



TO CHANGE OUR WORLD

## Save the Date

- Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> - Decorate church for Christmas after worship  
Light lunch provided.
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve service  
at 7 pm.



29043 T Avenue

P.O. Box 278

Phone: 515-987-4937

waukeechristianchurch@msn.com

www.WaukeeChristianChurch.com

## The Pastor's Pen

"Advent" is an English word that we get from the Latin word, *Adventus*. *Adventus* means "arrival." It is the Latin translation of the Greek word Paul uses for the Second Coming of Christ. For Christians, historically, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives: In the flesh at Bethlehem, in our hearts during our daily lives, and at the end of time when Christ returns in his glory. That is why during the season of Advent the scriptures and the sermons can sometimes seem to not be related to Christmas very much at all.

So, because Advent means arrival, and because God has come near to us in Christ, I would like to do something a little different with Advent this year than what is traditionally done. Traditionally, the emphasis has been placed on us and what we do - on us getting ready for the arrival of the birth of Jesus. But because "Advent" means "arrival" and because God really has come near to us in Christ, the emphasis for Advent this year will be that at Advent, God makes the effort to come to us. We will be developing that good news during the services each Sunday in December.

- First Sunday of Advent - God comes to us in fiery furnaces - Sermon text Daniel 3:1-30 (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace)
- Second Sunday of Advent - God comes to us in a Valley of Dry Bones - Sermon Text Ezekiel 37:1-14)
- Third Sunday of Advent - God comes to satisfy our needs - Sermon Text Isaiah 55:1-13
- Fourth Sunday of Advent - God comes to us in flesh - Sermon Text John 1:1-18
- Christmas Eve - God comes to us in the birth of a child - Sermon Text Luke 2:1-14

Come join us this Advent season to celebrate the reason for the season. Because God has come to us in hope, love, joy and peace.

God's blessings and I will be seeing you along the way

Pastor Brad Thornton

[waukee.interim.minister@gmail.com](mailto:waukee.interim.minister@gmail.com)

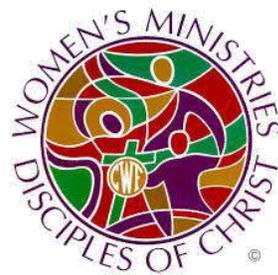
515.240.1243

# Cross Words

December 2017



Thank you for your participation!! Thanks to all who packed an Operation Christmas Child boxes, we will be blessing 34 children this holiday season!



CWF met November 1 and will meet again on January 3, 2018. This will be a weather permitting situation for the winter months.

At the Nov. meeting Evelyn Dowell provided a lesson on Psalm 17 Verse 8.

The lesson related to an apple, and we all took home a delicious apple to enjoy. It was decided to look into the history of Waukee Christian Church with the info that we have and see where that will lead us. The card ministry was continued. Fellowship was enjoyed by all. Come join us in January.



## BETWEEN THE COVERS

Between the Covers will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> to review *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman (fiction). See you there!



Thanks to all who "shared your feast" with Waukee Area

Christian Services this Thanksgiving. Five complete meal boxes, five packs of canned goods, monetary donations and gift cards were contributed from our church. With donations and food drives from other Waukee area churches and schools, over two hundred families will receive food boxes this Thanksgiving to nourish and warm their hearts.

Let me know or check the WACS website at [WaukeeChristianServices.org](http://WaukeeChristianServices.org) if you'd like to be involved with the December Christmas Food Boxes and Gifts for Kids.

# Cross Words

December 2017



The 2017 Annual WCC Congregation Meeting was held Nov. 19, following church service. Approximately, 40 were in attendance. Executive Team Chair, Ron Hardersen, called the meeting to order. Treasurer, Ryan Taylor presented the amendments to the church bylaws. The proposed bylaw changes were emailed to the congregation Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and were presented and approved at the congregation meeting. For a complete copy of the bylaws, contact the office or any Executive Team member.

Ryan then presented the 2018 proposed budget, going through the detail. Ryan explained we do have unknowns due to our search for a 'settled pastor' and not estimating non-pledged amounts. The proposed budget was approved by the majority.

