

THE CHURCHMOUSE

Windsor Presbyterian Church

August 2021



To the Flock . . .

Re-Connecting

Not to brag, but my husband put on a really great Arts Festival last month. There were so many people and they were excited to be out in the world—walking around, running into friends, listening to music, building a house, buying art.... It felt a little unreal to see the crowds after all this time of isolationyou could just feel the joy of being able to do something normal. Despite Iowa's unpredictable summer weather, it was an astounding success by every measure. Thanks to all of you who came out to support the festival and for praying for safe weather.

A funny thing happened as artists began to set up their

booths. It was the first time back at a festival for most of them and as they unpacked, many of them realized they didn't remember how their tents went together—so

many poles and pieces and connectors. They laughed in disbelief, realizing they had to figure out how to do something that used to be easy and automatic. Some got it fairly quickly. People were

helping each other remember, making suggestions and lend-

ing a hand. Some, with the help of their neighbors, discovered new and better configurations. A couple of artists shared that they had practiced setting up their tents in their

yards before they headed to Des Moines. One had to make a run to the hardware store for a missing piece. I saw another who had taken everything apart and laid it all out on the street. Her eyes were closed and her hands were making little movements as she put the tent together in her mind, returning to her novice days.

They were all excited to be getting ready for the festival, but they were also out of practice. They had to really think through things, help each other and everything

took a little longer. The whole festival was like that, trying to remember how to do things, finding new ways that actually worked better, and even scrapping some things that didn't make sense in the moment.

As we returned to worship last week, it felt a little like the

Arts Festival. It was amazing to reconnect with the folks who could be in the sanctuary. Even in masks, it was a gift to look into each other's eyes, bump elbows and hear the inter-

play of voices. But we are rusty. Not only do we not remember how to do some things, but we are trying new

~ continued on page 13

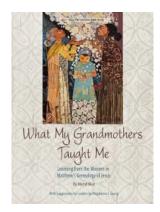
Inside this issue

Christian Formation	2
Session Highlights	2
Congregational Care	3
Worship	4
Calendar	5
Mission & Stewardship	6
Finance & Personnel	7
Building & Grounds	8
1st Arabic Fundraiser	8
COVID Guidelines	9
CFUM Photos	10
Worship Photos	11
Save the Date	12
My Favorite Hymn	13



Christian Formation - Angie King





The study books for our **Presbyterian Women's group** have been ordered. The study is called *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*. We will be ready for our first meeting on Saturday, September 11, in Ward Hall. We are excited about this new adventure as we explore together the learning and growing opportunities that the PW program brings. Unfortunately, our August 4 PW kick-off potluck has to be postponed. Due to the surge in Delta variant Covid cases, our Covid Safety team is recommending no food or drink be served in the church. However, this could change by that time.

With school starting at the end of the month, we will have our Blessing of the Backpacks on August 29. All of our school kids—children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends—are invited to this special event. We pray for our students, teachers, custodians, lunch ladies, teacher assistants, administrators, secretaries, bus drivers, nurses, and all the many people who comprise

our school families. May God bless them with a safe school year filled with learning and love.

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety. Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could with it. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson





Session Highlights - Angle King

Pastor Shamaine opened our meeting by having us recite Psalm 23 together. We then discussed each phrase separately and talked about what it meant to us. This is a good way to practice a deeper reflection of scripture by reading a passage one verse at a time and stopping to think what that verse means and how it impacts your daily life, thoughts, and actions.

During our Formation time, we reviewed the roles and responsibilities of elders, both in the Session and in the congregation. We also discussed the best way to make decisions as we tackle so many different issues – property, Covid, technology, church reopening, to name a few – and the importance of having a good Session working community to achieve the goals, expectations, and mission of our larger congregational community.



We are in the very preliminary stages of gathering information about possibly installing a new LED digital church sign. The Technology Task Force continues their work to prioritize our needs and upgrade our internet, sound system and other capabilities.

