

THE

Café



September 25, 2018 Vol. 22, Issue 11

WEST DES MOINES CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS AND INFORMATION

JOIN US FOR FUN FALL FESTIVITIES!

The Church Growth committee is excited to host the 9th annual (community-wide) Trunk or Treat on **Sunday, October 28** from **2:30 - 4 p.m.** This event has been a huge success and a fun time for our church family and the community!

Join us in our parking lot as we provide a safe, fun, and free trick-or-treat environment. Children (**12 & under**) can "trick or treat" at the many theme decorated (*not scary*) vehicles. In addition, there will be a mini-hayrack ride, bounce house, fun games and snacks.

How can you help can make Trunk or Treat a success?

(1) Decorate your vehicle trunk or SUV cargo area in a *non-scary* Halloween or other theme. For inspiration, check out the list of cool decorating ideas at the kiosk or google "Trunk or Treat". Bring a large bag of individually-wrapped candy to get started and we'll keep you resupplied.

(2) Donate bags of individually wrapped candy and place in the red wagon in The Gathering by October 21.

(3) Make a monetary donation and we'll purchase the candy.

(4) Be a Candy Runner or (5) Help With Cleanup.

Sign up to participate beginning September 30 at the kiosk. For more information, contact Joy in the office.



Iowa State Singers Return to WDMCC

Don't miss this high caliber vocal performance coming to our sanctuary at **4 p.m.** on **Sunday, September 30** by Iowa State's world-class ensemble. A special guest choir from Johnston High School will also perform.

This 72-member choral ensemble is comprised of students who come from numerous areas of study at Iowa State. This select choir performs the finest literature from Renaissance to contemporary, including newly commissioned works. The I.S.U. Singers tour annually and present an authentic Madrigal Dinner every January. They have travelled internationally, singing to critical acclaim in the Baltic States, Scandinavia, China, and Korea.

Geisler Farms Corn Maze & Fall Festivities

Do you love autumn? There's nothing quite like an Iowa fall day spent finding your way through a corn maze and picking out a pumpkin to take home.

On **Wednesday, October 17**, the Friends in Faith children (*K-5th grade*) will take a field trip to Geisler Farms in Bondurant. **We will leave church at 4 p.m.** on the church bus, however more vehicles will be needed. If you can provide a ride for a couple of children from the church, please call the church office.

All parents and family or anyone who wants to join us is welcome to meet at the farm around 4:45.

Activities include: corn maze, Fun Zone, wagon rides, & more. The cost for ages 3 and up is \$8. Ages 2 and under are free.

At 5:30, we'll have a cookout and picnic, as we share hot dogs, s'mores, and fellowship around the campfire. Activities at the farm will conclude at 6 p.m., at which time parents can pick up their kids at the farm.

Alternatively, the church bus will return to WDMCC at 6:30 for those who wish to pick up their children from church. We hope your entire family can join us for this fun event!



Rock the Block

October is just around the corner, which means Habitat for Humanity's "Rock the Block" event is almost here!

This important program assists low- and moderate-income homeowners with needed repair, maintenance, weatherization, safety, accessibility, and beautification of homes. On **October 10 - 13**, WDMCC will join congregations and faith communities

from around the Des Moines area to help repair homes in the King-Irving and Mondamin Presidential neighborhoods, serving 20 - 30 homeowners in total. Meeting this goal will depend upon the work of several dedicated volunteers. Consider grabbing a friend and signing up for one of WDMCC's reserved volunteer shifts, which are available in half-day shifts every morning and afternoon of the event. **(Volunteers must be 16 years or older)**. For more information or to sign up, please contact Pastor Luke or see Stephanie in the office or at the kiosk on Sunday morning. *Thank you for considering this important way we can make a difference in our community!*

Director of Music Position

The search is now underway for candidates to interview for WDMCC's Director of Music position. This will be a part-time position, filled by someone who can **1)** share their musical gifts in worship and encourage church members to do the same; **2)** direct the adult choir; and **3)** facilitate communication between fulltime staff and other music personnel. If you know someone who might be interested in the position, contact Pastor Randy so we can connect. It's exciting to imagine how we will continue to creatively express our praise to God in song.

50th Annual Des Moines Area Hunger Hike

For decades, WDMCC has participated in the DSM area Hunger Hike in support of hungry families across Iowa. This year's walk on **Sunday, October 14**, marks the hike's 50th anniversary. The youth will be participating and we hope you'll consider supporting this great cause by making a donation. Earmark "Hunger Hike". If you'd like to join us on the walk, plan to leave the church at 12:45. Thanks for continuing to support the work of WDMCC and organizations around central Iowa whose mission is to eliminate hunger.

