



INSPIRATIONS 2021

Pastor's Page

Greetings:

As I am writing this letter I am faced with a

dilemma – what to do about the 4th of July. As you may have noticed the 4th falls on a Sunday this year and Northwood has decided to have their parade that morning at 11am. Now you see my dilemma because I know people from both congregations come to the parade because I have seen you over the years, especially when I was walking in the parade with the llamas. I want to be a part of both and so do you...what to do? It had been suggested that Northwood have a Saturday night service but there are also community celebrations that night along with some musical acts and it has been so long since we could go to live entertainment. So, this is my proposal and I believe it works the best for everyone. Have a shortened service that day. It would still be a meaningful worship experience, but I would have just two songs, one scripture (the sermon text), save communion for the following week and this would keep the service at 35 minutes. That would give me time to get to Northwood and be done in time to watch the parade. Schedule for the 4th then would be Asbury at normal time and Northwood at 10am. It is important to have church, but it is also important to be a part of community celebrations and to honor the flag and those veterans who served our country that we can enjoy the freedoms we have. One of those being religious liberty – freedom to worship God how we see fit. Looking forward to our time together on that day.

I believe it is important to honor and respect the flag and what it stands for. Here is a story that happened to me recently. This year I became the baseball announcer for Central Springs as the guy who was doing it is now the assistant coach. Part of my duties are to do the starting lineups, play the national anthem, do announcements, and play music in between innings. I have the music on my laptop, and it is organized for the different parts of the game. This particular night I was very late getting to the ball field because it was Hannah's ISU orientation, and we were late getting back. When I pulled in the opposing team was just finishing up their warm-ups and I knew I had only about 5 minutes to get everything set up and ready. I rushed up to the press box and turned on the computer only to hear the coach say, "Let's go Rob, time for the starting lineups." I stare at the computer screen, and it is black with the little blue circle indicating that it is "thinking". What do I do? Maybe I can start with announcements and the visiting lineups, and the laptop will have enough time to start up. I do that and look over at the laptop screen again – same thing: black screen and blue circle. For our starting lineups they want me to play Sweet Emotions by Aerosmith and I wait till a particular spot in the song as it builds up till, I start. No music tonight apparently! I will just jump in and hopefully (fingers crossed) that somehow it will have finished "thinking" before I am done and can play the National Anthem. I finish the starting lineups for our team and still nothing. I look out onto the field, and everyone is standing straight with their hats off and their right hands over their hearts. Everyone in the audience is standing at attention, staring out across the grass toward the flag waving gently in breeze. It was at this moment I realized there was only one thing to do...sing the National Anthem accapella.

Being the patriot that I am I could not soil the moment and say, “sorry folks we will have no national anthem tonight because of technical difficulties.” Instead, I said, “I know this may be unconventional, but we are having difficulties with the music, so I am going to sing the national anthem.” It started out great, especially for being on the spot, spur of the moment. As I started the second line a thought occurred to me that I cannot remember the last time I sang this song and usually I am just hearing the music. I better pay attention to what I am singing because I do not want to mess up the words, and as soon as I thought that my mind instantly went blank. I could not remember the next line; I COULD NOT REMEMBER THE NEXT LINE! I have already started and there is no turning back now, so I just improvised the next line and then went straight to the ending which I definitely knew those words. I sang my heart out and left everything I had into that microphone. I was greeted with a standing ovation and so many people congratulated me on such a wonderful performance. Sure, I forgot how the one line went but everyone else in that crowd knew there was no way they were going to get up there and sing on the spot like I did.

Sometimes we need to put aside our fears or apprehensions and do what needs to be done. Whenever I think of that moment, I can’t help but laugh at myself for forgetting that line, but I am proud of myself for taking the chance. Either with my singing or preaching – it may not be perfect, but I hope you find it entertaining. Enjoy the 4th and make some memories.

Pastor Rob

Join the Pastor on Wednesdays from 10-noon at Swallow Coffeehouse in Lake Mills or at 7pm at the Worth Brewing if you would care to join him for a bit of fellowship and conversation.



