to bring a picture of their mother.

Karen Norman, Secretary



**Washington United Methodist Church  
Worship Committee Minutes  
April 21, 2026**

**Opening**

The meeting was opened with a devotional, "*Come Have Breakfast,*" followed by prayer.

**2. Attendance**

Present: Pastor Alyssa Nantt, Alison Greiner, Sue Meeks, Shirley Textor, and Linda Soukup

Absent: Chris Marshall, Dana Rembold, Jean Potratz

**3. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 17, 2026 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**4. Committee Reports:**

**Technology**

- Microphone update: Earpieces have been ordered and are pending arrival.
- The Sanctuary computer will be replaced with an HP laptop using a Windows system, allowing compatibility with office computers.
- The current Mac computer is outdated and can no longer be updated.
- PowerPoint will replace ProPresenter for Sunday services to simplify use and allow more volunteers to operate it.
- The transition process will continue.
- A laptop was purchased at a reduced price (\$1,300, down from over \$4,000), along with a docking station for the A/V booth.
- The Apple vs. Windows decision process has been completed.

**Gratitude**

- Follow-up from March 26 note-writing outreach: A strong turnout allowed notes to be written for both Halcyon House and the UP Home.
- Next outreach: Note writing for visitors scheduled for Thursday, April 30 at 1:00 p.m.

### **Youth and Adult/Education**

- Youth Group is navigating the loss of a member but remains strong, with meaningful discussions and activities.
- Additional adult volunteers will rotate to assist during Youth Group, in accordance with Safe Sanctuary policy.
- Appreciation was expressed for Sunday School helpers.
- Children's sermons were noted as especially meaningful.
- No current interest in baptism.
- Some interest in a new member class; Pastor Alyssa will coordinate.
- Confirmation class is postponed until youth are of appropriate age.
- Ongoing study: Shirley will continue leading discussions on the Holy Spirit in revivals and the charismatic movement.
- Pastor Alyssa's Bible study will conclude Esther in two weeks, with a new study on Judges beginning May 7.
- Vacation Bible School: "Helpful Hive: Bee-ing a Blessing" was discussed as a possible theme; further discussion will take place next meeting.

### **Altar/Decorations**

- Lent, Palm Sunday, and Easter decorations and new paraments were reviewed positively.
- Appreciation was expressed to Lisa Crawford and Sue Meeks for decorating, and Deb Cady for work on the church grounds.
- Suggestion made to place altar flowers after the Good Friday service in future years.

### **Worship/Music**

- Holy Week and Easter services were reviewed and considered meaningful and well-received.
- Upcoming dates:
- Music Sunday: May 31
- Memorial Day will be observed with a special prayer.
- Pastor Alyssa at Annual Conference: June 14
- Pastor Alyssa—Vacation: July 6–20
- Guest speaker scheduled June 14 for the Growing Hope Mission
- During Pastor Alyssa's vacation, Jim Cluney will be contacted to take a Sunday in July, and Martha Sherman will be asked to preach on August 16.

## 5. Old Business

- **Summer Sermon Series:** Focus on Genesis families.
- **CAT Survey:** Members are continuing to complete and submit the survey. The committee had a thorough discussion regarding its strengths and areas for growth. It was noted that email communication has been especially effective for the congregation. The committee discussed the value of establishing a weekly email for announcements and Church communication. Pastor Alyssa will work on implementing this.
- **Mother's Day / Father's Day:**
- Gifts have been purchased.
- Presentations will take place after announcements, with children assisting.
- **Summer Movie Nights:**
- Pastor Alyssa will select dates.
- Sign-ups will be organized for refreshments.

## 6. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.

## 7. Closing

Alison closed the meeting by sharing a video on the meaning of Holy Thursday.

*Respectfully submitted, Linda Soukup*



## 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.

## Trustee's Meeting Agenda April 9, 2026

Present:

Bruce Timmins, Richard Gilmore, Jim Millward, Pastor Alyssa Nantt, Jeff Lueck, Toni Adrian, Julie Timmins

Opening Prayer: Pastor Alyssa started the meeting with a prayer at 5:59 p.m.

Fire Alarm System: Bruce: The fire alarm inspection report has been signed and is ready to be sent off. The committee decided not to do the synchronized the strobe lights and the third-party contractor. Bruce is still looking for a closer contractor to provide the third-party service.

