



## Save the Date

- June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Blitz Build at the Camp in Newton
- August 23<sup>rd</sup> - All Congregational Gathering at the CCC in Newton.



## The Pastor's Pen

Greetings! It's been a month now that I have been with you as an interim minister. April seemed to have flown by. From Palm Sunday with the enthusiasm of the children and the palms to Easter Sunday with the sunshine and visitors in church, April, for me, was a meaningful month.

The season of Easter and the weeks following have traditionally been devoted to exploring the meaning of resurrection and the new things God has done in Jesus.

Those things are particularly applicable for Waukee Christian Church now in its continuing witness to the Waukee community. On the first Sunday after Easter we met in the fellowship hall to consider issues involving decisions associated with the church location and property. It was a lively and good conversation. As someone who has only been here a short while, I observed people who love their church and are seeking the best way to be a witness and blessing to the surrounding community.

Dr. Gil Rendle is a Methodist minister who has written books and given a lot of thought to churches in transition and is a leading voice in revitalization efforts for the UMC. In one of his books Rendle said that every church should answer three questions: (1) Who are we; (2) Who is our neighbor; and (3) What is God calling us to do? Those are three weighty questions but I sensed a desire to engage them in our meeting the First Sunday after Easter.

So, I feel blessed to be a part of you in the coming weeks and months as Waukee Christian Church considers resurrection and the new thing God may be calling it to do and be. Resurrection and new things can be confusing, even frightening. Just ask the first disciples who tried to understand the meaning of it all in their context. But, in Jesus, the world really has changed. And as people of the resurrection, we are given the great gift of being part of it all.

So, God bless you and I will be seeing you along the way.

Rev. Brad Thornton  
515.240.1243

waukee.interim.minister@gmail.com

# Cross + Words

May, 2017



## GRADUATION SUNDAY

Join Us Sunday



Please help us honor our graduates on Sunday, **May 21<sup>st</sup>**. Brooke Howsare and Jordan Hansen will both be graduating from college and Jason Keller and Cassie Hansen will be graduating from high school. Let's celebrate as they take "church" out into their new adventures!

## Volunteers Needed!

Do you love having children in church?



Then we want to make sure we offer them and their parents excellent childcare. As our numbers increase, it will be good to offer some back up in the nursery during worship. We have excellent nursery attendants, but the child to adult ratio is high.

Listen to see if God is calling you to this important ministry. Let the office know if you can volunteer once every 4-5 weeks as a nursery assistant. And, on those Sundays when our nursery staff is gone, you can substitute for them.



Join us in honoring "our" mothers and all ladies of our church on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.



We will be holding "Church Outside the Walls" on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Meet at Spurgeon Manor (Care Center)

1204 Linden in Dallas Center to show others we care and make a difference in our community. There are several ways to serve the residents:

- Sprucing up the courtyard
- Visiting
- Playing games, coloring, and/or puzzles
- Providing worship service

### Lunch Available

Lunch will be available at Spurgeon Manor after our event for \$4.00 per person. Lunch includes salad and soup bar plus entrees. Reservations are needed in advance. Sign up for lunch by May 28<sup>th</sup>. You will pay the day of the event.

### Sign Up Sheets

Signup sheets are in the fellowship hall. Please sign up to help with one of the activities. Please plan on attending and show that "church" is everywhere, not just in a sanctuary!



Please help us honor our teachers on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. They work very hard and are extremely dedicated to working with our kids!

# Cross + Words

May, 2017



Support Team Meeting May 7<sup>th</sup> after fellowship

Noisy Offering



May 14<sup>th</sup>



Now What? – A conference on reimagining ... our buildings, our mission, our leadership

A Pre-Assembly Event:

Saturday, July 8, 2017

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Indiana Convention Center

# NOW WHAT?

A Conference on Reimagining

We get it. The past is the past. We need to innovate, create, find new ways to use our buildings and be the church. But, how do we get there? **“Now What? – A conference on reimagining...our buildings, our mission, our leadership”** is designed to help your congregation take the next steps toward becoming better stewards of your Holy Place for mission and ministry.

This one-day event is a collaboration of the Building Funds of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ and The Episcopal Church.

