



JANUARY

INSPIRATIONS 2023

Pastor's Page

Greetings:

Happy 2023! Wow that sounds weird! Part of me thought that Jesus would have come back again by now and another part of me can't believe that I have lived that long. Not that I am old (although I did turn 50 last month) but those fifty years went by fast. Working with youth is also a great way to make you feel old, especially when I tell them that I am older than the internet. I want to thank everyone for the birthday wishes, cards and gifts. Melinda and I stayed in St. Paul at an old mansion that was converted into a guest house. It reminded me of the house in the game Clue and then had to check out Country Axe in Mason City. Turns out I am a natural at ax throwing – who knew?

The new year is always filled with hope and blessings. Hope for a brighter future, hope for peace and security, hope for a year free of illness and disease. Blessings from God both financial and spiritual. It is my hope and prayer that you experience all of that. Whatever comes our way in 2023 I am ready and I hope you are too. Good or bad because our faith in God does not depend only on our happiness. That is not what faith is. Faith sees beyond what our physical eyes can see and sees what God wants to show us.

Keep Christ at the center in 2023.

Blessings,

Pastor Rob



Christmas Sweater Day at Asbury

Sunday, Dec 18th

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.



January 2023 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 Grunhove 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	12 Bridgett Burdick Raven Budach	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	17 Neal Skellenger Cassie Johnson Gregg Olson	18 Joyce Sherman Michael Bode Carl Jaspers Jr	19 David Imler Lavonne Hartman Patrick Mathahs	20 Robin Fredericks Sarah Madson	21 Tracie Walser Harvey Patterson Terry Steinmetz
22 Taylor Kramer Craig Slattum Lindsey Meland Ariah Bode	23 Bill Skellenger Eric Redinger Kale Bode	24 Graham Redinger Betty Chapin Sue Ostrander	25 Ruth Hermanson David Olson Deb Wagner Mary Christianson	26 Vicki Eden Betty Angel Chad Stucky Nathan Wilder	27 Kaylene Erdahl Wayne Mannes Penny Robb Karen Hove	28 Jerry Robertson Jessi Mary Marge Low Ben Mannes
29 Lance Fridley Joshua Walker Jean Arrett Hannah Slattum	30 Wendi Skellenger Les Mammen Jeannie Vorland	31 Patricia Smith Liberty Paulsen				

Asbury United Methodist Church Administrative Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Wednesday, October 25, 2022 6 pm**

"To clarify the AdCo notes in the previous newsletter, the \$93,000 'quote' from Aaron Mannes was provided by a smartphone estimator app and not an actual bid by Aaron or Mannes Construction. We apologize for the confusion."

The United Women of Faith (UMW) held their annual circle Christmas party on Wednesday, December 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the beautifully decorated dining area of the Asbury church. Present were 23 circle members from the 3 circles. The program consisted of Sara Nelson and Molly Holtan playing saxophone duets of Christmas music. Pastor Rob lead the group in prayer. Following the program a meal was served by the Naomi circle. A donation offering was passed raising \$152.00 which will be given to the LMCS nurse to be distributed as needed. A fun evening was enjoyed by all. MERRY CHRISTMAS



United Methodist Women of Faith

2023 BIBLE VERSES



January Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

February 1 Corinthians 15:44 (NRSV) “It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.”

March Isaiah 40:31 (NIV) “but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

April Matthew 5:9 (NIV) “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”

May 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NLT) “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.”

June Isaiah 52:7 (NIV) “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”

July Philippians 4:13 (NLT) “I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.”

August Romans 8:28 (NIV) “and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

September Psalm 68:11 (NIV) “The Lord announced the word, and great was the company of those who proclaimed it.”

October Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV) “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

November Philippians 4:6 (NIV) “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

December 1 Corinthians 12:4 (NIV) “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit.”



Asbury UMC Christmas Lights

~ Our Church shines as we celebrate Christ’s birth ~

Blue Lights burn In Honor of ...

Morgan Young	Joseph Young	Lily Young	Olivia Madson
Ryley Koziolk	Brad Grotewold	Jeannie Grotewold	Char Hanson
LaVonne Hartman	Arlene Larson	Janie VanGerpen	Joy Ball
Kelli Lair	Jean Heitland	Butch Heitland	Betty Langpap
Kris Gudmonson	Sue & Wayne Mannes	Joan & Kent Christian	Lauren Hartman
Brooke Hartman	Nathan White	Evan White	



Gold Lights burn In Memory of ...

