

# United Methodist Herald

December 2023/January 2024



Photo credit: Rachel McIver Morey

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## December Worship Advent Series: Hopescrolling

**December 3 - Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

**Rev. Jerad Morey**

**December 10**

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

**Rev. Rachel McIver Morey**

**December 17**

**Isaiah 61:1-11**

**Rev. Rachel McIver Morey**

**December 24 - 9:30 am**

**Christmas Eve Morning Worship**

**Communion Liturgy**

**Rev. Rachel McIver Morey**

**(See Advent and Christmas Eve worship schedule on page 2)**

**December 31**

**Luke 2:22-40**

**Rev. Dick Waters**

# Special December Christmas Events and Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 13  
Children's Christmas Pageant  
6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 20  
Advent Service of Peace and Healing  
4:00 pm, musical prelude 3:45 pm  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
Pastor Rachel McIver Morey and Pastor David Weeks

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Sunday, December 24

9:30 am Christmas Eve Morning Communion Service

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship (nursery available, service livestreamed)

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

No Super Wednesday December 20, 27 and January 3

**Epiphany Series:  
News of the  
Weird**

**Strange things  
happen when  
Jesus shows up...**

## January Worship

January 7 - Celebration of Holy Communion

Mark 1:4-11

Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

January 14

Mark 1:12-13

Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

January 21

Mark 1:14-20

Rev. Rachel McIver Morey

January 28

Mark 1:21-28

Rev. Jerad Morey



## NUMC WELCOME STATEMENT

We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and, as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, family status, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, socio-economic status, or age. We unreservedly support and affirm the full inclusion of persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities in all facets of ministry at Northfield UMC, including ordination and marriage. Following Christ's example, we open our hearts, minds, and doors to welcome all who come to us in God's grace.

## FINANCE UPDATE

### How to make tithes and offerings

You can make your tithes and offerings a few different ways:

1. Make automatic donations from your bank account. Contact [northfieldumc@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldumc@gmail.com) for a form.
2. Donate online using a credit card, by clicking on the GiveMN tab on the church website [northfieldumc.org](http://northfieldumc.org).
3. Drop a check in the offering basket during in person worship.
4. Mail a check to: Northfield United Methodist Church  
1401 S. Maple St., Northfield, MN 55057

### Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving!

Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much needed donation consistency for our congregation. Authorization forms are available on our website [northfieldumc.org](http://northfieldumc.org) or by emailing [northfieldumc@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldumc@gmail.com).

**General Fund October 2023 contributions \$22,904.66**  
**General Fund October 2022 contributions \$24,348.66**

**General Fund YTD 2023 contributions \$282,529.60**  
**General Fund YTD 2022 contributions \$273,855.06**

## Super Wednesday Community Meals

Food for the soul and the stomach! 5:30-6:30 on Wednesdays during the program year.

### December 13 - Annual Christmas Dinner

**Roast Beef**  
**Potatoes**  
**Corn**  
**Pear Salad**  
**Rolls**  
**Ice Cream and Cupcakes**

Watch our Facebook page and our website for future menus and any cancelations due to weather. (NOTE: NUMC follows the policy of Northfield Public Schools for weather closures.)

**No Super Wednesday meal**  
**December 20th, 27th and January 3rd.**



## Advent Service of Peace & Healing

An Advent Service of Peace & healing will be held on Wednesday, December 20th. Sometimes called a "Blue Christmas" worship service, this annual event will take place at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 418 East Sumner Street in Northfield, at 4:00 P. M. It is sponsored by the United Methodist church and St. Peter's and also supported by the Northfield Grief Support Coalition Community Support and Outreach. Pastors David Weeks and Rachel McIver Morey will preside, assisted by persons from each church.

Amid the glitter and lights surrounding the holiday season, there is often an undercurrent of sorrow, despair, and sadness that can block cheer and merriment. This can be due to difficult memories, depression, or encroaching darkness with the shortest day of the year - the winter solstice, which takes place around Dec. 21. Sometimes we just need a place for quiet, lighting a candle, and sitting still to listen to beautiful music. This service is designed for just that with optional anointing for healing for oneself or others. Grief takes many shapes and sizes - this worship can begin to address such feelings as we move from darkness to light.

The musical prelude will begin at 3:45 p. m. and include Richard Collman on Celtic Harp, Randall Ferguson on classical guitar, and Jane Reinhart on cello. They will also play during the time of anointing and after worship. All persons are invited to experience this solace before Christmas.