The 2018 Executive Team Officers approved are: Chair - Jack Harris; Co-chair - Jim Pfeifer; Treasurer - Ryan Taylor; Recording Secretary - Linda O'Hair; Financial Secretary - Beckie Myers. The Executive Team meetings are held each month on the second Sunday following fellowship. All of the congregation is welcome to attend. The ministry chairs join the meetings quarterly. The 2018 ministry chairs are Property - Marc DeJong; Worship - Julie Cornelius; Mission/Outreach - Linda Foltz; Hospitality - Lorrie Grandgenett; Christian Education - Shari Burgus.



## Give the gift of Food

Bless a family this Christmas by providing all the ingredients for a Christmas meal. Below are a few suggested items to include in your Gift of Food box.

Keep in mind when purchasing food that the families will not be receiving their gift until December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please, do not include perishable items or items that may spoil prior to pick up.

We suggest providing enough food for a family of four to six. Feel free to personalize your gift and to be as generous as you would like.

- Ingredients for green bean casserole - green beans, cream of mushroom soup, French fried onions
- Canned corn
- Crackers
- Baked beans
- Egg Noodles
- Potatoes and gravy
- Boxed stuffing
- Corn muffin mix or rolls
- Ingredients to make a pie - pumpkin pie filling, boxed crust, evaporated milk
- Jell-O and canned fruit
- Toilet paper
- Shampoo/body soap
- Toothpaste
- Kleenex/napkins
- Grocery store gift card

Place your items in a box with a lid or that closes flat (if a second box is needed for your items, please make sure they are clearly marked - i.e. Box 1 of 2, Box 2 of 2). We will be distributing over 200 Gift of Food Boxes and we'll need to stack these until distribution day. Feel free to wrap your box in Christmas wrap and make it as festive as you like. Return your Gift of Food box by December 10<sup>th</sup>

Donations can be returned to the Food Pantry Mondays 4-6 pm or Thursdays 9-11 am or 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 9-11 am. They can also be dropped off at Westview Church Mon-Fri 9am - 2 pm.

# Cross Words

December 2017



12/02 Lanita Cavanaugh  
12/03 Ora Hansen  
12/10 Phyllis Brown  
12/12 Mathew Hansen  
12/16 Mary Lou Harris  
12/17 Bradley Thornton  
12/25 Kayson Taylor



12/06 Rosalie & Jim Pfeifer  
12/16 Ruth & Duane Sindt  
12/27 Bethalene & Alan Finestead



## Change of Address? New email?

Please let the office know if you have a new address, a new email address or if you would like to receive this publication in a different way (email, snail mail, etc.)



## Start Your Day with Jesus

The November meeting of WOW was held at the home of Shari Burgus and Juanita McBeth led devotions. Nine members were present. Since we are fast approaching our busiest time of the year with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner, Juanita McBeth used this as the perfect example of our need to start each day with prayer and telling Jesus of our plans for the day. So many days we are in such a hurry trying to tie up loose ends from the day before or planning our day to be more organized only to find that the ends don't come together or something comes up to change our plans throwing everything into a tizzy.

Using Proverbs 16: 3, "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established," as a guide, she urged us to pray every morning to give our day to Him pointing out that as hard as we try, some days just don't go right. By taking a step in faith each day we can "Begin your morning by telling Jesus your plans for the day and invite Him to revise them according to His will and purpose."

We are cautioned, however, that even starting our day with prayer and asking for Jesus's guidance and blessing doesn't guarantee that we won't have those moments. But assured us that something will go right with your day.

During the business meeting we discussed the craft and bake sale which was held on Oct. 14, and were pleased at the proceeds. We also talked about how successful it was to use Signup Genius to solicit for events at church and Operation Christmas Child.

For new business, we are doing Cup of Cheer again this year at Thomas Place. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. It was suggested we try to find times to tend to the Salvation Army Kettles and Marlene told of the church having a hat and mitten tree to collect those items to donate to the schools or the food pantry. We were informed that the church board voted to have a second craft and bake sale on March 3, 2018. We discussed ways to better our bake sale and have the men be totally in charge of the lunch. It was voted to ask Lanita to add the baking of communion bread on the time and talent sheet. For this next year, it was decided that whomever hosts WOW would bake the bread for that month. Marilyn Dowell will replace Karen Neese on the list.