We discussed Ron's Property Task Force report and voted to give our buyer the additional three-month extension they requested. If you have questions, contact a member of the Property Task Force: Ron, Dwight, Angie, Jayne, Shamaine.

Maurice Lubalo, father of Ether Chol's daughter Makya, was in critical condition in ICU at Mercy Medical Center for a time. He was taken off oxygen and is now breathing on his own. He will be moved to a regular floor when a room becomes available. If you would like to contribute to his medical expenses, go to https://gofund.me/79376545.

Helen Jones fell and is in rehab at the Jewish Senior Life Center, 900 Polk Blvd in Des Moines. Visitors, cards, and calls to her cell phone are welcome.

Eric Lawlor had surgery in June and is about a month in post-op. He is slowly gaining strength and improving each week. The goal is for Eric to be able to walk again.

Curt Weatherby is currently at Lutheran Hospital in room 327. Visitors, cards, and calls to 515-263-2327 are welcome.

Bob Cooper spent some time in the ICU due to diabetic problems. It was a dizzying roller coaster for a couple of days, moving from a life-threatening situation to spending the evening in the comfort of home. Thanks to our congregation for praying and surrounding Bob and Sue with love and care. Here is a message from Sue:

It is hard to put into words how I feel about all of you and what you do for each other every day. We are an amazing small church and I'm so grateful to be a part of this love and compassion that we share with each other. The genuine love and kindness is so heartfelt.

Most of you have been through so much and know what it feels like to lose a loved one or are taking care of a loved one and that is why you are so compassionate with each other and it makes us feel closer to each other. Nothing can replace that feeling.

Thank you to our Pastor Shamaine for bringing us together and for all of the behind the scene things that she does. Shamaine has been a ROCK for us and I don't know what I would do without her guidance. For me, personally, I have never experienced such a gift.

These past few days have been a life changing experience for Bob and I but our faith in God and knowing that you all are with us on this journey makes it so much better and we have felt your love and prayers and are forever grateful.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

August

8



Birthdays

- Kalarga Mukhtar
- 9 Della Hinschberger
- 10 Helen Hickman
- 12 Dana Mitchell
- 12 Beth Mogle
- 15 Caleb Enochs
- 16 Jim Burnes
- 19 Lex Cashmore
- 20 Kyle Cox
- 23 Josh McKenna
- 27 Donna Dickerson
- 28 Dominic Wade

Anniversaries

- 14 Dwight Tomes & Jayne Owen
- 22 Chris & Beth Mogle
- 24 Bob & Cindy Ray
- 28 Dan & Robin Aksamit

(Let the office know if we are missing your birthday or anniversary.)

Prayer Requests (To add or remove a name, contact the church office.)

Recent Prayers: Bob Cooper, Maurice Lubalo (Makya's father), Helen Jones, Eric Lawlor, Curt Weatherby

Continuing Prayers: Brad Behrens, Phyllis Bryan, Jim & Georgia Burnes, Jean Carlston, Dick Cox, Wanda Hill, Virginia Nichols, Steve Pope

Friends of the Church: Kayla and Marvin (Angie King), Bruce Baker (Gloria Ashby's brother-in-law), Nancy Jo Baker (Barb Pomeroy), Jean Bower, Vickie

Brown, Chuck Bryan's brother and other family members, Gisma Butras (Esther Chol), Comer Family (Angie King), Jody Cox's mother, Will Cox, Darrel Cox, Donna Eckham, Norma Grinstead (Linda Newsom), Helen Hickman (former member), Anna Krull (Jayne Owen & Dwight Tomes), Ken Lee (Laura Ward), David Leitch, Chris McDougal Family, Derek Mullennax (Ruth Hardin), the Ray Family, Marge Steenson (David's mother), Paul Pederson (Shamaine's uncle), Jasper & Quincy (Kings)



Worship - Jody Cox



We are happy to be back in the sanctuary to worship together. We will continue to adjust as recommendations change but still have pews blocked off to maintain social distancing, encouraging mask wearing and limit singing. We continue to work on technology to allow us to stream/record the worship services, so that we can continue to reach those who aren't ready to attend in person and those who have been long distance worshipping with us. There still won't be fellowship after worship, but we will plan some other ways to get together.