Treasurer Office Flooring: Bruce: The flooring for the treasurer's office has been picked out and should be in and installed sometime in the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Mowing Contract: Bruce: The mowing contract has been signed and ready to be sent.

Wesleyan Center HVAC Controls: Richard: The vendor came today to look putting electronic controls for the Wesleyan Center HVAC system. We have 20 thermostats and one of them was causing the air compressor to keep running. The first one on the stairs was set at 85 degrees, but the unit was turned off. He dialed it down as low as it would go. Richard stated the components will cost less than the man hours which could come in quite high. The bathroom has surface mounted thermostat. It may be possible to go wireless or through conduit. Being that the Church is a brick building running the wire can be a problem, but hopefully conduits or wireless can be used. The three that are air handlers are simpler to deal with. They are in the Pastor's, treasurer and secretary's offices. The controls are running, but more research has to be done to find where the pipes go.

Bruce – The conduit will be a lot more expense since it will take a lot more time to run. If we go wireless will the heat and air go out when the internet shuts down.

Richard – Not necessarily since it will be on it's own system, only have a problem if the electricity goes out.

Building Parking Signs: Bruce recommended that the committee put on hold on the parking signs for the northside of the Wesleyan Center pending daycare results. Everyone agreed to the recommendation.

Radon System for the Church: Bruce gave an update on radon system for the Church. Adios Radon out of Cedar Rapids, is coming to put in sampling kits on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and then come back to recover the kits on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Depending on the test results, if a Radon system is required, a mitigation equipment quote will follow within the next couple of days. During the testing time, all the doors and windows need to remain closed in the Church, but can use as they are regularly, just not left open.

Richard: Hopefully they can run the system out the side of the building and not through fellowship hall.

**Trustee meeting con't...**

Day Care Sub-Committee meeting: Bruce: The following dates in April was given to the Kids Corral for a subcommittee meeting: 14, 15, 20 or 29 at 4 p.m.. So far they have not responded to confirm a date.

Office Window Covering for Wesleyan Center: Bruce: The window covering estimates for the 3 offices were \$219.00 per window, or \$438.00 for Pastors Office, or \$876.00 for all four windows installed.

Jeff made the motion for only the pastor's office's receive new window dressing.

When asked for a second, no one responded.

Bruce put the issue back for discussion and asked why do we not want to do all of the windows?

Toni replied: It makes more sense to do it all of them at once, then they will match.

Pastor Alyssa stated she agreed. Bruce asked since the Pastors curtains were now closed, if she felt the need for darker ones to darken the room? Pastor Alyssa stated "No, I have them closed because of the sun." Toni stated that way all the office windows would match.

Richard made the motion: We do all 4 windows at once. It was seconded by Pastor Alyssa. The vote on passed with one nay vote.

Driveway Repairs around the Church: Bruce was questioned as to which fund we thought the repair costs would come from. He stated that he had talked with Chris Marshall and she stated that the driveway repairs could possibly be funded from the Trustee account which Chris said currently has over a \$1 million. Richard - This is foundation money that has been donated to the Church and was invested and that it would be nice to know what the HVAC is going to cost because it may be more than the driveway. Richard - The city has been concerned about the water coming off the buildings being drained onto the street. When they did his first driveway, the water could not drain onto the street. We will also have to take a good look north of the elevator entrance when it comes to doing the concrete, since it collects water. If we are going to do it, we are going to fix it. Jeff - I have not heard back from Folley, but will contact them tomorrow. We talked with the contractor about fixing the area north of the elevator and also to make sure air conditioner from the alley to the Church drains right, not back towards the church. They provided the quote in 2 phases, one from south from elevator to the road, and then from the alley to the road. We can discuss it when the quotes come in. Bruce - Will try and get information from the city on how the runoff will be required to drain, or since we are tearing up the old driveway, if there are new ordinances will be required to adhere to. Pastor Alyssa : When we closer to starting this, Bruce can contact Chris Marshall and she can help set up what fund we will be using.

Library Clock: Richard took the clock down in the library because whomever is going to repair it did not want to do it. Pastor Alyssa- Sue is going to contact the clock guy.

Trustee meeting con't...

Other Committee Members items:

Toni asked: Jeff, when was the last time the air conditioner filters were cleaned? Jeff- I know they were cleaned last spring, these (library) and upstairs were definitely all taken out and cleaned. Toni- On Monday, we cleaned all of the filters, the classroom that are not be used were fine, but the room with the daycare were pretty nasty. They will probably need done at least twice a year. They had to be vacuumed, washed, and vacuumed again and still had particles in them. So, we changed them out with ones from an unused classroom. The offices were dusty only.

