



FEBRUARY

INSPIRATIONS 2023

Pastor's Page

Greetings:

I came across a series on Netflix recently as Melinda and I were searching for something to watch. It is titled Ancient Apocalypse and it is chronicled by journalist Graham Hancock as he travels the globe in search for evidence to what he believes is proof of an ancient civilization that has been lost to history. What caused this civilization to be lost, what occurred that wiped them out, is there archeological proof of their existence? As someone who enjoys history, I found this series to be very interesting, Melinda not so much as each time we tried to watch an episode she would fall asleep about half-way through. In her defense she found the show interesting but Graham has such a calm soothing voice she says that it puts her right to sleep.

At the time of writing this letter I am six episodes in and already I see a parallel to what Graham is proposing and a clear link to the biblical narrative. This really intrigues me and as I wonder how can this be used to explain the major discrepancy between the origin of humans, the age of the earth, the scientific community and the biblical timeline. I want to take the theory that this show is proposing and incorporate that with what I know of biblical studies and science.

There are ancient sites of architecture and achievement that seem out of place for the time they were built. Aka the pyramids in Egypt, those in Mexico, temples built in Turkey, mounds in the United States, and other sites that are visited in the series. How did people who were basic farmers, hunter/gathers, build these massive structures without modern equipment? Graham incorporates local legends along with what science knows of a major event that caused the oceans to rise several feet and resulted in massive flooding that changed the landscape of the earth. At each of the sites the local legends of how they came to be are very similar and these are places that are on opposite sides of the globe. In many of the stories giants came by the sea and taught the local people architecture, astronomy, and knowledge of the unknown world. Then this great flood wiped them away from history. Hmmm, that sounds a lot like what I know from the bible. There is Noah and the great flood and there is the story of the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11. This story occurs after Noah and the flood but the bible isn't as concerned with history as a detailed timeline as it is telling a story. In Babylon were the descendants of Cain, Cain who killed his brother Abel, and they wanted to be equal with God and built this giant tower. God then scatters them and starts over with the flood. There is also the Nephilim mentioned in Genesis 6:1-8, they were the offspring of fallen angels who procreated with the daughters of men and created these giants.

In the show, Graham runs into resistance from the scientific community and is called a pseudo archeologist. You may think I am crazy as well so feel free to agree or disagree with me but with so much unknown in biblical history and proof of what is mentioned in the bible actually takes place, I welcome an approach that goes beyond the classical and conventional. If you get a chance to watch this series and want to discuss your theories – I would welcome the opportunity to do so.

Some dates to be aware of:

Ash Wednesday February 22nd – service at Asbury with meal at 5:30pm.

Lenten study on the following Wednesdays at 5:30pm. More details to follow.

Continue to let the word of God be a glorious mystery that is made real in our living out the Gospel.

Pastor Rob

Join the Pastor on **TUESDAYS** from 10-noon at Swallow Coffeehouse in Lake Mills every week **OR** the **2nd and 4th Thursdays** of the month for Pub Theology at 7pm at the Worth Brewing if you would care to join him for a bit of fellowship and conversation.