Dennis Gudmonson	Sidney Kvale	Mae Dietz	Jack Dietz
Gertrude Young	William H. Young	Don Grotewold	Doris Grotewold
Carol Skellenger	Lawrence Christianson	Howard Langpap	Robert Johnson
Rev. Erling Falck	Gudrun Flack	Rv. Don Ball	Pearl Lair
Webster “Bussey” Lair	Albert Kramersmeier	Laura Kramersmeier	Adolph Hartman
Nellie Hartman	Oscar Enderson	Jeannie Enderson	Elvin Enderson
Candy Thompson	Steve Thompson	Alan Moore	Harriet Enderson Thompson



Christmas Program and Christmas Sweater Day Sunday, Dec 18th



Northwood United Methodist Church

Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 9:30 am**

The Northwood Methodist Church Council met on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Members present: Bobbi Hooks; Nancy Mathahs; Sandy Olson; Karen Abrahams; Dean Mueller; and Pastor Rob Lanphere.

Nancy, Council Chair, called the meeting to Order at 9:40 a.m.

Devotions by Bobbi taken from The Heaven Devotional Book.

Minutes were read by Council Secretary Karen Abrahams from the September 22, 2022 meeting.

A change was made to the minutes. Should have read additional money will be moved from the bequest fund not \$30,000 as reported. Motion by Sandy; 2nd by Karen. Motion carried.

Treasurer's unreconciled balance of \$11, 733.64 on October, 31, 2022. Apportionments paid through September. Motion by Dean; 2nd by Nancy to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Mission In Gathering Funds distributed in September of \$1,052 leaving a balance in that fund of \$3.00.

Pastor Rob blessed the kits before they were sent. A big Thank You to LeAnn Steiff for all her work.

NOW report by Bobbi: She has been in touch with her granddaughter Ericka who lives in Florida about the devastating hurricane. She's doing ok.

Pastor's Report: November 13 at 5 p.m. the Chili cook off at Northwood with Asbury invited.

Pastor's Laptop needs to be replaced.

The produce bins at the church were successful again this year.

Pastor moving forward with the ordination process.

Christmas Eve Service at Asbury at 5 p.m. Christmas Day Service at Northwood at 10:00 a.m.

Date to move to Wesley Hall for the winter will be the 1st Sunday in January.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at Northwood at 7 p.m. on Sunday, November 20th

Pastor Rob will be giving an update on the Cross and Flame painting project.

Trustee's report by Sandy: Balance of \$12,525.03. In September moved \$15,00 from the bequest fund. Paid \$8,345 for Sound System. Paid for entrance mats and checks. Received \$43.40 interest from the Builder's Fund. Mechanical Systems bill of \$12,000 for the mini split ac in the kitchen.

Old Business: Finish ceiling in Wesley Hall. Then put a hold on the church repair projects.

New Business: Discussion on the electronic piano use and accompanists who will play it. Bobbi will research this and report at the next meeting.

Discussion on the Comparison of The United Methodist Church and The Global Methodist Church. It will be discussed at our next meeting.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment by Sandy; 2nd by Bobbi at 10:55 a.m.

Karen Abrahams, Council Secretary

**Thank you to the
congregation and all who
thought of me at Christmas.**

**The gifts are much
appreciated and I am very
blessed to have a job I enjoy
doing. Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

Ona VanHeiden



**Thank all of you,
congregation & UMW for
the gifts at Christmas.**

Karen Hove

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 - Week by Week

WEEK 1 (1/1) Genesis 1-15 Psalm 1-3 Proverbs 1:1-16 Matthew 1-2 Luke 1-2 John 1

WEEK 2 (1/8) Genesis 16-30 Psalms 4-6 Proverbs 1:17-33 Matthew 3-4 Mark 1 Luke 3-4

WEEK 3 (1/15) Genesis 31-45 Psalm 7-9 Proverbs 2 Mark 2 John 2-5

WEEK 4 (1/22) Genesis 46-50 Job 1-10 Psalm 1-12 Proverbs 3:1-18 Mark 3 Luke 5-6 Matthew 5-6

WEEK 5 (1/29) Job 11-25 Psalms 13-15 Proverbs 3:19-35 Matthew 7-8 Luke 7-8 Matt 11



SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH

WHAT IS HUMAN RELATIONS DAY?

