



INSPIRATIONS 2021

Greetings:

Pastor's Page

I hope this letter finds you well. As I am writing this most of the snow is melting and creating a sloppy mess outside. Seems appropriate for the season of Lent as dreary, wet and rainy seem to go along with suffering and denying our flesh, more so than sunny and 50's. While it may seem dark and gloomy now, Spring is coming and along with that Easter, lilies, song birds, the smell of fresh cut grass and of course – baseball. People always ask me why I live in Iowa and my response is always the same: I love the seasons and I love the people. I have lived in other places and they were fun for a while but it wasn't Iowa. I remember the first Christmas I spent in Southern California, I went for a run that morning in shorts and a tank-top, we had the screen door open to the house and people decorated their houses but without snow on the ground it just seemed artificial.

When we lived in Idaho, we had all four seasons and it was a very beautiful area but the people were not very friendly. There was an independent spirit that was only concerned with themselves and their family – not of others. Understand that this is a generalization and I met many nice and wonderful people in both places but not like Iowans. Growing up in Iowa, I spent everyday in the summer playing baseball, going fishing, riding my bike, anything outdoors with my friends and went home when it was time for supper. My parents didn't have to worry about me, we had no cell phones, tablets, or computers – you actually went over to your friends' house and knocked on the door to see if they were home.

Kids today will never know the struggles I had growing up like: having to get up to turn the channel on the television and only having the option between 3 or 4 channels. Having to use a rotary phone and if you messed up on the 8th number – having to hang up and start again. Listening to the radio for hours until they played your favorite song so you could record it on your cassette player. The hours spent creating that special mix-tape to give to your sweetheart on Valentine's Day. The struggle is real!

Youth of today have their own set of struggles and they are far greater than the struggles I dealt with at their age. Violence, bullying in ways that are worse than when I was a teenager, pressures to succeed, to be accepted, and for their own personal safety. Even the Iowa that I know and love is not immune from these problems. What is the answer? For me it is always the church – not the building but the people. If we are the church, then we need to be the church. As the church we need to stand up when there are injustices in our communities, speak out against violence, and embrace those who have been hurt with love and acceptance. Pray for our schools, our teachers and students. Pray for our leaders and those who are called upon when there is violence and abuse. Pray for us as the Body of Christ to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

I am looking forward to Easter and Confirmation Sunday, as it is a time to honor our young people and to show them the hope of Jesus. Plan to join us on those Sundays and may the peace of God, the love of the Son, and the joy of the Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

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.



April 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 Lillian Smith	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 Gregg Olson	17 Neal Skellenger Larry Wright Cassie Johnson
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 Aria Bode	23 Bill Skellenger Eric Redinger Liberty Paulsen Kale Bode	24 Graham Redinger Betty Chapin Sue Ostrander Hannah Slattum
25 Ruth Hermanson David Olson Deb Wagner Mary Christianson	26 Vicki Eden Betty Angel Chad Stucky Nathan Wilder	27 Kaylene Erdfahl Wayne Mannes Penny Robb Karen Hove	28 Jerry Robertson Jessi Mary Marge Low Ben Mannes	29 Lance Fridley Josua Walker Jean Arrett Patricia Smith	30 Wendi Skellenger Les Mammen Jeannie Vorland	

Mission News – April, 2021

Normally, our committee would be making plans for a Mission Dinner at the end of April or beginning of May, but with the continued uncertainty of larger gatherings, we'll aim for the fall (late September or early October)



We have received updated information for the 2021 Mission Ingathering. I am including a copy of the kit lists below. Copies are also available on the Mission table. Note that Personal Dignity Kits no longer require band aids, combs or nail clippers. Also, a \$2.00 donation is requested for toothpaste and a razor, as well as a \$2.00 donation for shipping. Student Kits and Layette Kits have the same items as last year.