We named several prayer requests and closed with the CWF benediction. Our next meeting will be on Dec. 13, at Thomas Place, 560 SE Brick St., in Waukee. Hostess is Linda Wilcox.

# Cross Words

December 2017



Julie Cornelius is our Visiting Pastor. Please let her know if you are hospitalized or would like her to make a visit. Her phone contact is 515 370-3144.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving. I give thanks for the faithfulness and dedication of the members of this church. Please pray for the Search Committee and leadership of Waukee Christian Church.

~ Pastor Brad

Advent begins December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us as we consider the ways God comes to us during this season.



There will be a "Giving Tree" in the narthex during this Advent Season.

Please consider donating hats, mittens, gloves, or scarves and hanging them on this Giving Tree. The donated items will be given to children in need at Waukee Community Schools.

## Thank you!

Thanks to

- All the families who attended the All Saints service.
- Everyone who helped prepare for our Thanksgiving Feast. It was wonderful!!
- Everyone who helped "deck the halls" to get the church ready for the Advent Season (11/26/17 after worship).
- Everyone who helped prepare, serve and clean up after funeral luncheons.
- Everyone who said yes to the request to serve in leadership this coming year.

## Prayer Squares Available

Do you have a friend or family member that needs comfort and prayers? Then pick up a free prayer square in the fellowship hall to give to them.



Prayer squares are small yarn items that have been hand made by the Knit Wits just for that purpose. They come with a printed message that you can give to someone who needs comforted. They are small enough to fit in a pocket or purse, but remind them that others are thinking and praying for them. The prayer squares are located on the tall round table by the memorial plaque in the fellowship hall.

Prayer shawls are also available too. They are can be found in the prayer room.



Your giving is important to the future ministry of God's church in this place. Please give generously and with a cheerful heart.

	August	September	October
<b>Receipts</b>	\$ 6,893.78	\$ 11,979.79	\$ 12,543.85
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 8,763.14	\$ 5,592.26	\$ 9,818.30
<b>Difference</b>	(\$ 1869.36)	\$ 6,387.53	\$ 2,725.55
<b>Money available for expenses</b>	<b>\$ 21,781.83</b>	<b>\$ 28,169.36</b>	<b>\$ 30,894.91</b>



## Serving On Sunday

### December Serving Schedule

December	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Communion Prep &amp; Clean-up</b>	Marlene Risinger	Ken/Lanita Cavanaugh	Beckie Myers	Jan De Jong	Shari Burgus
<b>A/V</b>	Dave Grandgenett	Lanita Cavanaugh	Matt Hansen	Ryan Taylor	Jason Keller
<b>Greeter</b>	Judy Tyler	Linda O'Hair	Linda Wilcox	Dave/Lorrie Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch
<b>Youth Greeter</b>	Alice Ruggles	Zoey Koch	Sam Ruggles	Austin Younger	Alice Ruggles
<b>Candle Lighter</b>	Cathy Conklin	Kayson Taylor	Janelle Taylor	Cathy Conklin	Kayson Taylor
<b>Children's Moment</b>	George Risinger	Ellie Bullington	Kathy Dean	Shari Burgus	Pastor Brad
<b>Reader</b>	Ryan Taylor	Sue MacRae	Judy Tyler	Cimberly Hansen	Juanita McBeth
<b>Call to Offering &amp; Offering Prayer</b>	Shari Burgus	Judy Tyler	Cathy Conklin	Linda Foltz	Linda Wilcox
<b>Offering &amp; Communion Servers</b>	Suzanne Koch	Ken Cavanaugh	Ron Hardersen	Jim Pfeifer	Marilyn Dowell
<b>Communion Invitation</b>	Cathy Conklin	Linda Foltz	Cimberly Hansen	Linda Wilcox	Ryan Taylor
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	Cimberly Hansen	Linda Wilcox	Janelle Taylor	Juanita McBeth	Marc De Jong
<b>Fellowship</b> (please remember to take out trash)	Linda Foltz	Jan/Marc De Jong	Shari Burgus	Marlene Risinger	Suzanne Koch
<b>Child Care Attendant</b>	Alayna Younger	Reagan Cavanaugh	Zoey Koch	Alayna Younger	Reagan Cavanaugh

#### Monthly Tasks

<b>Food Pantry Delivery</b>	Shari Burgus	<b>Lock up after church</b>	Ron Hardersen
<b>Visiting Shepherds</b>	Shari Burgus/Marlene Risinger	<b>Water Indoor plants</b>	

### January Serving Schedule

If you are going to be gone, please secure your substitute and let the office know of the change. Thanks!

