



# THE CHURCHMOUSE

Windsor Presbyterian Church

August 2022



## To the Flock . . .

Have you looked around the church lately? Parts of the building look fresh, renewed, and decluttered. Natalie and the beautification team have been busy cleaning out, organizing, rearranging, painting, and putting up signage. They have been thoughtfully creating beautiful, purposeful and worshipful spaces throughout the building.

We get used to things and can become blind to what is around us. I am so accustomed to our church building that I almost don't see it anymore, but the changes taking place this summer are giving me new eyes. Now, as I walk the halls, I am seeing a transformation that honors the past and is wide open to the possibilities of God's future for WPC.

As this clearing out has gained momentum, I have noticed an air of excitement around the congregation. As each change is made, we see beauty and possibility, and it opens our eyes to other positive changes we can make.

And it is not just the building. The changes in our physical environment seems to be opening us up to what the Spirit is doing in our midst. There is an air of excitement, of expectant possibility, of

what God has in store for us. New things are beginning (ie. Men on a Mission), former things are having new life breathed into them (Sunday School) and impossible dreams for new ministries are beginning to feel possible.

One of the most exciting things I am noticing right now is people at the church beginning to really live into their God-given gifts. You know you are living into your gifts when what you are doing feels more like joy than work. Paul wrote about God-given gifts, *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.* (1 Cor. 12:7)

What gifts has God given you? How can those gifts be used to benefit others, the church, the common good? What dreams do you have for the church, for ministry and mission? Do you have an idea or a calling the Spirit might be nudging you to activate in this season of change and excitement (even if you have tried before and it didn't go anywhere)?

I encourage you to look around the building (the office area, Ward Hall, storage room, the Lounge, even upstairs if you are able). Can you spot the changes? Does

it open up any excitement in you for what might be possible?

**I hope you will share your ideas, your gifts, your passions, and your energy. Then let's gather some folks together who can get excited about making those dreams real.**

God's Spirit is moving among us so let's use our *manifestations of the Spirit* to work together for the common good.

*Shamaine*

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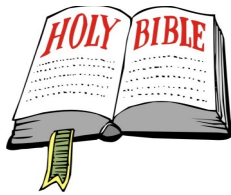


# Discipleship (Belonging & Christian Formation)

## Angie King

### Bible Study

Every Tuesday morning at 9:30, our Bible study group meets in East Hall or on zoom. We are fortunate to have not only Shamaine's leadership, but also pastors from Covenant Presbyterian in West Des Moines, First Presbyterian in Perry, First Arabic Presbyterian in Des Moines, and retired pastor Don Elly join us each week. What an honor to listen to their expertise and knowledge. Recently, Ekram, who is from South Sudan and serves as pastor to First Arabic Presbyterian, told us an incredible story about the four times she was jailed in Sudan for trying to preach God's word. We don't just read scripture; we share stories and experiences that lead to greater awareness and understanding about our lives of faith. This weekly hour provides a wonderful opportunity for learning and community. Whether you know a little or a lot or practically nothing about the Bible, it doesn't matter. Everyone is welcome. Join us!



### Summer Sunday School

We have one month of Summer Sunday School under our belt and the response has been great. We have seventeen people on our mailing list and average 10-12 folks attending in person each week. We would love to

see you Sunday mornings at 9:15 in Ward Hall. The coffee is always ready.

### These Days

The summer issue of the Presbyterian church daily devotional book, *These Days*, is available in East Hall. If you'd like to clear away some clutter in your life to find space and time to spend with God, this little book provides daily scriptures, life lessons to ponder, and a short, meaningful prayer. You can stop by and pick one up or I will be more than glad to deliver one to your house.

August means one big thing: School Starts! As **Dr. Seuss said**, "The more that you read, the more things you will know; the more that you learn, the more places you'll go!"

### Men on a Mission

MOM meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month. On August 3, we will study the second chapter of James. On August 17, we will have a guest speaker from Dorothy's House ministry. This will be open to everyone, not just the men. Contact Bob Culbertson if you have questions.



### July Session Highlights — Angie King

The Session met on July 14 and received a report from our new Communications Shepherd, Natalie. We are so fortunate to benefit from her creativity and imagination. Natalie has more ideas than Carter has pills, as my grandma used to say! (Never did quite understand that!) She discussed establishing our message and our voice to spread the word about who we are as a church and to increase our visibility in the community and on social media. She is working with a Messaging Advisory Team made up of Music, Arts & Worship. Natalie will continue as our Music Director, and as this new project gets rolling, you will be thrilled with her exciting vision for our church.

