



DECEMBER INSPIRATIONS 2021

Greetings:

Pastor's Page

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and were able to reflect on the blessings we have received in this last year. Thanksgiving is always one of my favorite holidays: food, football and family – what is not to love. Now we turn our attention to Advent and preparing our hearts for Christ's return. Our Advent readings this year have the theme of home. What does home mean to you? When we hear those familiar Christmas carols singing "I'll be home for Christmas" – what picture comes to mind?

When I was younger all of my family lived in the same area and home meant celebrating at both grandparent's houses. We traded off each year who hosted Christmas Eve or Christmas Day but it was always going to be at their house surrounded by aunts, uncles, and cousins. Over time, some of us began to move away and Christmas celebrations were different. My senior year of college, my sister Angie (who is three years younger) was a freshman at Azusa Pacific University and was a member of the chamber choir and they were touring for two weeks in December – right up to Christmas day. I stayed back to wait for her tour to finish and we were going to drive from Southern California to our parents' home in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. My roommates left to go home to their families and I was all alone on Christmas day with no plans for a meal or family to visit. So, I went to the grocery store that morning and bought a T-bone, a box of Stove Top, and a half gallon of egg nog and that was my Christmas dinner.

Now "home" is we host Christmas at our house and went from having no family in the area for the last fifteen years to being joined by Melinda's mom, her aunt and husband, her cousin and his three kids, her brother and his friend – a full house! Home for Christmas means different things to different people and it is a chance to gather with family and friends. Christ made a home among us when he came to earth as a babe and lived among us. Now Christ wants to have a home in each of our hearts. Let's keep Christ in Christmas as we look to go "home."

I want to invite everyone to attend our worship services this Advent season and especially on Christmas Eve – 5pm at Northwood and 7pm at Asbury. There is also an Advent study on Sunday evenings via Zoom at 7pm. If you would like a book and to participate let me know.

Pastor Rob

Join the Pastor on **Wednesdays** from 10-noon Coffeehouse in Lake Mills every week **OF and 4th Thursdays** of the month for Pub The 7pm at the Worth Brewing if you would care for a bit of fellowship and conversation.



December 2021 Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Tyler Gasper Andrea Ostrander Sandy Stucky Bryan Christianson	2 Faith Christianson Sue Mannes Vivian Kvale Becky Johnson	3 Kaisen Mary Daryl Sherman Charise Schwarm Wade Fridley	4 Tate Grotewold Schipper Emma Taft Kaylee Taft Michael Godfrey
5 Melissa Taft Glenn Steiff Tyce Skellenger Aaron Mannes	6 Anna Budach Mya Peterson Kyle Stucky Ben Peterson Deb Mueller	7 Michael McColloch Royce Peterson Rylan Heath Cody McClanahan	8 Haley Slattum Ryan Skellenger Harriet Young Grace Skellenger	9 Char Hanson Paula Harris Jason Slattum Vernon Angel	10 Chad Tiedeman Avery Grunhove Carol Jones Sandy Rainey Cohen Bode	11 Jeanie Grotewold Alyssa Slattum Ian Podgorniak Gary Heimdal
12 Drae Love Samuel Erdahl Ryan Williamson Harlan Leverson	13 Pearl Imler Edward Schwarm Foster Hartman	14 Chris Heitland Jeremy Ostrander	15 Eric Christianson August Madson Sarah Heath Rhonda Fridley	16 Breanna Mary Chris Rogstad Dennis Walser Karen Abrahams Cole Christianson	17 Finley Rogstad Sonja Tiedman Ashten Love Warren Jones	18 Noah Irons Daryl Groe Sherrylee Gasper Ben Irons
19 JJ Grotewold Schipper Lyla Rogstad John Budach Hudson Ostrander	20 Marilyn Castle Sandy Hyde Betty Vold Wanda Citurs Logan Ostrander	21 Becky Jacks Rock Bridges Jeff Greve	22 Jackson Grunhove Margie Barber Jill Nelson Dominic Williamson	23 Lynn Lair Nora Mammen Nancy Mathahs Jean Heitland Gary Thompson	24 Jeff Christenson Dae Haskins Lillian Young Kim Bode	25 Josh Tiedman Ryan Mueller Casey Tiedman
26 Kathy Christianson Sue Bridges Jim Meland	27 Anne Skellenger Alex Tiedeman CK Christianson Dan Tiedman	28 David Hooks David Taft Kenneth Nitcher Richard Patterson	29 Gabriel Rogstad Jill Stucky Betty Langpap	30 Shirley Higbee Bryan Arnold Ruth Robb Carol Griffiths	31 Cory Stucky Blake Grotewold Mary Arrett-Brandstad	

