March Worship
Sanctifying Grace:
REFORMS us, shaping us for God’s purposes.

March 6 -ASH WEDNESDAY
6:30 pm in the Sanctuary
Isaiah 58:1-12
Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

March 10
James 1:19-27
Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

March 13 & 17
James 2:1-17
Rev. Jerad Morey

CHARGE CONFERENCE:
MCCI VOTE
March 20 (6:30 pm in the Sanctuary)

March 24
James 2:14-26
Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

March 27 - No Super Wednesday
Spring break week

March 31
James 4:1-10
Bruce Dalgaard, Guest Preacher

Worship Schedule
Sunday Worship
9:00 & 10:45 am
Super Wednesday
Worship 6:30 pm
Sunday School 9:30 am
Adult Forum 10:00 am
(Nursery provided during our worship services.)

Join us for fellowship and coffee on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
Message from the Pastor

Note: the March Herald was published before the end of the special general conference of the United Methodist Church in St. Louis.

Being church can be hard.

Going to church, by comparison, is actually easy - it requires presence at a certain place at a certain time...and that's about it. This winter, you can tack on "snow blowing the driveway on Sunday morning" to that list, but that is a means to an end.

Being church, though...that is a demanding proposition.

On a regular basis, it demands building intentional community with people you might not otherwise even know, let alone care about. It demands looking up and out of our own lives, cultivating curiosity about the lives of other people, and looking for Christ in the face of strangers.

This is exhausting, if done for its own sake and under our own steam.

Being church can, however, offer as much as it demands.

This month my dad's health took a sudden downward turn that necessitated my presence in Kansas with little notice. Given the number of snow days we have had in Northfield this year (an eye-popping 10 as of this writing), we have our cancelation policies and procedures down cold...but this was different, because this time the show needed to go on.

And it has. Beyond my gratitude for Pastor Jerad's steady hand in my absence, I am so thankful for others who came alongside for childcare, taking up tasks for Wednesday night, keeping our MCCI discernment in front of us, and flexing schedules for meetings and visits.

Going to church does not get these things done - the only box that checks is "were you in church on Sunday morning/ Wednesday night."

Being church, though - well beyond taking care of our own, so to speak, it gives us practice for how to be Christ to others. It gives us the opportunity to be the stranger in whom others see the face of Christ.

The special General Conference of the United Methodist Church presents this same opportunity on a huge, mind-boggling scale. My prayer is that whatever decisions are made or not made, we will be closer to seeing the face of Christ in people whose lives are astonishingly different from our own.

Thanks for being Christ to me and my family during this tough time. Not only has it highlighted and underlined what a gift Christian community can be - you give me hope that Christ is yet alive and at work in mysterious ways elsewhere.

Whatever happens next, let's commit to this together: we will be church.

Blessings,
Pastor Rachel

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2018 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE TEAM

The past year challenged us financially and contributions to our general fund, which is the money we use to pay for programs, staff, and ministries, were approximately $46,000.00 below our budget needs. We were able to meet all our financial obligations though because we have additional sources of income, such as the capital campaign and interest from endowments. Members gave especially generously to the capital campaign and its expenses were below budget. This meant we had that cash available to help balance the budget. In addition 2017 had been a good year for investments so we increased the percentage of earnings we withdrew from those accounts in 2018. Our member’s generosity in past years helped make this possible.

Our budget for 2019, while essentially flat, will continue to challenge our ability to support the ministries to which God has called us. We are on our way though as pledges are up from 2018 and ten are from new givers. If you are able to, we invite you to prayerfully budget at least that same amount you gave in 2018 and to give more if you can, remembering that all we have is a gift from God. If you have never done so, commit this question to prayer: God, what are you calling me to do with all that I have been given?

We are hopeful that we can meet the spiritual challenge of financially supporting our church even as we evaluate what God is calling us to do as part of the MCCI process. Our continued vitality as a congregation depends on each of us making good on our commitments and promises. Let us resolve to invest sufficient funds, talent, and time all year so we can continue to make possible our church’s ministries. Watch The Herald and the Sunday announcement page for regular updates on our progress at meeting our financial contributions and ending 2019 in the red.