#### Presenters:

- Janet Hellner-Burris, Pastor, Christian Church in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania – “Connecting to the Community”
- Steve Hellner-Burris – “Creative and Alternative Sources of Funding”
- William Crowder, Pastor, Park Manor Christian Church, Chicago – “Changing Locations for Changing Needs”
- Katie Hays, Galileo Church, Mansfield, Texas – “Leadership for the Millennial Culture”

The day will include table talks with other conference participants; practical “how we did this” pointers following each presentation; worship and lunch.

Registration: \$75 per participant, or \$199 for three registrants from a single congregation (registered together at the same time). [Register here.](#)

 update

Please update your Church Directory:

Orville & Lois Bannister  
805 SE Gateway Drive, Apt. 215  
Grimes, IA 50111  
515-210-0490

## Thank you!

Thanks to

- Shari Burgus and Rosalie Pfeifer for their mission presentation and for being willing to serve in mission
- WOW for all they do for the community and their involvement in the church
- Julie Cornelius for her gifts and visiting ministry
- Sophia and John for their contributions to the music ministry of the church
- The entire membership for your warm welcome of Jill and Pastor Brad

# Cross Words

May, 2017



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 05/05 Nancy Erdman
- 05/06 Dolores Brown
- 05/09 Sue MacRae
- 05/12 Leonard O'Hair
- 05/14 Haleigh Cross
- 05/15 Mike Keller
- 05/16 Marilyn Smith
- 05/18 Chris Keller
- 05/23 Libby Hansen
- 05/23 Brad Neese
- 05/24 Jean Swallow
- 05/27 Audrey MacRae
- 05/28 Wayne Breckenridge

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 05/15 Tammy & Ron Hardersen
- 05/30 Cimberly & Matt Hansen

## WIC

Smart Choices • Healthy Families

WIC will be using our building from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday and Wednesday).

# SHOE DRIVE



Save Your Souls! The 4th Annual Shoe Drive will kick off on Sunday, May 21st and end on August 20th. The first year we collected over 7,500 pairs. The 2nd year we collected over 16,000 pairs. Last year we collected 7,900 pairs. This year our goal is collect one more pair than before. Let's keep stretching ourselves in mission!



Thanks for your generous support of WACS Easter Baskets of Love.

The challenge goal of 100 pairs of socks and 100 pairs of underwear was met and exceeded.

We collected over 200 pairs of socks, more than 150 pairs of underwear, 9 bags of candy, miscellaneous surprises, as well as cash to fill in the gaps.

## THE CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

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

	January	February	March
<b>Receipts</b>	\$ 9,371.25	\$ 7,567.24	\$ 11,981.47
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 9,282.99	\$ 11,981.61	\$ 10,795.82
<b>Difference</b>	\$ 88.26	(\$ 4,414.37)	\$ 1,185.65
<b>Money available for expenses</b>	<b>\$ 27,177.74</b>	<b>\$ 22,763.37</b>	<b>\$ 23,949.02</b>

## Congregational Meeting

Held on Sunday, April 23, 2016

From: Ryan Taylor, Treasurer and Exploratory Team Member

Purpose: Provide Update on Church Property

Dear Member,

A congregational meeting was held during fellowship on Sunday, April 23rd to provide members an update on the status of the church property.

\* The Board was informed by Pastor Sue at the November 6th board meeting that we would be receiving information on someone interested in wanting to purchase our church property. The Waukee Director of Economic Development had contacted her with this information. On December 16, 2016, the church received a “Letter of Intent to Purchase Waukee Christian Church Property”.

\* The initial offering had a price of \$305,000, which was basically the value of the land and property that the Dallas County Assessor had put on the property tax rolls. The church does not pay property taxes, so assessed value was low to begin with.

\* An Exploratory Team was established by Pastor Sue to look into this Letter of Intent. This group felt that its duty was to obtain all necessary information that we could to present to the congregation that would help you make an informed decision on the property. It is currently made up from the following people:

Ron Hardersen – Board Chairman Jack Harris – Board Vice Chairman

Ryan Taylor – Treasurer Marc De Jong

Linda Foltz Suzanne Koch

Jerry Woods (no longer on committee) Pastor Sue Woods (no longer here)

\* In December/January the Exploratory Team meet various times to discuss, and also meet with the following individuals:

- Dan Dutcher – City of Waukee Development Director
- Dan Hunt – Architect from Connect Architecture and Design in Clive that specializes in Church design/layout, new building and remodeling existing buildings.
- Obtained an Appraisal of the church property from The Olson Group

\* On January 30, 2017, after meetings with the individuals mentioned above and through multiple communications between the Exploratory Group, it was decided to send an initial counter-proposal on the Letter of Intent back with a price of \$2,500,000. The group settled on this amount from the information we had expecting a new similar sized building to what we current have to cost around \$1,500,000 to build and the acquiring of land to cost around \$400,000 to \$500,000. We asked for more than what we thought it would take to relocate for the simple fact that we were approached initially and were not looking to relocate at all. If they want our property, then they will pay us for our property so that it has no affect going forward on us. Meaning no debt taken on to relocate and additional money in our coffers.

\* Buyer has indicated that our counter offer was higher than expected, so they have “tabled” their interest for the time being. This may mean that they are wanting to finish up any potential deals with land owners around us first as they represent the larger area they need. They could resume communications with us as they get more agreements in place around us. We only represent 4 acres of land, but it is located on the corner of property they are looking at.

\* Various comments and questions were had amongst the members in attendance on Sunday.

\* I stressed that any FINAL decision on the church property must be approved by a VOTE of the Membership. The Exploratory Team cannot and will not make any final decisions on the property. We will provide members with the necessary information available to make an informed decision, but whether the church sells or not will be decided by a vote of the Waukeel Christian Church Members.

In closing, what I believe was learned from this informational meeting was:

\* There is great passion for our church. Its physical presence and its members.

\* The church being here 27 years has a lot of memories and sentimental attachments to members.

\* There were people who did not agree when we left the old church location in town and moved here, meaning everyone will not agree with whatever the next decision is, to sell or stay.

\* The church parking lot is in need of repair, which the congregation voted to approve last year. Those repairs may cause the church to borrow up to \$40,000 to repair the parking lot if we as a congregation cannot come up with additional funds from contributions. This will require some adjustments to the budget this year and going forward to cover the loan repayments.

\* After 27 years, the church building needs freshening up (walls and ceilings need paint, window frames & sills need sanded and stained, etc.)

\* The congregation needs to come up with a Strategic 3 to 5 year Plan for the Church. We need to know what our vision is for the church as we proceed forward and as we search for our new pastor.

- What do we want to be as a church?
- Where do we see ourselves in the future?
- What is important for us to accomplish in our ministries?

You will start seeing more communications related to this soon, as it is a very important step we need to take. We need input from all members as we formulate our plan going forward. Communication is key, so reach out to members of the Board or Exploratory Team if you have any questions/concern or ideas as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Ryan Taylor, the Church Board and Exploratory Team Members

# Cross Words

May, 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.



## 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.)



Between the Covers will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> to review *The Prayer Box* by Lisa Wingate (Fiction). See you there!



April Showers Bring May Flowers

The April meeting of WOW was held at the home of Linda O'Hair. Eight members were present. Following the financial report, we discussed all that the group had done since the last meeting which included the retirement party for Pastor Sue, a bridal shower for Jessica Keller, a coffee cake welcome for Interim pastor, Brad Thornton and his wife, Jill, and preparing a meal for the Ronald McDonald house at Methodist and Mercy hospitals. It was a busy month.

Tammy led devotions with an April Showers theme. We all know April showers bring May flowers. They also bring rainbows. The rainbow was God's sign to us after the flood that he would never again destroy the world. Rainbows are made of several colors and Tammy, with the aid of her background in Rainbow, an organization with its roots in Biblical teachings, gave an interpretation of what the seven colors represent to her.

Red, the first color, represents love which involves unselfish service to others. Faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love. To show it gives evidence that you care.

Orange, the second color, represents religion, a word used many ways in the Bible often times urging us to worship. But we are not to replace God's commandments with man-made teachings.

The third color of the spectrum is yellow, representing nature, which is something we can all relate to. Its beauty is beyond belief and it proves the existence of a Creator.

The fourth color is green representing immortality and reminding us that we will die, but through Jesus we are saved.

The fifth is blue, the color of fidelity, the quality or state of being faithful. The dictionary defines it as a firm belief in something for which there is no proof. A Christian believes and is faithful.

Next in line is indigo, which denotes patriotism, love for or devotion to your country.

