



# SEPTEMBER INSPIRATIONS 2019

Greetings: *Pastor's Page*

As part of my seminary schedule, each August I am required to attend an intensive and that is exactly what it is. We cram 5 credits into two weeks on campus, along with course work before and after. The two classes I took this intensive were Proclaiming the Word (preaching) and Making Disciples. You might be thinking to yourself; it is his 3rd year – why are they only teaching preaching now? The short answer is that you need to be able to understand the text before you can then formulate a sermon to preach. So here is a quick run down of my 2 weeks in Dubuque.

Each day of class we have chapel together at 11am and I had the opportunity to lead and preach at one of the services. I chose to preach on the power in the name of Jesus and you got a taste of that sermon on the sermon video for the 11th. Other students in the seminary helped me with music and singing and the ending song was Lord of the Dance. This song is not always sung as a celebration and I wanted to end chapel on a high note so I did it as a rap. I rapped the verses and my friend Liz led everyone in on the chorus. This service was recorded and I can email you the link if you want to watch it. I don't know if Asbury or Northwood is quite ready for a rapping pastor but I did perform for the confirmation classes as a way to help remember the books of the Bible in order. Needless to say, I was the talk of the seminary that afternoon and many people appreciated my "boldness" for trying something new.

For the Making Disciples class, we stayed at the Shalom Spirituality Center in Dubuque for a 24-hour silent retreat. I was not looking forward to this because the thought of not talking to another person for 24 hours sounded like utter torture. Instead it was an amazing experience. The room I stayed in reminded me of my grandparents' old farmhouse, even down to the smell of the old wood. The meals were fantastic, I colored mandalas (it is a spiritual practice of discipline that looks like an adult coloring page), rode my bike and learned how to be silent in the presence of others. We also did the liturgy of the hours: morning, noon, evening and compline prayers.

Once again this was a blessed experience and a time of great learning and spiritual growth. I am so thankful for all who hold down the fort while I am away and do such a good job that I don't need to worry about it. That allows me the focus and peace of mind needed to complete 5 credits in 2 weeks. Also, thank you everyone for the continued support, prayers, and good wishes. God bless you as you read this and if you want to know more – let's get together and talk.

Pastor Rob

**Breakfast Food for Thought**  
**at the Bean & Bistro in Northwood**  
**Wed, September 4 at 8 am**

**Lunch Food for Thought**  
**at Ay Jalisco in LM,**  
**September 4 at Noon**

# September 2019 Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Tyler Gasper Andrea Ostrander Sandy Stucky Bryan Christianson	2 Faith Christianson Sue Mannes Vivian Kvale Becky Johnson	3 Kaisen Mary Daryl Sherman Charise Schwarm Wade Fridley	4 Tate Grotewold Sshipper Emma Taft Kaylee Taft Michael Godfrey	5 Melissa Taft Kaylee Taft Glenn Steiff Tyce Skellenger Aaron Mannes	6 Anna Budach Mya Peterson Kyle Stucky Ben Peterson Deb Mueller	7 Michael McColloch Royce Peterson Rylan Heath Cody McClanahan
8 Haley Slattum Ryan Skellenger Harriet Young Grace Skellenger	9 Char Hanson Paula Harris Jason Slattum Vernon Angel	10 Chad Tiedeman Avery Grunhovd Carol Jones	11 Jeanie Grotewold Doris Grotewold Alyssa Slattum	12 Drae Love Samuel Erdahl Ryan Williamson Harlan Leverson	13 Pearl Imler Edward Schwarm Foster Hartman	14 Winona Hennigar Chris Heitland Jeremy Ostrander
15 Eric Christianson August Madson Sarah Heath Rhonda Fridley	16 Breanna Mary Chris Rogstad Dennis Walser Karen Abrahams Cole Christianson	17 Finley Rogstad Anna Mae Taylor Sonja Tiedman Ashten Love Warren Jones	18 Noah Irons Daryl Groe Sherrylee Gasper Bern Irons	19 JJ Grotewold Schipper Lyla Rogstad John Budach Hudson Ostrander	20 Marilyn Castle Sandy Hyde Betty Vold Wanda Citurs Logan Ostrander	21 Becky Jacks Roger Hermanson Rock Bridges Jeff Greve
22 Jackson Grunhovd Margie Barber Jill Nelson Dominic Williamson	23 Lynn Lair Nora Mammen Nancy Mathahs Jean Heitland Gary Thompson Sandy Rainey	24 Jeff Christenson George Kesler Dae Haskins Lillian Young Kim Bode	25 Josh Tiedman Ryan Mueller Casey Tiedman Bradley Jaspers Gary Heimdal	26 Kathy Christianson Sue Bridges Jim Meland Wayne Roberts Ian Podgorniak	27 Anne Skellenger Alex Tiedeman CK Christianson Dan Tiedman- Cory Stucky	28 David Hooks David Taft Kenneth Nitcher Richard Patterson
29 Gabriel Rogstad Jill Stucky Betty Langpap Blake Grotewold	30 Shirley Higbee Bryan Arnold Ruth Robb Carol Griffiths Mary Arrett- Brandstaf Cohen Bode					