And it has. Beyond my gratitude for Pastor Jerad’s steady hand in my absence, I am so thankful for others who came alongside for childcare, taking up tasks for Wednesday night, keeping our MCCI discernment in front of us, and flexing schedules for meetings and visits.

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Whatever happens next, let’s commit to this together: we will be church.

Blessings,
Pastor Rachel
**Wanted! Technical Volunteers**

Must be comfortable with Windows operating systems, presentation software, and external display settings. Contact Wendy Smith at wendyNUMC@aol.com or speak with Molly Peterson at church.

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**Musicians Wanted!**

Use your talents to provide special music for one of our Sunday morning worship services. Instrumentalists, pianists, vocalists, groups or solo, you are invited! Musicians of all ages and abilities are invited to be a part of our music ministry. There are many opportunities to play for worship. If you would like to sing or play for a worship service, please contact Wendy Smith at 507-645-5689 ext. 23 or wendyNUMC@aol.com. We would love to include you on the music schedule.

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**Adult Choir**

All singers ages HS through adult are invited to be a part of the NUMC Adult Choir. The choir sings most Sundays at the 10:45 am service. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15 pm. For more information, contact Randy Ferguson rferguson@charter.com.

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**Second Sunday Drop in Choir - March 10**

Meet at 8:15, sing at 9:00 am worship! All are invited to sing with the NUMC Second Sunday Drop in Choir. If interested, meet in the choir room at 8:15 am to prepare for that morning’s worship. All voices are welcome, no experience needed!

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**Traditional Jazz Worship**

See you at church on Sunday, March 3 when we worship with New Orleans style traditional jazz music at both the 9:00 and 10:45 AM services.

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**Concert for Trees**

Thank you to guitarist and NUMC Choir Director Randall Ferguson for sharing his instrument collection and playing for us on February 17. The enlightening evening of guitar history and music raised almost $700 to be used for purchasing trees replacing those lost in the September 2018 tornadoes.

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**The Christian Century’s** February 23rd issue includes the article, “Teach Children About Racism.” Senior High teachers and youth leaders may also be interested in another featured article in the same magazine, “Jesus at a College Party.”

Back to books…one which fits nicely with the topics just mentioned is A Good Time for the Truth, by Sun Yung Shin, editor, which deals with racism in Minnesota.

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The upcoming MCCl vote on March 20th, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, and the continuing study of Paul and his letters in the Adult Forum serve as the basis of the resources from the Church Library set out in the library and Fellowship Hall. Lenten resources will soon be available.

Some of the issues being put forth by ISAIAH, the faith in action organization throughout Minnesota and which this church supports, are often in the periodicals the church library offers. This month’s Sojourners magazine considers the prophet Jeremiah’s word to exiles and uses the foundation of Psalm 46 and the call to “quiet our souls and engage in a tumultuous world.”
Contact Kathy Hupf
(507-645-5689) with questions
regarding our children and
family ministries programs.

Playtime!
For Toddlers
Tuesday & Thursday mornings
8:30-10:00 am
Through March 21st
FREE!

Join us for a fun and friendly time of playing in our gym. It’s open to all toddlers and preschoolers who could use a place to run off some energy. It’s also a great time of friendship for parents and caregivers of young children. We have a playhouse, scooters, trikes, slide, bouncy balls and new this year, A BOUNCY HOUSE!! It’s so much fun! Bring your little ones for a great Play Time.

Sunday School Mission Project: Children International
Each week the children are collecting an offering during Sunday school to sponsor a child from Ecuador through the Children International program. His name is Jorge, and the children really enjoy communicating with him and hearing about life as a child in another part of the world. They are learning how God is at work in places all around our world, changing lives and how we can be a part of that love. Parents, please remember to send a small offering with your child each week if possible. Take a look at the program online at www.children.org or Children International. Thank you!