February 2023 Prayer Calendar

Sun

Mon

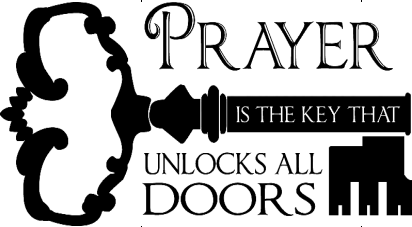

Tue

Wed

Thu

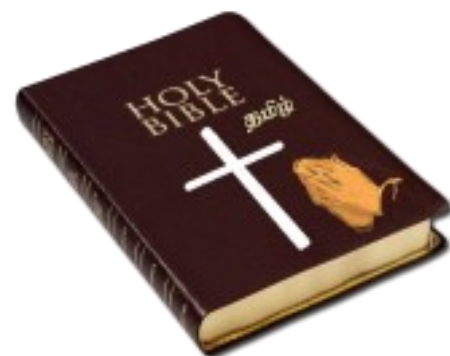
Fri

Sat

			<p>1 Larry Eden Richard Low Jim Hyde</p>	<p>2 Kennedy Mannes Jane Christianson</p>	<p>3 Sue Slattum Roger Wagner</p>	<p>4 Neil Schrieber Carol Tiedman Deb Reuvers Mark Hove</p>
<p>5 Carrie Fritz Ron Reuvers Brock Mathahs Barbara Walser</p>	<p>6 Leann Dahn June Low Bill Young Christopher Low</p>	<p>7 Tim Hauge Ivan Fredericks Ashley Carlson</p>	<p>8 Kim Mary Drake Tiedemann Caryl Dahn</p>	<p>9 Owen Mary Michelle Skellenger Jane Podgorniak</p>	<p>10 Domonic Greco Sheila Enderson Cheri Groe</p>	<p>11 Betty Robertson Delaney Imler Christopher Bakken</p>
<p>12 Mark Enderson Megan Peterson</p>	<p>13 Jason Tiedemann Collin Jaspers</p>	<p>14 Eileen Redinger Tracy Young Troy Low Dean Mueller</p>	<p>15 Brad Mary Diane Burdick Joanne Steinmetz</p>	<p>16 Shana Rogstad Thomas Low Cody Fredericks</p>	<p>17 NormaKay Martinson Payton Wilder</p>	<p>18 Kelly Grunhovd Kerby Christianson Tori Low</p>
<p>19 Andrew Grunhovd Kylee Mannes LeAnn Steiff</p>	<p>20 Kate Budach Karissa Heath Ashley Fredericks</p>	<p>21 Ramon Erdahl Jon Skellenger Jordyn Hove Marty Mueller</p>	<p>22 Richard Schwarm Joe Young Jeff Steiff</p>	<p>23 Sharon Matthes Dennis Castle Brenda Meland Kaylea Mary</p>	<p>24 Carson Christianson RG Schwarm Duane Abrahams</p>	<p>25 Donna Lair Joyce Hauge Bobbi Hooks Jack Barber</p>
<p>26 Michael Walker Alex Citurs Sarah Barringer</p>	<p>27 Morgan Young Josh Imler Laurel Willig Gerry Arnold</p>	<p>28 Brian Young Scott Stucky Pearl Podgorniak</p>	<p>29 Seth Wilkins Katy Jaspers</p>	<p>30 Robyn Wilder Allen Jaspers</p>	<p>31 Tom Vorland Kristie Steinkamp</p>	

United Methodist Women of Faith

2023 BIBLE VERSES



January Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

February 1 Corinthians 15:44 (NRSV) “It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.”

March Isaiah 40:31 (NIV) “but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

April Matthew 5:9 (NIV) “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”

May 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NLT) “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.”

June Isaiah 52:7 (NIV) “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”

July Philippians 4:13 (NLT) “I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.”

August Romans 8:28 (NIV) “and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

September Psalm 68:11 (NIV) “The Lord announced the word, and great was the company of those who proclaimed it.”

October Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV) “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

November Philippians 4:6 (NIV) “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

December 1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV) “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit.”



Asbury UMC Christmas Lights

~ Our Church shines as we celebrate Christ's birth ~

Blue Lights burn In Honor of ...

Morgan Young
Ryley Koziolk
LaVonne Hartman
Kelli Lair
Kris Gudmonson
Brooke Hartman
Weston, Drew, & Judah Calcote
Eve & Makenzie Parker
Brad & Lisa Hermanson

Joseph Young
Brad Grotewold
Arlene Larson
Jean Heitland
Sue & Wayne Mannes
Nathan White

Emma & Asa Poindexter

Lily Young
Jeannie Grotewold
Janie VanGerpen
Butch Heitland
Joan & Kent Christian
Evan White

Jens, Caleb, Lila & Ira Mandler
Carter & Mason Pike
Todd & Tammy Hermanson

Olivia Madson
Char Hanson
Joy Ball
Betty Langpap
Lauren Hartman
Piper Lou Vold
Jerry & Becky Fjeld
Patty & Todd Kumbera
Ryan & Roxy Rindels



Gold Lights burn In Memory of ...

Dennis Gudmonson
Gertrude Young
Carol Skellenger
Rev. Erling Falck
Webster “Bussey” Lair
Nellie Hartman
Candy Thompson
David & Diane Vold

Sidney Kvale
William H. Young
Lawrence Christianson
Gudrun Flack
Albert Kramersmeier
Oscar Enderson
Steve Thompson
Mabel & Ole Vold
Harriet Enderson Thompson

Mae Dietz
Don Grotewold
Howard Langpap
Rv. Don Ball
Laura Kramersmeier
Jeannie Enderson
Alan Moore
Ester & Jens Hyland

Jack Dietz
Doris Grotewold
Robert Johnson
Pearl Lair
Adolph Hartman
Elvin Enderson
Vernon Vold
Roger Hermanson



Three Asbury United Methodist LMCS Students Earn Chairs at the NCIBA High School Honor Band

The NCIBA High School Honor band performed Saturday, Jan. 7, at NIACC, Mason City. The students auditioned for chair placements and were very successful: Emma Taft, Kaylee Taft, Natalie Brandenburg, and Allison Rygh all earned first chair in their respective parts, and Sara Nelson earned second...