WDMCC Garden Yields Harvest Of Sharing

This year-to-date, **362.5 pounds** of fresh produce from our church garden has helped provide healthier meals for hungry families in central Iowa. Each week, tomatoes, beets, and peppers are harvested and taken to the DMARC Food Pantry for distribution. Thanks to Terry McDanel, the entire McDanel family, and all who help make this important ministry happen!

Donation Opportunities

Personal care items are needed for the Women's Shelter at Children and Families of Iowa.



Most needed:

bath towels, razors, hairbrushes, combined shampoo/ conditioner & plastic soap containers. **Also needed:** combs, washcloths, cloth grocery bags, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Bring donations to the collection box in The Gathering on **Sundays: September 30 and October 7**.



Services Clothing Closet.

New or gently used fall and winter clothing is needed. Bring donations to Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, October 7 ONLY, before 10:30 service.**

Sock Drive for male & female residents at



Central Iowa Shelter.

Please bring donations of packages of socks to the The Gathering collection box on **Sunday, October 14**.





Dining Disciples Groups

WDMCC has 2 monthly going-out-to-eat ministries. Enjoy great food and fun fellowship! All are welcome (working & retired couples & singles). Contact Martha if you'd like to be put on an email reminder list (martha@wdmcc.org).

MUNCHING WITH MARTHA is a monthly **LUNCH** get-together. Join us **Tuesday, October 16 @ 11:30 a.m.** at *Trellis Café* in the *Greater DSM Botanical Garden*; 909 Robert D. Ray Drive. Carpool from church at 11:00 or meet at the restaurant at 11:30. Sign up in The Gathering by the previous Sunday. Contact: Martha McDanel (250-8290).

Game Day follows back at the church at 1 p.m. for those who wish to join in the fun!

DELISH is a monthly **6 p.m. DINNER**. Join us at *Firebirds Wood Fired Grill* on **Thurs., October 25** (440 S. 68th St. – WDM).

Serving classic American cuisine with fresh herbs and spices, Firebirds also features daily scratch-made soups, entrée salads, and burgers. Sign up at the kiosk or email martha@wdmcc.org by the previous Sunday.

Need Medical Equipment?

WDMCC has a medical loan closet that you and your family and the community can use for free. Our supply includes canes, wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and more for use as long as necessary at **no charge!**

For more info, or to donate equipment, call the office.



BINGO Helpers Needed

For over 10 years, a small group of WDMCC members have been leading “Bingo” for residents at Ramsey Village (a nursing home near Drake University with past ties to the Christian Church–Disciples of Christ).



Now, we are looking for a few volunteers to replace them beginning **November 3. We have the responsibility to fulfill this obligation for one more year.** Bingo takes place at 1:30 on Saturday afternoons (every other month) with one person calling numbers while the others roam, help participants, check cards for winners and hand out prizes.

If you have a caring spirit and like to help others, call Pastor Randy. It's a fun time! Ramsey Village address: 1611 27th St. in DSM.

Join The Adult Choir—It's Never Too Late To Join!

Soon, the Adult Choir will be starting music for Advent and Christmas during our Wednesday evening rehearsals (6:30 p.m. in the Music room–behind Sanctuary). This year, the Adult Choir and Ensemble will share a special Cantata titled “God Came Near” during the first Sunday of Advent services on December 2. It's a wonderful time to join and be a part of the beautiful seasonal music! *All experience levels are welcome* – come and enjoy rehearsal, fellowship, and the beauty of sharing music with our wonderful congregation! Contact Pam Redford: pam@wdmcc.org with any questions or for more information.



Calling All Instrumental Musicians!

The Instrumental Ensemble (9th grade – adult) will join with the Adult Choir for the Cantata on December 2. Rehearsals begin on **Monday, October 22 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Music Room. If you would like to play in the Christmas ensemble, contact Becky Chaloupecky becky@wdmcc.org.

Sanctuary and Chapel Open Daily for Prayer

Whether it be uncertainty with everything going on in the world, unrest and division we have seen in our own country, joys we want to lift up, troublesome times for loved ones and friends, personal struggles, gratitude we want to express – a place for prayer, reflection, relaxation, renewal can be most helpful.