Kids Club Food Collection
March is MN Foodshare Month!
There is a great need right here in our own community of Northfield. Families are struggling to meet their basic needs of food, shelter and clothing with over 500 families being served by the food shelf each month.

Throughout the month of March, our Kids Club will be asking for food and/or monetary donations for our local Northfield Foodshelf as part of their servanthood projects during Lent.

Please consider helping us help our neighbors in need. You can deposit food items in the wooden chest in the narthex. Checks can be made out to the church. In April, the Kids Club children will be delivering the food and dollar donations to the foodshelf. They will learn about the program, get to weigh and shelve the food they bring, and work together to serve others in need. Let’s share our blessings.

Pop Culture Club for Kids!
Are you in grades 3-5? Do you love to watch cartoons, movies, or Youtube? Do you read comic books? These are part of POPular culture! Join Michelle and Maurice Gibbs as they talk about what makes these entertainments popular, fun, and an important part or society. Make friends with other POPculture fans! Watch some cartoons or movies, and then connect what we saw with what you learn at church, school, and more!

Meetings are Friday evenings, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm March 15, April 12, and June 7.
Pizza dinner and snacks will be served.
If you are new to PopC Clubhouse, please RSVP to Michelle Gibbs at 917-231-6035.
Parents: Adult supervision will be provided so feel free to drop-off and pickup (optional).

On Friday, March 15, it’s game night! Come find out the history and popularity of games like Scrabble, Monopoly, UNO and more!

WANTED: Family Fare Receipts!
Don’t know what to do with all your old Family Fare Receipts? Bring them to church and put them in the box in the narthex. Through the Direct Your Dollars program, we are able to receive $1,000 for our children’s program by collecting Econo Foods receipts. Please place them in the box at the Welcome Center or in Kathy Hupf’s office box. We’ve collected over $50,000 worth of receipts so far. We’re half way to our goal!
Thank you! Love, the NUMC children!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6 and continues through Easter eve (April 20). Lent is a beautiful time for us to think about our relationship with God, His amazing love for us and how he gave us His son, to save us. This season of Lent, take time to draw closer to God through prayer and devotion. Talk about it with your children and together make a plan to do something as a family to show God’s love to someone else.

Mark Your Calendars!
March 15 – Pop Culture Club – 6:00-9:00pm
March 21 – Final Playtime for Toddlers
March 27 – No Super Wednesday – Spring break
April – Spring Flower Sales

Sunday School Mission Project: Children International
MCCI Update: Shaping our future
Our MCCI weekend in February was a very successful, eye-opening, spiritual and directional time. We learned again how amazing our youth are and how much they love God and this church. Our youth gave some great insight to the team and a prescription for change has been proposed. Please see the detailed information that was sent in an email to all church members on February 12th. Join us for two Town Hall style meetings to ask questions and learn more about what has been prescribed as our future plans. On March 20, we’ll be voting to accept or decline the suggested changes.

Town Hall MCCI Meetings and Vote
Wednesday, March 6 – in Reception Room, following 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday worship
Sunday, March 10 – Reception Room, following 10:45 am worship
Wednesday, March 20 – in Sanctuary, we will vote to either accept or decline our the MCCI prescriptions

Middle School at Laura Baker Services
March 9, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Our Middle School youth will be volunteering at Laura Baker Services on March 9, from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm, during their monthly respite care time. Engaging with the people who come to Laura Baker is a wonderful relationship-building opportunity.

2019 High School Seniors
Wednesday, March 6 – Meet with Pastor Jerad after Ash Wednesday service.

Confirmation
March 13 – 7:00 pm – Remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy. Confirmands will be talking about Sabbath.

Idaho Youth Mission Trip Update
Our latest fundraisers have been fun and fruitful! The Valentine Cards were sold out in less than 10 minutes, the Superbowl Subs were super delicious and a great team effort, the Parent’s Night Out and Mainstream Boutique fundraisers were fun, inching our way to the goal. We’ve raised about $3500 towards our goal of $10,000! Keep up the great work!

