



# FEBRUARY

## INSPIRATIONS 2019

### Pastor's Page

Greetings:

There is an important matter that I want to include in my letter to all of you this month. In previous letters I have mentioned the Commission on a Way Forward and the three plans that are being proposed for the future direction of our denomination. That vote is the end of February. The conference, along with the UMC as a whole wants all congregations to be informed and to do their part as we are all part of the connection. Here is a guide to how we can pray and do our part as **United** Methodists.

The Council of Bishops is encouraging intentional engagement by United Methodists worldwide by asking everyone to pause and pray each day for the special-called General Conference from 2:23 through 2:26 a.m. or p.m. If this time is not convenient for you, choose to pray at another time, but the council felt praying specifically at 2:23-2:26 p.m. which represent the dates of the special session of General Conference would be a helpful, effective, and unifying discipline for all United Methodists.

Minute #1 Prayer of Adoration: Good and great God, we recognize and celebrate that you are loving, kind, and faithful. You are everywhere in this world and beyond. You are also as close as our next breath. With John Wesley we rejoice knowing, "Best of all, you are with us." "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #2 Prayer of Thanks: God of grace, we thank you that you hear us when we pray and are ever ready and able to act in ways beyond anything we could ask or imagine. Thank you for our brothers and sisters around the world, and especially for those who have offered to serve by attending the special-called General Conference. Thank you for ordering our steps and for preparing a way. "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #3 Prayer of Confession: Forgiving God, we confess that we have allowed fear and distrust to place distance between us and our brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. Forgive us for making idols of our own thoughts, voices, and opinions. Thank you for forgiving us and for your perfect love that casts out all fear. "Hear our prayer, O God."

Minute #4 Prayer of Asking: God of peace and wisdom, from this time forward, may we walk with you in trust and peace, and with our brothers and sisters in the love and unity you desire. May we truly sing together in harmony a song of praise that draws all to you. Even now, may you bless those who will attend the special-called General Conference, assuring them of your love, filling them with your wisdom, preparing them with your peace. May they and we become more sensitive to the voice of your Holy Spirit, so that all we do will please you and bring you glory. "Hear our prayer, O God." All of these prayers we offer in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

Take a moment this month to lift up this special conference, either with this prayer or your own. Know that whatever is decided that Asbury and Northwood United Methodist Churches will still go on, the Gospel will still be preached, God is still in control, and we are ambassadors of hope. Know that you are loved.

Pastor Rob

**Breakfast Food for Thought**  
**at the Bean & Bistro in Northwood**  
**Wed, February 6 at 8 am**

**Lunch Food for Thought**  
**at Teluwat in LM, Wed,**  
**February 6 at 11:30 am**



## CHRISTMAS/NEW YEARS GREETING:

Dear Friends at Asbury UMC, wishing you a Blessed Christmas and a Joyful New Year. I continue in gratitude for your trust and support that allow me to be here in Nepal as we slowly try to reorient how we do community development away from projects designed by the privileged (a.k.a. me) into ministries with communities that allow for spaces where women and children can find their voices and make substantive decisions about how their group will choose to use the donated funds to contribute to the transformation of Nepal. Your partnership, trust, and prayers are what undergird this process of radical reorientation towards God's preference for the marginalized. Thank you! May peace prevail on earth. Katherine Parker Kathmandu, Nepal. (P.S. the complete letter from Katherine is posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary in the north hall.)



**ASBURY UMC – FEBURARY NOISY OFFERING** The February 2019 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. However, if not, please check out the camp display in the basement fellowship hall which will be up soon. You may also contact your camp ambassador – Rev. Jerry Also, please support our camping program by attending the annual Valentines Spaghetti Meal on Saturday, February 9th.

Because of the mission mindset of the Asbury congregation, 21 mittens/gloves and 14 caps were donated to the Lake Mills School for the students. This amounts to \$415.74. This will help keep many fingers and ears warm during the winter months. Thank you so much for your giving hearts!