January	7 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Communion Prep &amp; Clean-up</b>	Linda O'Hair	Ryan Taylor	Ken/Lanita Cavanaugh	Marlene Risinger
<b>A/V</b>	Lanita Cavanaugh	Ryan Taylor	Matt Hansen	Jason Keller
<b>Greeter</b>	Marilyn Dowell	Suzanne Koch	Karen Neese	Sue MacRae
<b>Youth Greeter</b>	Zoey Koch	Sam Ruggles	Austin Younger	Alice Ruggles
<b>Candle Lighter</b>	Kayson Taylor	Janelle Taylor	Gavin Rees	Tammy Hardersen
<b>Children's Moment</b>	Kathy Dean	Ellie Bullington	Shari Burgus	George Risinger
<b>Reader</b>	Cathy Conklin	Jan De Jong	Suzanne Koch	Shari Burgus
<b>Call to Offering &amp; Offering Prayer</b>	Cimberly Hansen	Matt Hansen	Ryan Taylor	Juanita McBeth
<b>Offering &amp; Communion Servers</b>	Ken Cavanaugh	Janelle Taylor	Cimberly Hansen	Linda Wilcox
<b>Communion Invitation</b>	Tammy Hardersen	Juanita McBeth	Janelle Taylor	Cathy Conklin
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	Matt Hansen	Ron Hardersen	Ryan Taylor	Judy Tyler
<b>Fellowship</b> (please remember to take out trash)	Beckie Myers	Marc/Jan De Jong	Sue MacRae	Ken/Lanita Cavanaugh
<b>Child Care Attendant</b>	Zoey Koch	Alayna Younger	Reagan Cavanaugh	Zoey Koch

#### Monthly Tasks

<b>Food Pantry Delivery</b>	Jack Harris	<b>Lock up after church</b>	Linda O'Hair
<b>Visiting Shepherds</b>	Cimberly Hansen/Tammy Hardersen	<b>Water Indoor plants</b>	Beckie Myers

# December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	4	<b>5</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 
<b>10</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  <i>Noisy Offering today!</i> Support Team after Worship	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>13</b> WOW Cup of Cheer 560 SE Brick Dr. 6:30 pm	<b>14</b> <div style="border: 2px dashed red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b> </div>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> Office Closed  <i>Merry</i> <b>CHRISTMAS</b> 	<b>26</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 
<b>31</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship						

# Cross + Words

December 2017

Waukee Christian Church  
29043 T Avenue  
P.O. Box 278  
Waukee, Iowa 50263



## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

10:00 am Worship Service  
11:00 a.m. Coffee

### **...OUR STAFF...**

**Interim Pastor:** Reverend Brad Thornton

**Visiting Pastor:** Julie Cornelius

**Admin. Assistant:** Lanita Cavanaugh

### **... CHURCH OFFICE ...**

#### **Office Hours**

Tuesday & Thursday  
8:30AM – 3:30PM

#### **Phone**

(515) 987-4937

#### **Email**

[waukeechristianchurch@msn.com](mailto:waukeechristianchurch@msn.com)

#### **Website**

[waukeechristianchurch.com](http://waukeechristianchurch.com)



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### **NOTICE:**

If you no longer wish to receive the WCC newsletter, please notify the office at 515-987-4937. If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, send your email address to [waukeechristianchurch@msn.com](mailto:waukeechristianchurch@msn.com). Thank you.

**~ We are People of the Table ~**  
**~ Living Faith on the Edge of Waukee ~**



**Connecting** people to each other and the world.

**Growing** spiritually through the renewing of our minds.

**Honoring** the Image of God in all people.

*The Waukee Christian Church Newsletter is published monthly.*