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-Dec Psalm 106-107 2 Samuel 5:11-25; 2 Samuel	11-Dec 2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chronicles 20	21-Dec 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21-22; Psalm 30
2-Dec 6:1-23; 1 Chronicles 13-16	12-Dec Psalm 32, 51, 86, 122	22-Dec Psalm 108-110
3-Dec Psalm 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68 Psalm 89, 96, 100, 101, 105,	13-Dec 2 Samuel 13-15	23-Dec 1 Chronicles 23-25
4-Dec 132	14-Dec Psalm 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55	24-Dec Psalm 131, 138-139, 143-145 1 Chronicles 26-29; Psalm
5-Dec 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17	15-Dec 2 Samuel 16-18	25-Dec 127
6-Dec Psalm 25, 29, 33, 36, 39	16-Dec Psalm 26, 40, 58, 61-62, 64	26-Dec Psalm 111-118
7-Dec 2 Samuel 8-9; 1 Chronicles 18	17-Dec 2 Samuel 19-21	27-Dec 1 Kings 1-2; Psalm 37, 71, 94
8-Dec Psalm 50, 53, 60, 75 2 Sam10; 1 Chronicles 19;	18-Dec Psalm 5, 38, 41-42	28-Dec Psalm 119:1-88 1 Kings 3-4; 2 Chronicles 1;
9-Dec Psalm 20	19-Dec 2 Samuel 22-23; Psalm 57	29-Dec Psalm 72
10-Dec Psalm 65-67, 69-70	20-Dec Psalm 95, 97-99	30-Dec Psalm 119:89-176
		31-Dec Song of Solomon 1-8



Please pray for these: Bailee Johnson (guidance and wisdom), Char Hanson, Steve Smith (heart operation), Jane Christianson, Jerry Robertson, 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...

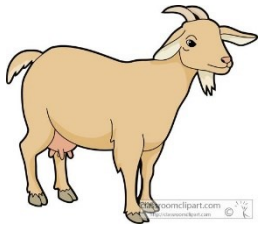
Carol Griffiths

Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood...

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)



ASBURY UMC DECEMBER NOISY OFFERING -HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

Ruwaida and Salehe Abdul's family received a goat from Heifer. The gift of a goat has changed their lives forever. Goats are known for providing delicious milk, which can be used to create cheese that can be sold for income, in turn providing a family's children the opportunity to go to school.

Goat milk is more easily digestible, and one animal can produce up to four gallons a day. Goats are ideal for zero grazing, which means very little land is needed to raise them. Their natural curiosity and intelligence also makes them great pets for families with children. Asbury's December Noisy offering goes to help families like Ruwaida's and Salehe's to have animals like goats, bees, ducks, cows, etc.

LAKE MILLS CHRISTMAS MISSION GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Every December the Lake Mills community provides mission opportunities for members of Asbury to contribute to community projects. These include such mission projects as: Toys for Tots, Operation Clothes for Kids, LM School Special Needs Fund, Share the Joy Christmas Food Baskets, etc. Additional details on these projects were listed the November Newsletter. **However, if you wish to have Asbury given credit for mission giving, please give the value amount of your gift to Rev. Jerry (jrobrtsn@ wctatel.net) who will add it to Asbury's Mission Together report for the year. Only the amount will be recorded.**

Card of Thanks

Thanks to everyone who sent cards and birthday greetings on my 75th birthday. It really was a Happy Birthday! You totally brightened my day! Your greetings and comments reminded me of how blessed I am to my Asbury Church Family, family and friends.