### Asbury's Annual Valentine Spaghetti Meal

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

**11:30a.m – 1:00p.m.**

Cost: Adults - \$8.00; Children under 12 - \$4.00;

Children 3 & under – Free

Menu: Spaghetti and meat balls with sauce, French bread, relish, a beverage and ice cream Sundaes.

Take out available the day of by calling 592-1106

Everyone Welcome



Thank you so much for your help in making the 2018 Clothes for Kids drive such a success! We were able to provide for 102 children in our community this year, which wouldn't have been possible without your participation in hosting our Giving Tree. We feel so blessed and proud to be a part of such a giving community that allows us to make such a positive impact on so many kids each Christmas season.

Please be sure to pass along our sincere thanks to your entire congregation at Asbury - their support of this project is greatly appreciated!

Casey Singelstad, Nicole Nelson, Samantha Petersburg, Krishna Hanan, Tina Henely

*Thank  
You*

# Asbury UMC Christmas Lights

**Thank you to everyone that contributed to our annual mission!**

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

## Blue Lights burn In Honor of ...

Howard Langpap  
Norma Lunblad  
Arne VanGerpen  
Andrea Castle  
Don Grotewold  
Jeanne Grotewold  
Joseph Young  
Lauren Hartman  
Evan White

Robert Johnson  
Gerald Voldahl  
Becky Vaught  
Brad Schwarck  
Doris Grotewold  
Morgan Young  
Lillian Young  
Brooke Hartman

Laurence Christianson  
Orvin Voldahl  
Ryan Castle  
Amanda Schwarck  
Brad Grotewold  
Olivia Madson  
Caryl Dahn  
Nathan White

## Gold Lights burn In Memory of ...

Joyce Imler  
Carol Skellenger  
Gertrude Young  
Mary Ann Wagner

Frank Dahn  
Mae Dietz  
William H Young  
Blanche Dahn

Roxanne Irons  
Jack Dietz  
Duane (DJ) Skellenger  
Arthur Dahn



## **UMW presents 2018 Special Mission recognition pin**

**Betty Langpap** was awarded the Special Mission Recognition Pin for her work behind the scenes and in organizational positions on mission projects that have benefited Asbury United Methodist Church, the community, and the world.

The United Methodist Women (UMW) pin was awarded by LaVonne Hartman and Betty Robertson during the December 30th worship service.

Betty Langpap contributes constantly to the church and the community. She continues to support "Toys For Tots", "Kid's Against Hunger" and our churches youth mission trip to name a few. She also is very active in the UMW and the Rachel Circle.

Betty began her 42 year teaching career with college at Luther and earning \$115 per month teaching in country schools. Betty said, "We taught with love and understanding of different abilities. We never felt the need to be unkind to any of the students. You know, a teacher was important in a child's life- teaching them the rules and morals of life." Betty continues with this philosophy as she helps children and youth through her mission giving.

# ASBURY UMC

## 2018 RAINBOW COVENANT REPORT

Membership: January 1, 2018 = 157

**First Mile Giving: 2018 Apportionments: \$14,795**

**Second Mile Giving:**

Purple - Special Offerings (\$1/member)

Human Relations Day:	\$119.00
One Great Hr. of Sharing:	\$266.00
Native American Awareness:	\$219.00
Peace with Justice:	\$ 96.00
World Communion Sunday:	\$225.00
United Methodist Student Day	<u>\$ 82.00</u>

**Total: \$1,006.00**

Goal: \$ 157.00

**Indigo - Iowa Annual Conference**

Parish Development Projects (\$1/member)

Women at the Well	\$102.13
Ames Korean UMC	<u>\$318.00</u>

**Total: \$420.13**

Goal: \$157.00

**Blue Iowa Annual Conference**

Advance Specials (\$1/member)

Inglesia Vida Nueva	<u>\$318.00</u>
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**Total: \$318.00**

Goal: \$157.00

**Green- World Hunger & Poverty Relief (\$6/member)**

UMCOR-Hygiene kits	\$372.00
UMCOR-School kits	\$912.00
UMCOR Shipping costs	\$290.00
UMCOR-Flood Buckets	\$750.00
UMCOR Flood Buckets postage	\$ 30.00
UMCOR Cash for Toothpaste	\$ 31.00
LM Food Shelf	<u>\$200.00</u>

