



INSPIRATIONS 2019 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.

Breakfast Food for Thought
at the Corner Post in Northwood
Wed, April 10 at 8 am

Lunch Food for Thought
at Main St Pizza in LM,
Wed, April 10 at 11:30 am



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

Our Lenten Study meal offering and 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.



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.



Maundy-Thursday Sacrificial Meal

The annual Maundy-Thursday Sacrificial Meal will be held on Holy Thursday, April 18th at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room in the basement of Asbury UMC. Attendees will meet in the Fellowship Hall and then move to the Fireside Room for the meal. The meal consists of a fruit cup and hot cross buns. The bun marks the end of Lent and different parts of the hot cross bun have a certain meaning, including the cross representing the crucifixion of Jesus, and the spices inside signifying the spices used to embalm him at his burial. Passages of scripture will be read and hymns sung during the mealtime which will lift up the events and meaning of Holy Week. The meal will conclude with the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. JOHN 13:34



NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG #LOVE1ANOTHER

National Day of Prayer

Salem Lutheran Church will host the National Day of Prayer Service this year on Thursday, May 2nd at 7:00 a.m. in the Chapel area of Salem. The Lake Mills Area Ministerial Association is sponsoring the annual service. Area pastors will lead the congregation in specific areas of National life. The hour service will be followed by a coffee fellowship in the basement fellowship hall of the church.



Asbury worship committee will meet Tuesday, April 9 4:30pm at my house
Sacrificial breakfast Thursday, April 18 9:30am Asbury fireside room. All are welcome.
Thanks, Jane C

You are invited to a Meet and Greet Couple's Wedding Shower for Loren Sherman and Ashley Finer
Saturday, April 27th from 1-3 PM
Hosted by the "Aunties"
at the home of Daryl and Joyce Sherman
24770 Lakeside Dr., Lake Mills
All welcome to help celebrate but if you want to give a gift they are registered at:
www.theknot.com/us/ashleyandlorensherman



*You Are Invited
To A Wedding
Shower*



GET FIRED UP FOR UM CHURCH CAMP!!!

The 2019 Iowa United Methodist Camp catalogs have arrived. At Asbury UMC visit the camp display in the basement fellowship hall. There's a camp for everyone and every age. Children learn of God's love, youth develop their leadership skills and develop spiritually, adults enjoy learning and community, and families have time to bond and grow together. Camperships are available. Contact your church's camp ambassador Pastor Jerry if you have any questions.

SUMMER DAY CAMP 2019

Salem Lutheran Church will again be offering a summer day camp for area children July 15 through morning of July 18th. A Meal for the community will be planned for Thursday night closing program at Oakwood Park. The leadership team this year will be from Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camp. There is room for 30 children.....so watch for registrations and the deadline...in the near future.

L.M. SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM SIGN-UP

Asbury volunteers are needed for this year's summer food program to be held at the Salem Lutheran Church. Asbury will be serving on each Monday again this year. The program begins on Monday, June 3rd and runs through the summer until the day before the start of school. A signup sheet will be passed in the pews beginning on the Sunday's in May. If you are able to help, please check your calendar and consider 2-3 Mondays when you can help serve during the months of June, July and August. You can also call or email Rev. Jerry.... 592-4484 or jrobrtsn@wctatel.net.

SUMMER STAFF POSITION (18+) AT CAMP OKOBOJI

Looking for a summer job that gives you plenty of time outdoors, great fun with new friends and an opportunity to impact the lives of children and youth? Apply for a camp job! If you are 18 years old or older and want to have the best summer of your life, we want to talk to you! Summer staff serve in areas of cabin leadership, activity leading, kitchen, multimedia and maintenance support. All seasonal staff receive salary, room, board and additional certifications! Go to okobojicamp.com/staff-positions or iaumc.org/camps and click on get involved.



THANKSGIVING INGATHERING GRANT AWARDED TO LM FOOD SHELF

The North Central District of the Iowa Annual Conference has awarded a hunger grant to the LM Food Shelf in the amount of \$222.00.

These funds were received by the Annual Iowa Conference Ingathering of The United Methodist Church. A portion of the funds collected are returned to Iowa hunger relief agencies. A modest sum of money is available for use in each of the eight districts of the Iowa United Methodist Conference.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY MAY 5, 2019

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 5th 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



Northwood Mission News – April 2019



Mission Dinner – Our next Mission Dinner is coming up soon – April 28th at 11:30 a.m. The traditional roast beef dinner will be served. So, please mark your calendars and bring the family. I'll be asking for salad and dessert donations.

Mission Kits: For the month of April, I'd like to focus on Hygiene Kits. The list of items is below. Since we assemble the kits at the Church, don't feel that you need to provide complete kits. If you see an item on sale, feel free to purchase a number of that item.