# Message from the Pastor

*Little Rock, Pasternak, Mickey Mantle, Kerouac  
Sputnik, Chou En-Lai, "Bridge on the River Kwai"  
Lebanon, Charles de Gaulle, California baseball  
Starkweather homicide, children of thalidomide*

*Buddy Holly, Ben Hur, space monkey, mafia  
Hula hoops, Castro, Edsel is a no-go  
U2, Syngman Rhee, Payola and Kennedy  
Chubby Checker, Psycho, Belgians in the Congo*

*We didn't start the fire  
It was always burning, since the world's been turning  
We didn't start the fire  
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it*

In 1989, Billy Joel - who was just in concert in Minneapolis the weekend before I write this, although I didn't attend the concert - released his song "We Didn't Start the Fire," which I have excerpted above. It is essentially a litany of news-y things, serious and unserious, but the chorus is the part most folks from that era know by heart: "We didn't start the fire; it was always burning since the world's been turning - we didn't start the fire; no, we didn't light it; we've been trying to fight it!"

The core idea here is pretty simple: the absolute tidal wave of bad news, celebrity gossip, political punditry, and stories of bizarre trends that make up our "newsfeed" are the latest logs thrown on a fire as old as human life itself. Each generation both feeds the fire - and fights the fire - as it is passed on like a relay baton.

This song has been given an update by the band Fall Out Boy just this year, 34 years after the original. Here's a sample of their lyrics:

*Captain Planet, Arab Spring, L.A. riots, Rodney King  
Deep fakes, earthquakes, Iceland volcano  
Oklahoma City bomb, Kurt Cobain, Pokémon  
Tiger Woods, MySpace, Monsanto, GMOs*

*Harry Potter, Twilight, Michael Jackson dies  
Nuclear accident, Fukushima, Japan  
Crimean Peninsula, Cambridge Analytica  
Kim Jong Un, Robert Downey Jr., Iron Man*

*We didn't start the fire  
It was always burning since the world's been turning  
We didn't start the fire  
No, we didn't light it, but we're trying to fight it*

By updating the lyrics, Fall Out Boy adds a layer of meaning: not only do we both feed and fight the fire with each successive generation, but it implies that we need to see the events of our own time in a much broader context. We should not, dare not, get caught up in current events as though our time is uniquely hard, challenging, and scary: "it was always burning since the world's been turning." Biblically, they would find themselves in agreement with the writer of Ecclesiastes: "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, 'See, this is new'? It has already been, in the ages before us." (1:9-10).

Our Advent series is an attempt to reframe and reset our picture of the world, God's work in it, and our place in it all. "Doomscrolling" is a word that was coined to describe going through the headlines on Google, cable news sites, or social media, dwelling on and in the worst, ugliest, most cynical things that come to us that way. Remember: algorithms pay attention to what spend our time looking at, so they feed us more of what we already pay attention to.

In Advent, we will be "Hopescrolling" - telling stories of where good has happened or is happening in the world, perhaps underreported and unseen, but happening all the same. The prophet Isaiah will be our companion for that series. As a prophet who saw apocalyptic doom fall on his people in the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem and forced exile to Babylon, he had every reason to spend his days looking for the worst. Instead, he looked for the coming of God. He believed in grace, redemption, forgiveness, and a God who plays the long game.

There are fires we start, fires we feed, and fires we fight - it is a worthy question when we find ourselves caught up in the fierce urgency of "now" to ask which we are doing . . . and which we are called to do.

Blessings, Rachel

## Pastor Rachel Advent Coffee Shop Hours

Tuesdays from 12:30-2:00 pm you will find her at Caribou Coffee located at 400 West 5th Street, Northfield on the following dates:

Tuesday, December 5th  
Tuesday, December 12th  
Tuesday, December 19th

**No appointment necessary -  
drop in to say hello!**

# FAMILY ministry

For September-May, we invite our youngest disciples into both Sunday and Wednesday opportunities for fellowship, faith development, and fun. For more information: [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org)

## Sundays

10:00am - **Children's Church** (5th grade and under) in Nursery immediately following the children's message.

## Super Wednesdays

3:30-5:30pm - **KC3** (Kids Creating Community Through Christ) for our grade school kids, K-5th grade.

5:30-6:30pm - **Community Meal** (ALL are welcome - free will donation)

6:30pm-8pm - **Youth Group** (6th-12th grade) in the youth room.