Anytime the church is open, the sanctuary and chapel are open for you. If we can be of any assistance in making this sacred space more welcoming and helpful, please inform the church staff. May we all experience the blessing of prayer.

Let's Play Pickleball—Beginning October 4

Pickleball will resume **October 4**. Game times will be at **1 p.m. on Thursdays** in the gym. All are welcome and we'll teach you how to play. Equipment is provided, but feel free to bring your own. No signup is necessary – just come and have fun!



SMALL GROUPS, BIBLE STUDIES, AND ADULT MINISTRIES

Small groups are a great way to get connected to other people and build lasting relationships at WDMCC! New members are always welcome!

ADULT CHOIR always welcomes new members! See article on page 3 for more information. Contact Pam Redford (pam@wdmcc.org).

CONNECTIONS This Sunday Church School (9:30 a.m.) discussion class is led by Dr. Randy Ehrhardt & other members looks at current topics/issues from a faith/scriptural perspective. Join us in Gym Bldg. #113 to discuss how our daily practices can animate our faith. **Topics:** Christian perspectives on food, prayer, worship, sacraments, service, community, and money.

CROSSROADS is a Sunday Church School (9:30 a.m.) member-led class for those seeking ways to live their faith beyond the church pew. Whether you have kids at home, or still feel like a kid yourself, we can all learn and laugh with one another as we figure out how to bring our faith to life in our busy, everyday lives. This Fall, we're joining the global conversation about finding true belonging in an age of increased polarization, as we discuss Brené Brown's book, *Braving the Wilderness*. Bring a friend and join us in the Gym Bldg.-room 110.

DELISH! For all ages (*working or retired couples & singles*) wanting to dine with fellow Disciples. All are welcome to join the group on **Thurs., Oct. 25 (6p)** at *Firebirds Wood Fired Grill* in WDM. See more info on page 3.

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY meets in the Fellowship Hall bldg. #302 to study the Book of Acts. For more information, contact Janice Cord @ 222-2279. All women are welcome!

GAME DAY meets monthly on the **3rd Tuesday (Oct. 16) at 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall Building #302. Everyone is welcome to enjoy fellowship and play a variety of fun games (*Dominos, Cribbage, cards, etc.*).

GOOD FELLOWSHIP BIBLE STUDY is a Sunday Church School (9:30 a.m.) multi-generational Bible study led by Pastors Mike Armstrong and Alice Bolen. It is open to all adults and meets in the Library of the Fellowship Hall Bldg. This Fall, they are studying the book of Philippians.

HELPING HANDS This volunteer group meets on **Mondays at 8 a.m.** in the kitchen to do light housekeeping and enjoy fellowship.

MEN'S CURRENT ISSUES DISCUSSION GROUP meets **Mondays @ 7 a.m.** at *Panera Bread* (4150 Westown Pkwy Ste 202). Contact: Cliff Rood @ 537-0598 or Jim Kratz @ 865-7505. All men are welcome!

MUNCHING WITH MARTHA This fun monthly lunch group is for all! On **Tues., Oct. 16 at 11:30 a.m.**, they will meet at *Trellis Cafe* at the Botanical Center. See more info on page 3.

THERAPEUTIC THURSDAYS meets on **Thursdays at 9 a.m.** in the Gym Bldg. #111. This group is for anyone who enjoys fun while helping others. Our focus: mission projects along with crafting and creating. We have projects for those of any level of craft experience or none! Supplies are furnished; ideas welcomed. *Helping others is therapeutic!* To be on a reminder email list, call or email Martha in the office.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP reads about women all over the world to help broaden their outlook. Claudia Mestdagh will review *Before We Were Young* by Lisa Wingate on **Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m.** in the Library in the Fellowship Hall bldg. Questions? Contact: Jan Stump (440-1293).

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP meets monthly on the **1st Friday**. On **Fri., Oct. 5 at 9 a.m.**, they will meet at *Perk Up* (2700 University—WDM). **All women are welcome!** Contact: Phyllis Clark (225-2181).

Y.E.S. (Young Energetic Seniors) is a Sunday Church School class (9:30 a.m.). The group also meets for social and mission events, and breakfast on the **1st Saturday** each month (**Oct. 6**) @ **7:45 a.m.** at the Hy-Vee (N.E. corner of I-35 & Mills Civic Pkwy). Contacts: Karen/Ron Townsend (225-0464).



Follow us on
Instagram

WDMCC is on Instagram!
Follow @wdmcc
for exciting images and
stories featuring our life
together as church!

