

# CORER A TUTO NATIONAL COMPANION AND THE COMPANION ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPANION ASSESSME

# INSPIRATIONS, 2020

Greetings:

After a church service at Asbury last month Brad Grotewold asked me if I ever noticed this tree before. He was pointing to a large maple tree in the front lawn of the former parsonage. In the crotch of this large tree were three branches extending out, and in the center a cedar tree is growing. This cedar tree is about 3 feet tall and is a healthy-looking tree. Brad's comment to me was, "there has to be a sermon in there somewhere." Instead of a sermon it is the focus of my letter this month. On the drive that day from Asbury to Northwood I was thinking about what Brad had said and God spoke to me about what it means to be grafted into the family of God. Romans 11:16-17 says, "But if part of a batch of dough is offered to God as holy, the whole batch of dough is holy too. If a root is holy, the branches will be holy too. If some of the branches were broken off, and you were a wild olive branch, and you were grafted in among the other branches and shared the root that produces the rich oil of the olive tree." Paul is talking to the Gentiles and even though they were not a part of the Abrahamic Covenant, God is grafting them into the family of God.

Grafting was a common practice with olive branches. Today, trees are grafted with another. Say you wanted to have three different fruit trees but only room in your yard for one – you can buy a tree that will produce apples, pears, and plums. How is this possible? The pear and

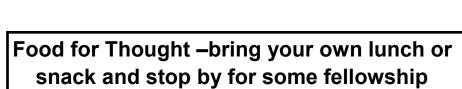
plum branches are grafted onto the apple tree. The roots of the apple tree feed the apple branches as well as the plum and pear branches. Same as the little cedar tree that is growing out of the maple tree – it is nature's form of grafting.

There are numerous applications from this passage to us, but I want to conclude with this one. It does not matter what church you grew up in or did not. It does not matter if you are a Christian your whole life or only recently came to know the Lord. We are all grafted into the body of Christ and in the process have become heirs of all the promises of God. We just need to stay connected to the root. Because apart from

the root we will wither away and die. Stay connected with God and with us (your church family) and in doing so you will bear much fruit.

Pastor Rob





Noon on Wednesday, October 7th at Lake Mills Asbury UMC Noon on Tuesday, October 13th at the Northwood UMC



# October 2020 Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	Julie Ritter Sawyer Schipper Brad Grotewold Michelle Paulsen	2 Parker Rogstad Hallie Erdahl Drew Wilder Amanda Low	3 Kelli Lair Gail Creco Andy Grunhovd Shari Sietsema
Chloe Ostrander  Tiffany  Tiedemann  Michael Steiff	Brett Peterson Tim Akemann Bradley Christianson	Tracy Doyle  Mick Tiedman  Joyce Arnold	Bruce Burdick Kayla Hanna Jessica Grotewold Schipper	Paul Heitland Trent Tiedeman Jan Wright	Ryan Mary Teresa Halvorsen- Bjork John Greve	Scott Nelson Carol Yocum Matthew Heitland Gabrielle Fridley
II  Mona Levorson  Amy  Christenson  Lillian Smith	Bridgett Burdick Raven Budach Fran Lawhorn	Trace Christenson Quinn Cole Christianson Tavi Christianson	Jenny Thompson Toni Erdahl Toni Roberts	I5 Aidan Benny Jackie Imler Thomas Burdick	Sara Nelson Rebecca Dahn Hengesteg Myra Greve Gregg Olson	Neal Skellenger Larry Wright Cassie Johnson
18 Joyce Sherman Michael Bode Carl Jaspers Jr	19 David Imler Lavonne Hartman Patrick Mathahs	20 Robin Fredericks Marge Barber Sarah Madson	21 Tracie Walser Harvey Patterson Terry Steinmetz	22 Taylor Kramer Craig Slattum Lindsey Meland Ariah Bode	23 Bill Skellenger Eric Redinger Liberty Paulsen Kale Bode	24 Graham Redinger Dale Jones Betty Chapin
25 Ruth Hermanson David Olson Deb Wagner Mary	26 Vicki Eden Betty Angel Chad Stucky Nathan Wilder	27 Kaylene Erdfahl Wayne Mannes Penny Robb Karen Hove	28 Jerry Robertson Jessi Mary Marge Low	29 Lance Fridley Josua Walker Jean Arrett Patricia Smith	30 Wendi Skellenger Les Mammen Jeannie Vorland	3 I Ben Mannes Sue Ostrander Hannah Slattum

## Steps for using our Social Distancing Media

#### Facebook Live:

Log onto Facebook, then under search enter Asbury United Methodist Church-Lake Mills, click on the church image, scroll down until you find the video (don't try to search before 9am for the live broadcast). It will be put on the NorthwoodUMC Facebook page immediately after the live stream.