## Wednesday December 6

KC3 Christmas Pageant rehearsal (3:30-5:30)

### NUMC Youth Group: Bowling!

Let's have some fun and fellowship! High School and Middle School Youth are invited to meet at **Flaherty's Bowling Alley** at **6:45pm**. We'll provide lane and shoe rental. If you plan to buy food, snacks or play the arcade then please bring your own money. Parents please pick up your youth at **8:00pm** at Flaherty's.

## Sunday December 10 - Children's Bible Sunday (during worship)

Picture Bibles for the younger ones and full Bibles for those 3rd grade and above who have not already received them.

## Wednesday December 13

KC3 Christmas Pageant rehearsal (3:30-5:30)

Christmas Pageant (6:30pm, Sanctuary)

NUMC Middle School and High School Youth will meet in the Reception Room at 6pm to prepare for the Christmas Pageant camels.

## \*December 13 is the last Super Wednesday of 2023\*

## Sunday December 17 - Children's Christmas Music Special ((during worship)

## \*December 17 is the last Children's Church of 2023\*

(see Worship Page for information about Christmas Eve Worship)

## January: Children's Church will begin again on January 7th.

## Super Wednesdays begin again on January 10th.

## Playtime for Toddlers - Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning January 9th 8:30-10am for preschool and younger children:

join us for Playtime in the gym! Large muscle toys, a bounce house, and space to run for littles who have wintertime wiggles - through Thursday March 21st.

## Confirmation

On November 12, we confirmed 12 youth: Lily Holman, Maria Hegland, Rourke Bennet, Cully Trotman, and Ryland Updike. They offered testimonies of faith as the congregation received their commitments as our church's newest members.

All five have joined the SALT (Serving and Learning Together) team, which plans service projects for the broader congregation and community.



## NUMC Board

The governing body of the church is the NUMC Board. The members of the board are duly elected at an annual meeting, or "Charge Conference," open to all membership. Share any concerns with the NUMC Board here: [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org)

Co-Chairs: Kevin Dahle and Pierce Follansbee-Delong  
Treasurer: Dave Wolf  
Secretary and Communications: Carolyn Seas  
SPRC Liaison: Sara Newberg

At-Large Members: Jessy Hoffer, Allie Lyman,  
Warren Winkelman, Bruce Benson, Thalia Duffield, Crystal  
Greenfield

## Northfield UMC Leadership Board

### Wednesday October 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Bruce Benson, Carolyn Seas, Warren Winkelman, Kevin Dahle, Pierce Follansbee-Delong, Sara Newberg, Crystal Greenfield, Thalia Duffield, Dave Wolf, Jessy Hoffer, Pastor Rachel McIver-Morey

**Not Present:** Allie Lyman

**Meeting Called to order:** 5:30 pm by Pierce Follansbee-Delong

#### **NUMC Prayer**

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Kevin Dahle to approve the September 20, 2023 NUMC Board minutes. Sara Newberg seconded. **Approved as read.**

**Approval of Agenda:** Warren Winkelman moved to approve the agenda. Kevin Dahle seconded. **Agenda Approved.**

**Board Missional Responsibilities: UMC Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. NUMC Mission Statement: We are called, nurtured, and sent out for this purpose: To glorify God by acts of or devotion, worship, compassion, and justice.**

#### **Agenda items**

##### **Fiduciary Items:**

##### Facilities

Jesse Steed presented the Rotary Club's proposed offer/agreement for the purchase of a projection system and permanent wall screen for the Fellowship Hall. The Rotary Club will pay for the \$5,800 cost up front, with a reimbursement from the church in 3 payments over 3 years. This will amount to about \$1,934 per year. The proposed agreement also included an annual technology fee of \$150, which the Rotary Club will pay, on top of their rental fees. Kevin Dahle made a motion to accept the offered proposal, Sara Newberg seconded. **Motion passed.** The written agreement was signed by Kevin Dahle, co-chair of the board, and Dave Wolf, Treasurer.

##### Finance:

Dave Wolf presented the Treasurer's Report for September 30, 2023.