# Mission News – September 2019

September Mission Dinner: Because the charge conference is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>, we have rescheduled the Mission Dinner to one week earlier, on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. Roast beef will again be on the menu. Be sure to mark your calendar.

Since the Mission Ingathering will soon be upon us – Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, I'm including the lists for school, hygiene and layette kits. Lists are also available on the kit displays in Wesley Hall.

## Student School Kit (Midwest Missions)

- 3 Notebooks – 1 subject spiral 8 X10 ½ inches
- 1 Pair of student **round tip** scissors
- 1 Ruler 12 inch long with **metric**
- 1 Box of 24 crayons
- 1 Pencil eraser 2 inches or larger
- 1 Pencil sharpener
- 1 Box of 12 colored pencils
- 6 **Unsharpened** pencils

For school kits, we could use many of all items.

## Hygiene Kit (UMCOR)

- 1 new hand towel (15" X 25" up to 17" X 27")
- 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 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

For hygiene kits, the items we are most in need of are:  
Hand towels  
Soap  
Nail or toenail clippers  
Gallon zip lock bags

## Layette Kit (Midwest Missions)

- 6 cloth diapers
- 2 gowns or sleepers
- 2 diaper pins – must have protective plastic closures
- 2 receiving blankets – 28" x 28" to 32" x 32" (no crib blankets)
- 1 sweater, sweatshirt or jacket – must open from the front,  
May be hand-knitted, crocheted or sewn
- 2 undershirts or onesies
- 2 infant size washcloths (no adult washcloths)

For layette kits, the items we are most in need of are:  
Diapers  
Gowns or sleepers  
Diaper pins

If you haven't had an opportunity to volunteer recently at the Share Shop, the sign-up sheet is on the table outside of the office, and a few openings are still available from September through the end of the year.



A big thanks to our Asbury UMC volunteers who helped serve each week during the summer months at our 2019 LM Community Summer Lunch Program at Salem Lutheran Church. We had twenty-one volunteers representing Asbury UMC each Monday of the twelve weeks of summer. The total number of meals served this summer is not known at this time, but I hope to have a report by the end of September. Again, my thanks to all who volunteered to serve. Rev. Jerry

### ASBURY UMC SEPTEMBER NOISY OFFERING

The Noisy offering in September at Asbury UMC will be received for supplies for the Sunday School. The supplies include Sunday School curriculum material, Christmas program materials, and general materials for the class rooms.

God has entrusted us to represent Christ's love through this congregation called Asbury & Northwood United Methodist Church. What we do as a faith community matters to God. Not only because God has given us this spirit of love and power but also because we are passing these values, this hope and this deeply rooted promise to the next generation. Today, we have an opportunity to equip disciples like Mary Grace to serve in Jesus' Name



As a small child Mary Grace Galapon labored as a housemaid in exchange for food and clothing. Yet, allowed to attend church, she found hope. As a member of The United Methodist Church, your giving on World Communion Sunday has allowed this deaconess, of the Mindanao Philippines Annual Conference, to pursue an education that is now changing her community as she works to eliminate poverty.

Mary Grace's work, and the impact of hundreds more like her, are possible because you give. On **World Communion Sunday, October 6** you have an opportunity to make possible an educational and vocational impact for more students, like Mary Grace? Will you equip gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be?