KITS PLEASE INCLUDE \$2 FOR SHIPPING FOR EACH KIT

PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT (\$13 VALUE)



- 1 Bath Hand Towel - No kitchen towels
 - 1 Bath Washcloth - No dishcloths
 - 1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks
 - 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz
 - 1 Shampoo - 15- 18 oz
 - 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
 - 1 1-gal Resealable Plastic Bag
- Place all items in the resealable plastic bag
Add a \$2 Donation for razor and toothpaste

STUDENT KIT (\$16 VALUE)



- 3 Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x 10 1/2"
 - 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
 - 6 Pencils - unsharpened
 - 1 Pencil Sharpener
 - 1 Eraser - 2" or larger
 - 1 Box 12 Colored Pencils
 - 1 Box 24 Crayons
 - 1 Pair of Student Scissors
 - 1 One Handle Cloth Bag *
- Place all items in the cloth bag or a plastic grocery bag

LAYETTE KIT (\$45 Value)



- 6 Cloth Diapers *
 - 2 Gowns or Sleepers *
 - 2 Onesies or Undershirts
 - 2 Infant Washcloths - No adult washcloths
 - 6 Diaper Pins - must have protective plastic closures
 - 1 Sweater *, Sweatshirt or Jacket (0-6 months) - knitted, crocheted or sewn with front opening - No ties or buttons
 - 2 Receiving Blankets - 28"x 28" to 32"x 32" No crib, fleece or thermal blankets
- Bundle items inside one of the blankets and secure with diaper pins
Add a \$2 Donation for diaper cream

BIRTHINGKIT (\$9 VALUE)



- 1 Bar Soap - 3-4 oz
 - 1 Pair Gloves - surgical or thin rubber gloves
 - 1 Square Yard Clear Plastic Sheeting - 4 mil thick - No trash bags or shower curtains
 - 3 Pieces Cotton String - each 12" long - No yarn
 - 1 Razor Blade - single edge - cover in paper or cardboard to prevent injury
 - 2 Receiving Blankets - 28"x 28" to 32"x 32" - No crib, fleece, or thermal blankets
 - 1 1-gal Resealable Plastic Bag
- Place all items in the resealable plastic bag

FEMINE HYGIENE KIT (\$50 VALUE)



- 1 Bath Washcloth
 - 1 Bar Soap 3-4 oz
 - 3 Pairs of Underwear - sizes: child 10-14 women: 5-8
 - 6 Day Pads and 3 Night Pads *
 - 1 Drawstring Carrying Bag *
 - 1 Waterproof Bag *
 - 1 One Handle Cloth Bag *
 - 1 Care and Calendar Sheet *
- Place all items in the cloth bag

*Find Instructions & Patterns online

REQUIREMENTS

- All kit items must be NEW.
- Kits should only include kit items no cash.
- Kits should contain ONLY the requested items.
- No handprints, footprints, paw prints or camouflage on fabrics.

CONNECT

Weekly Newsletter: TEXT MMDC to 42828 or email office@midwestmission.org

Shipment & Disaster Text Updates: TEXT MMDC to 51555

Social Media: [Midwestmission](http://Midwestmission.org)



Items we have on hand:

For Layette Kits:

- 40 diapers
- 6 blankets
- 2 baby washcloths
- 6 diaper pins
- 4 onesies
- 3 sleepers
- 5 sweaters

For Personal Dignity Kits:

- 13 towels
- 2 washcloths
- 6 deodorants
- 6 shampoo

For Student Kits:

- 170 pencils
- 1 sharpener
- 1 scissor

Note: As I've mentioned in the past, any items that you provide will be appreciated. Don't feel that you must provide complete kits. Kits will be assembled at the Church. But, be sure to be mindful of sizes of items.

Mission: Bringing the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief.

Asbury UMC – April Noisy Offering – Our U.M. Missionary



The April Noisy Offering will support our UM Missionary Katherine Parker who is part of the Health Team of the United Mission to Nepal, focusing on water, sanitation and hygiene. A native of California she served with the Practical Farmers of Iowa in Ames in 2002-03 and attended Collegiate UMC, Ames.

CAMP SUNDAY – APRIL 11, 2021 “THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME”



Sunday, April 11th has been designated Camp Sunday at both Asbury & Northwood United Methodist Churches. Eric Shreve, site manager of our United Methodist Camp Grounds in Okoboji will be on hand to share the exciting and good news of Iowa’s ministry of camping at our Iowa United Methodist Camps and the 2021 summer program at our camps. Children and adults will want to be at worship to hear about the “Adventure of a Lifetime.”



NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY APRIL 18, 2021

Native American Ministries Sunday is a very special day that United Methodist Churches across the country celebrate every year. With a special offering on April 18th 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, April 18th.