**General Fund** - The balance in the CRB checking account at the end of September was \$47,382.64. General Fund income for the month of September was \$28,406.58. YTD Actual Income for the General Fund was \$290,837.17, Monthly Offering Income was \$22,601.66 in September. YTD Actual Offering Income was \$259,614.94, We hope to see increased giving in October since it is the beginning of a new quarter when charitable giving transfers from IRA accounts are typically received. The Offering Income for the first 4 of 5 Sundays in October was \$17,804.66; less than expected. We also expect the typical end of year giving increase. Monthly expenses for September were \$35,577.00. YTD Actual Expense Totals were \$334,292.35. We finished the month of September with \$7,170.42 in the red. YTD we are \$43,455.18 in the red. Most of the expense categories are on budget or slightly under budget with a few exceptions. As of the end of September, monthly Apportionments of \$4,576.02 had not been paid for the months of August or September, a total of \$9,152.18, due to cash flow. The plan is to catch up on apportionment payments by the end of the year.

**Physical Plant** - Monthly income (Support from General Fund) was \$8,681.01 for September. YTD Actual Income was \$138,630.83 with \$111,010.71 coming from General Fund Support; \$21,425.12 from Building Fund Interest Income (received in June); and, \$6,195.00 from continuing contributions to the last Building Campaign. YTD Actual Expenses were \$121,827.86 which leaves a positive balance of \$16,802.97.

**Endowment Funds** - At the end of September, these funds total \$894,811.03 which includes \$334,802.54 that we owe ourselves. This is \$17,762.91 less than the first of the year due to market changes and annual disbursement of funds. Two disbursements totaling \$7,036.96 were taken during June; \$1,539.40 from Sather Missions Fund and \$5,497.56 from Sather Scholarship Fund. In addition, two disbursements totaling \$36,805.12 were taken from the Building Maintenance Fund; \$15,380.00 in April for Organ Maintenance and an annual fund interest distribution of \$21,425.12 in June.

Bruce Benson made a motion to create a \$500 line item, in the church budget, for the MICAH missionary support of our Palestinian family. Kevin Dahle seconded. **Motion passed.**

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**Ministry Items:**

Wallflower project: - Pastor Rachel informed the board that there is a new executive director for the Northfield Union for Youth. We will try to reconnect with the new director concerning support of their Wallflower project.

Back to School Splash: Pierce updated the board on the recently held family event. He felt it was a good foundation for future family activities. He had plenty of volunteers from within the congregation. He hopes to get more commercial/retail businesses involved next year.

Viking Terrace Prayer Walk: - Pastor Rachel announced there will be a community prayer walk at our church on November 19, 1pm, in support of the Viking Terrace community. They continue to struggle with the unfair practices imposed on them from the park's new management.

**Dates of note:**

October 29 Trunk or Treat

November 5 – MICAH Anniversary dinner

November 15<sup>th</sup> – The new District Superintendent will meet with the Leadership board at 5:30 pm.

Next meeting: Church Conference – November 29, 10:30am

**Next Meeting - January 31, 2024, 5:30 pm.**

A motion was made by Sara Newberg to adjourn and seconded by Warren Winkelman.

**Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Seas, Secretary

**Northfield UMC Charge Conference  
10:30am November 26, 2023**

Attending: Bill Thornton, Merrell Thornton, Peg Jennings, Marge Randolph, Dennis Randolph, Marla Erickson, Ann Lundstrom, Carol Korda, Bruce Dalgaard, Dick Waters, Mary Williams, Kerry Hanson, Garry Neil, Darlene Cox, Allan Cox, Warren Winkelman, Paul Kluge, Ann Richards, John Stull, Kevin Dahle, Bruce Benson, Deb Wasserman, David Wasserman, Clare Mather, Philip Spensley, Catherine Williams, Faye and Carl Caskey, Candy and Kevin Merkle, Lin and Dave Wolf, Richard Collman, George and Linda Davis, Thalia Duffield, Tim Goodwin, Jody Friedow, Mike Boehne, Yosh Soltis

The meeting was brought to order at 10:30am, Rev. Rachel McIver Morey presiding.

The NUMC Board moved the salary recommendations as presented in the handouts. As it was properly from the board it needed no second. The motion passed unanimously.

The handouts included an inactive member report from administrator Sandy Vesledahl. Pastor Rachel spoke to how inactive members had been reached out to (via direct letter) and that the membership rolls had not been attended to since before 2019. Warren Winkelman asked how this compared to new members joining, and Pastor Rachel indicated she would have to look that up. Richard Collman asked how many were currently on the rolls, and Pastor Rachel indicated that it was around 520.

John Stull moved to approve the inactive list, and was seconded by Al Cox. The motion passed unanimously.

