



NOVEMBER

INSPIRATIONS 2022

Pastor's Page

Greetings:

In my letter last month, I mentioned that for part of my renewal leave I was going to visit other churches to just sit and participate in worship and to see if there were any ideas I could bring back to our parish. I only had time to visit one church by the time the newsletter article was due, so I am going to share my experience as a visitor to Cornerstone Church in Ames, IA.

The reason I chose this church to attend first is because it is where Hannah attends while she is attending ISU and is very involved in their campus ministry – Salt. I wanted to see what this church was about for myself and to give Melinda and I an excuse to visit Hannah. The first thing we noticed when we got out of the car in the very large parking lot was there were a lot of college/high school students wherever we looked. Melinda said to me, “Don’t tell me we are going to be the only old people at this service.” I too was thinking the same thing but as we got closer to the entrance, there were other old people attending church with us that morning. Overall, I thought the church service was good but here are a few of my critiques and things we can consider when it comes to welcoming visitors to our own churches.

When we walked in the door, we were waiting for Hannah to meet us in the foyer. If she had not been with us, I would have no idea what door to go into or where to sit. No one greeted us or said, “Hey you look lost can I help you.” As a visitor this was very off-putting, plus it was communion Sunday and there was a box at the entrance that said “communion” and in it were prepacked cups with juice and a wafer. We each grabbed one because it looked like we were supposed to (turns out we needed one if we wanted to partake of communion).

The sanctuary was more like a theater than a church and it was dimly lit. Hannah led us to our seats. The band started to play and invited us to stand and sing with them. The music was great and there was even a violin and a cello but I did not recognize any of the songs and it took awhile to get into the spirit of worship. There is a fine line between leading people in worship or just performing and it seemed like more of a performance. A church this size also has many pastors and the one who was preaching that morning Hannah said she had never even seen him before. The message was good and had a relatable take away. The three rows in front of us were filled with young people and all of them had their bibles and were taking notes. As a pastor I was like yes – that is what I am talking about! How do I get my people to do that?

I did not like the way that they did communion at all. There was little said about it and the pastor just said if you want to take communion, do so now. People grabbed their cups and ate their wafer and drank the juice (which tasted like terrible Kool-Aid). There was no, this is Christ body or Christ’s blood shed for you, no let us eat together – nothing! It was as if there was no real significance to communion but you can partake of it if you want. This is where I really like Reformed theology and doctrine and the importance of communion as a sacrament.

Overall, it was a good experience and I was really impressed with the turnout and the dedication of the young people at this church. Much of it has to do with their small group ministries and using young adults in leadership. Hannah has found a good church to be a part of. Next month I will share more of my experiences visiting other churches. Till then have a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy this wonderful fall weather.

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.



November 2022 Prayer Calendar

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



Daylight saving time ends Sunday, Nov. 6 remember to set you clock back one hour before going to bed on Saturday evening.



ASBURY UMC NOVEMBER NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy offering at Asbury for November will be given to Tree of Life Ministries of Rosebud, South Dakota a ministry of service and presence in furtherance of the missions and outreach of the United Methodist Church To help the most vulnerable members of the Lakota Nation meet their basic human needs in the Rosebud Lakota Reservation (Sicangu Oyate) and surrounding communities and rural areas. Tree of Life Ministry is a part of the working hands and feet of God serving body, mind, and soul. We feed, cloth, shelter, and love to demonstrate God's love, power, and grace to a broken, hurting society.



© Can Stock Photo

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

One of the special Sundays authorized by the General Conference to be observed with an offering on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. The purpose of United Methodist Student Day is to call upon the denomination to support United Methodist students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith. The funds received from the offering go into the United Methodist Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Your gifts on this Special Sunday go toward scholarship funds to help build leaders for tomorrow's church.

*The special offering envelope for **United Methodist Student Day** will be provided in the bulletin on Sunday morning, **November 27th**. However, **members have also received a United Methodist Student Day offering envelope in this issue of the church newsletter**. If you are unable to be in worship on Sunday, November 28th the Asbury Mission Committee invites you to enclose your gift for this offering in the offering envelope and mail in a regular envelope to Asbury United Methodist. **Let's make a Worldwide difference, together on United Methodist Student Day, Sunday, November 27th.***

Hurricanes Ian

What can you do to help?

