



# INSPIRATIONS 2020

## Pastor's Page

### Greetings:

As I am writing this letter it is with a heavy heart about what is the best way to lead our people through this trying and difficult time. I have been reflecting on Proverbs 3:5-6, *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."* What is the proper way to have church services that is meaningful and safe for those who attend? Here is what we have come up with. Starting May 31<sup>st</sup> we will resume in person services. Same service times: Asbury – 9am and Northwood – 10:45am. However, it will not be church as usual. In guidelines given by the bishop we are still in the "proceed with caution" phase. With that in mind, here are a few guidelines that both churches will be following.

Upon entrance into the building please sanitize your hands with the provided sanitizer at each entrance.

Families are encouraged to sit together and allow an empty pew in front and behind you.

There will be no corporate singing. I understand this is a tough one but singing spreads air as much as coughing. Instead we will have hymns but will be led by a song leader and others are encouraged to listen to the words and reflect on them.

There will be no passing of the peace or passing of the plates. Offering plates will be placed in a designated area and people are encouraged to leave their gifts either before or after the service.

At the conclusion of the service, Pastor Rob will dismiss everyone by rows so there is not a group of people heading to the door at the same time. Please have your conversations outside after the service.

These measures are being taken to ensure the safety and well being of everyone. As some people may not be comfortable to come back together in corporate worship – online services will continue. They will be filmed at Northwood and uploaded to the YouTube page and the website after the service. There will also be a weekly study – the *In Between* throughout our series on I Samuel and will continue through II Samuel. Originally it was one long book but was divided into two when the Protestant Canon was developed.

I want to thank everyone for their continued support of myself and our churches. Please remember your church and continue your faithful giving so we can meet our financial goals. I also want to thank Caryl Dahn for playing piano every week, Donna Lair for being the acolyte and everything that takes place behind the scenes, Daryl Sherman for his voice and special music, Terry Steinmetz for playing and singing and especially my son Carter. Carter makes me look good with all of the video editing and camera work. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please let me or an SPRC member know.

May God richly bless you and keep you safe.

**Pastor Rob**

### Food for Thought

**Postponed until  
further  
notice**



# June 2020 Prayer Calendar

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

	<p>1 Tyler Gasper Andrea Ostrander Sandy Stucky Bryan Christianson</p>	<p>2 Faith Christianson Sue Mannes Vivian Kvale Becky Johnson</p>	<p>3 Kaisen Mary Daryl Sherman Charise Schwarm Wade Fridley</p>	<p>4 Tate Grotewold Sshipper Emma Taft Kaylee Taft Michael Godfrey</p>	<p>5 Melissa Taft Glenn Steiff Tyce Skellenger Aaron Mannes</p>	<p>6 Anna Budach Mya Peterson Kyle Stucky Ben Peterson Deb Mueller</p>
<p>7 Michael McColloch Royce Peterson Rylan Heath Cody McClanahan</p>	<p>8 Haley Slattum Ryan Skellenger Harriet Young Grace Skellenger</p>	<p>9 Char Hanson Paula Harris Jason Slattum Vernon Angel</p>	<p>10 Chad Tiedeman Avery Grunhovd Carol Jones Sandy Rainey Cohen Bode</p>	<p>11 Jeanie Grotewold Alyssa Slattum Ian Podgorniak Gary Heimdal</p>	<p>12 Drae Love Samuel Erdahl Ryan Williamson Harlan Leverson</p>	<p>13 Pearl Imler Edward Schwarm Foster Hartman</p>
<p>14 Winona Hennigar Chris Heitland Jeremy Ostrander</p>	<p>15 Eric Christianson August Madson Sarah Heath Rhonda Fridley</p>	<p>16 Breanna Mary Chris Rogstad Dennis Walser Karen Abrahams Cole Christianson</p>	<p>17 Finley Rogstad Anna Mae Taylor Sonja Tiedman Ashten Love Warren Jones</p>	<p>18 Noah Irons Daryl Groe Sherrylee Gasper Ben Irons</p>	<p>19 JJ Grotewold Schipper Lyla Rogstad John Budach Hudson Ostrander</p>	<p>20 Marilyn Castle Sandy Hyde Betty Vold Wanda Citurs Logan Ostrander</p>
<p>21 Becky Jacks Roger Hermanson Rock Bridges Jeff Greve</p>	<p>22 Jackson Grunhovd Margie Barber Jill Nelson Dominic Williamson</p>	<p>23 Lynn Lair Nora Mammen Nancy Mathahs Jean Heitland Gary Thompson</p>	<p>24 Jeff Christenson George Kesler Dae Haskins Lillian Young Kim Bode</p>	<p>25 Josh Tiedman Ryan Mueller Casey Tiedman Bradley Jaspers</p>	<p>26 Kathy Christianson Sue Bridges Jim Meland Wayne Roberts</p>	<p>27 Anne Skellenger Alex Tiedeman CK Christianson Dan Tiedman-Cory Stucky</p>
<p>28 David Hooks David Taft Kenneth Nitcher Richard Patterson</p>	<p>29 Gabriel Rogstad Jill Stucky Betty Langpap Blake Grotewold</p>	<p>30 Shirley Higbee Bryan Arnold Ruth Robb Carol Griffiths Mary Arrett-Brandstad</p>	<div data-bbox="792 1717 1425 1948">  </div>			