Toni: I went to the bathroom (down in Wesley Center) Wednesday night and got dripped on by the radiator pipe. By the time I left there were only 2 little drips so I cleaned it up. I didn't know if it was condensation from the radiator or where it came from.

Jeff: Provided us with a draft copy of the cleaning contract he has been working on to date. It is not finished and we can talk about next meeting.

Questions or Comments

Jim: Why is the lighting in the elevator of the Church so dark? Does it have only one bulb? Jeff- It probably has one out, but the balance does not work in one set. The bulbs are ones that are different than most but Ace has them. You just have to take it in and they can get you a new one. Richard- Why not take the balances out a wire the lights direct and eliminate the need for balances? Bruce- We can take out the old ones with balances and get new LED lights.

Jeff: We need someone to look at the air conditioning units on the southwest side of the Church and the west one in Fellowship Hall before the weather warms up and we need to use them. Wayne thought one wall mounted has a Freon problem. Bruce will see if he can get a Vendor to come look at them in the next couple of weeks.

Jeff: Do we know if our insurance has been looked at lately? Have they requested a payment? Pastor Alyssa- Yes we are working on it and they have not requested a payment. We are looking at a plan that goes with other Churches.

Pastor Alyssa: A gentleman came and put fertilizer on the parish house lawn this week, so there will be a bill coming for that.

Richard made the motions to adjourn with Jim seconding the motion at 6:31 p.m., the motion passed.

**Kid Corral Meeting – April 15, 2026**  
**4:00 pm at the Washington Public Library**

**Present:**

Bruce Timmins  
Alyssa Nantt  
Julie Timmins  
Richard Gilmore  
Jeff Jueck

Mindy Reece  
Brenda Miles  
Kylie Guy

**Why are we Here?**

Mindy opened the meeting with the question, “*Why are we here?*”

**Daycare:** We are strapped for space at current place, and are now in two places. We would like to be under one roof which would help with staffing, allowing parents picking up their children of different ages with one stop instead of two. Children starting in the nursery and grow through the years would know and be comfortable in the same location. The extra space would allow us to grow and expand which we would like to do over time. The extra space would allow better quality of care for the children and their family, as well as create a presence to the community where families can easily access the facility.

**Church:** We do want to be a service to the community. We love kids and want to provide a service to kids if we are able to do so. We have a building that is underutilized, become better stewards of the space and building and honor the past generations that gave it to us. We look at this as an opportunity to be a more physical presence in the community.

**Bruce:** Goal is to take care of a facility, if a building is not utilized then it runs down, but it also goes both ways being used, require more upkeep. We have to be better stewards of the Church’s building.

**Richard:** It is a 1970 building needing some work, is underutilized right now, but it was built to withstand children, it is durable, built from painted concrete blocks.

**Pastor Alyssa:** The main concern of the congregation is the upkeep. The other thing is getting the congregation to think that this is a good thing, they do not like change.

**Brenda:** As we progress through the process, will they (congregation) be able to bring them along with this.

**Bruce:** As we go along, to be good stewards, this cannot be a burden on the Church.

**Richard:** There is not a lot of money in child care.

**Brenda:** This is why we talked about as a partner, for little things that come up, supporting from church members that want to read or play with the children. If this is not an interest than this is not something we want to do.

**Pastor Alyssa:** The interest is there, but there is some work that needs to be done and get the congregation behind this.

**Mindy:** How can we help the congregation to know our intension and goals?

**Pastor Alyssa:** A draft plan in the future and have you come and present this to the congregation. They want to see some sort of draft plan.

**Brenda:** Would they be able to use the rooms with us on Sundays or when we are not here?

Kid Corral Meeting con't...

### Present Usage of the building:

**Brenda:** How is the building used on other days and on Sunday?

**Pastor Alyssa:** Offices are used 5 days/week, other groups use the building at once a week: the resource room, youth group, Latino for Washington, Men's Bible study, Different Committee meetings, Girls Scouts once a month. Sunday school, the youth program, Girl Scouts and the resource room would have to be relocated.

**Brenda:** Would they be able to use the rooms with us on Sundays or when we are not here?

**Pastor Alyssa and Richard:** The building is being underused- there are places that these groups could be relocated.

### Needs of the daycare:

**Brenda:** The babies have to be able to be pushed directly outside in case of an emergency, on the ground level and not down a hallway.