Special Sunday Services On October 28

Mark your calendars for this special day as we honor WDMCC members who are 80 to 105 years of age. We'll also have the pleasure of a visit by Raccoon John Smith—a renowned Kentucky preacher/evangelist from the 19th century. In the early days of the *Disciples of Christ* movement, Raccoon John left the Baptist church to join forces with Alexander Campbell, one of the founders of the *Disciples of Christ* and the *Church of Christ*.

Still today, Raccoon John is considered a favorite son by the state of Kentucky.

Our own John H. Bolen, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Simpson College* will portray Raccoon John as we celebrate Heritage Sunday on October 28.



SAVE THE DATE!

**YES Christmas Party—December 14
(5:30 p.m.) Mill Civic Hy-Vee Clubroom**

YOUTH GROUP

Mark Your Calendars!

- September 30 Amazin-G-Race
- October 7 Ministry Teams
- October 13 Rock the Block
- October 14 Hunger Hike
- October 21 Chi Rho/CYF (& Alumni)
- October 28 Trunk or Treat/Hayrack Ride

Football Parking For Fundraising!

Youth will be parking cars in the church lot for Valley & Dowling home games on these Friday nights:

- **September 28** Valley vs. Urbandale
- **October 5** Dowling vs. Sioux City East
- **October 12** Valley vs. Ames
- **October 19** Dowling vs. Sioux City North

We will begin parking cars at 6 p.m. and finish by 7:00 or in time for you to attend the game. This is a great fundraiser for our youth programming. Please contact the church office to sign up.



Fall Fun Awaits At October 28 Hayrack Ride!

Get ready for fall fun at the annual hayrack ride on **Sunday, October 28!** Youth Expressions will be at 4:00 this day so youth can leave the church at **4:30 p.m. (sharp!)** for a hayrack ride, cookout, campfire, and games! We will return to church at 8:00.

Youth To Participate in 9th Annual Trunk Or Treat

On **Sunday, October 28**, all youth are invited to participate in the 9th annual **Trunk or Treat from 2:30-4 p.m.** We'll **meet at 2:00** to decorate the bus. We'll brainstorm decorating ideas ahead of time and have the supplies needed to do so. Clean up will be at **4:00** while Youth Expressions meets. Youth will leave church for the hayrack ride at **4:30 sharp.**



2016 The Harry Potter Bus



2017 The "ZOO" Bus



Thank you to Sherry Baze and Myra Cox who made beautiful new baby quilts for the nursery.



Children's Bibles Were Presented On September 16

WDMCC recognizes the importance of teaching children the great stories of the Bible and how to use it as a guide for their lives.

Each September, our 2nd grade children are presented a Bible during the 10:30 worship service.

Our 4 year olds also received a Bible during Church School.



Jesus loves me
THIS I know
for the BIBLE
tells ME SO



Join Us In Thanking...

...Lisa Lewis and Vicky Swarts for donations to the church library.
...The Nelson family for donating leather sofas for the Youth Room.
...Kick Off Sunday volunteers: Kitchen & Food – Mary Armstrong, Myra Cox, Deb and Kelly Dooley, Judy Harvey, Marcie and Trent King, Jan Stump and Helen Doris Wright. Rock Painting & Tattoo Station – Alice Bolen, Tammy Tychsen, and Janine Weyer. The Band – Brad Downing, Don Elliott, Wes Moore and Nick Mayhew. Also, The Many People who pitched in to set up and tear down tables and chairs and yard games.
...weekly worship service volunteers; elders, ushers, deacons, sound techs, bus drivers, and greeters.
...other weekly/monthly volunteers: Helping Hands, Care Connection, Chore Corps, office, plant care, laundry, children & youth, Stephen Ministry and communion and visitation.

We value our volunteers, who give many hours of their time to make WDMCC such a wonderful church. If you know of a person or group that should be thanked or would like more info on any of these groups, contact the office. Consider volunteering a little of your time. The rewards are heavenly!

THANK YOU

Randy, Sue and WDMCC,
Thank you very much for the lovely blanket. Also thank you very much for visiting us in the hospital! We appreciate all of the prayers from you and our WDMCC family. We are so full of joy and are enjoying all of these first moments with our baby girl.
—Justin, Rose, Oliver and Brynlee Hawke



New Members

AUGUST 19

† Kelly and Deborah Dooley

SEPTEMBER 9

† Kevin and Jill Croft

† Dick and Russine Morris

SEPTEMBER 16

† Jill and Brad Thornton

Sympathy To

† Julie Hudson and family on the death of her mother Shirley Reese on September 15.