You are invited to a baby shower for:

Carlie & Evan Fritz

Saturday July 24, 2021

1:30-3:30 @

Kathy & Eric Christianson

41411 210th Ave Lake Mills

The couple is registered at Target, Amazon, and

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.babylist.com%2Fbaby-carlie&data=04%7C01%7C%7Cae50fa6b1414cac5af808d92f40c637%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637592777504765861%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQI-joIV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=sy8CaC8H9RIMdZ9YdGclxp00cwoLot96uWmKqMwEJ18%3D&reserved=0 -fritz>



July 2021 Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 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
4 Chloe Ostrander Tiffany Tiedemann Michael Steiff	5 Brett Peterson Tim Akemann Bradley Christianson	6 Tracy Doyle Mick Tiedman Joyce Arnold	7 Bruce Burdick Kayla Hanna Jessica Grotewold Schipper	8 Paul Heitland Trent Tiedeman Jan Wright	9 Ryan Mary Teresa Halvorsen- Bjork John Greve	10 Scott Nelson Carol Yocum Matthew Heitland Gabrielle Fridley
11 Mona Levorson Amy Christenson	12 Bridgett Burdick Raven Budach Fran Lawhorn	13 Trace Christenson Quinn Cole Christianson Tavi Christianson	14 Jenny Thompson Toni Erdahl Toni Roberts	15 Aidan Benny Jackie Imler Thomas Burdick	16 Sara Nelson Rebecca Dahn Hengesteg Myra Greve	17 Neal Skellenger Cassie Johnson Gregg Olson
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 Aariah Bode	23 Bill Skellenger Eric Redinger Kale Bode	24 Graham Redinger Betty Chapin Sue Ostrander
25 Ruth Hermanson David Olson Deb Wagner Mary Christianson	26 Vicki Eden Betty Angel Chad Stucky Nathan Wilder	27 Kaylene Erdahl Wayne Mannes Penny Robb Karen Hove	28 Jerry Robertson Jessi Mary Marge Low Ben Mannes	29 Lance Fridley Josua Walker Jean Arrett	30 Wendi Skellenger Les Mammen Jeannie Vorland	31 Hannah Slattum Liberty Paulsen Patricia Smith

June 27, 2021-VBS "ROCKY RAILWAY" REVIEW

The area-wide Vacation Bible School in Bolan, Iowa, was BACK! After an absence in 2020, this year there were 41 registered participants and 39 volunteers increasing the population in the small community by 80 each day from 9:00 am – Noon.

Monday started with thankfully cooler temperatures, but by Friday it was quite hot and humid in buildings the crews rotated to when the Barton No. 2 school bell rang. A much needed 2.5 inches of rain dropped on us just when the hotdogs were about to be served Friday night, but a full house of parents and grandparents inside the wood Quonset stayed dry to hear the lessons and songs the children learned from "Rocky Railway, Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!"

The five daily Bible Points were: Jesus' power helps us do hard things, give us hope, be bold, live forever, and be good friends. Rocky Mountain animals Ramsey the ram, Ava the hawk, Sierra the mountain lion, Finn the salmon, and Lawrence Elk helped remind us to "TRUST JESUS".

The mission offering collected \$400 that will be going to help families in Ecuador purchase alpacas. We were looking forward to having Lanphere's llamas (in the alpaca family) attend the program Friday night, but the storm cancelled that.

Pastor Linda Johnson-Prestholt led the Bible Story Station, Pastor Rob Lanphere led the Discovery Station. Many other station and crew leaders are former participants that have grown up in the 15 years with VBS in Bolan. There was tremendous teamwork, energy, and Jesus' power experienced!



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-Jul	1 Corinthians 9-11	16-Jul	Ephesians 1-6
2-Jul	1 Corinthians 12-14	17-Jul	Philippians 1-4
3-Jul	1 Corinthians 15-16	18-Jul	1 Timothy 1-6
4-Jul	2 Corinthians 1-4	19-Jul	Titus 1-3
5-Jul	2 Corinthians 5-9	20-Jul	1 Peter 1-5
6-Jul	2 Corinthians 10-13	21-Jul	Hebrews 1-6
7-Jul	Acts 20:1-3; Romans 1-3	22-Jul	Hebrews 7-10
8-Jul	Romans 4-7	23-Jul	Hebrews 11-13
9-Jul	Romans 8-10	24-Jul	2 Timothy 1-4
10-Jul	Romans 11-13	25-Jul	2 Peter 1-3; Jude
11-Jul	Romans 14-16	26-Jul	1 John 1-5
	Acts 20:4-38; Acts 21; Acts 22;	27-Jul	2 John; 3 John
12-Jul	Acts 23:1-35	28-Jul	Revelation 1-5
13-Jul	Acts 24-26	29-Jul	Revelation 6-11
14-Jul	Acts 27-28	30-Jul	Revelation 12-18
15-Jul	Colossians 1-4; Philemon	31-Jul	Revelation 19-22