Hygiene Kit:

- 1 new hand towel (15"x25" up to 17"x27")
- 1 new washcloth
- 1 large, sturdy comb (at least 6 inches of teeth)
- 1 toenail or fingernail clipper – no emery boards or metal nail files
- 1 bath-sized bar of soap in wrapper (3 oz. bar or larger); No Ivory or Jergens
- 1 new adult size toothbrush in original sealed wrapper
- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4" by 3") common household bandages acceptable
- 1 one-gallon size re-sealable bag



Hygiene Kits help disaster victims reclaim their dignity and self-respect. When people can maintain personal hygiene, their overall health improves.

As our Church's representative for the **Share Shop** board, I'm always looking for volunteers to work our Church's shift, which is on the second Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We need to provide two workers for each shift. The Share Shop provides a wonderful and necessary service to folks who struggle financially. There they can find nice, clean clothing, shoes, toys, books, and household items such as dishes, utensils, blankets and nick knacks. The job usually entails taking in donations, putting clothing on hangers and "filing" them in the correct size rack.

The sign-up sheet is on a clipboard on the table outside of the office. Spending an afternoon at the Share Shop is always rewarding!

Customers at the Share Shop can leave a donation in the box if they are able, but are not required to do so.

The *Coins for Missions offering*, that we collect each week, now goes to the Share Shop to help with expenses.

Asbury United Methodist Church Administrative Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Tuesday, March 12, 2018 5:30 pm**

An informal ADCO meeting was held on Tuesday, March 12 at 5:30 with the following in attendance: Pastor Rob, Daryl Sherman, Rev Jerry and Betty Robertson and Harriet Young. Harriet gave the devotion "What Matters".

The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was also read and stating the ending balance to be \$8,201.69. Apportionments for Jan Feb and March have been paid.

Jerry stated that the Thanksgiving in-gathering resulted in a \$222.00 grant. This for the local food pantry. May 11th will be the U.S. Postal Stamp out hunger drive. Flyers and bags will be distributed. UMW will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on Sunday 3/24. There will be a skit and program provided by the UMW ladies. Betty Vold will be making a sheet cake for fellowship following the service. Confirmation Sunday will be April 28th with fellowship before morning worship.

NOTE: Pastor Rob would like to morning worship service on Sunday June 23rd to be at 10:30. Council agreed.

Rob explained the web site that has been set up for Asbury and Northwood. Thanks to the Imler family.

The next council meeting will be held on May 14th at 5:30. Betty Robertson will give the devotion. Meeting adjourned.

Harriet Young, Recording secretary.

*Thank
You*

Thanks to the Asbury United Methodist Church for helping us celebrate our 150th UMW anniversary with a great service complete with a skit, long dresses and hats fitting for the time. Followed with birthday cake for fellowship. Well Done!!!



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX. WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.



Every second Saturday in May letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities and towns across America deliver much more than mail when they walk and drive along their postal routes. They also collect the goodness and compassion of their postal customers who participate in the **Stamp Out Hunger National Food Drive** – the largest one-day food drive in the nation and probably the world.

Once again, this year city and rural postal customers in the Lake Mills area will be given the opportunity to contribute food items to the LM Food Shelf. The Food Shelf serves over 35 households per week. Last year LM postal customers contributed over 1600 pounds of food. All postal customers need do is to place a sack of non-perishable food items next to their mailbox before their letter carrier delivers mail on **Saturday May 11th**.

The carrier, along with help from the LM Boy Scouts, will do all the rest. The food is taken back to a postal station, sorted, and then delivered to the LM Food Shelf. There it is available for area families.

Food items that are always needed are: Baked or Pork n' beans, vegetables, beef stew, chili, spam, tuna, hamburger helper, peaches, pears, pasta noodles, rice, peanut butter, cold cereal and paper products. Of course, we will accept all donations. However, please check that food items have not reached their expiration date or have not been previously opened.

Northwood United Methodist Church Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Sunday, March 17, 2019 after church**

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met after church services on Sunday, March 17, 2019. Members present: Bobbi Bendickson; Margie Barber; Bobbi Hooks; Nancy Mathahs; Dean Mueller; Terry Steinmetz; Pastor Rob; LeAnn Steiff and Karen Abrahams.

Bobbi Bendickson, council chair, opened the meeting to discuss a recent bequest we had from an individual to place this bequest in an endowment fund. She will email the proposal to members to review and to discuss at our regular meeting on April 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Rob asked the council if we would be having an Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast on Sunday, April 21st? It was the consensus of the members we would have the service and breakfast.