For me, August brings one of my favorite events – The Iowa State Fair. I'm sure not all of you are a big fan like I am, but it certainly is a big claim to fame for Iowa. The theme this year, "How Do You Fair?", makes me think of a question we can

ask ourselves after the past 18 months or so during the pandemic. How did you fair during that time? When adversity comes, we are forced to face problems and pressures that are too big for us to resolve. In this way, God gets our attention. We can't continue to pursue our goals, tasks, and relationships in the same manner. We have to stop and evaluate our situation, ask God for wisdom, obey His Word, and trust Him to bring the help we need. I think Windsor "Faired" pretty well, and we have all made adjustments to



allow us to continue to worship and fellowship together. More changes may be ahead and we will look to God to help us get through it.

If you have any thoughts or ideas about worship opportunities, don't hesitate to reach out to me.



Worship in August

8/1 10th Sunday after Pentecost **Communion**Ephesians 4:1-16

Unity in the Body of Christ

8/8 11th Sunday after Pentecost Ephesians 4:25-5:2 The Christians' Walk

8/15 12th Sunday after Pentecost Ephesians 5:15-20

Be Imitators of God

8/22 13th Sunday after Pentecost Ephesians 6:10-20

The Armor of God

8/29 14th Sunday after Pentecost Ephesians 6:23-24

Wrap-up of Ephesians

A Service of Healing and Moving Forward to celebrate Back to School/Back to Worship Sunday



Page 4 The Churchmouse Windsor Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
August 2021 For the most up-to-date calendar, check our website at windsorpc.org.							
Regular Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Orthodox Church (Lower Level) 10:30 a.m. Worship	Regular Monday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study			Monthly Events First Thursday—CFUM Dinner First Thursday—Uke Jam Third Sunday—Food Pantry			
Worship Communion	2	3	7:00 p.m. Choir Tone Up	12:00 CFUM Meal Prep 3:30 PM CFUM Meal Served 7:00 PM Ukulele Choir	6	7 10:00 a.m. Presbytery's PW Coordinat- ing Team (WH)	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Worship			Doctor Char				
			Pastor Shar	maine on vacation			
Worship Food Pantry Sunday	Newsletter Articles Due	17	18	19	20	21	
	Pastor Shamaine on vacation						
22 Worship Shamaine on vacation	23	24	25	26	27	28 2:00 p.m. First Arabic Fundraiser	
29 Worship	30	31		9/2 Thu	r. CFUM Dinr r. Uke Jam t. First PW M	eeting bytery	

Page 5 The Churchmouse Windsor Presbyterian Church



Mission & Stewardship - Rich Teig



As has been previously reported, we are assisting Cowles Elementary with raising vegetables for distribution through the DMARC Food Pantry. So far, we have delivered vegetables to the Food Pantry three times. The students planted 17 raised beds in the spring, but they needed help while on vacation during the summer. We have delivered kale, Swiss chard, lettuce, carrots, peas, peppers and radishes. The volume is not large, but the Food Pantry especially appreciates that the vegetables are coming from elementary students. In another month, the students will be back and there will be tomatoes, potatoes, broccoli, onions, and melons to



harvest. We have become acquainted with two teachers, a counselor and the principal. The two teachers are part of the school's garden committee. (Did your elementary

school have a garden committee?) The students are learning how food is grown and about food insecurity in our community.

