



WAKONDA NEWS

From the Pastor's Desk

What's your version of this story? The many moments throughout your life where you learned what the church can do with your allowance, the ways your parents wrote and placed a check in the offering plate each week, how your grandparents gave a dime to drop into the offering plate? What's your giving story?

We each have those stories from walking with Grandma to the store and seeing her grocery envelope tucked next to her church envelope, all the way to those first paychecks and looking at that scant dollar amount wondering, "I'm supposed to give 10% of this to the church?"

I have no doubts your story includes moments where you gave less than you hoped because of a job change, another birth of a child, or an unforeseen home repair or medical bill. How do you manage the desire to give to the church alongside all the many worthy charities and organizations doing good work?

I also believe there were moments of surplus when you were thrilled to write a check for the youth group fundraiser or a roof repair for the sanctuary.

Money and religion are often those taboo topics we don't discuss at parties (that is if we want to be invited back); and yet every Sunday we sit in the pews not only talking about but living both things. We do this because we know

that our money tells a story.

It tells the story of how we were raised with plenty or not enough. It tells the story of our lives and the values we hold. There is a widely held (and cynical) belief that it's a "dog eat dog world." That we're only out there for ourselves and our own kind – yet the story of generosity to churches and other non-profits tells another story.

Your money story flows into the grander story of the church and the work of God in our world. It tells the story of our belief in loving and supporting one another – even those we do not know. It shows how we trust in the greater good, the presence of God's connections, and our invitation to be part of God's good vision.

This Stewardship season we'll be telling *Our Money Story*. We'll highlight the ways Wakonda lives beyond the cynical ways of our world and instead models what it means to live Christ's way of loving one another. We'll also be unpacking the many ways Wakonda stewards your generous gifts.

Starting October 12th, the Stewardship and Finance Teams will lead Sunday school lessons on all your questions and more. Have you ever wondered about the difference between our Endowment Funds and Memorial Funds? Or why we have Restricted accounts separate from our Annual Budget accounts? All of this is part of Our Wakonda Money Story, of which you play a vital role. We hope you'll join us learn as we all learn how we tell the Gospel Story through Our Money Story.

Peace,
Pastor Robyn

Wakonda Christian Church
3938 Fleur Drive DSM IA
50321
515-285-8394
Office Hours
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sr. Pastor Robyn Bles

Small Group Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4598748094>

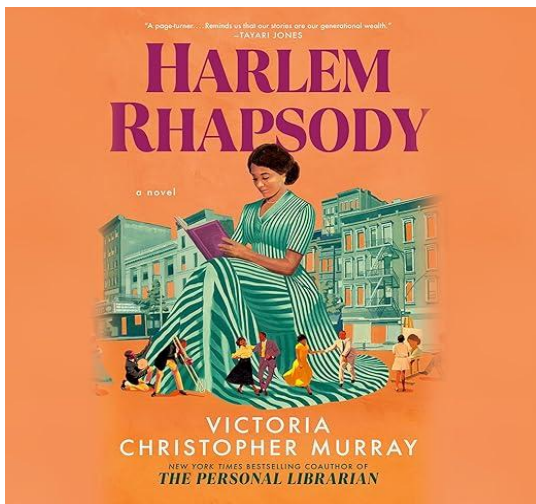
October 2025
Volume 69 Issue 10
Inside this Issue

1. Pastors Desk
2. 70th Anniversary
Book Club
October Worship
October Birthdays
3. Women's Bible Study
Trunk or Treat
Mission Outreach
Event
4. Calendar

Wakonda 70th Anniversary

Wakonda celebrates our 70th Anniversary on Dec. 11. Congregational Care is working with a special team of members to host a Homecoming and Reception on Sunday, December 7th. We're currently collecting names and address of people we'd especially like to invite. These are members who have moved away or were a pivotal part of the church's formation and ministry. Everyone is invited to help us celebrate our history and what God has in store for our future. Please contact the church office with these names and addresses. You can also speak with Amy Wiese, Sharon Newman, or Pastor Robyn if you have any questions.