Finally, retired clergy reports were received and celebrated from: Richard Collman, Clay Oglesbee, Carl Caskey, and Gordon Orde. Dick Waters, retired UCC clergy and NUMC member, was also lifted up for his ministry. Bill Thornton moved the reception of the reports and was seconded by Dennis Randolph. The motion passed unanimously.

The charge conference was adjourned at 11:00am.

Submitted Respectfully,  
Rev. Rachel McIver Morey and Parish Nurse Ruth Kruse

## General Fund Update and End of Year Ask

From a financial support standpoint, we the church have been doing a good job. As of the end of October, YTD Offering Income was ahead of last year by \$8,600. This year we came out of the pandemic and made the transition from on-line worship services to a combination of in-person and continued streaming of worship services. Our facility is again open and being used by many community organizations. Beyond our Super Wednesday, KC3, Youth and Sunday ministries, our staff and facilities are at work all week for us doing the work of the church.

We had a giving push this spring which righted the ship; now it is time to do the same as the ministry year closes. As a point of reference, our October YTD Offering Income was \$50,000 below our projected budget. We depend on end-of-year giving to meet our ministry goals.

On behalf of the Board, I ask for your generosity, as November ends and we move into December, so we can continue to be the church God is calling us to be.

Below – An edited summary of the Treasurer’s October Update:

### General Fund

The balance in the CRB checking account at the end of October was \$42,293.76 as compared to \$47,382.64 at the end of September.

General Fund income for the month of October was \$24,203.16. YTD Actual Income for the General Fund was \$315,040.33; \$29,767.23 more than YTD Last Year, but \$33,084.69 less than the YTD Budget of \$348,125.02. Monthly Offering Income was \$22,914.66 in October. YTD Actual Offering Income was \$282,529.60; \$8,674.69 more than YTD Offering Income Last Year, but \$50,803.74 less than YTD Budget of \$333,333.34.

### Physical Plant

Monthly income (Support from General Fund) was \$9920.57 for October. YTD Actual Income was \$149,756.40. YTD Actual Expenses were \$134,903.31 which leaves a positive balance of \$14,673.09.

### Endowment Funds

At the end of October, these funds total \$879,246.75 which includes \$334,802.54 that we owe ourselves. This is \$33,677.19 less than the first of the year due to market changes and annual disbursement of funds. Two disbursements totaling \$7,036.96 were taken during June: \$1,539.40 from Sather Missions Fund and \$5,497.56 from Sather Scholarship Fund. In addition, two disbursements totaling \$36,805.12 were taken from the Building Maintenance Fund: \$15,380.00 in April for Organ Maintenance and an annual fund interest distribution of \$21,425.12 in June.

David Wolf, Treasurer

As we come to the end of this calendar year, we have an invitation: how is God calling us to financially support ministry through the work of Northfield United Methodist Church? This is not a question to face with guilt or anxiety - it is a question to wrestle with in prayer. As you do so, and come to your answer, please fill out the card below and mail it to the church office, or email the same to us at [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org).



## Northfield United Methodist Church Worship. Compassion. Devotion. Justice. 2024 Estimate of Giving Return Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Northfield UMC General Operating Fund  
Estimate of giving for 2024:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_/monthly

OR

\$ \_\_\_\_\_/quarterly

OR

\$ \_\_\_\_\_/year

**Thank you for your prayerful  
consideration of what God is calling you to do  
with what you have been given.**

**Please cut along dotted line,  
fill out and mail by December 15th  
to the church office:  
1401 S. Maple St.,  
Northfield, MN 55057**

**Note: If you are making a change to your  
current electronic deduction amount you will  
need to fill out a new authorization form with  
the church office.**



## Dismantling Racism Team (DRT)

On a beautiful afternoon in November, a group of approximately 50 Northfielders participated in a prayer walk at Viking Terrace. Pastor Rachel organized the event, which she described as, “putting our feet where our hearts are.” In addition to a number of our own congregants, attendees included members of several local churches—Emmaus, 1st UCC, St. John’s, Bethel, St. Dominic’s, and Cannon Valley Friends—as well as park residents and a group of young activists who brought signs of support.



The actual walk around the park was silent; participants were instructed to pray silently for whatever they noticed. The walkers split into three groups, each one led by a clergy member—Inger Hanson, senior pastor at Bethel, Abe Johnson, senior pastor at Emmaus, and Schuyler Vogel, Carleton College Chaplain. After making a short loop, the walkers gathered back at the park entrance to lift up quick, one-word, “popcorn prayers,” recite the Lord’s Prayer together, and sing a short song.