Watch for more information regarding the upcoming fundraisers and how you can help.

Fundraisers being planned:
Cub grocery bagging - April 13, 10 am – 4 pm - organized by Allison Eddy
Easter Breakfast – April 21 - organized by the Kobes family
Advance Auto - will provide ALL SUPPLIES for a car wash on their property. Watch for a warmer date to be selected.

Youth Calendar
Feb. 27 – All Youth Bowling Party – 7:00-8:15 pm – drivers needed
Mar. 6 – MCCI Town Hall Mtg. – 7:15 – Reception room
Mar. 6 – 2019 HS Seniors meeting - 7:15 – youth room
Mar. 13 – Youth Night – 7:00-8:00
Mar. 20 – MCCI Vote – 7:00 pm
Mar. 27 – No Super Wednesday activities – Spring Break

DO YOU GET THE EMAILS?
In the last month some people have asked me if we still send church emails every week or two. Yes we do! But some email programs may be automatically putting your church email in a "spam" or "junk" folder. Because the algorithms used to identify spam and junk change, even if you have seen all-church emails in the past you might still want to make sure you see them in the future.

The way to make sure your email program does not throw your NUMC update away before you read it is to "whitelist" its email address. The directions for doing so are different for each email provider. We have tried to simplify them below. Type the links below into your internet browser to learn how you can make sure the next email from "NUMCmailings@gmail.com" goes someplace you can see it:

Gmail: https://is.gd/NUMCmail1
MSN/Outlook: https://is.gd/NUMCmail2
Yahoo: https://is.gd/NUMCmail3

Other email providers work similar to the above. Let Pastor Jerad know if you’re still not receiving the church wide emails after all of the above.
Housing for All, Available, Accessible, Affordable

Northfield is a great place to live, to raise a family, to retire in but it has a housing gap. There is not enough available, accessible, affordable housing to meet the current and future needs.

But progress is being made and you can join the effort with ISAIAH. We mobilize to learn and to educate others about the needs and possible remedies, and to advocate for changes with city.

The Northfield City Council is considering an ordinance to permit an Accessory Dwelling Unit on private property. The Council considered this opportunity at its meetings in January and February but postponed a final vote until April to allow for further study and citizen comment. Sometime in March there will be an opportunity to express support for additional housing in Northfield and especially comment on this as one way to expand housing options. Watch for further information on the ISAIAH poster and in the Sunday information sheet that is available during worship.

Questions – contact ISAIAH NUMC Team Leader, Evelyn Burry (507-645-7481 or eveynburry@hmail.com).

The adult forum is held from 10:00-10:45 am between services on Sunday mornings in the Reception Room

This month we continue to focus our hearts and minds on the letters of Paul as we continue to understand the earliest scriptural witness we have to the Jesus movement.

We will also set aside time to talk about potentially significant developments in the story of the United Methodist part of the body of Christ.

March 3: General Conference Chat
Last weekend was a special General Conference of the United Methodist Church, gathering global delegates in St. Louis, MO, in an attempt to definitively address our denomination’s ongoing discernment around human sexuality, including ordination of gay and lesbian clergy and performing same-sex weddings. Our congregation endorsed the “One Church Plan.” Did it pass? What happened? What do we know? This forum is a chance for people to come together, dispel rumors, gain knowledge, and be in fellowship with each other.

March 10: Jewish Covenant vs. Roman Empire
The apostle Paul uses a lot of Roman imperial language in his letters. Was he distorting Christ’s message by Romanizing it, ultimately in service of the Roman occupation? Or was he spreading Christ’s story in a way Jesus would agree with?

March 17: The Future of Roman Christianity
The book of Acts was written 50 years after Paul died. How much of what’s in it about Paul can we take at face value? What was Paul’s relationship with other Jews? How was this part of the New Testament put together?