- Please pray for all those who are in danger right now from the powerful effects of Hurricane Ian for those who have lost loved ones.
- Consider donating to support what will be a long process of rebuilding homes and lives. You can give to the United Methodist Committee on Relief's (UMCOR) U.S. Disaster Relief Fund. (Advance #901670) UMCOR is already assisting those in need.
- Please make checks out to Asbury or Northwood United Methodist Churches and on the memo line Hurricane Ian or Fiona.

May God's grace and hope surround all those whose lives are affected by Hurricane Ian. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.



THANKSGIVING MEAL

The annual community Thanksgiving meal will continue in 2022 as it did last year as a take home meal. Instead of being served inside the church, the turkey meal with all the trimmings will be pre-packaged and ready for curbside pickup to be taken home and enjoyed. Asbury United Methodist Church, located at 107 E Main St. from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24. People are encouraged to request the number of meals needed by calling 641-592-5742 or 592-3389

Anyone is welcome to dine in the church with their pre-package meal, water and coffee will be provided. Monetary or food bank donations will be accepted but are not required. The entire purpose of this meal is to provide a traditional Thanksgiving meal for individuals or families.

Deliveries will be available for shut ins who do not have a driver to pick up the meal(s). Call one of the same numbers listed above to make arrangements.

Sincerely, Thanksgiving Dinner Committee Co-Chairs

Dave Imler, 592-3389, Lynn Lair, 592-5742, Daryl Sherman, 592-0983

NOTE: If anyone is wishing to help with a meal item or volunteer to assist on Thanksgiving Day, please contact Lynn Lair or Dave Imler for more information. Requests may be limited due to COVID-19 distancing and safety considerations. We appreciate your understanding.

Dear friends and partners at Asbury,

Fred and I are so grateful and humbled by the way Asbury UMC really encouraged and enthusiastically supported the new development of a vocational training center focused on tailoring at Dzeleka Refugee Camp in Malawi. Thanks to your generous donations and collection, Asbury has completely filled 30 start up tailoring kits as well as donating the funds for a sewing machine! Thank you so much! We can only do what we do in Malawi because of the prayers and partnering of so many on the ground here. So many of you have played such a large part in my personal spiritual development from when I was a young child up until now and you all have such a warm place in my heart. And thank you from the bottom of that heart for continuing to join hands to further the Gospel 1/2 was around the world. Thank you seems inadequate.... But please know how deeply we appreciate you all.

Together for the Gospel, Fred & Cindy Cressman

LAKE MILLS CLOTHES FOR KIDS

13th Annual *Let's clothe OUR children. Donations will be distributed throughout the Lake Mills Community School District to children ages birth to 18.*

Pick a Christmas Tag (with a child's needs/sizes on it) from the electronic sign-up or one of the following tree locations: Salem Lutheran Church, Winnebago Lutheran Church, Word of Faith Dominion Church, Asbury United Methodist Church, Emmons Lutheran Church, Singelstad Hardware, and Swallow Coffeehouse. Monetary donations accepted at Farmers Trust & Savings Bank and MBT Bank of Lake Mills.

Both electronic and physical tags will be available starting November 20th.

For electronic sign-up go to: tinyurl.com/LMClothesForKids

Just in time for all those Black Friday deals! Purchase the items on the child's tag, wrap in one box, attach the original tag to the gift, and deliver/return to one of the listed locations by **Sunday, December 11th**. Once again, this year each child's requests have been divided into two tags. One for clothing and the other for shoes and socks. This is an effort to keep costs affordable for the givers and be able to provide for the child's needs.

Cash donations are accepted at the banks or send to the LMCS Nurse's Office, 102 S 4th Avenue E, Lake Mills, IA 50450

Questions: LMClothesForKids@gmail.com

Northwood United Methodist Church

Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 9:30 am**

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 9:30 a.m Present: Nancy Mathahs, Karen Hove, LeAnn Steiff, Sandy Olson, Terry & Joanne Steinmetz, Pastor Rob Lanphere.

