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February 2024 | Vol.2/No.2



### January Look Back

I always think things will slow down after Christmas. I am always wrong... always. We began January with the Epiphany gift of a wonderful guest preacher, Rev. Paul Witmer, sharing about **Women at the Well** and wrapped up with an important and beautiful interfaith prayer service for **Christian Unity** with St. Theresa's, WUMC, WHLC and WPC. On the last Sunday of January, we enjoyed the Annual potluck and congregational meeting. From the bottom of my heart thanks to everyone who attended, brought food, set up, and cleaned up. And a huge thanks to the elders who wrote and presented reports, all who serve on Ministry Teams, those who attended and asked such good questions, and to Natalie for putting them together in such a beautiful and cogent way! The report is a wonderful testament to all God is doing through this congregation!

### **Officer Elections and Gratitude for Service**

With thanks for a job well done, we dismiss this year's Nominating Committee members Angie King, Laura Ward, Judy Hunt, Shelley Mitchell, and Rich Teig. We joyfully welcome those elected to lead the congregation in the coming years — Ron Grohe and Dana Mitchell as elders, Sue Cooper and Shelly Weatherby as deacons, and Bob Culbertson, Judy Hunt, Shelley Mitchell, Natalie Steenson as incoming Nominating Committee Members. Electing these folks is one of the most significant things we do in the congregation's life each year, for these leaders prayerfully set the course of the congregation's mission and ministries. They will take part in training over the next month as they prepare to begin serving in March. I thank God for the kind compassion of deacons, Gloria Ashby and Mary Wilson, and am grateful beyond measure for the giftedness and hard work of our outgoing elders, Richard Ankeney and Don Beeson. You have blessed this congregation with your time and faithfulness. Well done!

### **Looking Forward**

In the coming months, I am so excited to see the long-held dream of parking next to the church building become a reality and am looking forward to the ministry possibilities that may open up for us in the community. Additionally, you may have caught my eager anticipation of how we may be called to experiment in ministry in the coming year. I am grateful to the Financial Stewardship Team and session for granting me the flexibility to have "**Worship Lab**" discretionary funds in my compensation package this year.

-- Pastor Shamaine



## Ash Wednesday

Begin your Lenten journey with the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024. The Ash Wednesday service will begin in our sanctuary at 6:30 pm with a soup supper at 6:00 pm. We will be joined by our brothers and sisters from Windsor United Methodist Church.



## Lent: Living Right Side Up in God's Upside Down Kingdom

During Lent we will be reading texts where Jesus draws a very different picture of how we are meant to live. God's kingdom is upside down from the way we

live... or maybe the Kingdom of God is “upside up” and we are the ones living upside down. As Jesus teaches about what it means to be a disciple, he calls his followers to live in humility—serve, become like a child, be last, give away worldly possessions, love God, care for others, recognize him, and be ready for the coming kingdom. These are not the values of the world, but they are what is most important in God’s realm. In our Lent and Holy Week service, we will journey with Jesus and learn the ways of his **Upside Down Kingdom**.

### **Lent WOW: Jesus and the Cross**

We will share Wednesdays evenings in Lent with our brothers and sisters from Windsor United Methodist Church. Enjoy a simple supper, learn, and practice the faith together.

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### **Mark your Calendars for Our Lent Services**

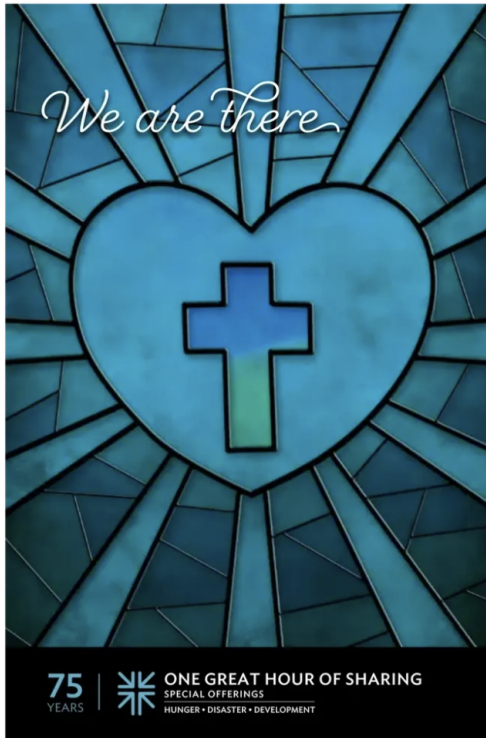
- **Ash Wednesday Supper & Worship** with WUMC
  - Feb. 14, 6:00pm @ WPC
- **Lent WOW** with WUMC, 5:30 Dinner, 6:00-6:45 Class, 7:00 Choir
  - 2/21 WUMC
  - 2/28 WPC
  - 3/6 WUMC
  - (3/13 Spring Break) -- NO WOW
  - 3/20 WPC
- **Palm Sunday**
  - March 24 10:30 am Worship Service
- **Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship**
  - March 28, 6:00 pm
- **Holy Saturday Vespers**
  - March 30 7:00 pm
- **Easter-Resurrection Sunday**
  - March 31 10:30 am Worship Service

