



July 2024 | Vol.2/No.7



The Excitement is Building

Summer Fun is Here!

The end of June always brings lots of excitement and activity in our family with everyone helping out at the **Des Moines Arts Festival**. In just a few days, downtown is transformed with tents, artists from all over the country, food vendors, sculptures, kids' activities, sponsors, music stages, art experiences, a film festival, and an incredible VIP lounge. Plus, this year another **Habitat for Humanity** house will be built on site. Every year I am amazed when all the plans get muscle behind them and start becoming reality. The team builds a

little city in 3 days, has a big party for 3 days, then tears it down before dawn. It's so exciting to see it all come together!

Parking Lot Construction is Beginning!

Our long-awaited parking lot construction is starting to get pretty exciting as well (see photos below). The congregation has needed and wanted additional parking spots since the state widened the streets, reducing the number of spots. My guess is the church never had quite enough spaces for everyone to park.

As is often the nature of things, especially church things, change happens very slowly, then all at once. We have had to exercise great patience with this parking project. We learned that selling commercial property is not as simple as we might have once thought. It took a few tries before we found the right buyer —but hey, 5th time's the charm (or was it 6th?). And who knew how many steps, permits, utility disconnections, contracts... were involved in a demolition project?

Pray for God's Work in our Neighborhood to Flourish

But now things are starting to fall into place. The houses are coming down and all the plans of these last few years are starting to become a reality. Please continue to pray that we would be good stewards of all God has provided. Now we get to start planning for how we will use this new gift to better serve God's mission in the neighborhood.

It is an exciting time at Windsor Presbyterian!

--Pastor Shamaine Chambers King

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	1	2 1:30pm - CFUM Meal 3:30pm - Set Up &	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	8 GRI Rock Camp	9 GRI Rock Camp 9:30am - Text Study 3pm - Men on a	10 GRI Rock Camp 6:30pm - Holding	11 GRI Rock Camp 2:30pm - Prayer Circle 4:30pm - Session	12	13
14 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	15 GRI Rock Camp	16 GRI Rock Camp 9:30am - Text Study	17 GRI Rock Camp 6:30pm - Holding	18 GRI Rock Camp	19 GRI Rock Camp	20 10am - PW-
21 9:15am - Sunday 10am - Food Pantry 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	22 GRIT (Tech) Camp 5:30pm - Outreach	23 GRIT (Tech) Camp 9:30am - Text Study	24 GRIT (Tech) Camp 6:30pm - Holding	25 Churchmouse Aricles GRIT (Tech) Camp 6:30pm - Worship	26 GRIT (Tech) Camp	27
28 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	29	30 9:30am - Text Study	31 6:30pm - Holding	1 11:15am - 1:30pm - CFUM Meal 3:30pm - Set Up & 4pm - Girls Rock	2	3

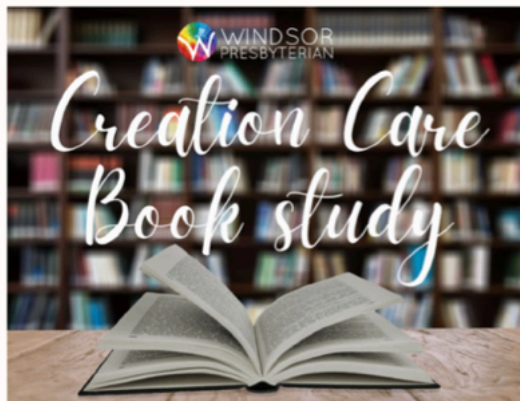
Here's how you can keep up with the WPC Calendar

- **Bookmark:** As a reminder, the WPC calendar of events can be found on our website. Here is a direct link you can bookmark: [WPC Calendar](#)
- **Subscribe:** If you use an electronic calendar (outlook, google, ical, etc.) and would like to have all the WPC calendar events automatically added to it, you can subscribe using this link: [Subscribe WPC Calendar](#). Contact Shamaine if you have questions.