Attendees also had the opportunity to hear an update on legal proceedings from retired attorney Gina Washburn and to add their names to a letter being sent by the Viking Terrace

Homeowner’s Association to the corporate landlord, Lakeshore Management, asking them to sell the park to the residents. The timing of the walk was chosen because of the recent filing by the Minneapolis law firm Lockridge Grindal Nauen, P.L.L.P., of a class action complaint against Lakeshore Management. Several other companies are also named in the complaint, which accuses them of conspiracy to fix manufactured home lot rental prices in violation of a federal law known as the Sherman Act. The lawsuit will likely take years to resolve, with the hoped-for outcome being regulatory gains for the residents of manufactured home parks around the country.



Announcing a Northfield Healthcare Listening Session  
on the MNCare Public Option:  
Sunday, December 10, 2023  
2:00 – 3:30 pm  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
1321 North Ave, Northfield

Could a public option for health care coverage be useful for someone you know? Are you concerned that a significant number of Minnesotans are struggling to pay for health care costs? Learn how you can advocate to bring positive change.

Minnesota has the chance to be a national leader in health care reform by putting a strong Public Option in place.

The MNCare Public Option bill, which passed in the 2023 MN legislative session, gives small business owners, farmers, young people just rolling off their parents’ insurance, and anyone who doesn’t have access to employer-based health insurance, access to high quality health care through MinnesotaCare. But it is not a done-deal; the bill it’s only the first step.

The 2024 legislative session will need to pass related bills as the Public Option moves into the implementation phase. Already the insurance industry is preparing to block these bills in an attempt to stop these critical reforms. We need to stand strong on behalf of ordinary people and ISAIAH is preparing to lead that effort.

Join this conversation with Rep. Kristi Pursell, Sen. Erin Murphy, and House Majority Leader Jamie Long to cast the full vision of a system where every Minnesotan gets the affordable health care they need, and strategize to make it a reality! Learn how you can advocate to make this reform a reality.

Register at <https://secure.everyaction.com/pKmwpxQVUESvRjxet52Ytg2> or contact Evelyn Burry ([evelynburry@hotmail.com](mailto:evelynburry@hotmail.com) or 507-581-4684) who can answer any questions and help you register.

This event is cohosted by ISAIAH and the Minnesota Farmers Union.



# Notes from the Parish Nurse

The holiday season can be a happy, joyous time of year filled with family activities, good food, and gift giving. But the holidays can also trigger depression or feelings of anxiety or sadness in individuals. There are many reasons for people to feel down around the holidays: loneliness, bereavement, stress, fatigue, SAD (seasonal affective disorder), financial problems, family tensions, or dementia. The latter reason is not talked about much but will be discussed now.

When one has a family member with dementia, it is important to plan holiday events carefully so as not to overwhelm the person.

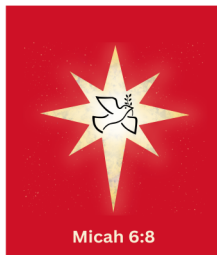
- Set realistic expectations for you and your loved one.
- Don't change the person's routine or the environment completely because it could cause increased confusion.
- Avoid candies, artificial fruits, and other edible decorations that might be mistaken for a snack.
- Avoid blinking lights on Christmas trees as they tend to increase confusion.
- Prioritize which traditions are most important to you and make modifications to them whenever possible. Rather than trying to take your loved one who has dementia to Christmas Eve services, read scripture and sing carols at home.
- Because a lot of noise and activity can increase confusion for a person with dementia, small, short gatherings throughout the holiday season might be better than one big party on Christmas Day.
- If you do have a large family gathering, have a quiet room available in which the person could rest away from the noise.
- Set holiday meal times early in the day as people with dementia get worn out as the day progresses.
- Help your loved one do Christmas shopping through a catalog rather than in noisy, crowded stores.
- If your loved one lives in a Care Center, it might be better to visit him/her there to share holiday festivities rather than to take the person out for a large party.

The Alzheimer's Association gives a list of gift ideas for a person who has dementia. The gifts vary depending on a person's interests and abilities.

- Taxi charge account for easy transportation
- CDs of special music
- Photo albums or homemade scrapbooks
- Safe Return identification bracelet through the Alzheimer's Association
- Dolls or stuffed animals to hold and cuddle
- Simple craft items, large colorful blocks, large plastic or wooden beads for stringing
- A bulletin board to hold family photos or special mementos
- Gift certificates for a hair salon, pharmacy or grocery store
- Washable clothing with large zipper pulls or Velcro closures
- Stationery with stamped envelopes and pre-printed address labels
- A calendar with bright colorful photos, large numbers, and special dates noted
- Favorite foods

The best gift for any person with dementia is frequent visits from family and friends.