### A NEW WAY TO DO MISSIONS!

Beginning this year (2019) our mission reporting to the Annual Conference regarding how the church does mission will change, i.e. The Rainbow Covenant Report will be replaced by **In Mission Together** reporting. In the past the emphasis has been on our financial giving. This will still be apart of the new way to do and report missions. In Mission Together, however, United Methodist Churches, are encouraged to support United Methodist mission not only on local, conference, national, and international levels, through giving, but also by sharing/partnering in relationship, to fulfill Matthew 25 ("Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me.") and Matthew 28 ("Go into all the world and make disciples.")

So there will be three levels of reporting:

**GIVING:** All churches are encouraged to submit apportionments, collect United Methodist Special Offering (e.g. World Communion Sunday, see above) and fund District offerings, then report that giving in matching Local, Conference, National, or International levels. The suggested giving goal is \$3 per member for local, conference, national, and international categories for a total of \$12 per member.

**SERVING:** This level provides a physical presence by church members to assist in programs that help spread the word of God and make disciples of Jesus Christ. Relationship building is sharing time, talent, and presence in outreach ministries through local, conference, national, and international projects. Such ministries might include volunteer hours working at a Summer Lunch Program, the local Food Shelf or Care Center, etc. At the Conference, National and International level members may include volunteer time served working as a mission volunteer or Disaster response team.

**PARTNERING:** At this level volunteers strive to create healthy relationships that include being vs. doing, long-term vs. short-term and shared empowerment. In this level volunteers share the gift of themselves with others, i.e. learning names, listening to the other, laugh, cry, and worship together. A brief narrative of partnering experiences would be specified in each category at the Conference, National, and International levels.



**Council of Bishops**  
The United Methodist Church



August 6, 2019

**“A Call to Discipleship: Living as Disciples of a Non-Violent Lord in a Time of Violence” To the People of The United Methodist Church:**

As president of the Council of Bishops, but more fundamentally as one who professes faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, I write with a call to discipleship.

Jesus is calling us to love our neighbor (Mark 12). To love our neighbor is to work for a church that does not exclude anyone, that welcomes immigrants, that reckons with the systemic realities of racism and that honors the faith of people across the political aisle from wherever we are sitting.

And so, I call us to be the people we profess to be: disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Book of Discipline, Paragraph 120). We pray for healing among those who are grieving, amendment of life among those who have done violence, and judgment upon our human hearts when our spoken words have contributed to violence (Matthew 12). We commit ourselves to the transformation of systems and laws that reflect the life that Jesus promises (John 10). The good news is the very peace of Christ that breaks down the dividing walls of hostility (Ephesians 2), and the promise that disciples of Jesus who are peacemakers will receive the blessing of God (Matthew 5). And in this way, we will bless all the families of the earth (Genesis 12).

The Peace of the Lord,

Bishop Ken Carter

President, Council of Bishops

The United Methodist Church

[ People of the United Methodist are encouraged to read the entire letter by Bishop Carter along with the letters from Iowa Bishop Laurie Haller and former Iowa Bishop and West Ohio Bishop Gregory Palmer at [iaumc.org](http://iaumc.org). ]

# Northwood United Methodist Church

## Council Minutes

(Unapproved) **Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 10 am**

The Northwood United Methodist Church Council met on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Pastor Rob; Sandy Olson; Nancy Mathahs; Karen Hove; Joanne Steinmetz; Betty Chapin and Karen Abrahams.

Meeting opened with prayers by Pastor Rob.

Previous minutes were read by Karen Abrahams; Motion by Joanne, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Hove to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

2 things were added to the agenda: Comparison of Church Budget from last year to this year and the Heifer Project.

Treasurer's report given by Nancy. It was the consensus of the council to have Nancy pay the apportionments through June.

Bequest check sent to the church and invested in an investment account at NSB

This bequest will be accepted at the charge conference on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at Northwood.

Endowment and Energy Audit reports were tabled.

Next meeting: More information on building mechanical systems to cut expenses.

Pastor Rob discussed the Mission/Ministry/Discipleship Pathways. Time line is still being discussed for this basic plan.

Charge Conference with Asbury will be at noon at Northwood on Sunday, September 29, 2019 with our District Superintendent Carol Kress with a potluck dinner.