Calendar Highlights for this Summer:

- July 2 **CFUM Meal Prep & Service** -- note date change
- July 7 **Don Elly Preaches Genesis 2 "The Breath of Life"**
- July 9 **Men on a Mission** providing dinner for **Fresh Start** women
- July 10 **Holding Space-Grief & Spirituality** -- Wednesdays 6:30pm
- July 14 **Creation Care Book Study Discussion** -- following Sunday Fellowship Time
- July 31-Aug 4 **Habitat Faith Build** -- see more information below
- August 4 **Joint Worship Service and Brunch** with Windsor Methodist Church at WUMC

Upcoming Summer Opportunities for Connection and Growth



Join Pastor Shamaine this summer with some great book read suggestions to correlate with our Summer Creation Care Worship Series. On Sunday July 14th we will gather after worship to discuss these environmental books. You may join the discussion whether you have read one, none or all of the books.

Suggested books are:

- ***Braiding Sweetgrass*** by Robin Wall Kimmerer—Indigenous Ecology
- ***Four Elements: Reflections on Nature*** by John O'Donohue—Religious Philosophy and Celtic Spirituality

- ***Not the End of the World: How We Can Be the First Generation to Build a Sustainable Planet*** by Hannah Ritchie—Hopeful and practical scientist perspective.
- ***The Seedkeeper*** by Diane Wilson—a novel about family, culture, agriculture (farming and gardening)



Are you interested in attending a grief and loss connection group? Our first gathering is Wednesday, July 10th at 6:30pm in the WPC Lounge. This will be an open and accepting space for holding our griefs together. We will read and reference, *The Spirituality of Grief: Ten Practices for Those Who Remain*, by Fran Tilton Shelton, as she guides us through spiritual practices such as breath prayers and nature walks, connecting us to God and to each other.

Please feel free to invite others to join in. Our prayer is that together we will know the healing power of God's grace in our midst.



WPC SESSION REPORTS

July 2024

APRIL FINANCIALS

Ron Grohe, Finance Committee Chairperson

Financial Stewardship:

May was a good month for Windsor, financially. We had a generous donation from a member for \$8,000 which helped to boost our Net Operating Income to \$4,800 for the month. That extra generosity has continued into June as we received two more large contributions for \$10,000 and \$5,000 each. We will be reporting our net results for June next week after the month ends on Sunday, June 30.



Thursday, June 27th, the wrecking ball was swinging at the properties north of the church on 63rd St. Those three houses should be gone by early next week, at the latest or, possibly, by this weekend. Our emphasis then, will be to concentrate on what needs to be done to get the parking lot constructed. We will keep you posted as to our progress on the construction.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Angie King, Session Leader



Last Call for PW's "Clean out your Closet" Clothing Drive

Huge thanks to all the folks who have donated items to be given to [Families Forward](#). We have two weeks left, so you can still bring things to Ward Hall. A special request for all you men! We could REALLY use some men's clothing, so dig around and try to find some t-shirts, shorts, jeans, shoes or anything. Again, thanks for supporting our PW project.

The donations will go to a recently formed organization that combined the Bidwell-Riverside Center, which has a food and clothing pantry and a childcare center, with Hawthorn Hill, which focuses on providing housing for families in need. Windsor has given monetary donations to **Families Forward**, and PW thought a clothing drive would supplement our other contributions quite well.



Join the Presbyterian Women (PW) and clean out those closets and bring summer clothes to the church, CLEAN, of course!

MISSION OUTREACH

Beth Schmitz, Session Leader

Fresh Start Meal Prepared by Men on a Mission

Bob Culbertson is spearheading a meal for the women at Fresh Start in Des Moines. The meal will occur on July 9 with Men on a Mission

preparing and delivering it. Please contact Bob if you are interested in contributing to this project.

Cross Outreach Backpacks



[Cross Outreach](#) is excited to increase the total number of filled backpacks we are giving away this year to 1,600! For the past few years, it has been 1,200.

We will be organizing school supplies and filling backpacks on July 17th and 18th from 5:30-7:30 pm at DMARC, 100 Army Post Road in Des Moines. Any volunteers can email Jill Killian at kilianjmf@gmail.com if they are able to help.

Mark your donation for Cross backpacks. Donations are also possible through the [Cross Outreach](#) website.

Meals from the Heartland



Craig Branch is spearheading an effort to complete a shift for Meals

Habitat 2024 Faith Build Week

Wednesday, July 31st - Sunday, August 4th



- Volunteer shifts on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
 - 8:15am-4:00pm
- Volunteer shifts on Saturday
 - 8:15am-1pm
- Volunteer shifts on Sunday
 - 8:15am-11:30am

The **Faith Build** will be supporting two homes this year. We will have exterior opportunities on one home and interior opportunities at the other home. Teams of 6 volunteers needed.