**Total: \$4,222.92**

Goal: \$ 942.00

**Yellow - The Advance**

UMCOR Projects (\$1/member)

CWS-Blankets	\$364.75
Disaster Response – US	\$315.00
El Porvenir: Clean Water	
Nicaraguans	\$160.00
Syrian Relief Global	\$100.00
International Relief	\$200.00

CWS Blankets/Tools of Hope	<u>\$240.00</u>
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**Total: \$1,379.82**

Goal: \$157.00

**Orange - The Advance**

United States Projects (\$1/member)

Tree of Life Ministries	<u>\$441.68</u>
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**Total: \$441.68**

Goal: \$157.00

**Red - The Advance**

World Projects (\$1/member)

Heifer International	\$416.53
P.E.T. IA Mobility World Wide	<u>\$467.61</u>

**Total \$884.14**

Goal: \$157.00

**Total Second Mile Giving: \$7,034.77**

**Total Second Mile Giving Goal: \$1,884.00**

**Third Mile Giving:**

**Missionary Giving: (\$2/member)**

**Goal: \$314.00**

Katherine Parker (Nepal)	<u>\$681.57</u>
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**Total: \$681.57**

**Local & Institutional: (\$1/member)**

**Goal: \$157.00**

Ancient Path. (Cressman's-Malawi, Africa)

	\$2,150.00
Samaritans Purse	\$ 219.47
Toys for Tots	\$ 610.15
Asbury UMC Camperships	\$ 221.25
LMAMA	\$ 1,200.00
LMCS Crisis Needs Fund	\$ 300.00
Operation Christmas Clothes (LM)	\$1,136.27
LM Hat & Glove Tree	<u>\$ 415.74</u>

**Total: \$6,252.88**

**Total Third Mile Giving: \$6,934.45**

**Total Third Mile Giving Goal: \$ 471.00**

**Total 2nd & 3rd Mile Giving: \$13,969.22**

**Total 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mile Goals: \$2,355.00**

Key: UMCOR= United Methodist Committee on Relief

CWS= Church World Service

UMC=United Methodist Church

P.E.T.= Personal Energy Transportation

LM=Lake Mills; US=United States

LMAMA=Lake Mills Area Ministerial Association

**KUDOS FOR BEING A 2018 THIRD MILE RAINBOW  
COVENANT CHURCH!!!!**



# Asbury United Methodist Church Administrative Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Tuesday, January 7, 2018 5:30 pm**

The ADCO meeting was called to order by David Taft, chairperson, on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Present were: Pastor Jerry and Betty Robertson, Daryl Sherman, Brad Grotewold, and Harriet Young. Pastor Jerry gave the devotion "Finding Our Purpose".

The secretary's report of November 6<sup>th</sup> was read and approved. Also. minutes of a special meeting which was held on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> following fellowship, regarding the church and liability insurance quotes.

The treasurer's report was given. Betty and Jerry approved the report and it was passed by the board. Daryl reported that the ending year- end balance was \$11,684.19. The 2018 apportionments have been paid in full and he reported no increase for 2019. Thanks to everyone who made this possible

Jerry reported that Asbury reached the goal for the 2018 Third Mile Rainbow Covenant church. He also reported that 98 Christmas boxes which fed 282 individuals were packaged and sent from the Lake Mills Food Pantry.

Jerry reported that the 2019 Spaghetti dinner will be held on February 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 – 1. This to enable campers from church to attend camp. He also reported that the Summer Day Camp will be held at Salem again this year with Asbury furnishing morning treats. This will be held on July 15-18. Registrations forms will be available.

The next meeting will be held on March 12 at 5:30. Harriet will give the devotion. Daryl and Jerry made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Harriet Young  
Recording Secretary

**Benefit for Lynn and Donna Lair to help with the costs associated with Donna's liver transplant.**

**Sunday, March 31st, at the Lake Mills Community School foyer and gym.**

**Meal served from 11 am -1 pm with a live and silent auction at 1 pm.**



# Northwood United Methodist Church Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Sunday, January 6, 2019 after church**

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Sunday, January 6, 2019 following church services.