*Guaranteed!*

Annually, our yearly minutes are submitted to a review by the Presbytery. Dwight and Coralee have been preparing for the clerk's review, which will be scheduled in late July. The elders passed a motion to collect the Peace and Global Witness Offering this year. Through this offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent in our broken world by promoting the peace of Christ.

You can read all the Session reports in the *Churchmouse*. We're geared up and excited about the fall.

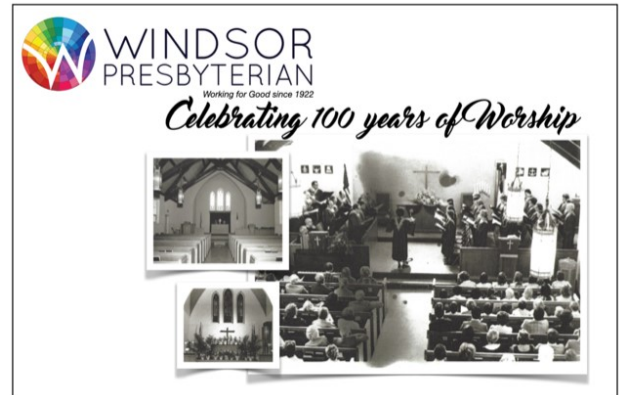
## Celebrations (Special Events & Visibility)

Jody Cox



### Windsor Heights Fall Festival

Windsor Heights is planning a new Fall Festival this year on September 23 & 24. They are asking businesses and organizations to participate. We can have a booth, which will allow us to promote the church and our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we can give away or sell items or provide some type of game or service. Also, we are talking about being in charge of a cooking contest (like baked pies). If you have any ideas or interest in this, please let me know. It should be fun!



## Communications Shepherd

Natalie Steenson

### Sharing the Good News

I am so honored to serve as a **Communications Shepherd** for Windsor Presbyterian Church and help facilitate the sharing of the Good News and Witness of Jesus in our church and community. I am working with a Messaging Advisory Team to help guide the communications that we want to share whether through our website or social media platforms, like Facebook and Instagram, as well as time-honored traditions of print media seen in flyers, postcards (see above), t-shirts, stickers, magnets and mugs to name a few.



There is so much good that is happening at Windsor, and we are nearing our 100-year anniversary of **"Working for good since 1922."** We are in the process of developing a t-shirt like the one shown here. If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt to celebrate our 100-years and

**This will be a high quality, soft shirt that you will want to wear for years!**

to wear at the events that are being planned, you can contact Ann McGowan and let her know your size preference by August 15. The cost is still being determined, somewhere between \$15-\$18. You can pay by check or cash.

If you'd like a T-shirt but are unable to pay for one, please let us know and we can help to make sure that everyone can have one who would like one.

We are also in the process of designing a mug as a welcome gift to visitors. You can see our design idea here. If you'd like to purchase one of your own, they are \$10. You might even consider purchasing one to leave at Windsor to use during our fellowship time (we can write your name on the bottom). If you are interested in a mug, again, please let Ann McGowan know by August 15, so that we can place the order all at once. You can pay by check or cash.



We have other ideas in the works as well and I will keep you updated on all the good news we have to share!





## Outreach (Mission & Generosity)

Beth Schmitz

Greetings from Mission and Stewardship. We are gearing up for some worthy mission projects for late summer and fall. I will be working with the committee to develop a plan for Mission and Stewardship that will keep our support for local organizations consistent and allow us to expand to new and exciting projects as well. Your support and help is welcome, so please talk with me about joining our committee if you feel called to this work. Contributions of \$250 were made in early July to Agape and Habitat for Humanity.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month is when we really focus on donations for the DMARC Food Pantry, but remember that donations to the Food Pantry can be made at any point in the month by including a monetary contribution with your offering or by placing food items in the Food Pantry Cart at church.

On July 7, several volunteers prepared and delivered meals for CFUM. Support for our CFUM efforts comes in many forms, including hands on help on the day of the event, donation of food items, and monetary donations directed to CFUM, as well as the prayers and support of the church. Thanks to all who work to make this very important mission a success.