Brainstorming on Bequest Expenditures was tabled until our next meeting to be held on Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Rob is going to look into starting a Kid's Life Program at the church.

Trustee's report: Reported on the investing of the parsonage funds. With our insurance company we are required to put lighted exit signs in and ground fault plugs to be installed.

Nancy gave the comparison of this year's budget to last year's budget at this time of the year.

Discussed the Heifer Project donation.

Adjournment by Sandy.

Karen Abrahams, Council Secretary



**Northwood**

United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

### Northwood UMW

Sept 4th –10 am UMW Meeting

Sept 10th-6:30 pm Grace UMC Guest Night (RSVP  
by Sept 5th) AARP presentation Fraud Watch

Sept 28– North Central District at Forest City—Need  
reservations for Lunch

**September Sock collection for Homeless Shelters**



# Worshippers targeted by gift card scam

We're seeing a new spin on gift card scams. This time, scammers are pretending to be a pastor, rabbi, priest, imam, or bishop. They're asking worshippers for gift card contributions for a worthy cause. Appeals are often made by email, but we've heard people are also getting texts and phone calls, too.

The bogus emails often include the name of the local pastor and a legitimate looking email address. But a closer look should raise some red flags. For example, the email address isn't the one normally used by the church, and the service provider is different, too. The message may begin with a simple "Hi," but doesn't include a recipients' name. There also may be spelling errors, including the pastor's name.

The imposter asks you to buy a popular gift card — frequently, iTunes, Google Play, or Amazon — and then asks for the gift card number and PIN on the back of the card. Those numbers let the scammer immediately get the money you loaded onto the card. And once that's done, the scammer and your money are gone, usually without a trace.

If you or someone you know paid a scammer with a gift card, report it as soon as possible. Call the card company and tell them the gift card was used in a scam. Here is [contact information](#) for some of the gift card companies that scammers use most often. Then, tell the FTC about it at [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint). Your reports may help law enforcement agencies launch investigations that could stop imposters and other fraudsters in their tracks.

**Amazon** Call 1 (888) 280-4331

**Google Play** Call 1 (855) 466-4438

**iTunes** Call Apple Support at 1 (800) 275-2273, then say "gift card" to be connected to a live rep

**MoneyPak** Call 1 (866) 795-7969



Shelly Skellenger  
Ed Monson  
Donna Lair

Dave Hooks  
John Scherb  
Carole Yocum

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...

George Kesler

Norma Kay Martinson

Nancy Whitesell

The Pines— Winona Hennigar

Sandy Nitcher

Bernice Estes

Wanda Citrus

*(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](mailto:NorthwoodUMC@msn.com))*

# Health Notes...

By Betty Chapin, RN, PHN

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



I must apologize for not getting “with it” sooner to resume “Health Notes” after my return from Arizona last spring. There have been several reasons/excuses that have prevented my brain from wrapping around this activity so I will try to get into it again as able. Visitations are another goal I hope to accomplish into the next weeks.

I do want to update our Northwood congregation on a couple things. There still are several containers of frozen vegetable beef soup in the freezer downstairs as well as several prayer shawls. Please feel free to take one of these to someone you may feel needs a “soup hug” or a cuddly shawl. Actually, if you do see a need for something like this, our outreach to others in the community, though they may not belong to our church is still a wonderful, caring thing to do. It would be most welcomed by a person who knows the recipient rather than asking me to take something to someone I don’t know. It is a great “outreach” opportunity to new people moving into the community. Please call me if you wish to have me involved, however.

I want to share that the daily Northwood water aerobics sessions went extremely well this year. Our weather was very cooperative so most days there were both AM and PM groups meeting for one hour of water exercise. The 11:00 – 12:00 AM group was large, growing now to occasionally 18-20 people doing the “taped, musical” exercise routine or lap swimming. The evening class time at 6:00 – 7:00 PM was so appreciated by several working people. It also was great if one couldn’t attend the AM class. People from Mason City and Plymouth have also joined us. It was so much fun. We gratefully thank the pool management for this opportunity to use our beautiful municipal pool. We had special permission to continue our aerobics through the entire month of August with lifeguard coverage arranged. By the time this newsletter arrives, some of us make other arrangements out of town for water aerobics. If you wish to know more, please talk to me or LeAnn Steiff.