Present: Karen Hove; LeAnn Steiff; Nancy Mathahs; Terry Steinmetz; Pastor Rob; Margie Barber; and Karen Abrahams.

Nancy reported that the present insurance company (United Methodist Insurance Company) was discontinued at the end of 2018. Insurance premiums through Church Mutual have increased by 300%. Trustees are looking for alternate insurance policies.

5 apportionment payments for 2018 are due on January 8, 2019 of \$7,375.00.

In view of the unknown rising cost of the insurance premiums when we change companies motion by Margie and seconded by Karen Hove to pay 3 months of apportionments. Motion carried.

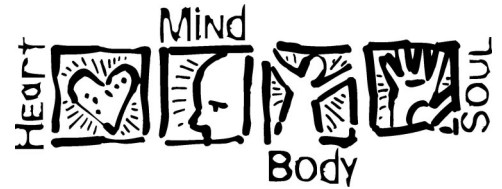
Church Use: Motion by LeAnn; seconded by Margie for a baby shower on February 16 for Brian and Allie Bendickson's baby Libby at Wesley Hall. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

# Health Notes...

By Betty Chapin, RN, PH

641-390-0619 (Cell) chapinbl@gmail.com



Biblical Authors use many words to describe our hearts: WISE, FOOLISH, BROKEN, FORGETFUL, STUBBORN, HARDENED, GRIEVED, DISCOURAGED, OBSTINATE, PROUD, WICKED, TREMBLING, HEAVY, SORROWFUL, FEARFUL, BITTER, TROUBLED, PURE, LOVING, GLAD, CHEERFUL, MERRY, REJOICING, TENDER, OPEN, STRENGTHENED, OBEDIENT

When we are fearful, we LOSE HEART. But courageous people are described as BRAVE-HEARTED.

Heart has to do with the center. We get to the heart, the crux of the matter. The heart is the center of a person—the true self. It is used to characterize what comes out of the deepest part of our person. For example, we describe a person without compassion as HEARTLESS.

The kind of intimacy we crave with the Father's love and with others can be experienced only from the heart. FAITH, HOPE and LOVE issue from our heart. It is in our heart that we first hear the voice of God.

The heart is the place where we make a decision for or against God.

Heart has to do with OPENNESS. When we TAKE SOMETHING TO HEART, We receive it, take it seriously. When someone is stubborn or closed, we say that person is HARDHEARTED.

Heart has to do with depth. If we DO SOMETHING FROM OUR HEART, we do it with deepest feelings. When we GIVE SOMEONE OUR HEART, we give ourselves completely. We must also learn to forgive with our hearts. Discouraging experiences TAKE THE HEART RIGHT OUT OF US— OUR HEARTS SINK INTO OUR SHOES, often leaving us HEART-BROKEN.

Our deepest hurts we call HEARTACHES. If we need to speak at the most intimate level, we ask for a HEART-TO-HEART talk. The heart is the connecting point, the meeting place between two persons.

LIGHTHEARTED may be how we feel on vacation, but when we lose our passion for something, OUR HEART IS NOT IN IT. A life which doesn't ENGAGE OUR HEART is not worth Living.

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the WELLSPRING OF LIFE

Pr 4:23



*A Valentine Message  
from Betty Chapin*

## Half Truth by Adam Hamilton

### Bible Study will start March 10-April 14th at 5pm

We will be doing the study "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton.  
On Sunday evenings at Asbury United Methodist church.

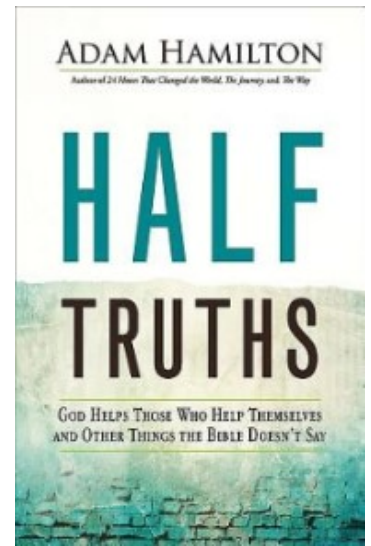
Supper may be included.

