



THE CHURCHMOUSE

Windsor Presbyterian Church September 2021



We're Back in Person!



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Christian Formation - Angie King

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, WINDSOR WOMEN. Our initial Presbyterian Women's meeting is Saturday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. in Ward Hall. I know it's the Iowa/Iowa State game. (Go Cyclones!!) During the year, there will undoubtedly be various conflicts that arise, but we're sticking with the second Saturday instead of trying to juggle dates around. One of the great things about the PW program is that if you can't make it some Saturday, you can miss a meeting and it doesn't matter because each month's topic is separate and stands alone. The 2021-22 study is called "What My Grandmothers Taught Me. Learning from the Women in Matthew." We're really excited about these nine Saturdays in 2021-2022 when we can enjoy each other's company, have interesting and robust discussions, and learn and grow as Christian women.

If any of you guys are interested in starting a men's group, speak up! Get in touch and let's see what we could cook up for the fellas!

As we slowly and cautiously return to the church, let us embrace the opportunities that await us to use our imagination and creativity to showcase Windsor Presbyterian to our neighbors as the welcoming, exciting community that we know it to be, where all can come together and share God's love.

Message from Sue Kimball, former PW moderator of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Trinity Presbyterian Church of Indianola

Our new Horizon's Bible study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me, is, once again, filled with so much for us to glean as women of the church. If you are finding that the time you have in your PW circle meetings is not sufficient for a thorough study, set aside a different time than your meeting time and give it the credence it deserves. We, Presbyterian Women, are truly blessed to have such professional and applicable studies every year. The lessons are packed and the suggestion for leaders take the study even deeper. Taking time to do the Open, Explore, and Respond activities makes the lesson memorable and personable. At Trinity United Presbyterian Church, we have a group of women who wanted to take advantage of these suggestions last year, so have met on Mondays for 1 ½ hour. We may not get through one lesson in that time but are truly enriched by the discussion and dissecting the intentions of the Bible study authors. Try this with even just a few of you and see what you discover for yourselves.



Session Highlights - Angie King

Since August was a winding down, lazy sort of month, we did not have a Session meeting that month. As a reminder, the Session meets on the second Thursday of the month at 4:30, so our next meeting is September 9. We returned to the church earlier in the summer and have been meeting in Ward Hall, socially distanced, of course! After a year and a half of Zoom meetings, it was wonderful to get back together.

If you ever have any concerns or questions, don't hesitate to contact one of the elders. Also, if there is an issue or an idea you want the Session to discuss, please let one of us know so we can put it on our agenda.

Congregation Care & Fellowship - Sue Cooper



Birthdays

| | |
|----|------------------|
| 4 | Barb Pomeroy |
| 4 | Linda Newsom |
| 8 | Ruth Hardin |
| 10 | Jody Cox |
| 12 | Wanda Hill |
| 12 | Anna White |
| 15 | Krysta Tomes |
| 15 | Dick Cox |
| 17 | Ann McGowan |
| 18 | Sue Cooper |
| 21 | Dwight Tomes |
| 24 | Ryan Carlson |
| 24 | Michal King |
| 25 | Jessica McCubbin |
| 27 | Beth Adams |
| 28 | Nancy Baker |

Anniversaries

| | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 18 | Jessica & Sean McCubbin |
| 21 | Sue & Bob Cooper |

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

Curt Weatherby thanks everyone for the cards and calls while he has been recovering in Missouri. He will be returning to Iowa soon and will enter treatment at Powell for a month—two weeks in patient and then two weeks outpatient treatment. He is eager to begin his treatment and counseling and knows it will be hard work. He asks for our prayers and help in this journey.

Maurice Lubalo, father of Makya, is still in the ICU at Mercy Hospital. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

Choir Tone Up

Choir Tone Up is back! Natalie will start helping us tone up our voices on Wednesday, September 8. Watch for announcements and updates in the Windsor Weekly or in emails from Natalie. If you would like to be added to her list, contact her at Natalie@windsorpc.org. Join us for an hour of singing, fun and fellowship every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. by going to:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83956877212pwd=T1NaUFg2U1I6d0RL2RITzFBam1lUT09>
- Or call (312) 626-6799. Meeting ID: 839 5687 7212 Password: 247

Save the Date

The 2021 Hunger Hike will be held on Saturday, October 10. It will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Downtown Riverwalk, 100 Locust St. in Des Moines. Watch for more information next month.