Nancy, Council Chair called meeting to order at 9:36 am

Devotions by Nancy "Autumn Blessings"

Minutes were read. One change noted. Trustee's balance should read \$6,9183.95. Karen Motioned to accept minutes with change. LeAnn seconded. Approved

Treasurer's report by Terry to date balance, \$14,390.94. Deposits and expenses nearly equal for September. There was an unusually high water bill which City adjusted. Apportionments paid through September. Sandy made motion to accept. LeAnn second. Approved

Pastor's Report: October is to be his time of renewal. Pulpit is filled. Confirmation meeting Sunday Afternoon 9/24. Bode twins to work with church technology. North Central Mechanical gave estimate for multi-purpose unit for office and mini split unit for kitchen \$12,000.

Trustee's: Balance \$6,292.07. Going to move \$30,000 into account. There are many bills, Entrance mats, \$491.77; Sound system \$8,015.62; 24 light fixtures (Northwood Electric) \$5,560.00; 2 broken windows; 248 ceiling tiles. Discussed painting of office and library; kitchen remodel (cabinet fronts).

Scholarship fund discussed

UMW/UWF: Group met at Joanne's Sept 7. Phyllis and Joanne will attend Camp Clear Lake District meeting in Humboldt Sept 24. There will be mini- mission study at Algona Oct 24. Next Meeting for local unit Oct 5.

Mission Report: For in gathering, we have 100 school kits, 54 personal dignity kits, 12 layettes, 10 baby sweaters, and 100 bags. Postage will be needed. Mission dinner postponed to February because of food prices.

Custodian's Report: Oct 13015 City Clean up day. Karen will be gone Nov 1-4

Men's No Report

Lions Club storing omelet supplies and duck race items at the church. Christmas display also stored in building. Suggested all items to be stored in one room. Terry made motion for Lions to continue storage, but in one area. Karen second. Approved

Pastor and Karen excused from meeting. SPRC met twice. Topics Pastor renewal, leave, filling pulpit, and salaries. Salary report: Pastor 8% raise, Secretary 4 1/2 % , Karen 4%. Terry motioned to accept SPRC recommendation, LeAnn second. Approved

Next meeting Oct 20 at 10 am

Secretary Protem: Joanne Steinmetz

Mission News – November 2022

The Mission Ingathering is a few short weeks away (Saturday, November 5th). The kits are counted and boxed. The boxes are taped and labeled. Our 28 boxes contain 100 Student Kits, 76 Personal Dignity (Health) Kits, twelve Layette Kits, 10 Baby Sweaters and 170 Empty School Bags. These kits will improve lives for so many people!



The value placed on the kits is as follows:

100 Student Kits at \$16 each (\$1600.00)

76 Personal Dignity Kits at \$13 each (\$988.00)

12 Layette Kits at \$45 each (\$540.00)

10 Baby Sweaters at \$8.00 each (\$80.00)

170 Empty School Bags at \$6.00 each (\$1020.00)

The value of our kits is \$4228.00

thank you

In addition to the kits, we pay \$2.00 postage for each kit (\$376.00; and \$2.00 extra for each Personal Dignity for the purchase of a razor, toothpaste and band-aids. We also pay \$2.00 extra for each Layette Kit for the purchase of diaper cream (\$176.00 for additional items).

We've also received a \$500.00 donation for Mobility Worldwide (formerly known at P.E.T. – Personal Energy Transportation.

We'll turn in a check at the Ingathering for the postage, extra items and Mobility Worldwide, which will be in the amount of \$1052.00

The total of our church donation to the Mission Ingathering is \$5280.0 with both the kits and check.

I'd like to take a moment here to thank each of you who purchased items, who donated cash so that I could shop for you, who sewed a total of 270 school bags, who responded generously when I requested money for the postage and extra items. Your generosity is so important and appreciated!

Several open dates remain this year to volunteer at the Share Shop. Don't miss the chance to participate in this fun and vital service to our community

Also a few opportunities to serve remain on the coffee server list. Remember, no baking required.

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!