March 24: Northfield United Methodist Church and the Future
There are things going on in our our part of the body of Christ that can shape our future. What decisions will we be making going forward? How will we be making them? Where can you put your shoulder to the wheel? How will we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

March 31: Vision and Vocation in Damascus
Sometimes Paul and Luke tell different stories about the same events in Paul’s life. Why is that? What is Paul trying to tell us? What point is Luke trying to make with his version of events? What do the differences matter?
National Brain Injury Awareness Day on Capitol Hill will be held on March 13, 2019. It is a time to help people become more aware of the causes, symptoms, treatment, and prevention measures of brain injury. “An acquired brain injury (ABI) is an injury to the brain that is not hereditary, congenital, degenerative, or induced by birth trauma.” In other words it is a brain injury that has occurred after birth.

To better understand brain injury, one needs to know about the brain, which is a very complex organ made up of many parts. Each part has very important, specific functions. Overall our brain helps us to walk, talk, eat, and breathe; it also regulates blood circulation and heart rate. Speaking, making decisions, feeling emotions, and processing information are all controlled by one’s brain. Brains are divided into six lobes which have specific functions. Injury to a particular lobe will cause symptoms that are specific to that lobe. Brain function is also categorized by right brain and left brain. (The left side of the body is controlled by the right side of the brain and the right side of the body by the left side of the brain.)

There are two types of acquired brain injury. Traumatic brain injury can be caused by gunshot wounds, assaults, motor vehicle accidents, workplace injuries, abuse, or military blast injury. Non-traumatic brain injury can be caused by stroke, tumors, seizure, electric shock, infectious diseases, drug overdose, lack of oxygen from drowning or choking, or carbon monoxide poisoning. Brain injuries are also classified as mild, moderate, or severe, depending on the severity of the initial injury. The severity of damage will determine how an individual will be impaired.

Concussion/Mild Brain Injury (mTBI) is the most common type of traumatic brain injury. It is “caused when the brain receives trauma from an impact or a sudden momentum or movement change. The blood vessels in the brain may stretch and cranial nerves may be damaged.” Concussion can be caused by the force of a whiplash injury, gunshot wound, or direct blow to the head. Signs and symptoms vary greatly between individuals who experience a concussion. Some people may experience loss of consciousness, while others might just feel dazed. There may or may not be brain bleeding or a skull fracture. Some concussions show up on a CT scan while others may not. The damage from a concussion can be temporary or permanent. Some symptoms may occur immediately after the injury and others may take days or weeks to appear. It might take only a few months to several years for a concussion to heal. Rehabilitation will be required by most people who experience a significant brain injury. The individualized program will be determined by the severity of the brain injury.

Prevention is the best way to avoid all the side effects related to brain injury. Always wear a seat belt in a vehicle and be sure that children are strapped into a proper child safety restraint. Do not drive under the influence of alcohol and drugs (including prescription medications). Wear an appropriate helmet while riding a bike, skateboarding, or participating in sports. For older adults it is important to prevent falls in the home. This can be done by: installing handrails in the bathroom and on stairs, removing area rugs, improving lighting, and keeping floors clear of clutter. Elders should get regular vision check-ups and get regular exercise that helps with balance.

“Brain injury is a life-altering event which affects every area of a person’s life—including his or her relationship with family members…”

For more information about brain injury consult www.mayoclinic.org or www.biausa.org

The next blood pressure screening will be on March 10th at 10:00 and 11:45 am.
**SUPER WEDNESDAY MENU**

March 6 - Ash Wednesday
Chicken quesadilla and tomato soup, salad bar, salsa and chips, toppings, brownies and ice cream.

March 13 - Youth Night
Ham mac and cheese, broccoli, green salad, bread, strawberry shortcake and angel food cake.

March 20 - MCCI Charge Conference
Chicken salad and swiss melt croissant, broccoli and cheese soup, garden salad, assorted frosted cakes.

**PLEASE NOTE**
There will be no Super Wednesday activities March 27th due to Spring Break. This includes the shared meal.

