

We are trying something a little different ...

We like keeping you informed on a weekly basis with the Wednesday emails that include prayer requests, what is going on that week, etc. We thought we would change it up a bit the way that it appears.

The first Wednesday email of the month will become the Messenger Newsletter. In it we will provide a snapshot of what is coming up throughout the weeks and months ahead. Our hope is to give you an idea of special dates to be aware of and can add them to your calendars. The following Wednesday emails will target the week's event with more details.

We are all Different and the Same

Welcome to the shortest month of the year - and naturally it's black history month. You know, because we are willing to talk about race, just not that much. That is a joke. I hope your laughing. Because the reality is that race in America is a loaded and tense subject.

So, let's start with some scripture.

When we have baptisms, we often use this line from scripture:

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ Now if you belong to Christ, then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the promise. (Gal. 3:28)

This line is beautiful because it acknowledges that at a deep level we are all one. We are part of the same family. Your race, ethnicity, social standing, or gender identity do not separate us because, in Christ we are all the same.

And yet, we are different too. All those differences we name, they don't say everything about us, but they matter. They're significant, because they are part of who we are. Part of the richness, and strangeness, and beauty of this human race.

I hope you are like me and have got a chance to travel and see how people live differently throughout the world. Those experiences can be full of awkward moments, strange smells, but also joy and wonder as you see how differently we live our lives and cook our food.

Yet, at the same time we have to be aware those differences have often been used to separate us often unfairly. Just the other day, I read this stat that said that one of the major factors in determining wealth is still race. That if you take the world's population, whites make more than Asians, who make more than Black who make more than Hispanics. There is just something deeply troubling about that, isn't there?

And here is the challenge – to be able to see the difference in us and appreciate them, but also acknowledge that those difference have been used to separate us. Yeah, how do we continue to strive to live in a world where we can be both different, and yet, the same.

Welcome to Black history month. To help mark the occasion we are going to be doing a race study provide by our denomination. You can find details in our weekly email, or at the church, or I can get then to you if you email me. I hope you join us for some thoughtful conversation on this difficult subject.

Be well, do good, and we will see you around.
Dan.

Prayer Requests

Bob & Jackie Buckley - prayers as his brother, Joe, passed away 1/27. Services were held in Des Moines.
(3814 Trent Ln, W'loo '01, 240-0032, bobbuckley@kirkgross.com)

Dee, Steven and Kristina Jordan – prayers as their mother and grandmother, Betty Meaker, passed away
1/27. Services were held in Cedar Rapids.
(Dee: 3330 Monticello Ave., W'loo '01, 961-0897, deejordan360@gmail.com)
(Steven: 3235 Randolph St., W'loo '02, 290-6225, stevenjordan24@gmail.com)
(Kristina: 3330 Monticello Ave., W'loo '01, kristinajordan2@gmail.com)

Denise Van Hauen – prayers as she fell 1/20 and is home recovering.
(610 E. 4th St., #62, W'loo '03; 429-2019; vdenise267@yahoo.com)

Prayers for patience as we continue to consider COVID challenges while preparing safe ministries.

Keep checking our website for updated information at wpcw.org

Joys

Prayers to all our beloved church members.

If you would like to send a birthday card, here is a list of special birthdays to those 80+ years this week:

Mary Lou Snyder, 4924 Sage Rd., Cedar Falls, IA 50613
birthday is February 4

Opal Hanna, 1918 Pinehurst Lane, Waterloo, IA 50701
birthday is February 8

Job Opportunity

We are looking for a Visitation Pastor to provide pastoral care to church members and leadership in congregational care. If you know of someone who would fit this role, please ask them to call Rev. Dan Voigt at 234-5501.