*The special offering envelope for Native American Ministries Sunday will be provided in the bulletin on Sunday morning, April 18th. However, members have also received a Native American Ministries offering envelope in this issue of the church newsletter. If you are unable to be in worship on Sunday, April 18th 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 difference together, by funding Native American Ministries to and by Native Americans on this Special Sunday, April 18th.***

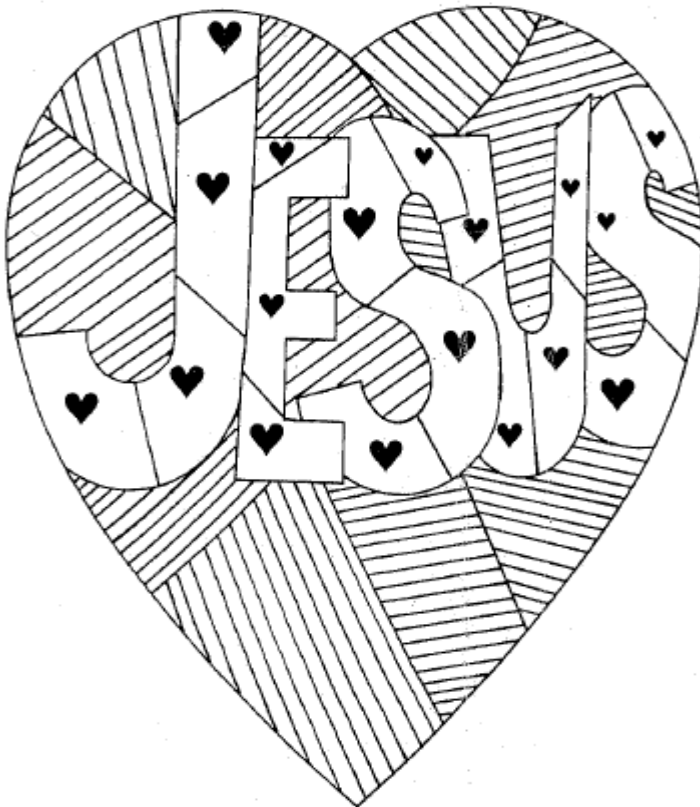
Feb, 22, 2021 Dear Northwood United Methodists - just back from Northwood, where we had a belated birthday window visit with my mom. She was pleased to have received cards from so many relatives and friends -- she showed us your cards through the window. While her memory is mostly shot, she can still read to some degree. Jane gave her a piece of red cake with a candle on it, and we gave her two pairs of socks -- just what every 90 year old wants for their birthday, I'm sure. Thanks for helping make her birthday a special day.

We look forward to worshipping with you on post-pandemic visits to Northwood. Hope everyone is staying healthy and busy.

Regards,
Ron & Jane McMullen

Put Jesus in your .

Color the spaces that have a .



National Day of Prayer May 6, 2021

Theme: Lord Pour Out Your Love, Life, and Liberty

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance, prayer and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. Pastors of the Lake Mills Area Ministerial Association will conduct the service this year at Asbury United Methodist Church in person and virtually at 7:00a.m. on Thursday, May 6.

Northwood United Methodist Church

Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Thursday, March 11th at 10:30 am**

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Pastor Rob Lanphere; Terry Steinmetz; Joanne Steinmetz; Nancy Mathahs; Bobbi Hooks by telephone; Sandy Olson by zoom; LeAnn Steiff and Karen Abrahams.

Chairman Terry called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Devotions were given by Bobbi.

Motion by Nancy; 2nd by Sandy to approve the minutes from the January 14th meeting as read by Karen. Motion carried.

Motion by LeAnn; 2nd by Joanne to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Nancy with a balance of \$30,954.31. Apportionments will be paid through March. Motion carried.

Mission Report by LeAnn: Will wait until September to have a Mission Dinner. Information on Mission Kits will be printed in the newsletter.

NOW report by Bobbi: She has several relatives that have had Covid and are doing well now. Pat and Nancy had Covid the beginning of February and doing well. Larry Wright, a member; passed away from Covid in February Funeral will be at Connor Colonial Chapel on Saturday, March 19.

Men's Club report: Balance of \$1,186.88.

Trustees Report by Sandy: Balance of \$12,091.76. Boilers have passed inspection. Bill Nicholson still working on the estimate on remodeling and downsizing our church building.