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**SUPER WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

The schedule for Super Wednesdays is as follows:

3:30-5:30 pm Kids Club
5:30-6:30 pm Fellowship Meal (free will offering)
6:15 pm Adult Handbell Choir rehearsal
6:30-7:00 pm Worship (multipurpose room)
7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Each month:**

1st Wednesday – Church Family SALT (Serving and Learning Together) Project (6:30 pm)

2nd Wednesday – Confirmation, high school youth group, middle school youth group (7 pm)

3rd Wednesday – Meeting night (7 pm – open for any groups or teams needing meeting time with childcare available)

4th Wednesday – High school youth group, middle school youth group (7 pm)

5th Wednesday – Watch announcements for special events!

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Worship with us at Northfield United Methodist Church

For more information and a full Super Wednesday activity schedule visit our website northfieldumc.org
Pastor Rachel and Pastor Jerad will be on vacation March 25-31. For emergency pastoral care, contact the church office at 507-645-5689 and listen to the phone message for instructions.

Prayers for:
- Our world and its leaders
- Law enforcement and the communities they serve
- Victims of violence in our country and the world
- Places in the world where there is unrest and conflict
- Peace and understanding among peoples of different faiths

Prayers of Sympathy with:
- Family and friends of Dean Franz
- Arlene Worcester on the death of her sister Lorraine Meeder
- Family and friends of Brian Randolph
- Family and friends of Susan Lloyd
- Family and friends of Mike Behr
- Nick Weaver on the death of his mother

Prayers of Celebration with:
- Derek and Sarah Wolfe on the birth of their daughter Anna

National and World Concerns:
- Those studying and working internationally
- Prayers for those serving in the military around the world

Remembering Those in Military Service
Luke Erickson

If you have family deployed in military service, please let us know so that we can include them in our prayers.

Dear Friends in Mission,
Thank you for your gift of $325 to the General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100% of your contribution will go to Shepherd Society. Your gift is providing short and long-term humanitarian assistance and development aid for the Palestinian people in Israel/Palestine. It is because of generous gifts from people like you that Global Ministries has been able to establish new congregations in communities outside of the US, urge our nation’s decision makers to end hunger, support projects that address issues of child poverty and violence, provide youth with an opportunity to spend their summer in mission service, and improve literacy levels in communities around the world. These are just a sampling of the programs and ministries that gifts like yours make possible. Thank you for giving so generously.

Grace and Peace,
Roland Fernandes - General Treasurer
Rev. Russell Pierce - Executive Director, Mission Engagement
General Board of Global Ministries
The first Wednesday of each month, we worship and serve together! Beginning at 6:30 pm, we will gather in the gym/multi-purpose room for service and learning. This is for all generations – young and old, new to our church and seasoned hands alike.

Make us ready, O God – our hands are yours.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS

The United Methodist General Conference will be held in Minneapolis in 2020. United Methodists in Minnesota, North and South Dakota are being asked to knit or crochet 10,000 purple scarves. The color purple was selected because of the Minnesota Vikings and Prince. The intent of this project is to greet every delegate, dignitary, bishop and spouse with a handmade scarf. This initiative is being called the Lydia Project, after Lydia in Acts 16.

Copies of suggested patterns are available in the church office. However, you are welcome to use any pattern you like. Please use acrylic yarn. The finished scarf should be 6-7 inches wide and at least 60 inches long.

As the scarves are being created, we ask that the creators pray for the General Conference 2020 and for the recipient of their scarves.

Thalia Duffield is our contact person. Her phone number is 218-839-9314. She will be able to answer any questions you might have. Please contact Thalia or Merrell Thornton 645-9821 (ASAP) to give them an idea of how many scarves you are willing to create so we can identify the number of scarves our congregation will be providing. Once our congregation commits to a specific number of scarves, we will receive that number of tags; the tags will have a space for the creator to write his or her name and church, and to put a dot a on a map of the Dakotas-Minnesota Area that indicates the creators location.

If you are a non-knitter or crocheter and would like to donate money for some yarn, you may give the money to either Merrell or Thalia.

Let’s have fun with this project!

