

To the Flock . . .

This is hard.

We are tired—COVID, wars, protests, climate change, the economy, gun violence, racial inequality... We have lost all patience with everything and with each other. We want to throw our hands up and walk away. Things are really hard right now

Maybe church is the one place you have always found solace, and maybe even church is hard for you right now. On any given Sunday some of us are in the sanctuary and some of us are on Zoom. We are still wearing masks in worship to protect those who are medically vulnerable and that is a problem for many of you. Some among us have left and aren't doing church, finding other ways or places to connect with God, other communities to be part of.

Across the world, many are leaving and the future of church is uncertain. Many have been rethinking church for a while now just and we at WPC have been trying to discern God's purpose for our congregation. We know we want to serve the neighborhood and have been trying to figure out what that looks like. We really aren't on the radar of people in the community. They see our building but have no idea what goes on inside—who we are or what we do.

I hope we can change that. With the way the world is right now, people need what the church has to offer—a community of faith, hope and love. We all need to be welcomed and belong. We all need to be known, understood and validated. We all need to have a sense of purpose, to grow and work together for something bigger than ourselves. In other words, we all need the grace offered to us in Jesus. And that is something our congregation (and you!) can offer to those God puts in our lives.

In Bible study last week someone asked about the difference between a disciple and an apostle. It is a great question. Jesus asked people to come and see, to follow him. A **disciple** is one who follows, who literally sits at the feet of the teacher in order to learn. An **apostle** is one who is sent. Jesus sent the disciples out to share the good news. You need to be a disciple first. You have to be filled up with the good news in order to share it. We can only share what is in us. Discipleship is about getting the good news in us. When we have good news, we can't help but share our news. As a church, one of our main purposes has to be filling people up with news that is so good, we can't help but want to share it. Evangelism comes from the word euangelion, which means good news. When we learn about Jesus, we euangelizo, or become messengers of the good news. So how do we get this good

news inside of us? How do we become disciples?

This summer we will dive deeper into what it looks like to follow Jesus, to live the Jesus life in the world today, a kind of **Discipleship 101**. We will return to some of the spiritual disciplines we practiced during Lent, considering how habits of discipleship can shape us a community and help us develop a shareable faith. What if we were so full of the good news of new life in Christ that we wanted to tell others about it?

~ continued on p. 9

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Presbyterian Women

Our wonderful PW group met in May to begin a two-part lesson on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We had intriguing conversations about how this young girl must have felt as she and Joseph were swept up into an unexplainable, incomprehensible situation that would change humankind for all eternity. At that time, Mary could have been stoned to death as an unmarried girl with child. Yet, Joseph stepped up and did the righteous thing, with a little encouragement from the angel! Then they fled to Egypt, the same place from which the Israelites fled to escape captivity, to protect their baby boy from Herod, who desperately wanted this child killed. When you take time to dive into this familiar story, the magnitude of it is powerful and overwhelming. That's one of the best parts of PW, because we get to explore these stories together and learn to appreciate them in a more meaningful way.

At our May meeting, we got a great surprise when Lori showed up with a huge bag of freshly-picked asparagus, which she divided up for everyone to have a big bunch. YUM-MY! Thanks, Lori. Also, Laura gave everyone a wonderful jar bottle opener gripper that works fabulously well! Thanks to you, too!



Our next and last meeting of the year is Saturday, June 18. We'll finish our study of Mary and review and wrap up the year. JOIN US!

New Men's Group

We are starting a new men's group. A planning session will be held in person in Ward Hall on Wednesday, June 1, at 6:00 p.m. We need your input as to the frequen-



cy, meeting times, and things that you would be interested in doing. All men are invited to attend and to bring any friends who might be interested. If you would like, you can bring a brown bag supper. If you have any guestions, contact Bob Culbertson.

Summer Sunday School

We hope some of you (LOTS OF YOU) plan to attend Summer Sunday School, which starts June 5, 9:15-10:00, in Ward Hall. We'll use *The Wired Word*, which highlights a current event and provides questions to discuss through the lens of scripture and our Christian faith. Google *The Wired Word* to see a sample lesson. It comes via email. We will send it out on Fridays, so you can have a chance to look it over before Sunday. But if you don't have time, no worries. We'll have extra copies on Sunday and will go over it together. We'll start by emailing it to everyone, then pare down the list to those who are interested. It's a great time to be together, share interesting conversations, and enjoy each other's company. The coffee will be ready. *Y'ALL COME!*



PW showing off the beautiful, yummy asparagus Lori brought to the May meeting to share, enough for everyone!