Let Joyce Sherman know if you are interested at 641-590-3356.

True or false:

1. Everything happens for a reason.
2. God helps those who help themselves.
3. God won't give you more than you can handle.
4. God said it, I believe it, that settles it.
5. Love the sinner, hate the sin.

All true? Not so fast. We've heard these phrases all of our lives, but in Adam Hamilton's new book, *Half Truths*, you'll learn that although they capture some element of truth, when compared to the wisdom found in Scripture, they're really just common Christian clichés. The five--week, DVD study can be used in small groups.



Our Sympathies to the family and friends of  
Vernon Vold who passed away on Saturday,  
January 5th.

John Scherb  
Karen Abrahams  
Donna Lair  
Bryan Hooks  
Carole Yocum  
Kathy Voorhes  
our military and their loving families,  
the unemployed, Iowa UMC Cabinet and Bishop.

#### Lake Mills Care Center...

Carol Griffiths  
Lillian Smith

#### Good Shepard Mason City...

Ivan Olson

### In Our Thoughts...

#### Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood...

Sandy Nitcher  
Bernice Estes  
The Pines-- Winona Hennigar  
Norma Kay Martinson  
Nancy Whitesell

(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<sup>8</sup>)



**Northwood Sunday Schedule**

10:30 am Worship Service-N

11:45 am Fellowship -N

**Asbury Sunday Schedule**

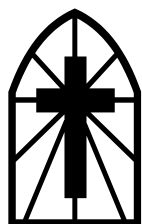
9:00 am Worship -A

10:00 am Fellowship -A

10:00 am Sunday School-A

**Sun****Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

					1	2
3 Regular Schedule	4 Lions-N	5	6 <u>Food 4 Thought</u> 8am Bean & Bistro-N 11:30 am Teluwat-A 2:45 pm UMW at Jan C's-A	7	8	9 11:30- 1pm Valentine Spaghetti Meal-A
10 Regular Schedule	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Regular Schedule	18	19	20	21	22 Confirmation Slumber Party & Trampoline Park	23
24 Regular Schedule	25	26	27	28		



# SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NORTHWOOD

2019	3-Feb	10-Feb	17-Feb	24-Feb
Scripture Reader	Margie Barber			Karen Arhart
Ushers	Ivan & Robin Fredericks	Ivan & Robin Fredericks	Ivan & Robin Fredericks	Ivan & Robin Fredericks
Coffee Servers	Melinda & Hannah Lanphere & Kim Bode	Mission Dinner	Deb & Dean Mueller	Myra & John Greve
Communion Steward	Joanne Steinmetz			

**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

2019

Betty Robertson  
Joyce Sherman  
David Taft  
Richard Schwarm  
Megan Peterson  
Scott Nelson  
Donna Lair

### NORTHWOOD UMC

2019

Bobbi Bendickson  
Karen Abrahams  
John Greve  
Mary Christianson  
Mike Bode

### Church Attendance

Worship	<u>N</u>	<u>A</u>
Dec 30	27	50
Jan 6	28	82
Jan 13	27	70
Jan 20	30	63
Jan 27		

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

Happy Birthdays! Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday!

## Asbury

2 Don Grotewold  
5 Carol Tiedman  
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  
18 Jane McMullen  
19 LeAnn Steiff  
21 Marty Mueller  
25 Bobbi Hooks  
25 Alex Citurs



## Northwood

United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

No UMW in February. Help with Bingo on February 1, 8, 15, 22 (2-2:30) and Birthday Party February 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. please sign up to help with bingo, and we need one more cake for birthday party." Thanks



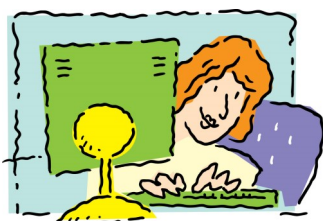
**FEBRUARY**  
BIRTHDAYS

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS  
February 15th**



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](mailto: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



# INSPIRATIONS-2019

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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.**