**Methodists  
Investing in  
Care and  
Action for the  
HolyLand**



**Olive Oil for Sale**

Palestinian organic, fair trade,  
extra virgin olive oil.

**500 ml/16.5 oz for \$20.00**

**750 ml/25.4 oz. for \$25.00**

Now available in the church office

We are currently well stocked  
with olive oil.

*“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.” - Micah 6:8*

**FROM THE SHEPHERD SOCIETY** <https://shepherd-society.org/>

Due to political unrest and economic stagnation, the Bethlehem area has a high level of unemployment. In the past, many residents of Bethlehem found employment in Jerusalem. Now, there is a 24-foot high wall separating Bethlehem from Jerusalem. The wall has drastically reduced the number of workers from Bethlehem who are able to hold jobs in Jerusalem.

With the Family Sponsorship Program, you help the neediest families and you convey the message to residents of Bethlehem that they are not forgotten and that someone cares.

**MICAH'S NEW SPONSORED FAMILY**

We are sponsoring a family of four in Bethlehem. The father is a sales manager and the mother is a housewife. The two children are approaching middle school age at a private school. The father suffers from marrow cancer along with diabetes and blood pressure. The government health insurance does not cover all medical expenses

**MICAH'S PRAYER**

God of liberation, we come before you like the persistent widow pleading for justice. We continue with our prayers for all Palestinians in the West Bank who are undergoing immense violence. Comfort the bereaved families and heal the injured. Lord, liberate the Palestinians in the West Bank by ending the brutal occupation and colonization they experience. While we are overwhelmed by the ongoing suffering, we know that we must be courageous and act so that we may be witnesses to your kingdom. Lord, send your Holy Spirit to help us act for justice, mercy, liberation, and peace.

**REFLECTIONS ON THE BIRTHPLACE OF JESUS, BETHLEHEM, THEN AND NOW**



*Bethlehem at the birth of Jesus was a besieged city. Today Bethlehem is again a besieged city surrounded from three sides by a 25 foot high concrete wall. So what if Jesus were to be born today in Bethlehem? If Jesus were to be born this year, he would not be born in Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph would not be allowed to enter from the Israeli Checkpoint and so too the Magi. The Shepherds would be stuck inside the walls, unable to leave their little town. - Rev. Mitri Raheb*

*The first nativity scenes were live: real people depicting baby Jesus, Joseph, and Mary as well as a few live animals. Later statues were used; and now many homes use small figures in their creche- including the Wise Men and shepherds who would not have been in attendance at Jesus birth. What else might be different about our beloved nativity set we put up each Christmas? Consider the color of the people represented. Remember that Jesus was a Palestinian Jewish man and would not be the blue eyed blond we frequently see. It is possible to buy historically accurate nativity sets with clothing and coloring to the period making it more real. - Ann Richards*

*Nativity scenes: an intimate connection It strikes me that the nativity scene, while not a cozy, comfortable environment, is a type of intimate setting of a familiar time: the birth of a child. It can be a very memorable experience and one we may want to share with those closest to us. Traditional nativities don't include the grandparents from Seattle or Aunt Krista from Colorado with her camera, as mine would if I made a family creche representing the birth of my sons. The traditional creche display is mainly animals and their keepers (who were just nearby), magi and angels, none of whom seem to be of any special prior relation to Mary and Joseph. My question this season is, who would you include in your family creche? Who are the ones that are close to you, that you want around this time of year? And in the tradition of nativity displays, who could you include that is just nearby? - Jesse Steed*



United Women in Faith

## Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale - Dec. 3rd Being good stewards of \$ entrusted to us.

**United Women in Faith December - January Meeting Dates:**  
**December 4, 2023 & January 4, 2024 - UWF Executive Board meeting - 3:00 Fellowship Hall**  
**December 11, 2023 & January 8, 2024 - Esther Circle – 1:00 PM**  
Kildahl Park Pointe, 888 Cannon Valley Drive, Northfield, MN  
**Mugs and Muffins does not meet until the spring of 2024.**

Website: [UWFaith.org](http://UWFaith.org) – National UWFaith [mnconfumw.com](http://mnconfumw.com) – Minnesota UWFaith

### United Women in Faith Reading Program – See the Cart in NUMC Library

Curling up in a comfy chair with a good book is a special winter activity for me to do. Books transport me into another world of learning, travel, entertainment, and spiritual renewal. The United Women in Faith Reading Program has been enhancing the lives of women, men, youth, and children through the years. Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth are the five (5) categories the choices fall into. Adults, youth, and children of all ages can take part in the program. Books can be found in the NUMC library on the cart by the door. Youth and children’s books included.