Reading Plan - Chronological

Read the Bible in the order that the events happened.



1-Nov	Judges 10-12	16-Nov	Psalms 17, 35, 54, 63
2-Nov	Judges 13-15	17-Nov	1 Samuel 28-31; Psalm 18
3-Nov	Judges 16-18	18-Nov	Psalms 121, 123-125, 128-130
4-Nov	Judges 19-21	19-Nov	2 Samuel 1-4
5-Nov	Ruth 1-4	20-Nov	Psalms 6, 8-10, 14, 16, 19, 21
6-Nov	1 Samuel 1-3	21-Nov	1 Chronicles 1-2
7-Nov	1 Samuel 4-8	22-Nov	Psalms 43-45, 49, 84-85, 87
8-Nov	1 Samuel 9-12	23-Nov	1 Chronicles 3-5
9-Nov	1 Samuel 13-14	24-Nov	Psalms 73, 77-78
10-Nov	1 Samuel 15-17	25-Nov	1 Chronicles 6



Save the Date!!!

Asbury's Annual Harvest Festival will be held Sat, Nov 12th

Bake Sale will run from 10:00-1:00pm.

Serving of our traditional ham balls, creamed chicken over biscuits with all the fixings from 10:30-1:00 at \$8 per person. Welcoming our congregation, neighbors, and friends. Let the tradition continue.

We are in need of *Men* for cooks for the chili cook off on November 13th at 5 pm at the Northwood UMC!

Let Pastor Rob or the Office know if you are placing an entry so we know how many to expect. Ladies (and those not cooking) can be the judges.



Please pray for these: Myra Greve, Erica Sorenson-Fort Meyers-hurricane, Kathy Voorhes, Jane Christianson, 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

Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood...

Becky Johnston
Wanda Citurs

Norma Kay Martinson
Rick Low


Northwood Sunday Schedule

10:45 am Worship Service-N

11:45 am Fellowship

**Asbury Sunday****Schedule**

9:00 am Worship –

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	2	3	4 10am Discipleship Journey –Nwd Confirmation Retreat	5 Confirmation Retreat
6 Regular Schedule Confirmation Retreat	7	8 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	9 4pm Confirmation	10 7pm Pub Theology	11 10am Discipleship Journey –Nwd	12 10am -1pm Asbury Harvest Festival
13 Regular Schedule	14	15 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	16	17	18 10am Discipleship Journey –Nwd	19
20 Regular Schedule 7pm Community Thanksgiving Worship	21	22 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	23	24 Asbury To Go Thanksgiving Meal 	25	26
27 Regular Schedule	28	29 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	30 4pm Confirmation	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.		

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	<u>N</u>	<u>A</u>
Sept 18	20	41
Sept 25	23	37
Oct 2	24	33
Oct 9	17	37
Oct 16	16	
Oct 23		

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

Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday!

Asbury

2 Larry Eden
3 Jane Christianson
3 Sue Slattum
5 Neil Schrieber
5 Carlie Fritz
8 Drake Tiedeman
11 Delaney Imler
12 Mark Enderson
24 David Tiedman
24 Richard Schwarm
26 Joyce Hauge

Northwood

8 Katy Jaspers
9 Michelle Skellenger
11 Christopher Bakken
18 Tori Low
20 Ashley Fredericks
23 Brenda Meland
27 Laurel Steinmetz
29 Scott Stucky
29 Porscha McClanahan
30 Gerry Arnold
30 Nichol Williamson

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 9/30/2022

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account (kitchenette)	3,755.00
* Doris Grotewold Account (kitchenette)	2,265.00
*Undesignated Account	2,260.19
August Interest	.42
Total	2,260.61
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,293.61



United Women in Faith Northwood UMW/UWF are planning to meet for lunch

December 7 and adjourning to the church for business meeting later. Phone calls will be made closer to the date. Heads up on checking you calendars

UMW/UMWF met at Karen Hove's on October 5. We shared fellowship and meditation on the kindness of strangers; how women helped in biblical times and what we can do today.



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

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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1000 1st Avenue North
Northwood IA 50459-0104

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NOVEMBER INSPIRATIONS-2022

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.