ASBURY UMC – FEBRUARY NOISY OFFERING

The February 2023 Noisy offering will be used for camperships to United Methodist Camps. This is a good time for children and youth of the church to begin planning for summer camp. The 2019 Iowa United Methodist camp catalog will soon be here. Persons who have attended camp will receive a copy in the mail. If not your can go on line go to <https://www.iaumc.org/camps/#iac> and click on 2023 Summer Camp Catalogue.

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.



Reading Plan - Week by Week

WEEK 6 (2/5) Job 26-40 Psalms 16-18 Proverbs 4 Matthew 9, 12-13 Mark 4-5

WEEK 7 (2/12) Job 41-42 Exodus 1-13 Psalms 19-21 Proverbs 5 Matt 10, 14 Mark 6 Luke 9 John 6

WEEK 8 (2/19) Exodus 14-28 Psalm 22-24 Proverbs 6:1-19 Matt 15-17 Mark 7-8

WEEK 9 (2/26) Exodus 29-40 Leviticus 1-3 Psalms 25-27 Proverbs 6:20-35 Matt 18 Mark 9 John 7-9

Year End Paperwork

It is that time again, we have year end statistics requiring membership numbers for the congregation, Sunday School and UMW. We need income and expenses. Forms will be sent to chairs to assist the office in completing these reports.

Please turn all required paperwork for auditing into the Auditors or church office by as soon as possible. You will need to submit only the following items :

Bank Statements, Checkbook or savings book. The auditor does not need any other paperwork. Thank you



Northwood United Methodist Church Council

Minutes (Unapproved) Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 10 am

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Nancy Mathahs; Sandy Olson via Facetime; Karen Abrahams; Terry Steinmetz; Joanne Steinmetz; LeAnn Steiff; Dean Mueller and Pastor Rob Lanphere.

Nancy, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

Devotions by Nancy from the Upper Room Devotional booklet for January 19th on Striving for Humility.

Motion by Dean; 2nd by LeAnn to approve the November 3, 2022 Council Minutes as read by Karen, Council Secretary. Motion carried.

Motion by Karen; 2nd by LeAnn to accept the Treasurer's Report given by Terry, Council Treasurer, with a balance of \$11,382.88. Motion Carried.

Motion by Sandy; 2nd by Dean to approve the 2023 Church Budget as presented by Terry, Council Treasurer.

NOW Report: Tami, Dave and Bobbi Hook's daughter, is recovering from back surgery. Bobbi presented her with a prayer shawl and asked everyone to send prayers to Tami.

Pastor's report: Time off requested by Pastor Rob at Spring Break for the Sundays of March 12th and March 19th. The next church potlucks will be Sunday, February 12th and Sunday, March 5th. Confirmation Fall Retreat was held at Okoboji. The Spring Retreat will be held at the Northwood United Methodist Church on March 3rd.

UWF Report: Joanne, Chair, reported that they met on December 7th at the Bean and Bistro for lunch, then at the church for the meeting. Gave Christmas Gifts to 2 residents at the Northwood Lutheran Retirement Home.

Mission Report: LeAnn, Chair, is putting together Mission Kits for the Ingathering. No Mission Dinners are scheduled.

Trustees Report: Motion by Terry; 2nd by LeAnn to accept the Trustees Report from Pat Mathahs with a balance of \$29,258.29. Bills to Larsen's for \$174.20 and \$999.24; Northwood Electric for \$5,560.00; Dale Arhart for \$1,800.79; Northwood United Methodist Church for \$1,190.00 for Pastor Rob's Laptop. Received \$30,000 deposit from the Bequest Fund and \$43.43 Interest from the Builder's Trust Fund.

Old Business: Bobbi has visited with Caryl Dahn about playing the electronic organ for our Sunday Services. Caryl will work out times with Terry on the Sunday's she would play. Wesley Hall projects to be done are Floor cleaning and painting.

Tabled the discussion on Newsletter Postage.