Discussion on the possibility of a day care using our church building.

Pastor's Report: Meeting People in the Community on Thursday night at the Worth Brewery has gone well. Vacation Days: May 2; May 16; and May 30. Motion by Nancy; 2nd by LeAnn to have joint church services with Asbury at Asbury on Confirmation Sunday, April 18th; and Mother's Day, May 9th at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Motion by Joanne; 2nd by Nancy to only have an Easter Sunrise Service at Northwood at 7:00 a.m., Sunday April 4th. Brunch will be served by the Men's Club following the service. Motion carried. An article will be in the newsletter and in the Sunday bulletins about the brunch; people need to RSVP so the appropriate amount of food can be prepared.

Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m. on You Tube on Friday, April 2nd.

Palm Sunday, March 28th will be the first Sunday for Services in the Sanctuary.

Old Business: Nancy presented a draft to the members of the Emergency Response Plan. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

Next meeting: April 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn by Nancy. Pastor Rob led us out in prayer.

Karen Abrahams, Church Council Secretary

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-Apr	Ezekiel 18-19	16-Apr	Daniel 7-9
2-Apr	Ezekiel 20-21	17-Apr	Daniel 10-12
3-Apr	Ezekiel 22-23	18-Apr	Ezra 1-3
4-Apr	Ezekiel 24-27	19-Apr	Ezra 4-6; Psalm 137
5-Apr	Ezekiel 28-31	20-Apr	Haggai 1-2
6-Apr	Ezekiel 32-34	21-Apr	Zechariah 1-7
7-Apr	Ezekiel 35-37	22-Apr	Zechariah 8-14
8-Apr	Ezekiel 38-39	23-Apr	Esther 1-5
9-Apr	Ezekiel 40-41	24-Apr	Esther 6-10
10-Apr	Ezekiel 42-43	25-Apr	Ezra 7-10
11-Apr	Ezekiel 44-45	26-Apr	Nehemiah 1-5
12-Apr	Ezekiel 46-48	27-Apr	Nehemiah 6-7
13-Apr	Joel 1-3	28-Apr	Nehemiah 8-10
14-Apr	Daniel 1-3	29-Apr	Nehemiah 11-13; Psalm 126
15-Apr	Daniel 4-6	30-Apr	Malachi 1-4



lease pray for these: Jon Phillips (covid-nephew of Bobbi Hooks) Marianne Sandberg, Valinda Imus (car accident), Rachelle Hooks, 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...

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)



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

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 N A
 7-Feb
 14-Feb
 21-Feb
 28-Feb

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

Asbury

- 1 Hallie Erdahl
- 3 Andy Grunhovd
- 4 Tiffany Tiedemann
- 5 Kristin Mannes
- 6 Mick Tiedman
- 9 Joyce Arnold
- 9 Jessica Grotewold
Schipper
- 14 Matthew Heitland
- 16 Bridgett Burdick
- 17 Raven Budach
- 22 Quinn Cole
Christianson
- 25 Toni Roberts
- 26 Thomas Burdick
- 27 Cassie Johnson
- 28 LaVonne Hartman

Northwood

- 5 Jill Rothove
- 5 Bradley Christianson
- 6 Marissa Williamson
- 11 Teresa Halvorsen-
Bjork
- 12 Gavin Paulsen
- 13 John Greve
- 13 Shane Paulsen
- 16 Kelly Akemann
- 18 Kristen Brown
- 19 Lynne Schaub
- 21 Chance Haskins
- 25 Robin Fredericks

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 12-31-2020

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account	3,755.00
	(kitchenette)
* Doris Grotewold Account	2,265.00
	(kitchenette)
*Undesignated Account	2,126.22
December Interest	.43
Total	\$2,126.65
Grand Total	\$10,159.65



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)

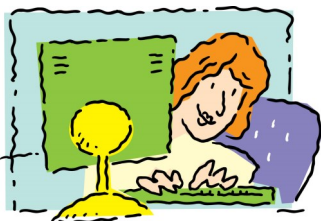


RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**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

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Northwood IA
50459
Permit No, 46

Return Service
Requested

JESUS
DIDN'T SAY,
"I AM FINISHED."
HE SAID,
"IT IS FINISHED."
HE WAS JUST
GETTING
STARTED.



INSPIRATIONS-2021

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**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.