Please pray for these: Jerry Robertson, Bobbi Hooks, Bryan Hooks Jr, Joan Kvale Christian, Shelly Skellenger, Carole Yocom, 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...

Sandy Nitcher

Wanda Citurs

Rick Low

Norma Kay Martinson

Nancy Whitesell

Jane McMullen

(any names added to the prayer list will be kept on for 3 weeks unless the office is contacted with updated information to keep on for an addition amount of time. Thank you. NorthwoodUMC@msn.com)

Northwood Sunday Schedule

10:45 am Worship Service-N

**Asbury Sunday Schedule**

9:00 am Worship -A

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Join the Pastor on <u>Wednesdays</u> from 10-noon at Swallow Coffeehouse in Lake Mills or at 7pm at the Worth Brewing if you would care to join him for a bit of fellowship and conversation.			1	2	3
4 9 am Asbury 10 am NWD	5	6	7 Fellowship with the pastor 10am LM 7pm NWD (see above box)	8	9	10
11 Regular Schedule	12	13	14 Fellowship with the pastor 10am LM 7pm NWD (see above box)	15	16	17
18 Regular Schedule	19	20	21 Fellowship with the pastor 10am LM 7pm NWD (see above box)	22 10 am Nwd Council Mtg	23	24
25 Regular Schedule	26	27	28 Fellowship with the pastor 10am LM 7pm NWD (see above box)	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 UMC2021

Betty Robertson

Joyce Sherman

David Taft

Richard Schwarm

NORTHWOOD UMC2021

Mike Bode

Bobbi Hooks

Dean Mueller

John Greve

Nancy Mathahs

Church Attendance

Worship	N	A
30-May	19	?
6-June	20	?
13-June	20	40
20-June	Joint Community	
27-June		

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

Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday!

Asbury

2 Julie Ritter
2 Parker Rogstad
6 Tracy Doyle
11 Mona Levorson
15 Aidan Benny
17 Neal Skellenger
19 David Imler
22 Taylor Kramer
25 Ruth Hermanson
24 Graham Redinger
27 Kaylene Erdahl
31 Ben Mannes

Northwood

17 Myra Greve
18 Duane Carlson
19 Patrick Mathahs
22 Lindsey Meland
23 Liberty Paulsen
26 David Olson
26 Chad Stucky
28 Penny Robb
28 Rev Shirley Hoffmann Will
29 Patricia Smith
30 Les Mammen

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 5/31/2021

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account	3,755.00
(kitchenette)	
* Doris Grotewold Account	2,265.00
(kitchenette)	
*Undesignated Account	2,153.32
May Interest	.44
Total	2,153.76
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,186.76



EQUAL EXCHANGE SALE!

Coffee, tea, & nuts for Freewill Donation. Located in North Hallway by Sanctuary door, Asbury UMC



Contact Betty Robertson if questions.
(641-592-4484)



The Newsletter Team
WANTS YOU!

call the office at

641.324.1557

*We appreciate receiving
your articles for
upcoming church events!*

If you have material that you would like included in the newsletters or bulletins or any corrections to information, please contact us in one of these ways:

send the information via email
northwoodUMC@msn.com

or mail to

Northwood UMC ATTN Newsletter
PO Box 104, Northwood IA 50459

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS
15th of the Month**

Northwood and Asbury United Methodist Churches

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JULY INSPIRATIONS-2021

Asbury United Methodist Church

107 East Main

PO Box 4

Lake Mills IA 50450

Phone 641.592.1106 (A)

Northwood United Methodist Church

1000 1st Avenue North

PO Box 104

Northwood IA 50459

Phone 641.324.1557 (N)

NorthwoodUMC@msn.com

**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.