#### Website:

Go to www.asbury-northwoodumc.com, at the top of the page click on recorded sermons, there you will see a list of videos – click on the one you want to watch. They are titled and the colored buttons are part of the series, The God You Can Know, and will take you to the video.

#### Zoom:

There are two different ways to access Zoom. You can enter this link: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6887336405 or go to zoom.us and at the top of the page click on Join a Meeting, then enter the meeting code 688-733-6405 and click to allow audio and video. Pastor Rob plans to hold office hours via Zoom during social distancing protocols. There will be 3 different check-in times each week. Tuesdays @ 1pm, Wednesdays @ 4pm, Thursdays @ 7pm – plan to join during one of those times.

### Greetings from your "Parish Health" volunteer retired nurse.

Retired seems to be the key word as I'm not getting much done in the "newsletter writing" department these days though I have been making some phone call connections with several of our members. We are all missing our "usual life" as we knew it before Covid-19, but knowing we are all in this together is comforting and it seems our church family is hanging together well.



Some time ago when I was having some health problems, surgery or something, Sandy Olson sent me a card with the following prayer in it. I was cleaning out some drawers last week and ran across this item which I feel is so pertinent for our current world situation so want to share it. It is as follows:

## PRAYER OF RELEASE by Roy Lessin

Heavenly Father, I release to You the burdens that I have been carrying, burdens that You never intended for me to carry.

I cast all my cares upon You -- all my worries, all my fears.

Father, calm my restless spirit, quiet my anxious heart, still my troubling thoughts with the assurance that You are in control.

I let go of my grip upon the things I have been hanging onto, with opened hands I come to You.

I thank You for Your promise to sustain me, preserve me, and guard all that I have entrusted to Your keeping.

Protect my heart and mind with Your peace, the peace that passes all understanding.

Father, may your will be done in my life in Your time, and in Your way.

AMEN

Blessings and please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers often. Do not hesitate to call me anytime at 641-390-0619.

Betty C.



On Sunday, October 4th our church will join with nearly every Christian church around the world as we celebrate the one sacramental meal common to us all. It may be called by different names in different churches, such as the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist (pronounced U-char-ist), but the name known perhaps the best to us is - Holy Communion. It means a common sharing of the bread and the cup by which all Christians are united as one by the body and blood of Christ.

COMMUNION World Communion Sunday is one of six special Sunday's in The United Methodist SUNDAY Church. The observance focuses the attention of United Methodists on the universal and inclusive nature of the church. On this Sunday we receive an offering. Your giving helps to provide scholar-ships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

On World Communion Sunday I hope you'll join us as we unite with other Christians around the world in our common meal that makes us one by giving your annual gift for World Communion Sunday.

A special offering envelope is included in this month's newsletter for World Communion Sunday, October 4.

The Asbury Mission Committee invites you to enclose your gift for UMCOR Sunday in this envelope and mail in a regular envelope to Asbury United Methodist Church, 107 E. Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450. With, the COVID-19 uncertainty, we will continue to handle all our special offerings in this manner. Thank you.

#### THE OCTOBER NOISY OFFERING HELPS YOU NEIGHBOR



Asbury's October Noisy Offering will be received for the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Special Offering of the Iowa UMC Conference. The Offering meets emergency needs of people caught in rural community crisis. This is especially appropriate now in light of the "derecho" on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The storm damaged an area nearly 800 miles wide throughout the Midwest with the highest winds recorded at over 140 miles per hour. Our noisy offering provides emergency assistance money and is provided in small grants to local churches or by paying a bill directly. Neighbor Helping neighbor funds are used locally to keep

families together and in their homes. Pleas give generously to our Noisy Offering during the month of October.