Violet is the last color of the rainbow which stands for service. As a Christian, we are to serve others, a sign of our love for them and Jesus, and what He teaches.

We were urged to rethink our idea of a rainbow, that perhaps it is more than just something pretty after a rain, and think of how those colors can reflect your actions to others.

Linda served a delicious dessert, her mother's recipe. Tammy agreed to lead WOW next year. As we have done in the past, we will close our year with an evening meal at the Club Car at 5:00 p.m. on May 10th.



## May Serving Schedule

May	7 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Communion Prep &amp; Clean-up</b>	Lanita Cavanaugh	Jan De Jong	Shari Burgus	Ryan Taylor
<b>A/V</b>	Jason Keller	Matt Hansen	David Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch
<b>Greeter</b>	Linda Foltz	Beckie Myers	Marc De Jong	Marlene Risinger
<b>Youth Greeter</b>	Alice Ruggles	Sam Ruggles	Austin Younger	Kayson Taylor
<b>Candle Lighter</b>	Ellie Bullington	Kayson Taylor	Cathy Conklin	Janelle Taylor
<b>Children's Moment</b>	Rosalie Pfeifer	Ellie Bullington	Shari Burgus	Kathy Dean
<b>Reader</b>	Cimberly Hansen	Linda Foltz	Jan De Jong	Shari Burgus
<b>Communion Invitation</b>	Tammy Hardersen	Janelle Taylor	Juanita McBeth	Cathy Conklin
<b>Call to Offering &amp; Offering Prayer</b>	Matt Hansen	Cimberly Hansen	Linda Foltz	Jan De Jong
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	Cathy Conklin	Linda Wilcox	Tammy Hardersen	Marc De Jong
<b>Offering &amp; Communion Servers</b>	Ken Cavanaugh	Jim Pfeifer	Marilyn Dowell	David Grandgenett
<b>Fellowship</b> (please remember to take out trash)	Jan/Marc De Jong	Mary Lou/Jack Harris	Marlene Risinger	Linda O'Hair

### Monthly Tasks

<b>Food Pantry Delivery</b>	Sue MacRae	<b>Lock up after church</b>	Ron Hardersen
<b>Visiting Shepherds</b>	Shari Burgus & Cimberly Hansen	<b>Water Indoor plants</b>	Lanita Cavanaugh

## June Serving Schedule

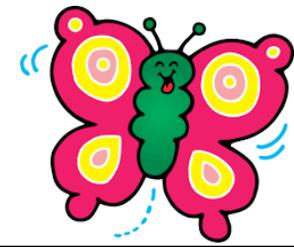
If you are going to be gone, please secure your substitute and let the office know of the change. Thanks!

June	4 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Communion Prep &amp; Clean-up</b>		Jan De Jong	Shari Burgus	Ryan Taylor
<b>A/V</b>		Matt Hansen	David Grandgenett	Suzanne Koch
<b>Greeter</b>	Church Outside the Walls	Beckie Myers	Marc De Jong	Marlene Risinger
<b>Youth Greeter</b>		Sam Ruggles	Austin Younger	Kayson Taylor
<b>Candle Lighter</b>		Kayson Taylor	Cathy Conklin	Janelle Taylor
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<b>Communion Prayer</b>		Linda Wilcox	Tammy Hardersen	Marc De Jong
<b>Offering &amp; Communion Servers</b>		Jim Pfeifer	Marilyn Dowell	David Grandgenett
<b>Fellowship</b> (please remember to take out trash)		Mary Lou/Jack Harris	Marlene Risinger	Linda O'Hair

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# May 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.  Election	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7</b> 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship  Support Team after fellowship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.   8:30 am - 5 pm	<b>10</b> WOW 6:30 p.m. at Linda O's   8:30 am - 5 pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship   Noisy Offering today!	<b>15</b> <div style="border: 1px dashed red; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             Newsletter Articles Due         </div>	<b>16</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9 am Education Hr. 10 am Worship  Last day of Sunday School Graduation Sunday Teacher recognition Shoe Drive kicks off	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10 am Worship	<b>29</b> 6:00 pm  	<b>30</b> Knit Wits 9:30 a.m.	<b>31</b>			

# Cross + Words

May, 2017

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...

**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

**Website**  
waukeechristianchurch.com



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Church

### 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.*