On June 8 Reverend Harold Varce, the former DMARC Executive Director, died at the age of 96. During Rev. Varce's almost 17 years of service, he was instrumental in establishing the Food Pantry Network, the Com-



passion in Action program, the Hospice of Central Iowa and other DMARC initiatives. On the day of his memorial service, Jody Cox, two teachers at Cowles, and I made our first harvest and delivery to the Food Pantry. Harold's wife, Virginia, sent an email to me saying Harold would have been honored to have vegetables delivered to the Food Pantry on that day in memory of him

Prior to Labor Day every year, the Meals from the Heartland have an Annual Hunger Fight. This year the packaging will be done at their West Des Moines location instead of at HyVee Hall. One other difference is that the packaging will be bulk instead of meal bags. So, the work will be a bit more strenuous. The dates this year are August 30 through September 4. The shifts will be 2 hours long. Masks will be optional, gloves and hair nets will be provided. The Mission Team would like to know if you are interested in volunteering to do this and what time and date you would pre-Please email Rich call or rteigisu@gmail.com or 285-0207.





Ann McGowan will be on vacation and out of the office from August 25-31. The September newsletter will be published early in the week of August 23. Information for the newsletter will need to be in the office by Monday, August 16.





June was a disappointing month for Windsor Presbyterian Church. Operating income was \$1,146.67 under budget, and contributions were \$7,220.56 under budget.

Expenses for the month were \$1,893.03 lower than expected, resulting in a \$6,474.20 loss for the month.

Expenses for the year to date have been slightly lower than expected at \$5,987.23 under budget, while contributions through June are \$11,376.23 under budget, resulting in a loss for the first half of 2021 of \$7,420.34.

Financial Report 2021	June 2021	1-Month Budget	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
General Contributions	3,987.77	11,208.33	55,873.77	67,250.00
Operating Income	1,020.00	2,166.67	10,968.66	13,000.00
Operating Expenses	11,481.97	13,375.00	74,262.77	80,250.00
Net Gain (Loss)	(6,474.20)	_	(7,420.34)	_
Capital Income	_	_	35.00	_
Capital Expenses	31.80	_	190.80	_
Net Gain (Loss)	(31.80)	_	(155.80)	_

Women's Lunch

Guest **Michelle Paschall** (left in photo) joined the women's lunch at Trostel's Greenbriar on June 24. She is the grand-daughter of Peggy Paschall and niece of Sue Cooper. Michelle was visiting from Texas. Twelve women enjoyed dining and visiting together. The group met at Cool Basil on July 22.





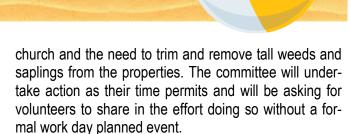
We wish a happy birthday to **Helen Hickman**, a former member, who will turn **100 years old** on August 10.

If you would like to send a card, mail it to Helen at: 4210 Hickman Road, Des Moines, IA 50310

Page 7 The Churchmouse Windsor Presbyterian Church



Building & Grounds - Don Beeson



The Building & Grounds Committee met on Friday July 16. Several items were discussed concerning the need to do "walk-through" checks of the church to make sure

bathroom toilets and sinks are not running water and doors are locked and latched when no one is around. We had received an alert from the Water Works regarding an abnormal water use. A toilet was found to be continually running. That has



been repaired. In addition, the exterior Fellowship Hall doors continue to be found unlocked when the room is not in use.

Several roofing companies have made contact with us regarding possible need to repair our roofs. Ron Grohe will be in contact with our insurance agency, asking for an inspection to determine recommendations to be followed.

We recently had a call from a nearby neighbor with a complaint regarding our three properties north of the

The Building & Grounds Committee would appreciate help in and around the church building. The terrace wall

on the west side of the building needs to be weeded and sapling trees removed. In addition, the three residences north of the church, which we hope will become our parking lot sometime in the future, have lots of saplings, weeds and shrubs in and around



the front sides that need pruning and removal. Any and all help will be welcomed. Please remember to stay hydrated!

There does not appear to be any serious deferred activities at this time. A formal announced fall workday will be planned for October or November.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021

2:00-4:00 p.m.



a delicious fundraiser to support the mission of the Arabic Outreach Center

at the Cottage Grove Church 1050 - 24th Street in Des Moines

The yummy array of activities will include:

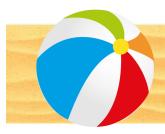
- Sweet refreshments
- Live auction of delectable desserts
- Display of Sudanese women's attire
- Inspirational stories
- Tours of the Cottage Grove building
- Musical performances by First Arabic Presbyterian Church choirs

Make your reservation today!