Standing, L to R: Ruth, Nancy S, Sue, Judy H, Beth M, Angie, Krysta

Sitting, L to R: Lori, Nancy B



100-Year Anniversary Celebration

We are continuing to gather pictures and stories archives from Windsor and members. past and present, to tell more about the 100 years of worship at Windsor. If you have something to share. please



send it to Jody or the church office.

We need to order some T-shirts and give- away items so that when we participate in anything around the community, we can be recognized and spread the word.

Several of our long-term younger members have been asked to share some of their memories growing up in Windsor Presbyterian Church. Beth Mogle graciously provided the following comments which are most appreciated.

"What special activities did you enjoy most at WPC?"

I have wonderful memories of growing up in Windsor Presbyterian Church. My most favorite memory or person is Hume Ward. My family and I came to Windsor from Cottage Grove Presbyterian when I was in third grade and he made my family feel so welcome. I will never forget that. Hume also married Chris and I at Windsor. Some other favorite memories that I have are: Maundy Thursday dinners in the basement, the donut machine that we had in the basement and some of the men would make donuts and we would eat them between the two services that we had. My parents were involved in Mariners and enjoyed that. Youth group on Wednesday night. We would eat dinner, then go to the Sanctuary and have choir practice with Bev and Betty. It was more social hour. Our Jr. High group visited a couple of different churches around Windsor for Confirmation class. We had a few overnight trips, I believe we went to a church in southern lowa and they came to Des Moines for a weekend. Our Sr. High group also went to St. Louis, MO, and Whitlash, MT, and they were both great trips. The trip to Whitlash was probably my favorite trip.

"How did these experiences build and/or substantiate your faith that it is today?"

These experiences showed me that we are surrounded by God's love in many different ways. I saw the joy in the kids faces in Whitlash when we were teaching Bible

school and helping with projects in their community. see the same iov and God's love when we are distributing food for CFUM. All of these experiences showed me what a special



family we had and still do have at Windsor. We may now be a much smaller congregation than we were when I was growing up in the church, however, I believe that we are a much stronger and closer congregation.





Greetings from Mission and Stewardship. Now that I have successfully made it through a couple of months in this role, I am looking to involve members of the church in our Mission and Stewardship efforts. If you are interested, I would love to talk with you joining our committee. This month we are donating \$250 each to Hawthorn Hill and Iowa Homeless Youth Shelter.

The 3rd Sunday of the month is when we really focus on donations for the DMARC Food Pantry, but please remember that you can make donations to the Food Pantry 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.



Our Lenten One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering that supports people around

the world through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People was very successful, with our final total reaching \$1,273.00.

On May 5, volunteers prepared and delivered 130 meals for CFUM, 100 adult meals and 30 child meals. Given a request from CFUM, we will be focusing on shifting our meals to include more for children and fewer for adults in the future.



The Pentecost Offering is our next special offering, focused on chil-SPECIAL OFFERINGS In Pentecost Offering is our next special offering, focused on children at risk and ministries with youth and young adults. Forty per cent of the Pentecost offering stays within our congregation to support the

needs of our youth and young adults, 25% goes to support youth faith leaders serving in communities around the world, 25% supports Youth Ministries, and 10% is devoted to children at risk. We don't have a special envelope for this offering, but you can designate your offering on your check or regular offering envelope.

May Session Highlights

The session met on May 12 with all elders present. We began with a reintroduction exercise. Everyone introduced themselves and told how long they had attended Windsor and what their first impressions had been. Then Shamaine wove the comments into our opening prayer, which was beautiful!

We are required to have a congregation member examine our financial records each year. Chuck Bryant has performed this task graciously and competently for several years. He recently completed his latest review and found our books, records, and financial statements to be in good order. Thanks for your work, Chuck!

Since our own Josh McKenna took a pastor position in Kirksville, Missouri, he and Joselyn requested to have their memberships transferred. The session approved this, along with our loving wishes for their new life.