Meeting adjourned. Council Secretary, Karen Abrahams



Julie Imus
Shelly Skellenger
Ed Monson
Donna Lair

Tami Hooks
Sidney Kvale
John Scherb
Carole Yocum
Kathy Voorhes

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Charlie Hove who passed away on March 24th

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

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 7pm Joint SPRC at Asbury	3 2pm Rachel-A	4 9:30am Naomi-A	5	6
7 Regular Schedule 5pm Lent-A	8	9 4:30pm Worship Mtg at Jane's	10 10:30a, UMW-N 7pm Esther-A Food 4 Thought 8:30am Corner Post-N 11:30am Main St Pizza-A	11 10am Council-N	12	13
14 Regular Schedule 5pm Lent-A 	15	16	17	18 9:30am Sacrifi- cial Breakfast-A 7pm Maundy Thursday Service -A	19 7pm Good Friday Service-N	20
21 Sunrise & Regular Schedule 	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Confirmation Sunday 	29	30				



SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NORTHWOOD

2019	7-Apr	14-Apr	21-Apr	28-Apr
Scripture Reader	Joanne Steinmetz	Margie Barber		
Ushers	Pat & Nancy Mathahs	Pat & Nancy Mathahs	Gregg & Sandy Olson & Bob Perry	Gregg & Sandy Olson
Coffee Servers	Deb Mueller	June Low & Kathy Voorhes	Easter Sunday	Mission Dinner
Communion Steward	Karen Abrahams			

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>
Feb 24	Cancelled	
Mar 3	52	31
Mar 10	34	17
Mar 17	42	39
Mar 24	24	53
Mar 31	30	49

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

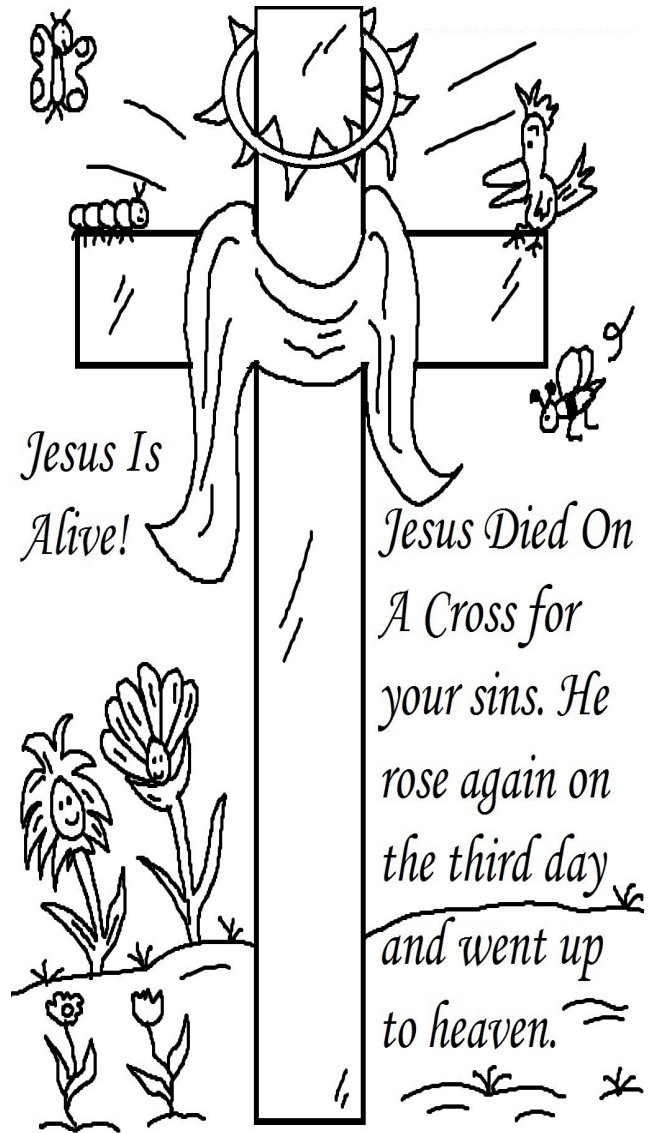
Happy Birthdays! Happy Birthday! Happy Birthday!

Asbury

- 1 Hallie Erdahl
- 3 Andy Grunhovd
- 4 Tiffany Tiedemann
- 6 Mick Tiedman
- 9 Joyce Arnold
- 9 Jessica Grothewold
Schipper
- 13 Jeremy Rogstad
- 14 Lillian Smith
- 14 Matthew Heitland
- 16 Bridgett Burdick
- 17 Raven Budach
- 21 Trace Christenson
- 22 Quinn Cole
Christianson
- 22 Tavi Christianson
- 25 Toni Erdah
- 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 Bernice Estes
- 13 John Greve
- 13 Shane Paulsen
- 14 Lillian Smith
- 16 Kelly Akemann
- 21 Chance Haskins
- 25 Robin Fredericks



**APRIL
BIRTHDAYS**



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

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

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

or mail to

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

Northwood and Asbury United Methodist Churches

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Northwood IA 50459-0104

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INSPIRATIONS-2019

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TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.**

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THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.