Invite your friends and purchase a table for eight people for \$80. Individual tickets are also available at \$10 per person. Make your reservations by August 21 by contacting Roxanne Neary at 515-777-0429 (email, text or leave a message).

For more information, go to dmpresbytery.org/ 2021/07/22/super-sweet-saturday/

Page 8 The Churchmouse Windsor Presbyterian Church



WPC COVID Guidelines



On the Road to "De-mask-us"

As we return to worship, the COVID Safety task force and the Session recognize:

- We want to be together in worship, as well as prayer, mission, study and fellowship.
- We are able to go many places where masks are optional and we're so tired of wearing them. Even so, putting on a mask is a sacrifice we can manage to be together safely.
- The COVID situation has been and will continue to be fluid with an ever-changing landscape of variants, positivity rates, vaccination rates, etc. The new variants are more contagious and deadlier, even in younger people.
- These guidelines are our starting place and we will continually evaluate as conditions change and as we learn how these measures work for us.
- WPC has a culture of caring for each other and for our neighbor, even when it isn't convenient or comfortable. So we will come back to church with precautions—not out of a sense of fear but from our ongoing commitment to mercy, justice and love.

To show love to our neighbor and make sure the most vulnerable among us are included and cared for, we will observe these precautions while taking part in <u>all</u> church activities:



- 1) **Masks**—Please wear masks (from the bridge of your nose to under your chin). Young children (under 3 years old) are not expected to mask.
- 2) **Distance**—Please sit at least 6 feet from those outside your household

(or COVID bubble). Please keep this distance when

you are having conversations. Always use the largest and most ventilated space available for activities and meetings.

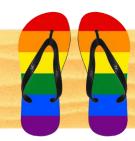


- 3) Wash Hands—Wash hands and/or use sanitizer often. Since we will only be in the sanctuary once a week, we will not sanitize surfaces for worship. However, you should plan to wipe down surfaces before and after any other gatherings.
- 4) Outdoors—While outside, please try to maintain some distance or wear your mask to enjoy conversation, food and fellowship. Please wear a mask if singing.

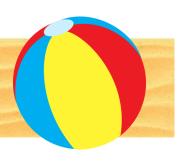
Each person will need to decide their own comfort level with attending in-person events with these precautions. We encourage everyone to do all you can to protect yourself and others and make others feel safe and welcome.

We can't wait to be together and look forward to the time when we can de-mask. Following these guidelines will help protect our community and get us there sooner.





CFUM Photos - Dwight Tomes







Our CFUM dinner on July 1







Worship Photos - Dwight Tomes











Worship at Jester Park on July 11









and More



To the Flock

~ continued from page 1

things as well. We want to have great inperson worship but we don't want to lose the gifts we found together on Zoom. We have to remember how to do things, try new things, scrap what doesn't work and sometimes just start over.

We want our worship to be Spirit-filled, heart -felt and beautiful, where all are welcomed and experience God's healing presence. Since worship is at the heart of who we are as Christ-followers and as a church community, we want to do it well. It may take a little time and there will be bumps in the road, especially with technology. There will likely be a few things you don't really love, but if they make it possible for someone else to worship, maybe you will be able to put up with it.

As we move forward into this new season together, please be patient and hang in there



with us. Please let us know what you think and how worship feels for you. We want to know what is working and what isn't so please share your suggestions and feedback (with Jody, Heather, Donna, staff or session). And last,

but most importantly, please continue to pray for our church and the leaders in this time of transition.