Ruth Hardin attended the meeting and shared her faith journey with us. Following that, the session voted to accept Ruth, Dana Mitchell, and Shelley Mitchell as members of Windsor Presbyterian Church. Congratulations and welcome, officially!

Dwight and the Technology Task Force continue formulating plans to upgrade our capabilities and, hopefully, that project will commence this summer. The Property Task Force is awaiting the resolution of some insurance coverage issues, after which the sales purchase agreement will be drawn up.

Session won't meet in June. Our next meeting is July 14. As usual, if you have guestions or issues you'd like addressed, please contact an elder.

- Angie King





Taken from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Presbyterian Mission Website

On the **Day of Pentecost** we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or *Shavuot* (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost ("50th day") by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, Shavuot also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3 and Galatians 3).

Pentecost is new creation

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 117-119):

According to the Day of Pentecost story in Acts 2:1-13, God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower witness-

es to the resurrection. Sounds from heaven, cosmic language, the rush of a mighty ruach (wind, spirit, breath) invaded the house in which the apostles gathered, and appeared to them as a burning fire. Tongues of fire touched their nerve centers. A power the unseen power of God _ moved



A 15th-century German depiction of Pentecost.

among them and gripped them. The Holy Spirit is unseen, like the wind, which is why the Old Testament calls it *ruach YHWH*, "the wind, or breath, of God" (cf. John 3:8). The Spirit is the "unseenness of God" working among us.



Singing God's praise!



Passing the peace!

Sunday	No I	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 2	022						
Regular Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Orthodox Ch (Lower Leve 9:15 a.m. Sunday Scho 10:30 a.m. Worship Fellowship	urch So I) Pa	egular Ionday chedule: astor's Day Off	Regular Tuesday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Text Bible Study (In Person & Zoom)		Monthly Events First Thursday: 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 12:00 p.m. CFUM Meal 7:00 p.m. Uke Jam Third Saturday: 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women		
7/4 Mon. I 7/7 Thu.	: Communion ndependence CFUM Meal Work Day	e Day		1 6:00 Planning for Men's Group	2 10:30 Staff Mtg. 12:00 CFUM Meal Prep 7:00 Uke Jam (East Hall & Zoom)	3	4
5 Pentecost/Commun			7 Text Study	8	9 5:00 Session	10	11 8:30 a.m. B&G Work Day
12 Trinity Sunday/Com		3	14 Text Study	15	16	17	18 10:00 a.m. PW 2:00 p.m. Crossroads Board Mtg.
19 Food Pantry Sunda Sunday School, Worshi & Fellowship	N	0 Iewsletter Irticles Due	21 Text Study	22	23	24 Des M Arts F	25 Ioines estival
	27 Noines restival	7	28 Text Study	29	30	Pastor o leave Ju	on study ine 6-20





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

Recent Prayer Requests: All victims of recent shootings and their families, Lori Pope (chronic cough), Karli (daughter of Barb P's cousin)

Continuing Prayers: Brad Behrens, Chuck & Phyllis Bryan, Jim & Georgia Burnes, Jean Carlston, Dick Cox, Wanda Hill, Eric Lawlor, Maurice Lubalo, Virginia Nichols, Barb Pomeroy, Steve Pope, Sandi Ryan, Leon & Lucy Sanderson, Judy Teig

Friends of the Church: Aria (infant relative of Barb P), 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, Chris McDougal Family, Derek Mullennax (Ruth H), the Ray Family, Rachel Schneider (Steensons), Greg (Natalie's brother), Mickey Starr (Jayne O), Betsy (Ruth H), Susie Anderson, Jasper & Quincy (Kings), Natalie C (Shamaine)



Please remember that Pastor Shamaine is half-time during the months of May, June, July and August. Also, Monday is always her day off. Please don't call or text unless it is an emergency.

Shamaine will be traveling to Glacier National Park for continuing education from June 6-20, which includes travel days.