**Bruce:** Would we have to open up a door on ground level in the outside wall of their room.

**Brenda:** The baby room could be right outside the playground.

**Bruce:** What other needs are you going to have?

**Mindy:** Secure entrance due to the fact that all people must be fingerprinted, have background checks or be accompanied by a staff member. This will require two secure walls to be built. They would also like to enlarge the kitchenette, put in a laundry. This would require upgrading the electrical and drainage for the washer and dryer, and enough square footing for the possible expansion.

**Brenda:** Having water and toilet in the room is fabulous, the bathroom upstairs with the sliding wall could potentially be used for potty training and another bathroom and toilets would be great. The nursery and toddler would be on ground level. When tots are potty training, only one bathroom may make it difficult. Are there two bathroom, men's and women?

**Richard:** The water is easier to get but plumbing is on is on the east wall.

**Mindy:** The kitchenette into a full kitchen, a dishwasher is needed - a commercial one would be wonderful, and a washer/dryer could be put anywhere. Also, a door directly to the playground from inside, now it goes in the alley, with utility stuff.

**Bruce:** Nothing is impossible, it just takes money and who's pocket it comes out of. You need to make a checklist and we can see what can be done. The plumbing cannot run through the ceiling, it now has to go down, and now we are talking about busting up floors and the commercial dishwasher may not work with the current plumbing.

**Pastor Alyssa:** Also, with more kids using the bathroom, this may cause more plumbing issues.

**Mindy:** No, since anyone can come through the Church and come in.

**Jeff:** So, we will to put in a wall with a secure door at the end of the sky walk. Would we have access on Sunday? It would not be hard to put a wall and door, but we need the crosswalk for an fire escape.

**Bruce:** The windows in the classroom are also fire exits on the ground floor.

Kid Corral Meeting con't...

**Richard:** I doubt this building would ever burn being concrete, but if there was a gas leak, there are two stair wells for upper floor. It may be possible to put an exit door on the first floor right next to the stairway on the west end, but will there be enough height for the door to be installed?

**Mindy:** The kitchen could be moved closer to the plumbing, and the room now could be used as a large muscle room. The nurse's station does not need a bathroom but needs the sinks that are in the rooms now. Tots, two and older, it can be upstairs where the room has the bathroom for potty training. Before we go too far, we have to give the fire marshal a blue print with lighted exit signs over the doors and fire extinguishers located in each room.

**Bruce:** You can have them come in and look at it ahead of time to see what will have to be done before going on. This is a 1970's building and with the increase of traffic, concern is on the wear and tear of the building. An example of a durable product this is the carpet, with more traffic, kids will skip, drag their feet, just being kids, it is not really fair wear and tear. Right now, the carpet would last longer, so it would not be fair for the church to stand the cost for the replacement. Would something like this be a shared cost that is replaced?

**Pastor Alyssa:** Even toilets and sinks may need to be replaced with the additional usage.  
**Brenda:** Things will have to be updated and our vision to help pay for the cost or for part of the cost.

**Richard:** What about cleaning?

**Pastor Alyssa:** We will have to talk to the cleaning company we have now.

**Bruce:** Will the day care take over cleaning the bathrooms, halls and rooms?

**Kylie:** Once a month deep cleaning to wipe the walls, floors, sinks etc. would be nice.

**Pastor Alyssa:** That would be up to them and at what cost?

**Bruce:** There needs to be a list of expectations, but the floors and walls should be cleaned every time something gets on them, then there should not be a need for deep cleaning.

**Brenda:** The trash cans need to be scrubbed, they are gross.

**Mindy:** At this time, we do not need someone for cleaning, we will take care of that.

**Bruce:** Something that we can work on as we go are things like walls being painted. If toilets are plugged, who pays the bill if a plumber has to be called?

**Mindy:** We do that now, we call the plumber and we pay the bill, we have it in the contract who pays for what, everything in black and white.

**Bruce:** To get the congregation on board, let them see how you use the building now and how you take care of the facilities.

**Richard:** How many families you are helping now? Let them see how you effect the families and why the childcare is needed?

**Pastor Alyssa:** Right now, the Church is a safe sanctuary for children.

**Brenda:** To make a connection with the Church congregation, maybe have a family/church night to see what/how the space is currently being utilized.