Please join us for a baby shower honoring Cassie Johnson!  
 Saturday June 6 at Kathy and Eric Christianson's yard (41411  
 210th Ave, Lake Mills) from 11:00-1:00. Open house and/or  
 drive through whatever you feel most comfortable doing.  
 Baby J is due July 29, 2020 and registered at



babylist.com/babyj72920

### Asbury UMC Noisy Offering – June: Women at the Well Ministry



- Again, this month (June), if we are unable to gather for worship and receive our “Noisy Offering” like last month, families can receive the offering at home. Even if we reopen our churches for worship, the way congregations will receive may not be the familiar method of sending children through the congregation. Nevertheless, COVID-19 has given families a great opportunity to eat meals together or to have family time. Even if you don’t have children at home, you can still receive the Noisy Offering each week. Recycle a tin can, remove the label if possible and place a piece of construction paper or typing paper cut to size with the words: NOISY OFFERING. Or, Asbury has some

unused “Advent offering boxes families can use. They are placed at the entrances to the sanctuary. Then at one of your family meals or a time set aside for family each week take time to receive a noisy offering in your offering box/can. Once you’ve received the offering, shake the container to determine the amount you’ve received. The more noise the more you’ve received over a period of time. If you wish to have a lesson and prayer around the Noisy Offering family time a good lesson from the Bible this month might be the story of Jesus and the woman at the well in John 4:1-26 using the lesson from sermons4kids “The Thirst Quencher ” (see web site: <https://sermons4kids.com/thirst-quencher.html> ). The web page also has activities and resources for children around this theme. Or watch the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzeDMLXr17E> . Why do you suppose Jesus stopped at the well? Why did the woman come to the well? Why was woman so surprised that Jesus was talking to her? Do you think there might be women in prison who get left out or no one will talk to? How would you feel if you were a woman in prison? How might we help them?

Women at the Well is a United Methodist congregation which is located within the walls of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women ICIW, in Mitchellville, Iowa.

Women at the Well is a diverse community composed of women incarcerated at ICIW, men and women from around the State of Iowa who choose to worship with us, and many volunteers who regularly support our ministries and programs. Inmates gather together to share the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to experience the life transforming Spirit of God.

Visit website for a video on this ministry: <http://www.womenatthewellumc.org/new-gallery/2017/10/18/2017-well-promo>



the family of Jean Carol Stenberg, 97, retired elementary school teacher, who passed away Sunday, April 12, 2020 in Coweta, Oklahoma. Jean C. Stenberg was the surviving spouse of Rev. Harlan A. Stenberg, who served Asbury and Thompson United Methodist Churches from 1985 to 1988. He retired in 1988 and died in 2013. Jean is survived by two children Karen Stenberg and Andrew and his wife Sue.