Informationally relevant is the new 988 number that rolled out nationally on July 18, 2022. For many years, if an individual or family had a mental health crisis, 911 or a lengthy (and often forgotten) 1-800 number was the primary way to access support. Often, despite great effort, this did not meet the needs of individuals with mental health crises. 988 is geared to better meet these needs and is the number to call if an individual has an urgent mental health need. I am happy to provide more information on this to anyone who is interested.

Over the summer months, Rich Teig and Jody Cox are helping with weeding and watering the gardens at Cowles School. If you are interested in helping out with this, let me know or get in contact with Rich Teig, who has the information.



Tomatoes



Cucumbers



Peppers and a milkweed

### Blessing the Children August 21

On Sunday, August 21, we will continue the WPC tradition of praying for our children, teachers, families and schools at the beginning of the school year. We will pray for God's blessings for the children, youth and adult students of the church and the community and all those who work in education.



# Congregational Care



We extend our heartfelt Christian sympathy to the family of **Wanda Hill**, who was greeted by her Savior at the gates of heaven on July 3. Wanda transferred her membership to WPC on December 11, 2011, after Knox Presbyterian Church closed. She was the mother of Donna Dickerson. We are saddened that she has left us, but we rejoice that she is now in her eternal home. A memorial service will be held at WPC at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 3, with Pastor Shamaine officiating. A graveside service will follow the memorial.



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

**Recent Prayer Requests:** Shirley Miller (Jody Cox's mother), Henry & Kandy Jackson, Family of Wanda Hill

**Continuing Prayers:** Brad Behrens, Chuck & Phyllis Bryan, Jim & Georgia Burnes, Jean Carlston, Esther Chol & Makya, Dick Cox, Eric Lawlor, Virginia Nichols, Barb Pomeroy, Lori Pope (chronic cough), Steve Pope, Sandi Ryan, Leon & Lucy Sanderson, Judy Teig

**Friends of the Church:** Aria (infant relative of Barb P), Karli (daughter of Barb P's cousin), Kayla (treatment for MS) and Marvin (Angie K), Bruce Baker (Gloria A), Nancy Jo Baker (Barb P), Jean Bower, Vickie Brown, Gisma Butras (Esther C), Linda Christiansen (Angie K), Barb Dally (Laura W), Donna Eckham, Rev. Jim Goodrich (Dick W), Norma Grinstead (Linda N), Anna Krull (Jayne & Dwight), Ken Lee (Laura W), David Leitch, Maurice Lubalo, Chris McDougal Family, Derek Mullennax (Ruth H), the Ray Family, Rachel Schneider (Steensons), Mickey Starr (Jayne O), Betsy (Ruth H), Natalie C, Jasper & Quincy (Kings)



## August

### Birthdays

- 8 Kalarga Mukhtar
- 9 Della Hinschberger
- 10 Helen Hickman (101!)
- 12 Dana Mitchell
- 12 Beth Mogle
- 15 Caleb Enochs
- 16 Jim Burnes
- 19 Lex Cashmore
- 20 Kyle Cox
- 23 Josh McKenna
- 27 Donna Dickerson

### Anniversaries

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

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



## Worship in August

**8/7 10th Sunday of Pentecost; Communion**  
**Luke 19:1-10; Acts 2:42-47**  
**Fellowship**

**8/14 11th Sunday of Pentecost**  
**TBD**  
**Pulpit Supply**

**8/21 12th Sunday of Pentecost**  
**TBD**  
**Don Elly Preaching**

**8/28 13th Sunday of Pentecost**  
**Matthew 14:13-21 [Luke 15:11-32]**  
**Generosity**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>August 2022</b>						
<b>Regular Sunday Schedule:</b> 9:00 a.m. Orthodox Church (Lower Level) 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Fellowship	<b>Regular Monday Schedule:</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>Regular Tuesday Schedule:</b> 9:30 a.m. Text Bible Study (In Person & Zoom)		<b>Monthly Events</b> <b>First Thursday:</b> 12:00 p.m. CFUM Meal 7:00 p.m. Uke Jam <b>Second Saturday:</b> 9:00 a.m. B&G Work Day		
<div> <b>For our up-to-date event calendar and locations, please go to the calendar page on our website:</b>  <a href="http://www.windsorpc.org">www.windsorpc.org</a> </div>	1	2 Text Study	3 1:00 p.m. Memorial for Wanda Hill 6:00 p.m. Men's Group	4 12:00 CFUM Meal Prep 7:00 Uke Jam	5	6
7 Sunday School, Worship with Communion, Fellowship 	8	9 Text Study	10	11 5:00 Session	12 <div>Pastor on Vacation</div>	13 8:30 a.m. Juice, Coffee & Donuts 9:00 a.m. B&G Work Day 2:00 p.m. Crossroads
14 Sunday School, Worship & Fellowship	15	16 Text Study	17 6:00 p.m. Men's Group	18	19	20
Pastor on Vacation						
21 <b>Food Pantry Sunday</b> Sunday School, Worship, Potluck 	22 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	23 Text Study	24	25	26	27
Pastor on Vacation			<b>Coming in September</b> 9/1 Thu. CFUM Meal 9/4 Sun. Communion 9/10 Sat. Work Day 9/17 Sat. Presbyterian Women 9/24 Sat. Re-formation Session			
28 Sunday School, Worship & Fellowship	29	30 Text Study	31			