Jump Start to Summer

Hot Dog & Brat Fest

Sunday, April 14th, 10:00 am—1:00 pm
Right here at the church!

Your first taste of summer brought to you by your UMC softball team!
We need jerseys and you want summer!
Brats, Hot Dogs, Salads, Chips, etc.!
MICAH NEWS
(Methodists Investing in Care and Action for the Holy Land) Micah 6:8

MICAH has Zatoun Palestinian Fair Trade Virgin Olive Oil for sale. Currently we have 500 ml bottles @ $15.00 per bottle. Also available are 150 g packages of Za’tar @ $5.00. Za’tar is made with wild thyme and sumac mixed with roasted sesame seeds and salt. Recipe sheets are available with the Za’tar, but it is also great with olive oil for dipping. These items are available in the church office. Support the farmers of Palestine in the struggle for their livelihood and land.
(Zatoun = Olive)

A Lenten message from Palestinian Archbishop Atallah Hanna:

“We must remember during the period of fasting, as well as during the rest of the year that Palestine, the Holy Land, has been denied peace and justice as a result of the oppression, violations, and infringements of human dignity practiced against our people. This people is carrying the cross of pains and woes, walking its Golgotha path with the hope of a resurrection full of freedom and human dignity. We pray to the Almighty in this holy season to protect our country and people. We pray that the injustice that is so absent may be realized in this Holy Land. Our people deserve to live in freedom and peace just like all other peoples of the world.”

For weekly prayers and news from Palestinian Christians:
https://sabeel.org/category/wave-of-prayers/

The word Sabeel is Arabic for “the way”. It was founded in Jerusalem by Palestinian Christians working for a just peace in Palestine and Israel. FOSNA is Friends of Sabeel North America www.fosna.org. It promotes the vision of Sabeel Jerusalem in the US, joining Friends of Sabeel chapters around the world.

2019 READING THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - CATCH UP!

Did you take up the challenge to read the Bible in a year, get behind, and kinda/sorta set it aside? Lent is an opportunity to take up a new discipline in preparation for the Easter season - so you can consider it a second chance! If you want a do-over to catch up, here is what we will have read so far by Ash Wednesday:

(Old Testament/Hebrew Bible)
Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Psalms 19, 104, 148, 1, 107, 4, 11, 145, 12, 24, 108, 25, 105, 114, 33, 109, 90, 26, 27, 110, 111, 31

(New Testament)
Mark
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Hebrews

You may also pick up a full year schedule for reading the Bible in the Church office. If you would like to join Pastor Rachel’s Reading the Bible in a Year facebook group page contact Pastor Rachel to be added.
Because every picture has a story to tell...

After three weeks that included school shutdowns due to cold, we came together for a service project to help homeless youth in our community - making blankets for Northfield Union of Youth. They will be used. Union of Youth director Emily Fulton told us "These blankets will be gone by tonight."

If you have a spare bedroom in your home then you can also become a host home to shelter homeless youth. Dean Sorenmann shared some of his family's experience hosting a youth and encourages others to take the plunge.

During our MCCI weekend we gathered as a congregation for discernment, training, and prayer for God's next steps for our church. We listened to reports on demographic and other changes in our community, as well as information from "secret shoppers" who have visited our Sunday worship over the last 6 months.

After cancelling due to the weather on 3 separate occasions we finally were able to have our Kids Club Sledding party. The snow was perfect and plentiful, and so were the kids! What a wonderfully good time!

"If you can't find joy in the snow, you will have no joy, but you will still have snow" Although this sign on our door was meant for the Northfield Holiday Gift Sharing program volunteers, it just seemed to be so appropriately posted on the door of the church for yet another day of being closed due to snow.