February Scripture Series

February 6: "The Miraculous Catch", Luke 5:1-11

February 13: "Happy People and Doomed People", Luke 6:17-26

February 20: "Behaving as God's Children", Luke 6:27-38

February 27: "Jesus Transformed", Luke 9:28-36, Guest Preacher Rev. Johnny Janssen



Snowshoeing at Hartman Reserve

Sunday, February 6, 1:30 - 4:30 pm at Hartman Reserve. \$5 to rent snowshoes or bring your own. Refreshments will be available. Email jodi@wpcw.org to sign up by Thursday, February 3.

Labyrinth Event

Labyrinth will be available BOTH Saturday and Sunday on a monthly basis.

Join us February 12 or 13 (or both) for walking prayer meditating on the quiet, indoor labyrinth from 9am-12 on Saturday or on Sunday morning until 12:15pm. Deacon staff will be available to assist with instruction or help.

Praying with a labyrinth is a form of walking meditation, a physical expression of the interior journey towards Christ that characterizes all Christian meditation. Like a pilgrimage, forms of walking meditation

evoke our earthly journey towards heaven while simultaneously giving us time and space to listen and respond to the Lord. Westminster members have long had availability of a taped down labyrinth which was well-used, worn down with love by the congregation. So, the decision was made to install a permanent labyrinth within the building, a Petite Chartres labyrinth. It was completed just before the beginning of Co-vid. Several labyrinths exist in Cedar Valley, as at Hawkeye Community College. In the beginning, reported as well used and loved by the congregation, the taped pathway was prayed on by many members.

Now the deacons and other members of the church have put loving care into helping it come alive for various times of the year. A labyrinth can be used different events from vigils to weddings and beyond. Resource books for members can be checked out in the church library as Helen Curry's The Way of the Labyrinth. A visitor or member can call the church at 319-234-5501 to find out its availability for individual use.

Annual Chili / Soup Cook Off

Sunday, February 20 at 6pm! Prizes for Best Soup, Best Chili and Best Decorations! Free tickets to those who register to compete! Sign up at wpcw.org/cookoff or forms available in Welcome Center.



For those of us who just want to taste all this deliciousness, tickets are on sale now for \$5 per person or \$15 per household. Purchase online at link above or at the church.

Please register as soon as possible so we know if we have enough interest to hold the event.

From the Kids Table

Here are the lessons this week in the Youth and Children's Ministry:

Wes Pres Kids and Youth - Worship Wednesday!

Wes Pres Youth - Jr. High 6-7pm and Sr. High 7:30pm-8:30

Sunday School - The Disciples, Luke 5:1-11, 8:1-3

Please contact Dan dan@wpcw.org or Steven steven@wpcw.org with questions



As part of our February series on race, Waterloo Mayor, Quentin Hart will be joining us on Wednesday, February 23 at 6pm to talk about his experience with race in our community.

LAKESHORE CENTER AT OKOBOJI
FEBRUARY
25-27

MEN'S RETREAT

Becoming better men

What does it mean to be a better man? How do you want to live in this world as a man? What is getting in the way of living out what is most important to you? Lakeshore Center is partnering up with Presbytery of North Central Iowa to bring a unique opportunity for men to rest, reflect, and connect with other men who are interested in pursuing meaningful, purpose-driven lives.

Danny Elenz, PhD, LP (he/him/his) is a psychologist with a non-profit called *LeaderWise* in Minneapolis, MN. He works with male-identified individuals in helping them live out more meaningful, connected lives. Danny is passionate about connecting with people through therapy, retreats/workshops, mental health, and consultation to assist them in their development.

Prices include 2 nights of lodging and 5 meals.

Bunk room- \$100 per person
(dorm style rooms with bunk beds, bedding NOT provided)

Lodge room shared: \$175

Lodge room single: \$225

Meals only (staying elsewhere or just coming for the day):
\$50 or \$10 per meal

Register today by calling 712-337-3313 or register online by scanning this QR code.






