



# Spreading the Word

Washington Presbyterian  
Church

MAY 2021

## From the Pastor's Desk....

*"I am grateful to God—when I remember you and recall your tears. I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that live your grandmother and your mother. 1 Timothy 1:5*

*On May 9<sup>th</sup> we celebrate our mothers—who they are, have been, and who continues to be in our lives. As I grow older, I have a constant reminder of my mother—each morning when I look in the mirror—there she is. As a young girl I remember saying to myself that I would never want to be like her. Surprise! I have become here in so many ways and my grandmother as well. Why is it we never appreciate them when we are young? The sacrifices, the kindnesses, the lessons and oh, the love. Once in a while I find myself wishing she were here to share something with her or to just talk and to tell her how much I wish I could have made her life easier. Then she would have said, "Nothing in life is easy." I ran across a wonderful story written by Erma Bombeck as a tribute to her mother. Perhaps you have heard it before, but so worth sharing.*

*When the good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of overtime when the angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around with this one."*

*And the Lord said "Have you read the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have 180 moveable parts, all replaceable; run on black coffee and leftovers; have a lap that disappears when she stands up; a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair; and six pair of hands."*

*The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands...no way!" "Its not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."*

*"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors and when she asks 'what are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows; another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know; another here in the front that can look at a child when he goofs up and says, 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word..."*

*"I can't quit now...already I have one who heals herself when she is sick, can feed a family of six on a pound of hamburger, and can get a nine-year old to stand under the shower."*

*The angel circled the model of the mother very slowly. It's too soft," she sighed. "But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure."*

*"Can it think?"*

*"Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise and dream," said the Creator.*

*Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek,*

*"This one leaks," she pronounced. "I told you that you were putting too much into this model."*

*"Its not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear."*

*"What's it for?"*

*"Its for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride."*

*"You're a genius," said the angel.*

*The Lord looked somber and said, "I didn't put it there."*



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The deadline for submitting articles for the  
**June newsletter**

**May 22 at 5 p.m.**

articles may be e-  
mailed to  
**jsq85@aol.com**

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS—April 2021

*The April session meeting was held April 15, 2021. If you have any concerns for session, please communicate them to Clerk of Session, Cathy Strawbridge.*

The next session meeting will be Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 6:30 pm.

### **Clerk's Report:**

Received a thank you note from Great Rivers Presbytery for paying our 2021 per capita contribution.

### **Pastor's Report:**

Joy was present on Easter morning! The attendance was better than we've seen in a long time. People responded to me regarding the *Artisans of the Cross* series leading up to Easter in a positive fashion. I am happy that Sunday was enhanced because of the series. Our sanctuary looked beautiful with the lilies and spring décor.

April 12<sup>th</sup> I gladly presented a graveside service for a dear friend's brother with military honors.

Plans are in the works for my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin's May wedding.

Looking ahead: Pentecost 5/23 (wear red), Trinity Sunday 5/30 and worship in the Park 6/13.

Several phone/home visits were made to our members.

**Report of the Treasurer:** M.S.P. to approve Treasurer's report for March 2021.

**Report of Commissioner to Presbytery:** Next scheduled meetings

May 25, 2021

August 24, 2021

November 13, 2021

**Facilities and Maintenance:** (Kevin Gall)

Window from north entrance replaced and repaired with help from Bob Fink. Thank you, Bob.

Brayden has been notified to begin mowing Church property. Cost of mowing has gone up to \$50.00 per mowing.

**Finance:** Bill Strawbridge

The Finance Committee met with Jean McDonnell and Linda Locke to kick off the Review of the Books. Due to Covid, we did not have the books reviewed in 2020. We appreciate the support of these two ladies and welcome their findings.

The Support and Endowment Committee requested applications for scholarships for those seeking support for post high school education. Those applications are due by May 1.

**Member Care:** Karen Milano

Picnic in the park for June 13, 2021. Shelter has been reserved.

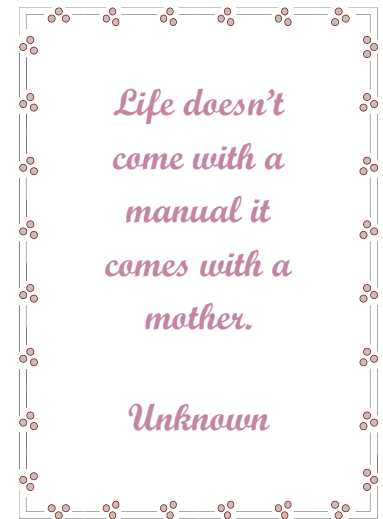


**Mission: Jean Escue****Donations for April:**

**Children's Hospital:** card games  
**Almost Home Kids:** batteries/any size  
**OSF Antepartum Unit:** none  
**WHIP-** Jelly

**Donations for May:**

**OSF Antepartum Unit:** Body Wash  
**Children's Hospital:** none  
**Almost Home Kids:** Kleenex  
**WHIP** –Canned Chicken/canned tuna in water

**Special Offering –****The next special offering is the Pentecost Offering.**

Helps youth begin life with a strong start – a solid foundation of faith formed in the first third of life, from childhood through young adulthood.