## Worship & Personnel

Laura Ward



A lot of people get to go play on the beach on weekends, but our worship team always shows up for us at church, instead. Elvis is in the building! I think this series on ways to stretch ourselves in our spiritual life has been very thought-provoking.

If you have ideas about what shape or content you'd like for our worship, I hope you will speak to me or one of the worship team. Also, if you would like to have a task pertaining to the service, we would love to hear from you.

I hope your summer is going spectacularly well. Gear up, campers! August is upon us!



Zoom Fellowship in the Kitchen

Join us for a potluck after worship on Aug. 21!



## Budget & Financial Stewardship

Richard Ankeney

The Operating Account had \$16,574.23 in total income for June, bolstered by general contributions in the amount of \$14,504.23. Operating account expenses were \$14,703.55, resulting in a net income of \$1,870.68. Capital account expenses were high, due to a one-time tree removal expenses of \$2,327.60 on the rental property located at 1134 63rd St., resulting in a loss for the month for all accounts of \$456.92.

The first meeting of the newly-formed Budget and Financial Stewardship Committee will take place when members are available.

Financial Report 2022	June 2022	1-Month Budget	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
General Contributions	14,504.23	12,216.67	71,138.19	73,300.00
Operating Income	2,070.00	2,033.33	20,089.62	12,200.00
Operating Expenses	14,703.55	14,250.00	97,553.12	85,000.00
Net Gain (Loss)	1,870.68	—	(6,325.31)	—
Capital Income	—	—	105.00	—
Capital Expenses	2,327.60	—	12,805.92	—
Net Gain (Loss)	(2,327.60)	—	(12,700.92)	—



## Building & Grounds

Don Beeson

The major accomplishment in July was that of meeting some sixteen discrepancies noted by the Windsor Heights Fire Department inspectors in their inspection of our facility in May. This was done almost single-handedly by Richard Ankeney, who truly has to hold a title to “God’s multi-talented workman,” in my opinion.

Among the items cited to be done included replacement and additional new EXIT signs, emergency lighting replacement, signage indicating electrical main switchboxes, replacing some fire extinguishers, and securing certification of safety for kitchen stove fire suppression and exhaust systems.

Numerous other requirements included removal of electrical extension cords, removal of anything in all stairwells which might hinder exiting from the building, and removal of materials in furnace rooms which might be of a flammable potential. All of these items have been completed or in the process of completion at this time.

What is disappointing to report regarding our previously scheduled workdays is that we had 5 members of the congregation available in June and 9 workers in July.

In prior *Churchmouse* issues, we have listed many projects that need attention and that all of us can do with no special training required! Our August workday is scheduled for August 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please come and enjoy working with other members of the congregation. Your efforts will be adding to the those who, in the past 100 years, have labored to bring us where we are today in this multi-use facility that began in a basement built into a hillside in 1923.



Lastly, as you review the financial section of this newsletter, you will find that our church maintenance expenses have exceeded monthly projections. Building & Grounds expenses are necessitated by the very nature of our property ownership and equipment repairs. There is nothing that is new, but only required replacement or some items, such as a tree removal to protect property we currently own or equipment repaired.

Come join us on the 13<sup>th</sup> if you can.