Announcements

- To watch previous worship services, go to wpcw.org/worship.
- LIKE and view what we are doing on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/wpcw.org>
- Presbyterian Pantry will be open next on Thursday, February 17, from 4:30 pm - 6pm. Please sign up to help with the pantry at wpcw.org/volunteer. Our Presbyterian Pantry served 36 households on 1/20.
- Piecemakers are meeting every Thursday 9:00 am to noon. Non-sewers are welcome!
- Three Presbyteries are organizing a Mission Trip Opportunity: Mission Study March 3-16, 2022; Israel-Palestine. More information on this is in the Welcome Center.
- Daily devotional books, *These Days* and *Our Daily Bread*, are available in the Welcome Center next to the prayer shawl cart.

A Look Ahead

February

6th: Snowshoeing with the Deacons 1:30-4:30, Hartman Reserve
 9th: Summer Trip Meeting, Middle School at 7pm, High School at 7:15 pm, Coffee House
 12th & 13th: Labyrinth Event 9am-12
 20th: Chili/Soup Cookoff, 6pm

March

2nd: Ash Wednesday service, 6:30 pm
 12th & 13th: Labyrinth Event 9am-12
 13th: ONE service at 10am
 14th - 18th: Spring Break - No WPW
 20th: ONE service at 10am

April

14th: Maundy Thursday, Jr. High Lock-in
 15th: Good Friday
 16th: Easter Joy Celebration 10:30 am
 17th: Easter Services at 6:30am, 9 and 11:15
 22nd: Senior Celebration Lock-in (H.S.)

24th: Confirmation
27th: Last WPW

May

1st: Graduation
8th: Mother's Day Brunch, Teacher Appreciation

June

20th - 24th: Vacation Bible School

BUDGET SUMMARY						
	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	YTD	YTD	BUDGET	BUDGET
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 65,929.91	\$ 169,541.71	\$ 561,327.95	\$ 751,178.74	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,081.69	\$ 2,223.10	\$ 27,082.27	\$ 31,384.80	\$ 26,200.00	\$ 35,700.00
OPER & MAINT	\$ 5,577.53	\$ 10,104.56	\$ 70,780.23	\$ 73,151.22	\$ 86,000.00	\$ 94,750.00
CHRISTIAN ED	\$ 294.25	\$ 1,790.17	\$ 8,430.08	\$ 8,359.72	\$ 14,550.00	\$ 24,100.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 39,029.81	\$ 34,276.38	\$ 364,991.42	\$ 450,311.24	\$ 462,125.00	\$ 511,221.00
MISSION	\$ 12,827.96	\$ 8,954.41	\$ 46,000.00	\$ 60,417.46	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$ 161.89	\$ 1,544.49	\$ 2,410.85	\$ 13,043.51	\$ 4,023.00	\$ 15,800.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ -	\$ 220.41	\$ 248.97	\$ 556.86	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
HOSPITALITY & DEACONS	\$ 239.77	\$ 725.43	\$ 2,435.82	\$ 2,242.37	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH	\$ 375.00	\$ 576.44	\$ 2,308.36	\$ 1,893.98	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,700.00
PER CAPITA	\$ 1,615.25	\$ 1,561.14	\$ 19,383.00	\$ 18,733.68	\$ 19,383.00	\$ 18,734.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 62,203.15	\$ 61,976.53	\$ 544,071.00	\$ 660,094.84	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
	\$ 3,726.76	\$ 107,565.18	\$17,256.95	\$ 91,083.90		

Are you looking for a way to support Westminster? Check out the options at wpcw.org/giving

January Session and Annual Meeting Minutes

To read the January Session Minutes click [HERE](#)

To read the Annual Meeting minutes click [HERE](#)

Broadcast Techs Needed!

Sound and broadcast techs are needed for both 9:00 am and 11:15 am services. If you are willing to learn and help, please contact Jodi at jodi@wpcw.org.

AARP is once again offering free tax service. Appointments are required; to sign up call 319-334-1019 (weekdays between 9 and 5) to schedule.

Please share us with your friends!
Visit us online at wpcw.org