**Pastor Alyssa:** What about parking, especially during funerals and being able to get into the Church offices?

**Mindy:** To avoid scheduling conflicts, like for funerals, during our day 6:30a.m. to 6:00p.m. time frame, but the staff should park away from the building not in the parking area now

Kid Corral Meeting con't...

**Brenda:** Do you hold conferences here?

**Pastor Alyssa:** Conferences would be on Saturday or Sunday, but there are Bible studies in the library and fellowship hall. During funerals, the funeral car has a difficult time making the corner there by the elevator, so they cannot use the parking lot. It is too tight space for the funeral car and sometimes they have extra cars that need to be parked there.

**Mindy:** What about financial expectations for the daycare? We would have to look at all the expenses and see what this would look like such as snow removal and lawn mowing. Snow removal is really important that it is done early.

**Bruce:** We would have to talk to our current contractors and see what they would cost and if they could meet your expectations.

**Brenda:** About the current playground, the tots 2 and under, cannot be on rubber mulch due to putting the rubber and other things in their mouths. We have applied for a grant for solid surfacing, and were wondering where would this go, since it will be on your property. There has to be an area for both preschool and bigger kids.

**Bruce:** Do you have a plan on how the playground area is going to look like? There is a rubber mat made now that can be cut to fit. This would affect how much grass is needed and what has to be mowed. Check out Stewart school's preschool area, they have installed it.

**Mindy:** Some in the future, a long-term goal Kim has is to actually have a preschool, though that if this moves forward.

**Bruce:** I don't think the congregation will be a problem, if we work through this with a plan, if this continues, and you are in, then we will have to have a joint-meetings and talk about any issues for both sides, not waiting for an issue to happen.

**Mindy:** That is a great idea, like parent teacher conference, but let us know before if there is problem.

**Bruce:** We need to let the past problems be a guidance and not an anchor. Do we want to set objective for the next meeting? The usage options might require a walk through to see what needs you have?

**Mindy:** A walk through to see the required needs and on spacing required would be a good idea.

**Bruce:** This can impact on the Church and it's needs as well.

**Mindy:** We need to see the big picture stuff, get information for the fire marshal before going forward, to look at costs for each of our needs and wants , where to put the walls in sky walk, big picture things for this to go forward. We have talked to Jim Williams, but I don't think he has looked it anything yet. We need someone like him or Bruce to give us an idea of what can be done and the costs.

**Bruce:** Jim or I can do this because we are both have general contractor backgrounds, but, some things will require a specialized background like a license plumber and electrician.

**Brenda:** I will check on the Comp 204 requirements for the next meeting.

**Bruce:** When do you want this to happen, what are your expectation that you could be moved in if this goes furthered? Time to get contractors in may make it hard to set a date.

Kid Corral Meeting con't...

**Mindy:** If you say this is going to cost a million, then we will have to get grants for this.

**Bruce:** I was talking kitchen cabinets and stuff like that, some things need to be ordered and that takes times.

**Mindy/Brenda:** Let's look at the costs and requirements before we go any further.

**Bruce:** When would you want to meet again?

**Mindy:** We want Kim there, there so she can look at the facility and see if there are any other changes on needs. (Calls Kim) What about Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the Wesley Center? (Agreed by those there.)

A Prayer was given by Pastor Alyssa to close the meeting at 5:40 p.m.



### For the Resource Room:

The Resource Room could use donations of items like shampoo, deodorant, laundry soap, dish soap, and feminine hygiene products.



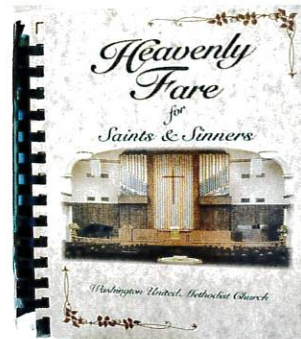
Also, gently used blankets, sheets, towels, curling irons, hair dryers, kitchen items.



We have enough toilet paper and paper towels for now.  
Your generosity is amazing!

## THE RECIPE CORNER

Recipes taken from the:  
"Heavenly Fare for Saints & Sinners" Cookbook  
(page 123 & 184)



### Cola Chicken

From the kitchen of Gerry Sproule

4 skinless chicken breasts  
12-oz. can diet cola  
1 c. catsup

Put chicken in non-stick skillet. Pour catsup and diet cola mixed together over the top. Bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and cook for 45 minutes. Uncover, turn up the heat and continue to cook until the sauce becomes thick and adheres to the chicken, It turns into incredible BBQ sauce and is 4 Weight Watchers points per serving.