## Dear Asbury UMC,

Thank you for the gift of \$441.68 from your Children’s Noisy offering. Your gift will directly benefit the Tree of Life Ministries and provides much needed funding. With the support of people like you, we are able to help many families and individuals meet essential daily needs. Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support. Sincerely, Linda Garriott, Executive Director





**Northwood Sunday Schedule**

10:30 am Worship Service-N

11:45 am Fellowship -N

# SEPTEMBER

**Asbury Sunday Schedule**

9:00 am Worship -A

10:00 am Fellowship -A

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

1 Regular Schedule	2	3 5:30 pm AdCo-A	4 Food 4 Thought 8am Bean & Bistro-NWD Noon- Ay Jalisco- LM 5:30 pm UMW – Rachel Serve-A	5	6	7
8 Regular Schedule	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Regular Schedule	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Regular Schedule <b>Northwood Mission Dinner</b>	23	24	25	26	27	28 UMW NC District Annual Meeting at Garner UMC
29 Regular Schedule 11:30 Potluck Meal- Nwd Joint Charge Conference 12-1:30 pm at Nwd	30					



# SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NORTHWOOD

2019	1-Sept	8-Sept	15-Sept	22-Sept	29-Sept
Scripture Reader	Sandy Olson	Margie Barber	Betty Chapin		
Ushers	Dennis & Barb Walser	Dennis & Barb Walser	Dennis & Barb Walser	Dennis & Barb Walser	Dennis & Barb Walser
Coffee Servers	Bobbi Hooks & June Low	Sharie S & Mary Christianson	LeAnn & Glenn Steiff	<b>Mission Dinner</b>	<b>Potluck Meal</b>
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>
21-July	35	30
28-July	28	41
4-Aug	35	44
11-Aug	20	32
18-Aug	29	72

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

## Asbury

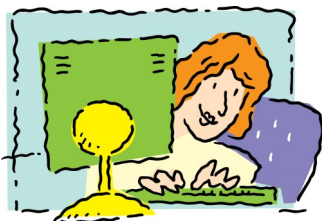
- 1 Tyler Gasper
- 1 Faith Christenson
- 1 Kaisen Mary
- 2 Tate Grotewold Schipper
- 5 Malissa Taft
- 6 Anna Budach
- 7 Michael McColloch
- 7 Haley Slattum
- 10 Char Hanson
- 10 Chad Tiedeman
- 13 Jeanie Grotewold
- 14 Drae Love
- 14 Pearle Imler
- 14 Brynn Rogstad (10)
- 16 Eric Christianson
- 16 Breanna Mary
- 25 Josh Tiedman
- 27 Kathy Christianson
- 27 Anne Skellenger
- 30 Shirley Higbee

## Northwood

- 1 Sandy Stucky
- 5 Glenn Steiff
- 10 Carol Jones
- 21 Becky Jacks
- 22 Margie Barber
- 24 Nora Mammen
- 24 George Kesler

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO ASBURY UMC CUSTODIANS

On behalf of the Asbury United Methodist Church congregation and the Administrative Council, the Staff Pastor Parish Committee (SPRC) wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to Ray and Kaylene Erdahl for their many years of dedicated service as our church custodians. The SPRC on behalf of the Administrative Council have accepted their resignation as custodians as of August 1, 2019. Therefore, the SPRC is seeking applicants for the position of custodian. The job description is available on line at [www.asbury-northwoodumc.com](http://www.asbury-northwoodumc.com) or by contacting SPRC member Donna Lair. A resume and Letter of Application can then be returned to the church office by email ([northwoodumc@msn.com](mailto:northwoodumc@msn.com)) or returned in person to one of the Asbury SPRC members: Donna Lair, Betty Robertson, Joyce Sherman, or David Taft by September 15, 2019.



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)

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

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

or mail to

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

***Northwood and Asbury United Methodist Churches***

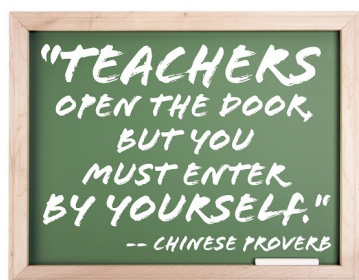
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**SEPTEMBER**

# 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.**

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