CROSS Outreach Back-to-School Giveaway

The kids need your help! This is the 28th year of the CROSS Back-to-School Giveaway. Last year because of the pandemic, school supplies and backpacks were distributed directly to the metro schools. Once again, this year's preparation is well underway as CROSS collaborates with the DM Public School's Success Program to ensure that the children receive the most needed supplies and for the safety of everyone involved. We are grateful to the Clive Public Library that is donating reading books that CROSS volunteers will pick up and deliver along with the supplies. You can't imagine how much these critical tools mean to the kids and their teachers as they are distributed to the most vulnerable kids.

So how can you help? A gift of any size, any amount, will go toward helping at-risk youth have the tools they need to succeed. Every dollar makes a difference to families during these challenging times.

You can make a donation by writing a check to WPC and noting "CROSS" on the memo line. We will make sure it gets to CROSS Outreach. Together we can make a big difference in the lives of the kids who have already been through so much!

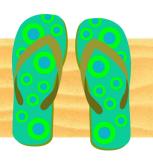


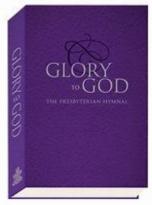
Iowa Presbyterian Gathering

Saturday, September 18
Northminster Presbyterian Church
Ames, IA
Watch the Windsor Weekly for more details



My Favorite Hymn - Beth Mogle





This month Beth Mogle shares two of her favorite hymns with us.

There are several hymns that are my favorite, and I love to sing them, although I cannot carry a tune to save my life. The Bible does say, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands." Luckily, the Lord is not fussy in regards to my

inability to sing!

When asked what my favorite hymn is, I immediately thought of two: "Holy, Holy, Holy" and the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah." I love hearing both of these hymns sung by large choirs and the instruments. I love the high notes.

Years ago on every Easter, the choir would sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" and the choir director would invite anyone who was interested to join the choir in singing. I always thought that was so neat. My mother would always go to the front and sing.

~ Beth Mogle



Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Reginald Heber wrote the words to this hymn. He was born in 1783 into a wealthy, educated family. He was a bright youth, translating a Latin classic into English verse by the time he was seven, entering Oxford at 17, and winning two awards for his poetry during his time there. He became rector of his father's church in a village in the west of England where he remained for 16 years. He was appointed Bishop of Calcutta in 1823 and worked tirelessly for three years until the weather and travel took its toll on his health and he died of a stroke in 1826.

- taken from Hymnary.com

The words are sung to the tune "Nicaea," by John Bacchus Dykes. Dykes was an English clergyman and hymnist. He was born in Hull, England, and by age 10 was the assistant organist at St. John's Church where his grandfather was vicar. He earned a B. A. in Classics in 1874. He cofounded the Cambridge University Musical Society. He died in 1876.

ctaken from Wikipedia

Glory to God #1

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Do you have a favorite hymn that you would like to share with the congregation? If so, please email the church office and tell us why it is special to you. You can write it yourself or talk to Ann McGowan in the office and she will write it.



6301 University Avenue

Windsor Heights, IA 50324-1815

Phone: 515-277-8379

E-mail: info@windsorpc.org



We're on the Web! www.windsorpc.org

The mission of Windsor Presbyterian
Church to be a warm, supporting family for
worshiping God, learning and practicing
Christ's teachings, and sharing Christ's
good news with others.

Like us on Facebook!

<u>Staff</u>

Shamaine Chambers King, Pastor
Ann McGowan, Administrative Assistant
Natalie Steenson, Director of Music, Worship & Arts
Jim Behrens, Organist
Deb Hibbert, Accountant
Duda Plavulj, Custodian
Michal King & Kaitlin Mogle, Children's Ministries

Session

Sue Cooper (2022), Congregational Care & Fellowship Rich Teig (2022), Mission & Stewardship Jody Cox (2023), Worship & Media Angle King (2023), Christian Formation Richard Ankeney (2024), Finance & Personnel Don Beeson (2024), Building & Grounds Dwight Tomes, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Donna Dickerson (2021) Curt Weatherby (2021) Cindy Ray (2022), Moderator Laura Ward (2022) Beth Mogle (2023) Judy Teig (2023) Gloria Ashby (2024)

Mary Willson (2024)