Exterior opportunities can include capping the foundation, raising the wall panels, framing, siding, exterior paint, building steps, etc. Interior opportunities can include trim, painting, building cabinets, installing flooring, installing cabinets, installing appliances, finishes and cleaning.

We would like to put together a WPC team of at least 6 volunteers for a shift. If you are interested,



from the Heartland. If you signed up, you will be hearing from him soon about possible dates for this activity. If you didn't get signed up and are interested, let Craig know so that you will be included in the communication loop for this worthwhile project.

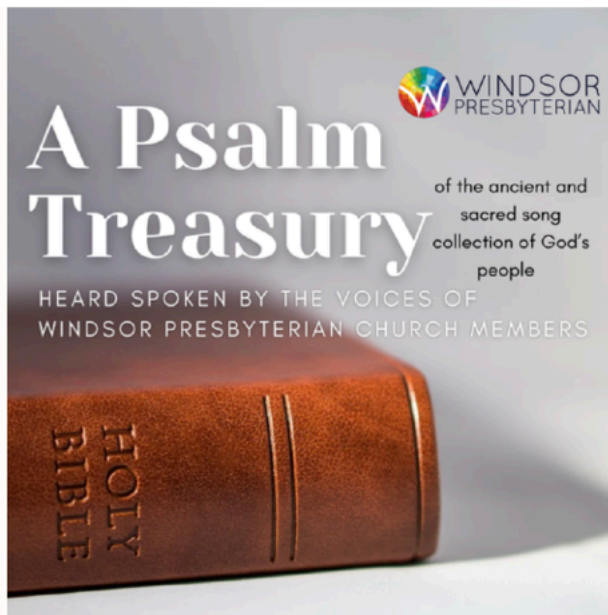
please sign up in Ward Hall or contact Shamaine or Steve Rodda.

Both homes have been selected by partner families in the homeownership program:

- **Exterior Work**—3023 E. 13th Street is being purchased with an affordable mortgage by Semere & Abrehat.
- **Interior Work**—2528 Morton Avenue is being purchased with an affordable mortgage by Diarra.

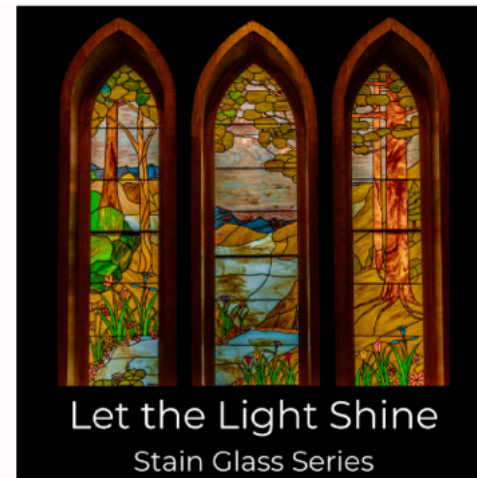
Cowles Elementary School Summer Gardens

The raised garden beds are flourishing at Cowles Elementary. Special thanks to Jody Cox for weeding and caring for the garden!



What are some of your favorite Psalms? Consider reading and recording your favorite Psalms to add to a **Windsor Presbyterian Church Psalm Treasury** that will be hosted on our website. Natalie can assist you in the recording process on a Sunday morning, or you can record yourself on your phone and send it to natalie@windsorpc.org.

If you have nature photography that you would like to share that can be added to the visual side of the recording, please send your photos to natalie@windsorpc.org.



The stain glass artwork that envelops Windsor Presbyterian Church's sanctuary is a breathtaking testament to faith and artistry. These awe-inspiring windows have inspired generations in their beauty and serenity.

What images of the stain glass in our sanctuary stir you to deeper places of faith and worship?

Are there scriptures, poetry, personal reflections, inspirations or meditations to help us develop a sacred narrative? **Let the Light Shine : Stain Glass Series** for worship and social media will begin in the Fall, culminating in an Open House for the public to view our beautiful stain glass with the stories behind each panel along with the artist's reflections, scriptural references and our personal stories or reflections



Celebrate COMMUNITY

Worship & Fellowship during June



Flying Pig Old-Time Jam

with Special Guest Kyle Cox!