### Coca Cola Cake

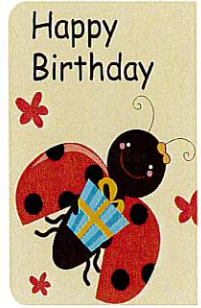
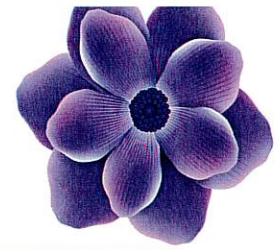
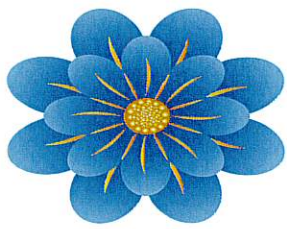
From the kitchen of Carla Carter

2 C. flour  
2 c. white sugar  
2 sticks oleo/margarine  
3 T. cocoa  
1 c. Coca Cola  
1/2 c. buttermilk  
2 beaten eggs  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1-1/2 c. miniature marshmallows

Mix sugar and flour together. Heat margarine, cocoa and cola together. Pour over flour and sugar mixture. Add beaten eggs, baking soda and vanilla. Add buttermilk. Pour into 9" x 13" pan. Cover with miniature marshmallows. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes. Frost with frosting:

1 stick butter  
3 T. cocoa  
6 T. Coca Cola  
1 box powered sugar  
1 c. chopped nuts

Bring margarine, cocoa and coca cola to a boil Pour over the powered sugar. Frost cake while hot and sprinkle nuts over the top.



1  
Joshua Evanovich  
John Marshall

3  
Kayla Schindler

4  
Brenda Meyers

5  
Cameron Bishop  
Dana Rembold

6  
Cathy Kleese  
Emily Timmins

8  
Nancy Jane McClain  
Maya Murphy

9  
Robert Thomas

10  
Jon Smith

13  
Michael Langan  
Kelly Williams

15  
**Roberta Lampkin**

16  
Landyn Moore  
Ami Lynn Payne  
David Sorrell

17  
Thomas Fees

18  
Leslie Paul

19  
Alijah Beatty  
Shawn Ellingson  
Connie Larsen  
Drew Marshall  
Rick Miller

20  
**Charlotte Magdefrau**  
Elodie Vazquez  
Anna Venega

24  
Diane Gallagher  
Alaina Beatty  
Robert Gallagher  
Spencer Sotelo

26  
Kasen Bailey  
Wade Miller

29  
Keely Brower

31  
Lincoln Van Winkle

**90+ BIRTHDAYS**



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Kim Charlier	05/01	33 years
Bill & Judi Fredrick	05/04	58 years
John & Jamiee Edwards	05/05	26 years
Jake & Angie Bodkin	05/15	33 years
Kevin & Brenda Meyers	05/19	42 years
David & Linda Birney	05/20	54 years
Tod & Cheryl Crone	05/30	68 years
Joe & Janis Sotelo	05/30	67 years
Mike & Nicole Greiner	05/31	23 years



# May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pastor's day off	2
3 <b>Communion</b> Worship Service 10:00 a.m. SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library	4 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	5 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m.  Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	6 MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	7  Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	8 UWF 12:00 p.m. FH  Pastor's day off	9
10 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> Worship Service 10:00 a.m. SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library	11 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library	12 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m.  Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	13 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	14  Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	15  Pastor's day off	16
17 Worship Service 10:00 a.m. SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library	18 Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m.-Library  Finance 2:00 p.m. Library	19 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m.  Worship Meeting 5:15 p.m. Library  Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH	20 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH MYLIFE 6:30 p.m. WC Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	21 Missions Meeting 1:00 p.m. Library  Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	22  Pastor's day off	23
24 <b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b> Worship Service 10:00 a.m. SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library	25 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>  Office Closed	26 Zoom Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m.  Celebrate Recovery 6:00 p.m. FH  Ad Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Library	27 Handbell practice 5:45 p.m.-FH  Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.-Sanctuary Praise Team TBA Sanctuary	28 Care Note Ministry 1:00 p.m. Library  Bible Study 5:00 p.m. FH	29  Pastor's day off	30
31 <b>PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY</b> Worship Service 10:00 a.m. SS. Youth 10:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Library						