Our sympathy to Rev. Dennis Nicholson upon the death of his wife, Linda on September 3, 2020. Rev. Nicholson served the Northwood UMC for 10 years from 1986-1996. In 1996 Rev. Dennis was appointed to Rock Rapids UMC and Linda was appointed local pastor of Doon and Inwood UMC's. Rev. Linda and Rev. Dennis were married for 55 years. They were living in Indianola, IA where Rev. Dennis retired in 1999. A complete obituary and video of the memorial service for Rev. Linda may be



seen at Overton Funeral Home, Indianola, IA web page: <a href="https://www.overtonfunerals.com/obituary/linda-nicholson?fh">https://www.overtonfunerals.com/obituary/linda-nicholson?fh</a> id=15785.



Daylight saving time ends Sunday, Nov. 1 remember to set you clock <u>back one hour</u> before going to bed on Saturday evening.

#### ATTENTION: 2020 INGATHERING INFORMATION

To all Iowa UM pastors, treasurers, and UMW chairs from the Mission Ingathering Task Force. Mission Ingathering will be a "drive through" process this year. Volunteers will meet your vehicle, take your kits, collect your remittance form (with check stapled to it, please), and off you go. You will not need to leave your vehicle.

Will your congregation be participating in Ingathering 2020?

- 1. Yes! Fantastic!! If you'll be bringing kits, please email the coordinator of the site you plan to attend and give your best guesstimate of what you will be bringing, so we have enough volunteers to give you service, and enough truck space. Please do this asap, by mid to late September. Now more than ever, planning is critical.
- 2.**Yes, but we're not physically creating kits.** Wonderful! You may mail your Ingathering form and check to either your site treasurer before November 1<sup>st</sup> or to Iowa Annual Conference, 2301 Rittenhouse Drive, Des Moines, IA 50321-3101. You can also deliver your check for kits onsite on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Just mark clearly what it is for.
- 3. We still don't know for sure. Contact your site chair. It's not too late!

**Assembling kits?** Many churches are actively assembling kits that are being requested by people in the U.S. and around the world.

- 1. Please note that the contents of the kits may have changed so please refer to the bright yellow Ingathering booklet that was sent to every church in Iowa or at iaumc.org/ingathering
- 2. School kits should be in one handled cloth bags. If those bags are not available, this year only you may place a complete kit in a regular grocery bag (no Ziplock bags) and tie shut and box as you would cloth bags. There is a line item on the remittance form for kits with or without cloth bags. Mark the boxes accordingly cloth bag school kits, plastic bag school kits and the number. Do not mix. Talk to your site chair before you come if you're sending totally unassembled kits.
- 3. Pack in any sturdy reasonably sized box.
- 4. Tape the box closed and label with a sheet of paper with the church name, number, and type of kit, securely taped to the outside of the box.

We will NOT be repacking boxes onsite, so be sure your sealed boxes are sealed and can be comfortably lifted and stacked. No bags or baskets, please.

**Remittance forms** can be found in the current bright yellow Ingathering booklet or downloaded from iaumc.org/ingathering. Since we will not be processing the forms in person this year it is more important than ever to have contact information, especially a phone number for a real live person, who actively worked with the kits, knows about the remittance form, AND can be contacted on that Saturday or Sunday. We would also like an email for that same person, if possible. **The church phone or church email will NOT work as a contact.** 

Include your contributions to Church World Service blankets, Heifer International, Self-Help International,

and Mobility Worldwide of Iowa. There are places on the remittance form for these donations. Information on these programs can be found in the Ingathering booklet and also online at <a href="https://www.iaumc.org/ingathering">www.iaumc.org/ingathering</a>.

Cash donations accepted and needed! Please consider donating funds for the Mission Ingathering 2020. Much of the money for these District Hunger Grants comes from auction, bake sales, luncheons, and bazaar sales, none of which can happen this year on site. That will leave a huge void. These grants, available in January each year, assist lowa food pantries and help fund community meals right here in our conference. Last year, \$32,000 was granted to lowa churches from Ingathering giving to go back into their communities. How sad it would be to have to cut back our work right here in lowa.