Wakonda's Anti-Racist, Pro-Reconciling Book Club October Read



Our book club gathers on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. on zoom. We always have lively discussions and illuminating insights from our most recent reads. This month we're reading the historical fiction novel "Harlem Rhapsody" by Victoria Christopher Murray. This novel imagines the real-life story of Jessie Redmon Fauset, the first female editor of the NAACP magazine *The Crises*. Set during the Harlem Renaissance, this book captures the early stories of Langston Hughes, the work of W.E.B DuBois, and the ways woman nurtured the voices and talent of many African American writers and poets we still read today.

Our next meeting is Oct. 21 at 4:00. Reach out to Lucy Davisson or Pastor Robyn for zoom information.

October Worship

Oct. 5: *Living a Legacy*
Luke 17:5-10 Stewardship: Our Money Story

Oct. 12 Remember,
Luke 22:1-23 & Exodus 16:1-18

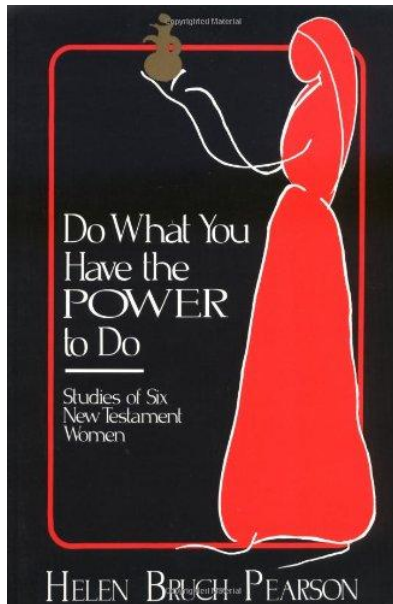
Oct. 19 Release,
Matthew 19:16-22 & Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Oct. 26 Reimagine,
Mark 12:38-44 & Leviticus 19:9-10; 25:8-12

Nov. 2 Stewardship Sunday Restore,
John 21:1-19 & Genesis 33:1-17

October Birthdays

1 Sharon Mitchell
4 Ann Bridgewater
5 Mark McMichael
6 Kate Badger
10 Dave Thomason
12 Betty Ridout
13 Pat Dawson
17 Kirk Mitchell
18 Dennis Page, Scott Pardekooper,
Clara Uthe
19 Randy Lane
23 Kent Wiese
30 Richard Guentert, Khloe Simms



Women's Bible Study

Women of Wakonda are invited to join a monthly Bible Study. We'll center our monthly discussions upon *Do What You Have the Power to Do* by Helen Bruch Pearson. Each chapter focuses upon a different woman within the Bible and the ways they each usher in God's vision for the world through their lives and daily actions.

This Bible Study will take place on the second Sundays of the month, following worship. We'll begin Sunday, November 9th at Smokey Row. We'll gather for lunch at 11:45 in the private back room. Contact Laura Lane or Pastor Robyn for more information and to order the book.



We are off to a great start of the school programming year! The youth have already worked at a community garden and enjoyed some treats and the children are loving their Sunday school time on Sunday mornings again! Thank you so much to our volunteers for giving of their time to teach and share their gifts with the youth and children at Wakonda!

If you would like any information on activities for our children and youth at Wakonda, let me know and I am happy to share! sara.patty@wakondacc.com

Mission Invitation

Wakonda's Mission Team invites you to join us in a community mission event to support Des Moines Public Schools. Even if you don't have students in the schools you are invited to join us in supporting our neighbors and community in ensuring we have the best schools and support for our teachers. This public event is on Monday, October 6th:

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
COMMUNITY OF CHRIST CHURCH
1645 PENNSYLVANIA AVE
DES MOINES, IA 50316

What's Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship Arboretum	29	30 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	October 1 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 6:00 p.m. W@W	2 11:30 a.m. W.O.W.	3	4 8:00 a.m. B.O.B.
5 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship	6 6:30 p.m. Literacy Center	7 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	8 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 6:00 p.m. W@W	9	10	11 7-11 a.m. Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
12 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship	13 6:30 p.m. Literacy Center	14 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats	15 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 6:00 p.m. W@W	16 12:00 p.m. Sack Lunch 1:00 p.m. Coloring Group	17	18
19 8:45 a.m. Sunday School For All 10:00 a.m. Worship	20 6:30 p.m. Literacy Center	21 10:00 a.m. Chit Chats 4:00 p.m. Book Club - Zoom	22 10:30 a.m. Bible Study via ZOOM 6:00 p.m. W@W	23	24	25
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