## IOWA UNITED METHODIST SUMMER CAMP AT OKOBOJI AND WESLEY WOODS:



On April 29, 2020 the Iowa United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center announced “due to ongoing concerns regarding the safety and health of our campers, families, and staff due to COVID-19, we will be cancelling all summer programs at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods United Methodist Camps for 2020. To read the full statement and for more you may go to <https://www.iaumc.org/camps/#iac>. If you have already registered for a camp experience this year you will be contacted by a member of our Iowa Camps team to make arrangements with payments. Each camper family will be invited to:

- **Transfer deposit to a future Iowa United Methodist Camp Event**
- **Receive a refund (full or partial) for funds already paid towards an event**
- **Offer your payment to either Okoboji or Wesley Woods as a gift to sustain camping ministry in Iowa**

## LAKE MILLS SUMMER DAY CAMP 2020 AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps are sad to announce that, due to the ongoing concerns surrounding the health and safety of our campers and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be canceling our summer programs for 2020. **This includes our Day Camp August 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> hosted by Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills, IA.**

## NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY JUNE 2020



Native American Ministries Sunday is a very special day that United Methodist Churches across the country celebrate every year. With a special offering on May 5<sup>th</sup> we honor and empower the Native Americans in our church community

Here are 5 reasons why we believe in this special Sunday:

- 1.) We celebrate in commitment to racial reconciliation.
- 2.) We believe in funding justice efforts for Native Americans.
- 3.) When we give together, we can do more than any individual can.
- 4.) We believe in taking care of our own family.
- 5.) We model generosity for our communities and future generations.

### JOIN US TO GIVE GENEROUSLY ON NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

The Native American Ministries special offering will be received on **Sunday, June 14<sup>TH</sup>,**

**Enclosed in this month's newsletter is a Native American Ministries offering envelope.** The Asbury Mission Committee invites you to enclose your gift for Native American Ministries Sunday in this envelope and mail in a regular envelope to Asbury United Methodist Church, 107 E. Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450. Thank you.



# Asbury United Methodist Church

## Administrative Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Tuesday, May 12, 2020 5:30 pm**

Administrative council met 5/12/2020 at 5:30 pm via Zoom meeting. Daryl and Joyce Sherman, Betty and Rev. Jerry Robertson, Pastor Rob, Donna Lair and David Taft participated. There was discussion about a fall that occurred 2/8/2020 visitation at our church and the insurance company that needed to be contacted. Daryl took care of the paperwork and making the phone calls.

Betty R. started the meeting with devotions. Minutes from the March 10th meeting were read. Most of the church events discussed at that meeting were cancelled due to the Covid 19 restrictions. The Treasurer's report was given. The balance without the recent loan is \$3,189.34 and with the payroll protection loan it is \$12,899.34. The forgivable amount keeps changing so it is unsure right now what the revised balance will be but Daryl is in contact with MBT. Harriet needs the minutes from David Taft in regard to the payroll protection loan meeting via emails. Daryl paid the April/May apportionments. He would like to pay some of the special offerings now. Donna made motion to approve Treasurer report and Rev. Jerry seconded it. Everyone approved it.

There was discussion about the YouTube version of recording the church service. We are appreciative of the time and work that Carter has done in helping with this and Daryl made a motion to pay him \$50 and Donna made the second. Motion was approved. Going forward the church service will be live and then posted on YouTube. Donna stated that for May 17th Brad Grotewold would have special music and May 24th Jessie Bless will have special music.

Pastor Rob gave an update on his seminary studies. He will have clinical pastoral duties in the fall and will graduate April of 2021. Iowa Annual Conference has been cancelled for this year and laity and church sessions will take place via Zoom. The general conference has been postponed until August 2021. Some of the districts have merged and North Central and NE districts will have as their district superintendent Paul Wilcox starting July 1st. Asbury was recognized as having paid all their 2019 apportionments and missions offerings.

There was discussion about Bishop Laurie's recommendation that Iowa Methodist churches not meet in person through May. This means that the earliest that we would meet in person would be May 31st or June 7th. It was decided that the worship committee would be the ones to determine the start date and how to proceed safely using Covid 19 guidelines. Then it could be posted on Facebook, website and a perhaps a special newsletter. Pastor Rob will contact Jane, chairman of worship. There was some discussion about having an option for giving through direct deposit. David T. made the motion that Daryl would look into how other local churches do this and Donna seconded it. Motion approved.

Joyce gave the update from SPRC. The Second Set of Eyes has been completed via email by Bobbi Bendickson with input from SPRC members. Also Bobbi will be moving June 15th and resigning from chair of SPRC. Donna has been working on getting emergency phone numbers and contacts for our church.

Rev. Jerry stated that the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has been postponed and possibly cancelled. However the Boy Scouts are still interested in doing it this fall. The summer lunch program will continue at this time but the format may change to a 'grab and go' lunch. It will be held at Salem Church. The Lake Mills day camp has been cancelled and the Iowa church camps are cancelled. Rev. Jerry made the motion to send \$1200.00 in the Asbury camp fund that would have been used for scholarships to help sustain United Methodist camps. Joyce made the second. Motion approved.