# ASBURY – WHERE HAS THE MEMORIAL MONEY BEEN DESIGNATED?

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT As of 8-31-2020

- \*Joyce Imler Account \$2,013.00
- \* Don Grotewold Account 3,755.00 (kitchenette)
- \* Doris Grotewold Account 2,225.00 (kitchenette)
- \*Undesignated Account \$2,104.54 Interest .42 August Interest Total \$2,104.56 GRAND TOTAL \$10,097.96

#### WELCOME TO THE BIBLE CHALLENGE!

The Challenge is to read the entire Bible over the course of a year. Below are the verses to read and in ONE year you will have read the whole Bible! Dedicate about 15 minutes each day to spend time in God's Word. Remember 7 days without God makes one weak!



# Reading Plan - Chronological Read the Bible in the order that the events happened.

1-Oct	Numbers 18-20	11-Oct	Deuteronomy 5-7	21-Oct	Joshua 1-4
2-Oct	Numbers 21-22	12-Oct	Deuteronomy 8-10	22-Oct	Joshua 5-8
3-Oct	Numbers 23-25	13-Oct	Deuteronomy 11-13	23-Oct	Joshua 9-11
4-Oct	Numbers 26-27	14-Oct	Deuteronomy 14-16	24-Oct	Joshua 12-15
5-Oct	Numbers 28-30	15-Oct	Deuteronomy 17-20	25-Oct	Joshua 16-18
6-Oct	Numbers 31-32	16-Oct	Deuteronomy 21-23	26-Oct	Joshua 19-21
7-Oct	Numbers 33-34	17-Oct	Deuteronomy 24-27	27-Oct	Joshua 22-24
8-Oct	Numbers 35-36	18-Oct	Deuteronomy 28-29	28-Oct	Judges 1-2
9-Oct	Deuteronomy 1-2	19-Oct	Deuteronomy 30-31	29-Oct	Judges 3-5
10-Oct	Deuteronomy 3-4	20-Oct	Deuteronomy 32-34; Psalm 91	30-Oct	Judges 6-7
				31-Oct	Judges 8-9

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Linda Nicholson who passed away on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. (former church secretary and wife of former Northwood Pastor-Dennis Nicholson)



Our sympathies to the family and friends of Ed Monson (brother of Margie Barber) who passed away on September 11<sup>th</sup>.



Erica & Brandon Sorenson Marilyn Castle Bobbi Hooks Joan Kvale Christian Shelly Skellenger Carole Yocum

our military and their loving families, the unemployed, Iowa UMC Cabinet and Bishop.

#### In Our Thoughts...

Lake Mills Care Center...

Carol Griffiths

#### Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood...

George Kesler Norma Kay Martinson Nancy Whitesell Jane McMullen

Sandy Nitcher Wanda Citurs Rick Low

# Northwood United Methodist Church Council Minutes

(Unapproved) Thursday, September 10th at 10 am

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Terry Steinmetz; Sandy Olson; Karen Hove; Pastor Rob; Nancy Mathahs; Karen Abrahams; Bobbi Hooks and Dean Mueller.

Terry, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Devotions by Bobbi from the devotional book Jesus Calling.

Motion by Sandy; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Hove to approve the August 13, 2020 minutes as printed in the church newsletter. Motion carried.

Treasurer's balance of \$14,164.01. Apportionments are paid through August.

Discussed Budget items.

Charge Conference by Zoom at Northwood at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 25, 2020.

Pastor's Report: Starting on Sunday, October 4, 2020 church services will be inside in the fellowship hall at 10:45 a.m. Beverages and cookies will be provided. Beverage cups will be furnished but you can bring your own mug.

Apportionments for 2021 are \$11,110.00. District asking for projects is \$750.00.

Mission Report: Phyllis Tilson has been sewing school bags for the ingathering kits.

NOW Report: Karen Arhart Is doing well after her surgery.

Church Health Report: Betty Chapin will be getting a walking cast soon.

Nancy is working on the template for an Emergency Management Policy for the Church.

Discussed hiring a part time maintenance person to be the go-to person for things that need attention. Motion by Sandy; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bobbi to contact a person for this position. Motion carried.

