

Cross + Words

January, 2017



The Pastor's Pen

"May God send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion." Psalm 20: 2

Where will you be on New Year's Eve? I can barely make it long enough to see the ball drop in Times Square. Don't get me wrong - I have my traditions. New Years, for me, means eating shrimp cocktail and chocolate covered peanuts. Not necessarily at the same meal, but it's not New Years without them.

We often spend the evening with church family and friends. I remember one New Year's Eve party at Ankeny Christian Church where two of the sweetest women I know, the minister's wife and the organist, played such a vicious card game of Spoons that it literally drew blood! Good times....

So where will you be? Where ever it is, God will be making it a sanctuary - or at least trying to with your help.

Some folks will spend New Year's Eve in an AA meeting, one of God's strong sanctuaries in a world that celebrates alcohol. New Year's is the kind of holiday that can be hard to take "one day at a time".

Other people will be working the night shift - in emergency rooms, and police cars, and fire stations - as they keep our world healthy and safe.

Still others will be gathering up chairs in a Weight Watcher's meeting, or boarding airplanes for long flights home, or sitting in Alzheimer's Care units, or dialysis chairs, or homeless shelters. Where will you be?

The psalmist lifts up the prayer, "God grant your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans, that we may shout in joy over your victories."

Your heart's desire might be losing 10 pounds, or staying sober, or being financially secure. But God's desires are found in all the surprising sanctuaries where one or more are gathered to care for and help each other.

May your New Year be filled with shouts of joy. And may you find yourself in a strong sanctuary of community.

Recognize the sanctuary. Be the help that someone needs you to be.

Happy New Year.

Pastor Sue



29043 T Avenue

P.O. Box 278

Phone: 515-987-4937

waukeechristianchurch@msn.com

www.WaukeeChristianChurch.com



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Thank you!

Thanks to

- The Sunday School teachers for teaching their students our Christmas song
- Jim Pfeifer and George Risinger for bringing the Storm Trooper to our worship
- The faithful group meeting for book study
- Rosalie Pfeifer and all her elves for organizing the gift wrapping and goodies for our Guatemala trip
- All who helped with the Christmas Eve Services!
- Sophia Ahmad, Max Crees, Gavin Crees, Jim Pfeifer, and Angie Crees for bringing us the Casting Call message on the 18th



I deeply appreciate the generous love offering. You are such a warm congregation. The best part about working with you these last few years is that you are family. I hope the Lord continues to bless you and your ministry in the community. Thanks again for your love!

~ Lanita

Thank you



Dear Church Friends,

Bethalene and I want to thank you for the in-home delivery of the delicious Thanksgiving meal.

Also, thank you for the cards during these challenging times.

May the Lord Bless and continue to fill you with His love and grace.

Alan & Bethalene

JOIN US FOR A PLANNING MEETING

All Ministry Chairs, Executive Committee members, Youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, and ANYONE interested in supporting the mission of this church should plan to attend the calendar planning meeting:

January 15th at 11:45 am
Pizza Provided!





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

	September	October	November
Receipts	\$ 8,320.08	\$ 13,244.46	\$ 10,771.03
Expenses	\$ 10,014.71	\$ 10,681.71	\$ 10,038.25
Difference	(\$ 1,694.62)	\$ 2,562.75	\$ 732.78
Money available for expenses	\$ 24,158.31	\$ 26,721.06	\$ 27,453.84

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Your wonderful support of our ministry together during this Christmas Season has meant so much. For all the cards, gifts, phone calls, coffee out, and words of blessings, Jerry and I thank you!! We are a church family, and we are grateful to call you friends in Christ. We pray that 2017 will send us blessings and challenges as we respond to God's call in this place.

Pastor Sue & Jerry



The weekly book study group has decided to read the Gospel of Luke beginning on January 10th. During our weekly Advent study, we read each of the four incarnation narratives. Now we continue the story through Luke's eyes. Join us at the church on Tuesday, January 10th, at 6:30 p.m. We will decide a convenient schedule as we walk with Luke up to Easter.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group met at Cusi Cucina in Clive on December 14th for an evening of really good food and fellowship. 10 men were able to attend and enjoyed each other's conversation.

It seems that eating has been the theme of our last couple of meeting so we are changing it up a little for our next meeting. **We will go downtown for a hockey game at Wells Fargo Arena on January 18th. Game time is 7 pm.** We can either have a meal together at the restaurant at Wells Fargo or eat at a close by restaurant beforehand.

If you have any questions you can call George Risinger at 707-0837.



Between the Covers will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, January 30th, at the home of Cimberly Hansen, to review *A Beautiful Blue Death* by Charles Finch. See you there!

Noisy Offering This Sunday



Make sure to bring your change this Sunday to contribute to our Noisy Offering, taken every third Sunday of the month!



Bring your pocket change on **Sunday, January 8th**

The youth will again be collecting "Noisy Offering" to support the Guatemala Mission Trip.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 01/02 Jim Pfeifer
- 01/03 Marlene Risinger
- 01/09 Julie Cornelius
- 01/11 Darcey Gruber
- 01/12 Roberta Petty
- 01/21 Shari Burgus
- 01/24 Matthew Cross
- 01/24 Janelle Taylor
- 01/29 Natalie Keller

Happy Anniversary

- 01/21 Cathy & Robert Phillips



If you are new to the Disciples of Christ, a member or a visitor, and would like to learn more about the Denominations history and beliefs, come join us on January 15th during Sunday School at 9 a.m. There are no tests, but you may learn a lot!



WOW held its annual Cup of Cheer meeting for its Christmas meeting at the home of Linda Wilcox. Fifteen ladies attended.