Rev. Jerry also stated that if we have July Jubilee, he will need someone else to pull the church float since he has other commitments that weekend.

The next meeting will be July 7th. Joyce will have devotions. Donna made the motion to adjourn and Betty R. made the second.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Sherman who took the minutes per  
Harriet Young's request



### **ASBURY – WHERE HAS THE MEMORIAL MONEY BEEN DESIGNATED?**

\* Imler Account \$2,013.00  
\* Don Grotewold Account  
3,655.00(kitchenette)  
\* Undesignated Account  
\$2,088.02  
Louella Bolstad \$15.00  
Interest .17 Total \$2,103.19  
\*GRAND TOTAL \$7,771.19

# Steps for using our Social Distancing Media

WORSHIP SERVICE WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

## 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](http://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](https://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.



## Our Sympathies To...

Joan Kvale Christian  
Shelly Skellenger  
Ed Monson  
Carole Yocum

The family and friends of Doris Grotewold on  
her passing on May 20, 2020

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

## In Our Thoughts...

### Lake Mills Care Center...

Carol Griffiths

### Good Shepard Mason City...

### Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood...

George Kesler  
Norma Kay Martinson  
Nancy Whitesell  
Jane McMullen

Sandy Nitcher  
Wanda Citurs  
Rick Low

*(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](mailto:NorthwoodUMC@msn.com))*



<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Regular Worship & Online	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Regular Worship & Online	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Regular Worship & Online	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Regular Worship & Online	29	30				



# SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NORTHWOOD

2020	7-June	14-June	21-June	28-June
Scripture Reader				
Ushers				
Coffee Servers	Postponed until Further notice			
Communion Steward				

**We are always in need of volunteers!** Check the sign up sheet in Wesley Hall to let us know when you can help. **If you find that you are unavailable to help on the Sunday assigned, please trade with someone else on the list** and let the Office know (641-324-1557).

## 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

Bobbi Bendickson  
Mary Christianson  
Mike Bode  
Dean Mueller  
John Greve

### Church Attendance

Worship N A

Online  
Worship

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

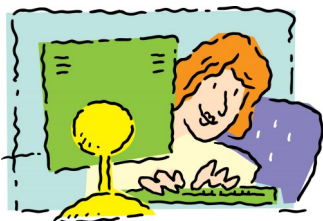


## Asbury

5 Harlan Levenson  
6 Aaron Mannes  
6 Ben Peterson  
8 Edward Schwarm  
10 Foster Hartman  
10 Chris Heitland  
13 Jeremy Ostrander  
14 Jason Slattum  
15 Vernon Angel  
15 Sonja Tiedman  
15 Cole Christianson  
15 Ashten Love  
18 Lyla Rogstad  
18 Daryl Groe  
19 Sherrylee Gasper  
21 Ben Irons  
21 John Budach  
23 Gary Thompson  
23 Lillian Young  
23 Gary Heimdal  
25 Wayne Roberts  
29 Dan Tiedman  
29 Blake Grotewold

## Northwood

4 Deb Mueller  
5 Cody McClanahan  
17 Warren Jones  
19 Arnie Griffith  
23 Sandy Rainey  
24 Ian Podgorniak  
26 Cory Stucky  
27 Rhonda Fridley  
29 Lisa Jensen  
30 Mary Arrett-Branstad



The Newsletter Team  
**WANTS YOU!**

call the office at

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

If you have material that you would like included in the newsletters or bulle-

send the information via  
email

or mail to

**Northwood UMC ATTN Newsletter**  
**PO Box 104, Northwood IA 50459**

**time to  
UPDATE**



**Have you disconnected a land line in favor  
of your cell phone?**

**Do you have a new address?**

**Has your email changed  
or do you have a new one?**

Please let the office know!

We are finding many of the numbers listed in our directory are no longer in use and most address changes are because your newsletter was returned with a new forwarding address. When you are informing others of your updated info, unfortunately we are left out. Please don't forget your church when letting others know your new contact information. Thank you!

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

R E 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-2020

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Lake Mills IA 50450

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Northwood United Methodist Church

1000 1st Avenue North

PO Box 104

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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.**