Women's Lunch

A women's lunch will be held on September 23, at 12:30 p.m., at Cusi Cucina, 1975 NW 86th St. in Clive. Be sure to get this on your calendar! Please RSVP to Ruth by September 20 at ruth.crossroads@gmail.com or 515-633-7968. If at the last minute you find that you are able to attend, there will be a place at the table for you!



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

Recent Prayers: Eric Lawlor, Maurice Lubalo, Curt Weatherby

Continuing Prayers: Brad Behrens, Phyllis Bryan, Jim & Georgia Burnes, Jean Carlston, Dick Cox, Wanda Hill, Helen Jones, 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), Kathy King (Stephen's mother), 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), Susie Anderson, Jasper & Quincy (Kings), Shelly Weatherby



Mission & Stewardship - Rich Teig

On August 12, the national spotlight was on the Field of Dreams at Dyersville, Iowa. The New York Yankees and the Chicago White Sox walked out of the corn to play the first major league baseball game in Iowa. A famous phrase from the movie was "If you build it, they will come." At Windsor Presbyterian Church, the phrase could be "If you ask for donations, they will come."

In July, the DMARC Food pantry donations totaled \$760. On Sunday August 8, Pastor Shamaine asked for school supplies to be donated for Windsor Elementary. Already money and school supplies have been received. I am sure that hungry customers of the Food Pantry and anxious school students are very thankful for the generosity of WPC members.

We are nearing the end of summer vacation for students at Cowles Elementary. Soon those students can see how the seeds they planted in the spring are now producing vegetables. During the summer, two WPC members have been watering and weeding the gardens. On August 11, 33 pounds of produce were harvested and delivered to the DMARC Food Pantry on behalf of Cowles Elementary. The delivery included carrots, peppers, tomatoes, melon, pumpkin, kale, Swiss chard, onion and broccoli. Every time vegetables were picked, a picture was taken so the students can see all of the fruits of their plantings. Soon there will be more tomatoes, onions, peppers and potatoes for the students to harvest.



In July, a \$250 local mission donation was made to Habitat for Humanity, and in August, a \$250 donation will be sent to the Story Book Project. This project provides recording equipment for incarcerated mothers or grandmothers to read stories to their children and grandchildren.

School Supplies

In addition to the school supplies that have been brought to the church, Jody Cox has been doing some shopping on our behalf. After blessing the supplies during worship on August 22, they have been taken to Windsor Elementary School. There are many families that aren't able to purchase the items needed for their children. The school is very appreciative of all our donations.



Worship & Media - Jody Cox



It has been great to see some of you back in the sanctuary. There have been many challenges to also provide the online Zoom options, but with some extra effort by some, it has been getting better. It looks like the TV monitor that was donated will make a great addition. We are still encouraging everyone to maintain social distancing, encouraging mask wearing and limit singing. Fellowship outside will work as long as the weather stays nice, but new ideas will be needed as we approach cold weather. Alternative worship and fellowship



ideas are always being looked at. We are looking at a tailgate possibility, as football season is upon us.

As summer draws to a close, I get a little sad to see my gardens start to wilt and wither. Everything has been

so vibrant and beautiful all summer and I've enjoyed soaking up the sun just like the plants. But again, it is a time of change. It feels like we have been through SO much change this past year and a half, but yet as they say change is inevitable. It just depends on how we cope with it. The bible tells us in Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." We can continue to stand for God as we worship together.

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



Worship in September

9/5 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 1:1-2;4a
Creation by the word

9/12 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 12:1-9 (10-20)
Call of Abraham

9/19 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 17:15-22; 18:1-15
Promises to Sarah

9/26 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 21:1-7 (8-21)
Isaac's Birth