A new denomination has formed on May 1st, 2022 and is called the Global Methodist Church. Part of this denomination being formed and the disagreements among the United Methodist churches concerning human sexuality and biblical interpretation there is an opportunity for churches to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. I presented materials that outline what the Global Methodist Church is about, information in favor of joining the GMC and information in favor of staying in the UMC. Each church council was in favor of bringing this to the congregations. These packets were made available on Sunday January 22nd. Along with these packets it was decided that we need meetings to discuss possible options and the future of our two churches. In order to try to accommodate as many people as possible these discussion meetings will be on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm starting on February 1st and include both congregations, alternating the meeting sites. Please try to make it to at least one of these meetings and I am available to try to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

Here is a list of the meetings:

February 1st – Northwood at 6:30pm

February 8th – Asbury at 6:30pm

February 15th – Northwood at 6:30pm

February 22nd is Ash Wednesday Service at Asbury at 5:30pm

March 1st – gathering for Asbury only at 6:30pm

March 2nd – gathering for Northwood only at 6:30pm

It is my hope that we come to a consensus and that we can agree to disagree on some issues and still remain united as the body of Christ. - Pastor Rob

Northwood Sunday Schedule

10:45 am Worship Service-N

11:45 am Fellowship

**Asbury Sunday Schedule**

9:00 am Worship -A

10 am Fellowship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4pm Confirmation 6:30pm Church Mtg at NWD	2	3 10am Bible Study at NWD	4
5 Regular Schedule	6	7 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	8 6:30pm Church Mtg at NWD	9 7pm Pub Theology	10 10am Bible Study at NWD	11
12 Regular Schedule	13	14 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	15 4pm Confirmation 6:30pm Church Mtg at NWD	16	17 10am Bible Study at NWD	18
19 Regular Schedule	20	21 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	22 Ash Wednesday 5:30 pm Meal at Asbury	23 7pm Pub Theology	24 10am Bible Study at NWD	25
26 Regular Schedule	27	28 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	<div> Join the Pastor on <u>TUESDAYS</u> from 10-noon at Swallow Coffeehouse in Lake Mills every week OR the <u>2nd and 4th</u> <u>Thursdays</u> of the month for Pub Theology at 7pm at the Worth Brewing if you would care to join him for a bit of fellowship and conversation. </div>			

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**2022**

Joyce Sherman

David Taft

Richard Schwarm

Scott Nelson

Lynn Lair

NORTHWOOD UMC**2022**

Mike Bode

Bobbi Hooks

Dean Mueller

John Greve

Nancy Mathahs

Church Attendance

Worship	N	A
Dec 24/25	17	65
Jan 1	Online	
Jan 8	21	74
Jan 15	21	58
Jan 22		
Jan 29		

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

Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday!

Asbury

5 Carol Tiedman
7 Bradley Holtan
12 Sheila Enderson
12 Megan Peterson
14 Tracy Young
20 Kate Budach
22 Ramon Erdahl
23 Sharon Matthes
24 R.G. Schwarm
26 Morgan Young

Northwood

1 Richard Low
2 Michael Walker
4 Deb Reuvers
4 Ron Reuvers
6 June Low
6 Ivan Fredericks
7 Jane Podgorniak
12 Collin Jaspers
14 Troy Low
19 LeAnn Steiff
20 Kim Nitcher
21 Marty Mueller
25 Bobbi Hooks
25 Kathy Voorhes
25 Alex Citurs



**FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 12/31/2022

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account	3,755.00
(kitchenette)	
* Doris Grotewold Account	2,265.00
(kitchenette)	
"Dennis Gudmonson	435.00
(undesignated)	
*Undesignated Account	2,261.48
December Interest	.45
Total	2,261.93
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,729.93



Please pray for these:
Sue Mannes, Harlan Levorson, Neil Schrieber, Myra Greve, Dave Voorhes, Jerry Robertson, Joan Kvale Christian, Carole Yocom, our military and their loving families, the unemployed, Iowa UMC Cabinet and Bishop.

In Our Thoughts...

Lake Mills Care Center...

Carol Griffiths

Harlan Levorson

NWD Lutheran Retirement Home...

Becky Johnston

Wanda Citurs

Norma Kay Martinson

Rick Low



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

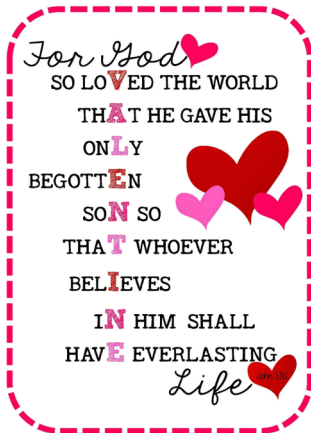
PO Box 104
1000 1st Avenue North
Northwood IA 50459-0104

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Northwood IA
50459
Permit No, 46

Return Service
Requested



INSPIRATIONS-2023

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.