Yup, Joy was actually cancelled...
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<tr>
<td>9:00 Worship with Communion</td>
<td>6:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers</td>
<td>9:00 Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>9:00 Care Team</td>
<td>8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers</td>
<td>6:30 am Men’s Breakfast</td>
<td>2:00-5:00 MS Youth Laura Baker Respite Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 Sunday School</td>
<td>9:00 Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>9:00 Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>3:30 Kid’s Club</td>
<td>1:30-3:00 Breaking Bread at Brick Oven Bakery</td>
<td>6:00 pm Pop Culture Club for Kids</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 Adult Forum</td>
<td>4:00 Inviting Ministry Mtg.</td>
<td>5:15 Handbell Choir</td>
<td>5:30 Shared Meal</td>
<td>6:00 &amp; 11:45 Blood Pressure Screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 Worship</td>
<td>6:30 Stew. &amp; Fin. Mtg.</td>
<td>6:15 Mission Knitting</td>
<td>6:30 Ash Wednesday service in Sanctuary</td>
<td>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:00 MCCI Town Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 &amp; 11:45 Blood Pressure Screening</td>
<td>12:00 MCCI Town Hall</td>
<td>6:00 Financial Peace</td>
<td>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:00 9th Grade Confirmation</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 MCCI Town Hall</td>
<td>6:00 Financial Peace</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 Worship</td>
<td>8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers</td>
<td>9:00 Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>9:00 Mission Quilting</td>
<td>8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers</td>
<td>6:30 am Men’s Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 Sunday School</td>
<td>9:00 Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>7:00 Ad. Council mtg.</td>
<td>9:00 Mission Quilting</td>
<td>Noon Herald Newsletter deadline</td>
<td>11:30 NRC lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 Adult Forum</td>
<td>7:00 Ad. Council mtg.</td>
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<td>3:30 Kid’s Club</td>
<td>1:30-3:00 Breaking Bread at Brick Oven Bakery</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 Worship</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:15 Handbell Choir</td>
<td>5:30 Shared Meal</td>
<td>6:30 Card Making with Margie</td>
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<td>6:00 Financial Peace</td>
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<td>6:15 Mission Knitting</td>
<td>6:30 Charge Conference</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>9:00 Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 Sunday School</td>
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<td>10:30 Coffee at Millstream</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 Adult Forum</td>
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<td>NO SUPER WEDNESDAY</td>
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<td>10:45 Worship</td>
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</table>

Weekly deadline for the Sunday announcement page is NOON on Wednesday each week.

The next monthly HERALD NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is NOON on Wednesday, March 20th for the April issue. Thank you!
Northfield United Methodist Church

1401 South Maple Street
Northfield, MN  55057

Phone:  (507) 645-5689
Email: northfieldumc@gmail.com
Website:  www.northfieldumc.org

Offering Christ

Northfield United Methodist Church offers an electronic option for our monthly newsletter. By having our newsletter available electronically, we will save costs on paper, postage and copier usage. The newsletter will still be available to those who want to receive a hard copy in the mail.

For those that sign up, you will receive an e-mail directing you to a link to view the newsletter. If you have more than one member in the household that would like to receive this e-mail, please list them also.

Please cut out this form, fill in the information and place it in the basket in the church office or place it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

Please print clearly! Thank you!

Name _______________________________________
E-mail Address ________________________________

Name _______________________________________
E-mail Address ________________________________

E-NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Pastors  
Rachel McIver Morey
Jerad Morey

Parish Nurse  
Ruth Kruse

Office Administrator  
Sandy Vesledahl

Children & Family Ministries  
Kathy Hupf

Worship & Music  
Wendy Smith

Child Care Provider  
Molly Peterson
Kathryn Steed

Organists /Accompanists  
Bob Henstein
Donna Paulsen

Handbell Choir Director  
Kathy Szydlo

Adult Choir Director  
Randall Ferguson

Projection Coordinator  
Molly Peterson

Custodian  
Arturo Rosas Avila

Building Security  
Margie Brockton

Sunday School Superintendent  
Diana Huseth
(Volunteer)

Treasurer  
John Stull
(Volunteer)

Web Site  
Jesse Steed
(Volunteer)

Retired Clergy:  Wayne Abdella, Carl Caskey, Richard Collman, Jeanne Martin, Dick Waters, Mary Keen, Gordon Orde