With heart-felt appreciation.

Rev. Jerry Robertson

*Thank
You*

Mission News December 2021

On Saturday, November 6th, we left Northwood early with the pickup bed filled with our 27 boxes of mission kits. We had 100 student kits, 80 personal dignity kits (formerly health), 9 layette kits and 139 empty school bags. The value placed on our kits was \$3,879.00.



The Ingathering was much like last year. Our boxes were taken directly from our vehicle to the semi without being re-packaged. There was no worship service, bazaar, lunch or quilt auction. We were able to get a cup of coffee and cinnamon roll before leaving. The fellowship hall was eerily quiet.



Thank you for your kind and generous response to my plea for donations to pay for kit postage and toothpaste and razors for the personal dignity kits and for diaper cream for the layette kits. You donated enough to pay for the postage of \$378.00 (\$2 for each kit) and \$178.00 for the extra items for personal dignity and layette kits.

One donation (\$450.00) was specified for Mobility Worldwide, which is the hand driven carts for people without the use of their legs. You donated enough that I was able to apply \$220.00 to undesignated cash gifts, which is used to purchase other needed items.

I am so very grateful for your overwhelming generosity, not only in the last few weeks, but throughout the year when you gave cash and checks for the purchase of kit items; and for the items you purchased, and for the school bags sewed.

The total of our contribution to the Ingathering was \$5105.00 (\$3879.00 for the kits and the check for \$1226.00). Thank you so much to each of you!!

I'm hoping that in February we'll be able to have the soup mission dinner.

Adopt a Month of Coffee

I've made up a new coffee server list, but much different from previous years. We'll continue to use the packaged treats that we've been using; and are asking individuals, couples or families to sign up for a month to make the coffee, set out the cups, treats, cream and sugar, and then clean up after. You are not asked to bake or provide juice.

The sign-up sheet will be on the kitchen counter in Wesley Hall.



The Share Shoppe



A new Share Shoppe volunteer sign-up sheet for 2022 is on the clipboard beneath the current sheet.

Our time to work at the shop is the second Thursday of each month from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you've never volunteered there, give it a try. It's a fun way to spend an afternoon and a valuable service to our community and the area.

IMPACT REPORT 2020

In 2020 Midwest Mission reached over a million individuals in need and sent \$10,829,609.04 in aid.



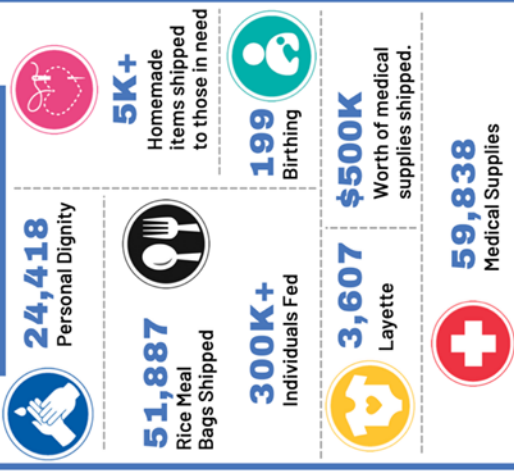
MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
www.midwestmission.org

Sending hope and empowerment is possible through the generosity of God's people - Thank You!

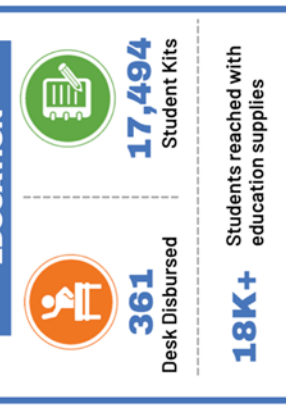
SUMMARY OPERATIONS



HEALTH



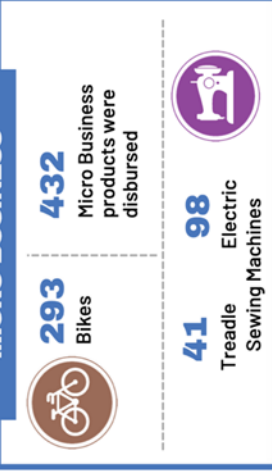
EDUCATION



DISASTER



MICRO BUSINESS



COVID 19 RELIEF



Iowa Supply Disbursements through Midwest Mission in 2021



Iowa Kits/Items Disbursed:

7,550	Personal Dignity Kits
5,100	Student Kits
1,447	Home Care Kits
23,768	Rice Meal Kits
612	Feminine Hygiene Kits
196	Layette Kits
352	Birthing Kits
130	Desks

Countries Items were sent to:

Haiti	June 3rd, 17th, August 23rd
Honduras	May 26th, 27th, August 19th
Jamaica	May 25th
Kenya	February 17th
Latin America	June 8th



**Your donations and volunteerism has helped send
a total of 39,025 kits, valued at \$834,435.06.**

The purpose of Mission Ingatherings is to show the love of Christ to the world's people by ministering to their needs.



MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
www.midwestmission.org

ASBURY UMC CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
IN MEMORY(GOLD LIGHT) and IN HONOR(BLUE LIGHT)

Provide a Christmas light in memory or in honor of family members and friends. Make our church shine as we celebrate Christ's birth. All proceeds will go to a mission project. Mail or bring this form with your check payable to Asbury UMC and marked for "Christmas Lights." Each light costs \$5.00. **Mail to Asbury UMC, 107 East Main, Lake Mills, IA 50450-1106.** Names will be listed in the bulletin on December 20th.

YOUR NAME _____

A **GOLD Light** will burn IN MEMORY of your family members or friends who are deceased. Print name clearly. Please include \$5.00 for each name.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

A **BLUE Light** will burn in HONOR of your family members or friends who you choose. Print name clearly. Please include \$5.00 for each name.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

ASBURY UMC CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
IN MEMORY(GOLD LIGHT) and IN HONOR(BLUE LIGHT)

Provide a Christmas light in memory or in honor of family members and friends. Make our church shine as we celebrate Christ's birth. All proceeds will go to a mission project. Mail or bring this form with your check payable to Asbury UMC and marked for "Christmas Lights." Each light costs \$5.00. **Mail to Asbury UMC, 107 East Main, Lake Mills, IA 50450-1106.** Names will be listed in the bulletin on December 20th .

YOUR NAME _____

A **GOLD Light** will burn IN MEMORY of your family members or friends who are deceased. Print name clearly. Please include \$5.00 for each name.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

A **BLUE Light** will burn in HONOR of your family members or friends who you choose. Print name clearly. Please include \$5.00 for each name.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

NEW LM FOOD SHELF HOURS:
THE LM FOOD SHELF WILL BE
OPEN FROM 3-5 P.M. BEGINNING
MONDAY NOVEMBER 1ST.

Food Shelf



ATTENTION ASBURY LADIES You Are Invited!

Ladies of Asbury Please mark your calendars
for the Annual Circle Christmas Party.

It will be held on

Wednesday, December 1st at 5:30 p.m.

The Meal will be prepared by the Esther Circle.
Program and decorations by the Rachel Circle

Hope to see you there for an evening of fun,
food with fellow church ladies and an evening
of fun and fellowship.



Christmas Party



WHAT YOU CAN RECYCLE:

Writing instruments and packaging
For more details, visit: www.terracycle.com/BIC



TerraCycle® and the TerraCycle Logo® are all property of TerraCycle, Inc. used under license. ©2020

A ball-point pen doesn't take up much room in your trash can after it stops working. Same with a highlighter that dries up or a mechanical lead pencil that doesn't hold the lead. But...hundreds of thousands of pens, pencils and highlighters DO take up a lot of space in the landfill. Stop throwing away these writing instruments and bring them to church to be recycled. The Bic company is sponsoring a recycle program that will award points to group that send them the old, broken or no longer usable pens etc. There will be a collection box in the Northwood Fellowship Hall and one on the table at the top of the Sanctuary stairs (where the bulletins are). Please help us earn some points and save some pens!