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See our website for more on the practices of **Lent**

[Click Here](#)

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**One Great Hour of Sharing** is a yearly Special Offering of the Presbyterian Church USA mission outreach taken during the season of **Lent**. One Great Hour of Sharing supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People, working in different ways to serve our neighbors, individuals and communities in need around the world.

Take time to thoughtfully consider how you would like to contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing. Learn more [here](#) or click on the graphic to the left.

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## February 2024 Calendar

Check out all that's happening at WPC in the month of January. Click on the calendar or [here](#) to see the most up-to-date information on our official website calendar. For more detailed event information click [here](#).

**Windsor Presbyterian**

Today February 2024

Print Week Month Agenda

| Sun  | Mon                       | Tue                     | Wed   | Thu  | Fri                      | Sat                      |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 28<br>9:15am Sunday Scho<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:45am Annual Meet<br>5:30pm OA Meeting                          | 29<br>8:15am WPC Staff Me | 30<br>9:30am Text Study | 31<br>5:30pm Praying the F<br>7pm WOW Choir | Feb 1<br>10am Don Justo Coff<br>11:15am Communica<br>12pm CFUM Meal Pre<br>4pm Girls Rock Rehe | 2                        | 3                        |
| 4<br>9:15am Sunday Scho<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:45am Fellowship ii<br>5:30pm OA Meeting                         | 5<br>8:15am WPC Staff Me  | 6<br>9:30am Text Study  | 7<br>5:30pm Praying the F<br>7pm WOW Choir  | 8<br>10am Don Justo Coff<br>2:30pm Prayer Circle<br>7pm Girls Rock- We                         | 9                        | 10                       |
| 11<br>9:15am Sunday Scho<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:45am Fellowship ii<br>12:15pm Session Lun<br>5:30pm OA Meeting | 12<br>8:15am WPC Staff Me | 13<br>9:30am Text Study | 14<br>6pm Ash Wednesday<br>7:30pm WOW Choir | 15<br>4pm GR! We Rock Ri   | 16<br>4pm GR! We Rock Ri | 17<br>9am GR! We Rock Ri |
| 18<br>9:15am Sunday Scho<br>10am Food Pantry Su<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:45am Fellowship ii<br>5:30pm OA Meeting | 19<br>8:15am WPC Staff Me | 20<br>9:30am Text Study | 21<br>5:30pm Lent WOW<br>7pm Choir          | 22   | 23                       | 24                       |
| 25<br>9:15am Sunday Scho<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:45am Fellowship ii<br>5:30pm OA Meeting                        | 26<br>8:15am WPC Staff Me | 27<br>9:30am Text Study | 28<br>5:30pm Lent WOW<br>7pm Choir          | 29<br>5:30pm Budget & Fin  | Mar 1                    | 2                        |

Events shown in time zone: Central Time - Chicago

Google Calendar

**Calendar Highlights for February:**

- Feb. 1 Communications Team 11:30am
- Feb. 1 CFUM prep noon-3:30pm
- Feb. 8 Prayer Circle 2:30 pm
- Feb 10 Presbytery Meeting at Heartland PC in Clive
- Feb. 11 Session 12:30pm
- Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 pm
- Feb 24 Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner? Supper Club
- Feb. 29 Financial Stewardship 5:30pm

**Tuesdays**

9:30 am Text Study

**Wednesdays**

5:30 pm Lent WOW with supper and teaching

7:00 pm Choir



## Annual Meeting of the Congregation 2024 and our Annual Report 2023

Our **Annual Report** is an inspiring visual and written description of all of Windsor Presbyterian Church's ministries over the past year, and an exciting look forward to visions and plans for 2024! If you would like your own copy of the Annual Report, contact the church office at [info@windsorpc.org](mailto:info@windsorpc.org) or pick one up the next time you are in the building. Or you may find a pdf version of the Annual Report here:

[Annual Report pdf](#)



Here is the Karl Vaters article, *Eight Priorities Of A Healthy Church*, Richard A referenced in his write-up for the Annual Report,

<https://karlvaters.com/priorities-of-healthy-church/>

We also enjoyed a wonderful potluck luncheon, fellowship time and presentations by all the Session leaders and Staff for our Annual Meeting.