Worship in June

6/5 Pentecost John 15:26-16:15; Acts 2 *The Spirit of Truth*

6/12 Trinity Sunday TBD (Pulpit Supply)

6/19 Second Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day John 6:66-69; 8:31-32; 13:34-35 Discipleship 101

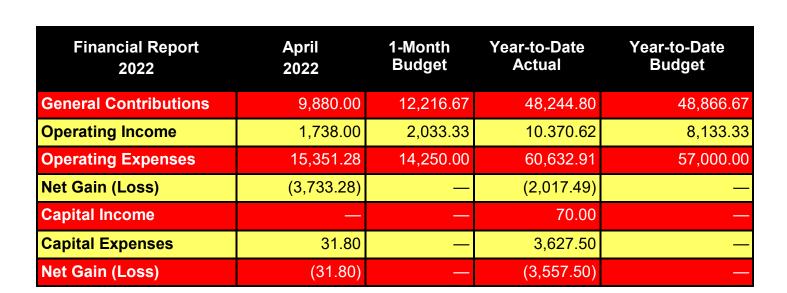
6/26 Third Sunday after Pentecost Deut. 10:17-19; Luke 9:1-8 [10-17] Radical Welcome



Contributions and net income for April were both negative, (\$1,953.33) and (\$3,733.28) respectively.

Building & Grounds expenses continue to be higher than expected.

We are forming a Budget & Financial Stewardship team. Please contact Richard A if you have gifts in either of these areas and might be interested in serving.





The committee met on May 19 to discuss serval issues regarding our real estate properties. It was agreed that we would hold Saturday morning work activities on the 2nd Saturday of the months of June, July, August, September and October. The first effort will be on June 11 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. with coffee, doughnuts and juice from 8:30 to 9 a.m. We have a number of little projects, which include gathering fallen limbs, cutting down tree saplings, weeding the west side terrace, cleaning the lounge kitchen, and scraping window frames prior to painting. These are projects that any and all of us can handle, so the invitation is offered to all of our congregation who are able.

We, the congregation, have a vital interest in keeping our property, whether it is the sanctuary, building, lawns and rental property, in the best condition possible. Please put June 11 on your calendar to join with us.

rateful



Sharing Our Stories

During Lent, many of you shared stories of your experiences with spiritual disciplines. They were incredible. A huge thanks to everyone who shared. Those testimonies and stories blessed us beyond measure.

We need to continue to hear each others stories. This summer, we are looking for two kinds of stories to share during worship this summer: your stories about Windsor Presbyterian Church through the years and stories about your experiences of growing as a disciple of Jesus

Stories about WPC through the Years

We want to hear stories and see photos! Do you have stories about

- growing up in the church?
- teaching a class?
- attending a wedding?
- learning about Jesus (or dating or whatever....)
- driving by and wondering what happens there?
- joining the church?
- singing in choir?
- going to a special event?

• some of our faithful saints you would like to remember?

Our hope is that as we tell stories, it will help us know each other and the church's history better. It may even help us remember other stories. Please let Ann in the office know when you would be willing to share your WPC memory. We will have a sign up sheet and hope to have one memory every week for the whole summer and maybe beyond. You can sign up with a friend and can even share more than once! Even those who haven't been around very long are invited to share their memories. It can even be something that happened last week. All memories count in this endeavor.

Stories about our Adventures in Following Jesus

This summer our worship series will be about growing as disciples of Jesus and we would love to hear your adventures and misadventures. In June we will learn a little about discipleship and talk about radical welcome, worship and sacraments. We want to hear your stories, each other's stories. They may come from anywhere work, friends, school, vacation, organizations, a former church, even WPC. Maybe you have a story about

- someone who helped you **follow Jesus**, who made God real to you
- or someone who made the path of Jesus look so unappealing you <u>never</u> wanted to travel it.
- someone who shared the **good news** with you
- or made the news about God seem anything but good.
- a time someone offered you a gracious hospitality, perhaps even radical **welcome**?
- or maybe when the welcome did not feel so welcoming?

• a time you experienced God's undeniable presence a time you were welcomed into God's presence by taking part in the sacraments

As the summer goes on, we hope to hear stories about discipleship, radical welcome, sacraments, worship, prayer, teaching, justice, fellowship, and generosity. We would love to hear your stories, so be thinking of them and let Ann or Shamaine know that you would be willing to share.