After the opening CWF prayer, Linda O'Hair led a short business meeting. Reports were given by Cimberly Hansen, who reported that we donated 38 boxes to Operation Christmas Child, Linda Foltz reported on the kitchen wish list purchases, Rosalie Pfeifer reported that \$410 had been raised for the Guatemala gift wrap/candy & bake sale fundraiser, and Shari Burgus was so happy that we have 60 of the 100 knitted hats so far.

The group celebrated the Cup of Cheer gift exchange. Many holiday cups were available. The creative and inventive ways to fill a cup provided some interesting comments and very unchristian "stealing" going on, while in the background the group sang Christmas Carols. Delicious and festive refreshments were served. Prayer requests followed.

We closed with the CWF benediction. **The next meeting will be at the home of Marlene Risinger at 235 Southview Dr., in Waukee, on January 11.**

Happy New Year!



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Great fundraising for our Guatemala mission trip! Our events have been SO successful that we have met Jim Pfeifer's challenge!! On January 1st, Jim will have his head shaved at the end of worship. It's gonna be a God Sighting!

Start your new year off by wishing Jim a Happy New Year (he will be the bald guy...)



Thanks to all who have helped weave some warmth for our Missionaries to take with them in February to Guatemala. With your help, 100 hats will be going to bless the heads of local children. Your fingers wove a story of love into each hat. **During worship on January 8th**, we will bless the hats for their special journey.

Below and to the right are pictures of all the goodies that were part of the fundraising efforts to support the mission trip to Guatemala.





January Serving Schedule

January	1 st	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
Communion Prep & Clean-up	Jan De Jong	Lorrie Grandgenett	Shari Burgus	Marlene Risinger	Linda O'Hair
A/V	Jason Keller	Matt Hansen	Dave Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch	Jerry Woods
Greeter	Matt Hansen	Cathy Conklin	Marlene Risinger	Marc De Jong	Jan De Jong
Youth Greeter	Alice Ruggles	Zoey Koch	Sam Ruggles	Ximen Markway	Austin Younger
Candle Lighter	Alayna Younger	Austin Younger	Cathy Conklin	Tammy Hardersen	Ellie Bullington
Children's Moment	Ellie Bullington	Kathy Dean	Pastor Sue Woods	George Risinger	Rosalie Pfeifer
Reader	Cimberly Hansen	Jan De Jong	Linda Wilcox	Shari Burgus	Cathy Conklin
Communion Invitation	Cathy Conklin	Cimberly Hansen	Tammy Hardersen	Linda Wilcox	Juanita McBeth
Call to Offering & Offering Prayer	Matt Hansen	Shari Burgus	Cimberly Hansen	Jan De Jong	Linda Wilcox
Communion Prayer	Marc De Jong	Marc De Jong	Shari Burgus	Cathy Conklin	Tammy Hardersen
Offering & Communion Servers	Linda Wilcox	Cathy Conklin	Lorrie Grandgenett	Dave Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch
Fellowship (please remember to take out trash)	Shari Burgus	Marlene Risinger	Linda O'Hair	Marilyn Dowell	Sue MacRae

Monthly Tasks

Food Pantry Delivery	Jan De Jong	Lock up after church	Ron Hardersen
Visiting Shepherds	Shari Burgus and Linda O'Hair	Water Indoor plants	Ellie Bullington

February Serving Schedule

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

February	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
Communion Prep & Clean-up	Jan De Jong	Lorrie Grandgenett	Linda O'Hair	Marlene Risinger
A/V	Jason Keller	Matt Hansen	Dave Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch
Greeter	Ellie Bullington	Judy Tyler	Marlene Risinger	Marc De Jong
Youth Greeter	Austin Younger	Zoey Koch	Sam Ruggles	Ximen Markway
Candle Lighter	Alayna Younger	Ellie Bullington	Cathy Conklin	Tammy Hardersen
Children's Moment	Ellie Bullington	Kathy Dean	Pastor Sue Woods	Rosalie Pfeifer
Reader	Suzanne Koch	Alayna Younger	Kathy Dean	Vicki Teas
Communion Invitation	Julie Cornelius	Juanita McBeth	George Risinger	Cathy Conklin
Call to Offering & Offering Prayer	Ron Hardersen	Ellie Bullington	Jerry Woods	Linda O'Hair
Communion Prayer	Matt Hansen	Linda O'Hair	Cathy Conklin	Matt Hansen
Offering & Communion Servers	Dave Grandgenett	Marlene Risinger	Marilyn Dowell	Jerry Woods
Fellowship (please remember to take out trash)	Sue MacRae	Marilyn Dowell	Karen Neese	Jan De Jong

Monthly Tasks

Food Pantry Delivery	Sue MacRae	Lock up after church	George Risinger
Visiting Shepherds	Ron and Tammy Hardersen	Water Indoor plants	Karen Neese

JANUARY

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 No Sunday School 10 am Worship 	2 	3 Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	4	5	6	7 
8 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship <i>Noisy Offering today!</i> Support Team after worship	9	10 Knit Wits 9:30 a.m. Book Study 6:30 pm	11 WOW 6:30 p.m. at Marlene Risinger's	12 	13	14
15 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship <i>Disciples 101 at 9 am</i> <i>Annual Calendar Planning Meeting for All Ministries after worship</i>	16	17 Knit Wits 9:30 a.m. Book Study 6:30 pm	18 Men's Group Hockey Game 7 pm	19 <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> </div>	20 	21
22 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship	23 	24 Book Study 6:30 pm	25	26 	27	28
29 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship	30  6:00 pm at	31 Knit Wits 9:30 a.m. Book Study 6:30 pm				

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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. Education Hour
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Coffee

...OUR STAFF...

Pastor: Reverend Sue Woods
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

Website
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. 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.