## Property Update

Members of Windsor Presbyterian Church:



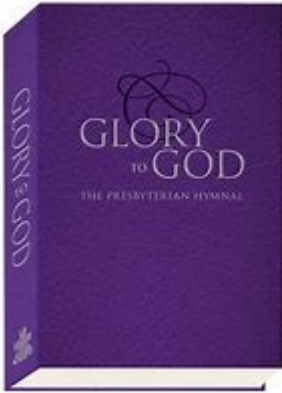
My last report to you was a verbal one at a church service some time in May. At the time, we were waiting to receive the final sales agreement. We did receive it, and since there were no appreciable changes in it from the Buyers' Letter of Intent, other than the addition of sufficient legal language to satisfy attorneys for both parties (buyer and seller), I proceeded to have three officers sign it for us and the President signed for the buyer. As of May 27, 2022, we have entered the due diligence period, whereby the buyer(s) has three months to satisfy themselves as to whether or not to proceed with the purchase. At the end of the three-month period, the buyer(s) may extend the due diligence time for an additional three months if they deem it necessary. When the due diligence is ended, closing will take place within an additional two months. Therefore, the time before closing could be from five months (October 27, 2022) to eight months (January 27, 2023). As time goes along, we will try to prevent it from extending to the maximum length. As I have indicated, pertinent facts in the sales agreement are, essentially, unchanged from the Buyers' Letter of Intent. The most important one is that the original sales price that we (buyer and seller) agreed upon remains the same. That price is in excess of the latest appraised value of \$1,600,000. As additional information as to progress is reported to us, I will make that known to the Session and the Congregation.

~ Ron Grohe



# My Favorite Hymn

Cindy Ray



This month Cindy Ray shares one of her favorite hymns with us.

## Now the Green Blade Rises

I truly love hymns, but this one comes to mind as soon as someone offers me the opportunity to write about it.

The tune is a 15th century tune and is more popularly used in "Sing We Noel." It is considered a rare Easter carol. According to the hymnal, the allegory is that there is a parallel between Christ's death and resurrection and the rising of new grain after being long in the cold earth. It is likely based on John 12:24: "Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed, but if it dies, it produces many seeds."

The words were written in 1928 by the English author John M. C. Crum. The hymn is relatively simple to sing and filled with hope and love. I would recommend reading the words and contemplating on their beauty and the resurrection of our Lord.

Cindy

Using the words of a hymn as a prayer is a great way to connect with God.



**Lyrics:** Crum, John Macleod Campbell Born: October 12, 1872, Cheshire, England. Died: December 19, 1958, Farnham, Surrey, England. A graduate of New College, Oxford (BA 1895, MA 1901), Crum was ordained as a deacon in 1897, and priest in 1900. His works include: Road Mending on the Sacred Way, 1924; What Mean Ye by These Stones? 1926; The Original Jerusalem Gospel 1927; Notes on the Old Glass of the Cathedral of Christ Church, Canterbury, 1930; St. Mark's Gospel, Two Stages of Its Making, 1936.

~ taken from *hymnary.com*

## GTG #247 Now the Green Blade Rises

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
Thinking that he would never wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in he grain had lain;  
Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
Love is come again like wheat arising green
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Your touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

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 in the office and she will write it.

CCLI License #1986457



# WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN

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E-mail: [info@windsorpc.org](mailto:info@windsorpc.org)



Return Service Requested

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.windsorpc.org](http://www.windsorpc.org)**

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

**Like us on Facebook!**

## Staff

**Shamaine Chambers King**, Pastor  
**Natalie Steenson**, Director of Music, Worship & Arts,  
Communications Shepherd  
**Ann McGowan**, Administrative Assistant  
**Jim Behrens**, Organist  
**Deb Hibbert**, Accountant  
**Cynthia Plavulj**, Custodian

## Session

**Jody Cox** (2023), Celebrations (Special Events & Visibility)  
**Angie King** (2023), Discipleship (Belonging & Christian Formation)  
**Kaitlin Mogle** (2023), Youth Ministry & Mission  
**Richard Ankeney** (2024), Budget & Financial Stewardship  
**Don Beeson** (2024), Building & Grounds  
**Beth Schmitz** (2025), Outreach (Mission & Generosity)  
**Laura Ward** (2025), Worship & Personnel  
**Dwight Tomes**, Clerk of Session

## Deacons

**Beth Mogle** (2023)  
**Judy Teig** (2023)  
**Gloria Ashby** (2024)  
**Mary Willson** (2024)  
**Donna Dickerson** (2025)  
**Lori Pope** (2025)

## *Important August Dates*

**3 - Men's Group**  
**4 - CFUM Meal; Uke Jam**  
**7 - Communion**  
**13 - B&G Work Day**  
**17 - Men's Group**  
**21 - Food Pantry**