To the Flock ~ continued from p. 1

God's loving purpose for our lives is that out of our love for God, we love one another, joining in God's work of restoring all people and all creation. This is discipleship. This is following Jesus. So in the next few weeks, we will begin to explore some habits of discipleship including radical welcome, worship, sacraments, prayer, teaching, justice, fellowship, and generosity.

This is a hard time. But in learning to follow Jesus, in growing as disciples, we can do hard things together.

hamanl



CLASS OF 2022



Urbandale High School

Kaitlin Mogle graduated from Urbandale High School on Thursday, May 26. Last year she was inducted into the National Honor Society. She was a member of our confirmation class last year. Currently, Kaitlin is the youth elder on our session. She plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa in the fall. Go Panthers!



First Arabic to Celebrate 5th Anniversary June 5, 2022

Five years ago, First Arabic Presbyterian Church (FAPC) made history by becoming The Des Moines Presbytery's first congregation of Sudanese/Arabic-speaking individuals, and its first new church to be chartered in nearly 30 years. **PC(USA) Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson**, who was present on that historic day in 2017, described it as a "hallelujah moment," and indeed, it was!

In June, First Arabic will welcome the Rev. Dr. Nelson back to Iowa as the congregation hosts a special celebration for its fifth annivers ary. Please join us Sunday, June 5, at 4:00 p.m. at Cottage Grove Church, 1050 – 24th Street in Des Moines, for a joyful worship service with Holy Communion, uplifting music, and Dr. Nelson as guest

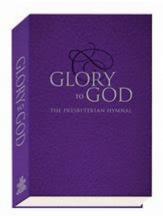


preacher. The service will be presented in both English and Arabic.

Following worship, all are invited to stay for a time of festivities that will include sharing, singing, food and fellowship. Come to learn more about Sudanese culture and worship at First Arabic. Taste some delicious Sudanese food, and enjoy a yummy piece of Anniversary Cake! Please join us on Sunday afternoon, June 5!







This month Natalie Steenson shares one of her favorite hymns with us.

I'd Rather Have Jesus

This song is one of my alltime favorite hymns for many reasons. My grandfather was a Evangelical United Brethren pastor and church music was a big part of his family's life.

Even though I never got to meet him, as he died young, I suspect that this song was one that he heard my mother sing in church. I have a beautiful semi-professional recording of my mother singing this song when she was in her late teens. My mother died when I was a teenager, but I'll never forget the sound of her voice in that special recording.

The words of this song have always touched me as a musician, "I'd rather have Jesus than man's applause, I'd rather be faithful to his dear cause; I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame. I'd rather be true to His holy name."

I believe this song had an influence in my decision to follow my heart and become a church musician. "He's all that my hungering spirit needs. I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead."

Natalie

Lyrics 1922: Rhea F. Miller was the wife of Dr. H. V. Miller, one of the General Superintendents of the Church of the Nazarene. After her husband's death Mrs. Miller taught piano and traveled all around the area in her little gray Nash coupe, teaching piano. She had a special mission in life and that was to get into pastors' homes and teach their kids how to play the piano so they would have something to contribute to the church when they became adults. She would offer to teach these kids for free and hope to make up the difference with her other students. She was a very inspirational woman and made a deep impact upon many lives. She was very positive, always smiling, full of encouragement, and always enthusiastic.

Tune: George Beverly Shea was a long-time close associate of Billy Graham and soloist at Billy Graham's Crusades all over the world. He was largely responsible for the popularizing of "How Great Thou Art" and for moving the popularity of "Amazing Grace" from the cultural periphery into the mainstream of American Protestantism. He recorded dozens of albums and was eventually awarded a Grammy for Lifetime Achievement. He died on April 16, 2013, at the age of 104.

I'd Rather Have Jesus

1 I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold; I'd rather be His than have riches untold; I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands. I'd rather be led by His nail pierced hand

Chorus:

Than to be the king of a vast domain Or be held in sin's dread sway. I'd rather have Jesus than anything This world affords today.

- I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause;
 I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause;
 I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame.
 I'd rather be true to His holy name [Chorus]
- He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom;
 He's sweeter than honey from out the comb;
 He's all that my hungering spirit needs.
 I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead [Chorus]

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.

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



It is 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 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)