## Women at the Well

Special Guest preacher Paul Witmer, Minister of Re-entry and Congregational Care at [Women at the Well](#) UMC, shared about Women at the Well, gave an Epiphany message from Matthew 2:1-15 and shared communion at WPC on Sunday, January 7th!

**Women at the Well** is a United Methodist congregation which is located within the walls of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, in Mitchellville, Iowa. They worship on Friday afternoons at 3:00 in the Sacred Space.

The worship service allows the women to share in the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to experience the life transforming Spirit of God.

### What Church Is That?

by Dennis Moore, friend of Windsor Presbyterian

A **w**onderful church that

**W**elcomes and accepts everyone – including you;

An **i**nvolved church that

**I**nvites all people everywhere in genuine fellowship;

A **n**eighborhood church that

**N**ever closes its bright red doors;

A **d**elightful church that

**D**elivers the Good News for all to hear;

A **s**pecial church that

**S**erves people in the local community and the world;

An **o**pen-minded church that

**O**pens hearts, minds, and souls to God's Word;

A **r**estful church that

**R**enews the spirit and so much more;

A church that is

**Windsor** Presbyterian.

*Thank you, Dennis, for sharing with us this beautiful poem.*

*May we continue to aspire be a church such as this!*

# Making Headlines!

CFUM featured WPC in their January Newsletter (see below).

To read the entire article click here:

[CFUM Newsletter](#)



## January Newsletter



Once a month, a dedicated group from Windsor Presbyterian show up in style for our community bringing delicious home-cooked meals! Their friendly faces and consistent presence insure we are able to meet the need in River Bend while keeping our costs down. CFUM is greatly appreciative of Windsor Presbyterian and the efforts of every group who has supported us in combatting food insecurity through our Supper Club program!

Beginning March 1st, we are returning to communal dining with a to-go option! After 4 years of take-out style Supper Club, we are eager to reconnect with community members once again in a more formal, comfortable fashion!



"We really love serving in person, being able to come down, meet with everybody and hang out, it's a good feeling to be able to help." Said Linda Newsom, an organizer of Windsor's Supper Club group. "It's a privilege to be able to help and we're so grateful for that opportunity."

This year we are averaging 8 unclaimed Supper Club dates a month. You can help by [supporting](#) our mission or getting a group of friends/co-workers together for a unique, rewarding cooking project!

To anyone on the fence about sponsoring a Supper Club meal, Linda says "I don't think you'd regret it. It seems like we get more out of it than we give. We never lack volunteers, we usually have about 10 people work on a meal and they are happy to help. You are helping kids and people stretch their food budgets, that's part of our call as Christians, to feed the hungry. It may sound like a lot of work but we don't feel like that. We feel like it's energizing, not draining. It's just a positive experience all around!"

**Last year Windsor Presbyterian supplied 1,800 meals to our community!**



# Helping to Make a Difference at Windsor Elementary School



**Donate \$14 (or more) for each student to have their own copy of "A Crown for Corina" to be read throughout the school for the Read Across America event on March 4th**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH**



CASH OR CHECK TO WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A colorful graphic for a 'Power Read' event. It features a floral border and the text 'Read Across America Power Read! at Windsor Elementary'. Below this, it says 'To celebrate Read Across America, Windsor Elementary is hosting a Power Read, where the whole school will be immersed in a read aloud of the same book at the same time! Volunteers are invited to read A Crown for Corina to a group of students.' A purple box contains the date 'Monday, March 4' and the time '9:30am Volunteer welcome &amp; orientation 10am Power Read!'. There is a QR code and a 'Click Here' link. At the bottom, it says 'Contact: Madisen Gaskin madisen.gaskin@dmschools.org' and includes the 'Read Across America' logo and a book cover for 'A Crown for Corina'.

1. Donate money for the purchase of books for Windsor Elementary's Read Across American Event (cash or check to WPC by Sunday, February 4th)
2. Sign up to volunteer to read to students at Windsor Elementary School on March 4th through the sign up link below:

**SIGN UP TO READ**



**Stay connected with WPC on Social Media!**