Trustees Report: Balance of \$12,860.62. Gregg Olson has been working on the door seal on the northwest entrance. Also working on the basement windows. Storm windows are on and latched.

Discussed Feasibility Study Activity. Dean Mueller is also on this committee.

Patrick Mathahs is our 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustee.

Discuss the hiring of someone to do the snow removal for the winter months and also for the lawnmowing next summer.

Motion by Dean; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy for Worth County to use Wesley Hall for Jury selection. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn by Karen Hove at 11:25 a.m.

Karen Abrahams, Church Council Secretary.

10:45 am Worship Service-N



**Asbury Sunday Schedule** 

9:00 am Worship -A

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 10 am Northwood UMW Meeting	7 Noon- Food 4 Thought at AsburyUMC	8 10 am North- wood Council Meeting	9	10
11	12	13 Noon- Food 4 Thought at Northwood UMC	14	15	16	17
18 2pm Charge Conference at Northwood	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

#### STAFF PARISH PASTOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

If you have concerns or compliments regarding the church, please talk to Pastor Rob first. If you talk to Pastor Rob and still have a concern, please contact a SPRC member.

**ASBURY UMC** 2020 **Betty Robertson** Joyce Sherman David Taft Donna Lair Richard Schwarm NORTHWOOD UMC 2020 Mary Christianson Mike Bode Dean Mueller John Greve

**Church Attendance** Worship

If you have any compliments about your church, share them with everyone!

## **Asbury**

- Larry Lynch
- Sawyer Schipper
- **Brett Peterson**
- Bruce Burdick
- 8 Paul Heitland
- 10 Scott Nelson
- 16 Sara Nelson
- 17 Crystal Lynch
- 23 Craig Slattum
- 23 Bill Skellenger
- 27 Wayne Mannes
- 28 Jerry Robertson

## Northwood

- Justin Carlson 1
- 2 Amanda Low
- 12 Fran Lawhorn
- 20 Marge Barber
- 21 Tracie Walser
- 25 Dale Jones
- 25 Deb Wagner
- 27 Karen Hove
- 28 Marge Low
- 31 Jeannine Vorland

Greetings from Wesley Woods and lake Okoboji, where Life is Good! As so many youth across the Conference have returned to school, I wanted to take an opportunity to check in with you. While this past summer looked dramatically different than any of us anticipated, we are pleased to report that Iowa United Methodist Camps continued to share Christ with young people across the Conference.

Through our Backyard Camp program campers interacted with some awesome summer staff, had Bible Studies, did activities involving nature, and developed new friendships in a virtual way. It was great to connect with young people in an exciting new way! Additionally, the social media teams at both sites were creating content and live streaming exciting activities to try at home, like Biscuits and Gravy over a campfire.....mmmmm yum!

Now Iowa United Methodist Camps are preparing for a BIG summer of on-site-ministry next year. Registration for summer camp events in 2021 is already open, and campers are signings up with a few events already near capacity. As more youth continue to register, we want to make sure you have a spot! Visit iaumc.org/camps for up-to-date listings and registration information. \$100 reserves your spot for next summer and, as always, camperships are available for youth who can't attend otherwise. There's no time like right now to reserve your spot! Contact the Camp Registrar at 800 -765-1651 or email camps@iaumc.org. If you have questions, you may contact the Camp office or visit with your Camp Ambassador Rev. Jerry at Asbury UMC in Lake Mills.

While the world looks much different, we pray God's endless blessings upon you (Philippians 4:19) and look forward to roasting a marshmallow or two with you at camp in the very near future.

Blessings, Bryan Johnson, Director of Camps & Retreats IA UMC Conference







The Newsletter Team **WANTS YOU!** 

call the office at

641.324.1557

send the information via email northwoodUMC@msn.com

or mail to

or any corrections to information, please contact us in one of these ways:

Northwood UMC ATTN Newsletter PO Box 104, Northwood IA 50459

#### Northwood and Asbury United Methodist Churches

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Eventually all pieces fall into place.
Until then,
Laugh at the confusion,
live for the moment
and know that everything
happens for a reason



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THE MISSION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:
TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.

#### OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS,

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.