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| September 2021 | | | | | | |
| Regular Sunday Schedule: 9:00 AM Ethiopian Church 10:30 AM Worship & Fellowship (in person & on Zoom) | Regular Monday Schedule: 9:30 AM Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting | | Regular Wednesday Schedule: 7:00 Choir Tone Up (Zoom) | Monthly Events: First Thursday—CFUM Meal First Thursday—Uke Jam Second Saturday—PW Meeting | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 9:00 a.m. Staff Retreat 12:00 CFUM Meal Prep & 3:30 Delivery 7:00 p.m. Ukulele Jam | 3 | 4 10:00 a.m. Presbytery's PW Coordinating Team (WH) |
| 5 Worship & Fellowship | 6 Office Closed LABOR DAY  | 7 | 8 Choir Tone Up | 9 4:30 Session Meeting (East Hall) | 10 | 11 10:00 a.m. WPC's PW Meeting (WH) |
| 12 Worship & Fellowship | 13 | 14 | 15 Choir Tone Up | 16 | 17 | 18 Presbytery Meeting on Zoom |
| 19 Worship & Fellowship Food Pantry Sunday  | 20 Newsletter Information Due | 21 International Day of Peace | 22 Native American Day Choir Tone Up | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Worship & Fellowship | 27 | 28 | 29 Choir Tone Up | 30 | Coming in October: 10/3 Sun. World Communion 10/7 Thur. CFUM Dinner 10/31 Sun. All Saints & Reformation Sunday | |

Finance & Personnel - Richard Ankeney



During the summer, church contributions tend to lag. We have struggled the last few months and encourage everyone to give as they are called.

The church received \$8,186.53 in total contributions, \$3,021.80 less than the \$11,208.33 budgetary need. Through the first seven months of 2021, contributions are \$14,398.03 less than budgeted. Mission offerings have been good, with \$268.33 above budget being received in July.

| Financial Report 2021 | July 2021 | 1-Month Budget | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| General Contributions | 8,186.53 | 11,208.33 | 64,060.30 | 78,458.33 |
| Operating Income | 4,505.00 | 2,166.67 | 15,473.66 | 15,166.67 |
| Operating Expenses | 13,168.75 | 13,375.00 | 87,431.52 | 93,625.00 |
| Net Gain (Loss) | (477.22) | — | (7,897.56) | — |
| Capital Income | 738.64 | — | 773.64 | — |
| Capital Expenses | 3,031.80 | — | 3,222.60 | — |
| Net Gain (Loss) | (2,293.16) | — | (2,448.96) | — |

Loving God by Serving our Neighbors

So much has changed during COVID—how we work, school, play, church, etc. It has made us question how we do things and what is most important. How can we be church we can't all be together? How are we supposed to serve our neighbors when gathering is risky? How can our little church not only survive, but thrive?

Church, or *ekklesia*, as the early christian gatherings were called, has had to be a little scrappy in the face of hardship for most of history. Even in this difficult time, God has big plans for our scrappy little congregation. The needs in our community are many and, though we are small, God can use us to do big things.

We know this because the stories in our scriptures again and again show how God uses the small and unlikely to do great things. We know this because it is who we are: we care, we show up, we help, we serve, we step up, we do what is needed, we do all the good we can with the resources God has given us, we do what we can and trust God to do the rest... because *with God all things are possible*.

We show our love for God by following Jesus command to love our neighbor. Right now our neighborhood is full of families who struggle to make ends meet and feed their families on the wages they earn. Add to this the global problems of climate change and the displacement of people by wars and violence and the need for us to show the love of God to our neighbors is only going to grow.

I am grateful for the opportunities with our two neighborhood schools, Cowles and Windsor, and can't wait to see how God stretches us through these relationships. Jesus did not promise that the walk of faith would be easy, but it is the way of life and I am grateful that we continue to search out ways to be community, to love God and to really serve our neighbors, TOGETHER!



Building & Grounds - Don Beeson

The Building & Grounds Committee did not hold a meeting during August, as it did not seem to be needed. However, two different complaints were received, one a phone call to the office and the second from Windsor Heights City Administrator to Ron Grohe and Dwight Tomes, both in reference to the three church-owned properties north of the church. Jane Owens and the Behrens family have worked on the third house; however, all three properties' back yards have high grass, weeds, saplings and tree limbs to be disposed.

The committee has been asked to work on the problem August 21 and 28 as members have time available. I have met with our nearest neighbor on 63rd St., offering our apologies and explaining what we plan to do. Although this person was not the one complaining, I



felt it appropriate to introduce myself and provide some assurance of our intentions and efforts.

The property south of University, which the church currently owns, needs atten-

tion. At least one tree and four large tree branches have fallen in what was the parsonage house back yard. We have received no complaints at this time, but this will require cutting and disposal September.