Poinsettias

If you are planning on bringing a poinsettia plant for Christmas in memory or honor of loved ones please let the church office know so we can list them properly in the Christmas Eve Bulletin. If a plant is delivered by a florist, please ask that your information is noted on the plant tag. Please pick up your plant after Christmas Eve Service.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Attention all



Don't forget to
contact the office as to when you
will be flying away for the winter.
Let Ona in the office know when
you want to receive the newsletter
at your new destination, or if you
would prefer to receive it as an
email.

Northwood United Methodist Church

Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Thursday, October 14th at 10 am**

Northwood United Methodist Church Council Minutes

(Unapproved)

Thursday, November 11, 2021 9:30 a.m.

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Terry, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Devotions given by Pastor Rob.

Motion by Sandy; 2nd by LeAnn to approve the October 14th Minutes as read by Karen Abrahams; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Nancy with a balance of \$18,440.49. Apportionments are paid through the end of the year. Motion by Dean; 2nd by Joanne for acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: 4 sessions are planned for an Advent Study. Advent begins on November 28th. Discussed Christmas Eve Service Time. Sunday, November 21st Bible Sunday; "Kid First" with small groups during worship time. Church decorating for Christmas will be Saturday, November 27th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Location time for worship service will be in the Sanctuary through December. Then worship will be in Wesley Hall beginning January 2nd. Palm Sunday, April 10th worship will begin in the Sanctuary for the rest of the year.

Joanne, UMW President, thanked all who helped with the Geneva Patterson Funeral on November 2nd. UMW Christmas Luncheon will be at Bean and Bistro at 11 a.m. on December 1st.

Mission Report by LeAnn: 27 boxes were delivered to the Ingathering. A donation was given of \$450.00 for a hand driven cart. Our church's total giving was \$5,105.00. A soup mission dinner is being planned for February. A sign-up sheet will be available for Adopt a Month to make coffee for fellowship following the worship service. Discussed cell phone notification to members in case of church cancellation and other items of interest.

Trustees report by Sandy: Balance of \$26,079.98. The Sound System from Sim Sound Video has been approved in the amount of \$36,901.74. This will be paid from the Wilma Groe Bequest Fund. Save all your old pens for recycle and bring to the church to be sent.

Lanterns for the Treasurer and Financial Secretary have been purchased

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**

Join the Pastor on Wednesdays 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.			1 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	2	3	4
5 Regular Schedule	6	7	8 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	9 7pm Pub Theology	10	11
12 Regular Schedule	13	14	15 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	16	17	18
19 Regular Schedule	20	21	22 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	23 7pm Pub Theology	24 5pm Northwood 7pm Asbury 	25 
26 Regular Schedule	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**2021**

Betty Robertson

Joyce Sherman

David Taft

Richard Schwarm

NORTHWOOD UMC**2021**

Mike Bode

Bobbi Hooks

Dean Mueller

John Greve

Nancy Mathahs

Church Attendance

Worship	<u>N</u>	<u>A</u>
Oct 24	29	44
Oct 31	33	31
7-Nov	25	43
14-Nov	28	39
21-Nov	27	56
28-Nov		

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

Asbury

3 Sue Mannes
4 Daryl Sherman
4 Emma Grace Taft
4 Kaylee Ann Taft
5 Royce Peterson
5 Mya Peterson
6 Ryan Skellenger
10 Avery Grunhovd
13 Frederick Holtan
14 Pastor Rob
16 Christopher Rogstad
17 Finley Rogstad
21 Marilyn Castle
22 Jackson Grunhovd
23 Lynn Lair

Northwood

1 Bryan Christianson
1 Trent Akemann
9 Paula Harris
16 August Madson
16 Dennis Walser
20 Sandy Hyde
23 Nancy Mathahs
25 Ryan Mueller
28 David Hooks
29 Jill Stucky
29 Bryan Arnold
31 Ruth Robb

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 10/31/2021

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account	3,755.00
(kitchenette)	
* Doris Grotewold Account	2,265.00
(kitchenette)	
*Undesignated Account	2,255.46
October Interest	.44
Total	2,255.90
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,288.90



RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

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



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**

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



Each of us is an
Innkeeper
who decides if there is
room for *Jesus*
-Neal A Maxwell

DECEMBER 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.