Birth

† Brynlee Hanke, daughter of Justin and Rose, arrived on September 5. Big brother Oliver is 2 years old.

OCTOBER DEACONS

TEAM C

Captain: Claudia Doty

Kendal Bartlett, Tony Bartlett, Anne Connell-Bentall, Mike Day, Doug Dillivan, Steve Doty, Trevor Ellis, Sally Fort, Courtney Guntly, Justin Hanke, Rose Hanke, Eric Johnson, Paula Leidigh, Scott Lewis, Heather Praska, Scott Praska, Scott Roach, Chris Sterling, Mark Turner, Jim Uthe

Junior Deacons

Ashley Fletchall, Jake Sterling

OCTOBER USHERS

(8:30) Robert Baudler, Mary Jo Bracken, Barb Hawbaker
(10:30) Bev Kappelman, Marcie King, Trent King

OCTOBER SOUND TECHS

10/07 Jim Clark
10/14 Terry McDanel
10/21 Stephan McDanel
10/28 Jim Clark

OCTOBER GREETERS

10/07 Dan/Jennifer Jones
10/14 Margann Nebergall
10/21 tbd
10/28 Jan Stump

COMING SOON - 1/4 ZIP SWEATSHIRT ORDER WITH WOHCC LOGO - VARIOUS COLORS AND BACK JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING!



Order SCRIP - It's So Easy!

Scrip is Fundraising While You Shop! This amazing program turns everyday shopping into cash when you use retail gift cards to pay for everyday purchases (like gas and groceries) instead of the usual credit/debit card or other money.

It's that time of year again! Get a head start on holiday shopping! The next order date is **Sunday, October 21** at the kiosk (pickup Nov. 4). Order forms and lists of over 650 participating retailers are available at the kiosk and Fellowship Hall brochure rack.

To order, just complete a purchase form and return it, with your check, to the office or kiosk.

Orders are usually taken on the 3rd Sunday, with pick up 1-2 weeks later.

All proceeds are applied to our building fund. For more info, see Stephanie at the kiosk on Sundays or call the office.



We are updating our records as we have upgraded

our membership software this summer. Please let us know of any address, phone, email, etc. changes you may have. Also, if you're a snowbird and would like us to send your mail directly, let us know that address. Thanks for your help in keeping our records current!

OPERATING INCOME

Received year to date as of September 16, 2018...\$539,739.00
Expected year to date as of September 16, 2018...\$615,872.00



UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 30 (Reconciliation Sunday)

Cornerstone 1 Peter 2:1-8

Pastor Luke Ehrhardt

OCTOBER 7 (World Communion Sunday)

God is a River Exodus 17:1-7

Pastor Mark Ehrhardt

OCTOBER 14 (Week of the Ministry)

Inhale and Exhale the Good News James 2:14-17

Dr. Randy Ehrhardt

OCTOBER 21 (Stewardship Sunday 1)

Moments of Generosity Luke 16:10-13

Dr. Randy Ehrhardt

OCTOBER 28 (Heritage Sunday)

The Only Light We Need Galatians 3:27-29

Preacher: Raccoon Smith

For more information, see page 4.



WEST DES MOINES Christian Church

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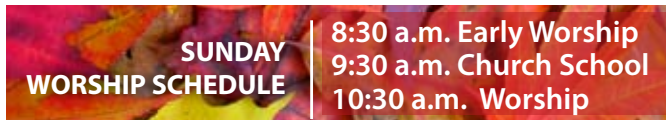
A Stephen Ministry
Caring Congregation

Christian Church (*Disciples of Christ*)

www.disciples.org

Christian Church in the Upper Midwest

www.uppermidwestcc.org



We are Disciples of Christ,

A movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

• Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity



If you no longer wish to receive the Caller newsletter, please notify the church office. If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please send your email address to stephanie@wdmcc.org. Thank you.

WDMCC STAFF

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Rev. Alice Bolen	Pastoral Minister	
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Sheryl Neal	Accompanist	
Kelley Ridgway	Food Hostess	

The *Caller* newsletter is published monthly by West Des Moines Christian Church.

Editor: Joy Butler
Submit articles to joy@wdmcc.org.

The next issue of this newsletter will mail out on **October 23**.
Deadline to submit info:
Monday, October 15.