Mark Keese, a former member long ago of WPC and now retired from the Des Moines School District, met with me to discuss the problems with the double doors of Ward Hall. He is of the opinion that, due to the age of the doors and longtime usage, the doors have outlived their use. However, he has agreed to make some adjustments which will assist in locking, but with the understanding that it is to be temporary – no time frame promised. He will do this in early September.

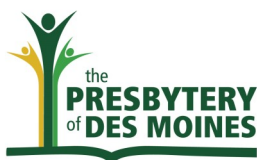


Insofar as I have walked the interior of our facility and the exterior, as well, I have not noted any serious problems other than loose carpet on the 2nd floor north hallway and the very old worn carpet in the east conference room. These are not major problems at this time, due to limited traffic, but should be noted for future planning.

Presbytery Meeting

The Presbytery of Des Moines will meet on Zoom on Saturday, September 18.

An all-day gathering of members from all three Iowa Presbyteries had been planned for that day. The primary reason for the Tri-Presbyteries Gathering was to be in fellowship together. This no longer feels safe due to the delta variant of covid being highly transmissible.

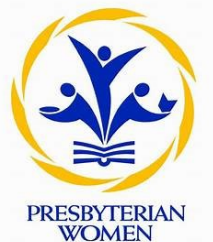


PW Coordinating Team

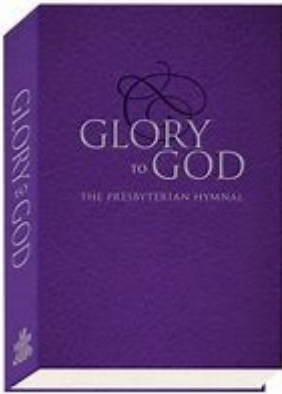
The Coordinating Team for the presbytery's Presbyterian Women will meet in Ward Hall on September 4.

The group will be planning for the annual Fall Gathering, which will be held on Saturday, October 9, at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Ann McGowan currently serves as recording secretary of the team.



My Favorite Hymn - Cindy Ray



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

There are two hymns I can often turn to for comfort, solace, and/or inspiration. The first one is “**The Summons**,” #729 in the Glory to God hymnal. It is a conversation between Christ and you or me or someone else we

don’t know. I first heard it at The Big Tent, General Assembly’s off assembly years activity for the family. It was performed at a worship service, and I loved it from the start.

The hymn was written in 1987 and put to a Scottish melody, and it was written for the end of a youth volunteer’s work with youth. There are certain phrases that stand out for me.

The first verse seems like a challenge to me:

1 *Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name one known; Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

Will I do that? Will I even recognize that it was my name called? I wonder.

The next three verses are challenging, too, and more specific:

2 *Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?*

Am I willing to treat cruel and kind alike? I would like to think so, but this requires a lot of prayer.

3 *Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as*

this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”

I think this has to do with loving all without judgment, and, of course, setting the prisoners free has special meaning for me. But I think it is metaphoric and talking about opening the eyes of understanding and setting hearts free. Can I do that?

4 *Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?*

I have to trust God to use the “you” in me to help me make this a better world. I need to pray for continued growth in my faith and the ability to go forward in spite of fear.

The last verse is my response, and yours, and I feel before I sing it, I should always read it and consider what it means:

5 *Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.”*

The second hymn is “**There Is a Longing**,” #470 in Glory to God. It has a melody that is very sweet and captures the ear and the mind, and the words should really make us think.

“There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.”

Next, it has a litany of things we long for: justice, freedom, mercy. It begs for God to be near us in sorrow and grief.

Then it prays for wisdom, courage, for comfort: “*In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God.*” The rest of the verses call God to hear our prayer for other things and entreats God to be near us. When I sing it, the melody and words make me feel as if I am truly crying out to God.



WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN

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Return Service Requested

We're on the Web!
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
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
Angie King (2023), Christian Formation
Richard Ankeney (2024), Finance & Personnel
Don Beeson (2024), Buildings & Grounds
Dwight Tomes, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Cindy Ray (2022), Moderator
Laura Ward (2022)
Beth Mogle (2023)
Judy Teig (2023)
Gloria Ashby (2024)
Mary Willson (2024)

Noteworthy in September

Wednesday, September 8

Choir Tone Up Returns

7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Read more on page 3

Saturday, September 11

PW Begins a New Chapter

10:00 a.m. in Ward Hall

Read more on page 2