We are all family. When we walk past our neighbor who is hiding in plain sight, we limit the gifts and graces that our sisters and brothers in Christ bring to the table. We limit the experiences, the voices and the beloved community that take place through mutual sharing of gifts.

With a special offering celebrating Human Relations Day, we join with United Methodists around the world, remembering that the size of the table of divine love is unlimited.

Across the United Methodist connection, we come together to help bridge the gap between church and community by participating in an offering set aside for Human Relations Day the Sunday before the national observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this churchwide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during his life: all of God's children are important. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.

*The special offering envelope for **United Methodist Human Relations Day** will be provided in the bulletin on Sunday morning, **January 15th**. However, **members have also received a United Methodist Human Relations Day offering envelope in this issue of the church newsletter**. If you are unable to be in worship on Sunday, January 15th 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 Human Relations Day, Sunday, January 15th**.*

Asbury UMC – January Noisy Offering

Floods. Freezing temperatures. Drought. Earthquakes. Tornados. Hurricanes. A month where the finances just don't add up. It doesn't take much for our normal lives to totally derail. Church World Service (CWS) blankets help family's get back on track when they need it the most. Through your gifts to the January noisy offering, you stand alongside someone who may be facing some of their darkest hours to provide warmth, comfort and critical housing.



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
1 Worship Online	2	3 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	4 4pm Confirmation	5	6 10am Bible Study at NWD	7
8 Communion Regular Schedule	9	10 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	11	12 7pm Pub Theology	13 10am Bible Study at NWD	14
15 Regular Schedule	16	17 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	18 4pm Confirmation	19 10am NWD Council Mtg	20 10am Bible Study at NWD	21
22 Regular Schedule	23	24 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM	25	26 7pm Pub Theology	27 10am Bible Study at NWD	28
29 Regular Schedule	30	31 10 am Swallow Coffee House LM				

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>
Nov 27	29	32
Dec 4	17	?
Dec 11	23	61
Dec 18	18	89
Dec 24	—	
Dec 25	17	—

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

Asbury

- 1 Brad Grotewold
- 3 Gail Creco
- 7 Kayla Hanna
- 8 Trent Tiedeman
- 10 Carol Yocum
- 14 Jenny Thompson
- 15 Jackie Imler
- 16 Rebecca Dahn Hengesteg
- 18 Joyce Sherman
- 21 Theodore Holtan
- 23 Sue Ostrander
- 26 Vicki Eden
- 27 Betty Angel
- 27 Jessi Mary
- 30 Wendi Skellenger
- 31 Hannah Slattum

Northwood

- 1 Michelle Paulsen
- 3 Shari Sietsema
- 4 Michael Steiff
- 5 Tim Akemann
- 8 Jan Wright
- 10 Gabrielle Fridley
- 16 Gregg Olson
- 18 Carl Jaspers, Jr.
- 20 Sarah Madson
- 21 Shana Brunsvold
- 22 Harvey Patterson
- 23 Terry Steinmetz
- 24 Betty Chapin
- 25 Mary Christianson
- 27 Lance Fridley
- 29 Joshua Walker
- 30 Jean Arrett

ASBURY MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

As of 11/30/2022

*Joyce Imler Account	\$2,013.00
* Don Grotewold Account (kitchenette)	3,755.00
* Doris Grotewold Account (kitchenette)	2,265.00
"Dennis Gudmonson (undesignated)	435.00
*Undesignated Account	2,261.05
November Interest	.43
Total	2,261.48
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,729.48



Please pray for these:

Sue Mannes, Harlan Levorson, Neil Schrieber, Myra Greve, Dave Voorhes, 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

Harlan Levorson

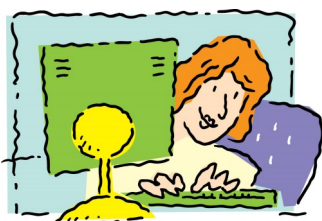
NWD Lutheran Retirement Home...

Becky Johnston

Wanda Citurs

Norma Kay Martinson

Rick Low



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

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

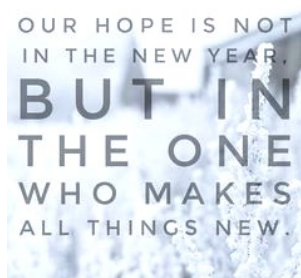
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JANUARY INSPIRATIONS-2023

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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.