Donations will be accepted April 5– May 23(Pentecost Sunday)

**40% of the amount collected stays with our church and will be used to support the mentoring program at the schools.**

60% of the amount collected will be sent to Presbytery of Great Rivers

25% - Young Adult Volunteer

25% - Youth Ministries (ages 12-18)

10% - supports the "Educate a Child, Transform the World national initiative.

**Worship and Sacraments: (Melody Wiseman)**

Attendance:

March 21st 17 in sanctuary, 21 online (38)

March 28th 20 in sanctuary, 16 online (36) (Palm Sunday)

April 4th 30 in sanctuary, 11 online (41) (Easter Sunday)

April 11th 19 in sanctuary, 16 online (35)

Easter lilies decorated the sanctuary for Easter and were later delivered to 7 of our congregants. Thank you to the deacons for making those deliveries on Easter Sunday.

**Unfinished Business:**

PNC Committee Report update: \_Nothing more to report at this time. Keep the committee in your prayers.

**New Business:**

It was the consensus of Session to continue ZOOM Church Services through Pentecost, May23, 2021.

Crocheted needle work (The Lord's Supper, The Lord's Prayer and Madonna and Child) from Lila Neville's family was gifted to our church. Thank you.

A telescopic pole with a hook (compliments of Melody and Hal Wiseman) was donated to safely place scarf on cross. Thank you.

# MISSION

## WHIP

Canned chicken/tuna(in water)



## ALMOST HOME KIDS

Kleenex



## ANTEPARTUM UNIT

BODY WASH



## SPECIAL OFFERINGS—PENTECOST

The Pentecost offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

- \* 40% of the amount collected remains with our congregation to support local teachers and their efforts
- \* 25% of the amount collected goes to Young Adult Volunteer experience
- \* 25% of the amount collected supports ministries with youth, ages 12-18
- \* 10% of the amount collected supports the "Educate a Child, Transform the World" national initiative

Donations will be accepted April 5– May 23.

**Pentecost envelopes are on the table in the East Room**



# BITS AND PIECES

Carolyn Hardesty recently moved to Georgia near her daughter. Her new address is:



The Landing of Bogart  
 Carolyn Hardesty  
 2881 Monroe Highway  
 Building 300, Suite 205  
 Bogart, GA 30622

She would enjoy hearing from you.

## PNC COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Ministry Information Form (MIF) has been updated, approved and active.

Please continue to pray for the PNC.

**PNC Committee**

## PRAYERS FOR:

- Nancy Ponto—cancer
- Dick Freeman—Stroke
- Mark Wolf—health concerns
- Kim Siu—health concerns
- Lila Neville— health concerns
- Kim Hess (bookkeeper)—daughter-in-law has breast cancer
- Marge Honeg— recovering from a broken leg
- Ann Tharp—therapy after fall
- Darrin DeJaynes— health concerns
- Betty Hollis—Buehler Home



## CHURCH IN THE PARK

Ready for summer? Mark your calendars for our annual Church in the Park outing. Yes, that's right! This year will be a bit different but come enjoy our worship and fellowship at Wenger Shelter on June 13th at 10:30 am. We ask that everyone bring their own sack lunch and lawn chairs so that we might spread out a bit. Also please wear your masks as we are still observing Covid protocols.



**LAST ZOOM CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE SUNDAY MAY 23rd.**



Thank you to Bill Strawbridge for facilitating this important link to our church



Dick had a severe stroke on Monday April 19th If you would like to send Dick a card his address is:

Dick Freeman  
 4445 Calder Dr.  
 Marion, IA 52302



## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The 2021 Sanctuary Flower sign up sheet is available in the East Room by the office. Please sign up to provide flowers for the communion table on the third Sunday of each month. If your flowers are in honor of someone or a special celebration, please note on the sign up sheet. There will be no flowers needed in February and March due to celebrating Lent. If a vase is needed, there are several in the vestibule at the west end of the Session Room/Nursery hallway. Please feel free to use any of those vases from the box.





# May 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 
2 Worship 9:30 AM	3	4 National Teacher's Day 	5 Cinco De Mayo	6 Nurse's day 	7	8
9 Worship 9:30 AM 	10	11 Eat what you want day	12	13	14 Dance like a chicken day 	15 
16 Worship 9:30 AM	17	18	19	20 Session Mtng 6:30 PM	21	22 Newsletter Info due
23 Worship 9:30 AM Last Zoom Service	24	25	26	27 Sun Screen Day	28	29
30	31 					

**Birthdays:**

- 8 Jean Escue      17 Margie Rodgers      24 Gerald Wilder
- 16 Kim Siu      20 Pastor Linda Philabaun      29 Madeleine Siebert
- 16 Marlene Meegan      21 Ann Tharp      31 Bonnie Boss



## Mother

*A Mother always understands the things you say and do. She overlooks each of your faults, she finds the best in you.*

*A Mother's love is a special love, it inspires you each day. She spreads her joy and happiness, in her warm and caring way.*

*A Mother's all these things and more, there's no greater treasure known. The most precious Mother in all the world...*

*...Is the one I call my own.*



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