Podcasts (i.e. audio version of Response magazine) and webinars (i.e. Faith Talks), voices from the field, movies, are also included so you do not even have to lift a book but turn on your audio “to stir your soul and explore how love in action changes the world with every episode.” (UWFaith.org Podcasts and Webinars)

When I start a UWFaith Reading Program book, I know that others have read it and recommended I take a closer look at it. As a reader I can also be a part of the 100 + volunteers who suggest and evaluate books for the reading list; or be a part of the 15 + discussion facilitators. All this is to help the eight (8) members of the Reading Program Committee read and choose the many selections for the year. This is a program supported by us, the readers. **HAPPY READING!!!** Submitted by Catherine Williams, UWFaith of NUMC President

**Emma Norton Residence, Restoring Waters**, is over 50% complete. Their capital campaign has raised \$2.7 million. There is \$1 million left of the \$3.75 million needed for completion. As church partners, we are asked to do our part to fill this gap. Contact Shawna Nelsen-Wills, Advancement Director at [snelsen@emmanorton.org](mailto:snelsen@emmanorton.org) or call 651-251-2632. Sneak preview: Dorothy is working on another **“Happy Hearts” quilt**. It is to be ready by May 2024. More information to follow.



### Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale.- December 3, 2023

Bring your items for the sale **to Lin Wolf**; OR bring them to the church 8:30 AM **the morning of December 3rd** to be priced and displayed that morning. Please do not leave them at the church beforehand. Proceeds for the church school bus! We are looking for homemade items you are willing to donate. Questions? Call or email Lin Wolf – 612-532-1467 or [lin\\_wolf@charter.net](mailto:lin_wolf@charter.net)

**Alliance Stamp Ministry** All types of cancelled postage stamps & **Stamp Collections** are accepted. Put them in the box in Fellowship Hall. This is an ongoing ministry.



# IT Tech Corner

By Jesse Steed

What are your new year's resolutions? Why not start by cleaning out your email inbox? If you're like most people, you use your inbox as a place to store information about special events and save PDFs and image files. If you currently have 2000+ email messages, it may be overwhelming to even start deleting anything because you have so many. Here are some basic ways to approach the cleansing of your digital space.

## 1) It's old and you're not using it.

Start with the oldest messages in your inbox. Your email program, whether Outlook, Yahoo, Gmail or whatever, has a way to sort your messages by date and show you the oldest ones. If it's been sitting in your inbox for a year or more, realistically speaking, it is not critical to your daily existence and you should consider deleting it immediately. If it is important to you in some way, you should copy the text to a document, either Word or Google Docs or your program of choice, and save it in an organized folder and file structure for future reflection. Do the same with any photos or attachments, just download them or transfer them to your cloud storage and be sure to name them something clear like "Jesse riding a motorcycle" (which would be truly remarkable) instead of 039272830.JPG.

## 2) It's an ad or spam

We get so many of these nowadays that they overwhelm our inbox and quickly establish a stronghold, preventing our brains from making decisions about what to keep and discard. Deleting emails that are clearly advertisements or spam should be a quick and painless way to free up some digital space and free your mind.

## 3) It's legit and important

These should be demanding your attention instead of falling into neglect, but it can still be challenging to get rid of important messages, usually because we know we have to respond or take some kind of action first. Send a reply, call the person, or commit to accomplishing the action needed in order to move past keeping the message. Delaying only allows other important emails to build a pile of "to do" that is not getting "to done."

Clearing out your inbox may take a lot of time, so start with a 20 minute power session and go from there. Commit to some basic habits of email organization so that 2024 will find you with a happier email inbox.

## Minnesota Methodists are Connected with Ukraine

Former southwest Minnesota District Superintendent Rev. Fred Vanderwerf works with "In Mission Together - Ukraine," a ministry of the General Board of Global Ministries of the UMC. He recently spent a few weeks in that invaded nation, including going to their national Methodist annual conference. At the conference one of the Methodist Church in Ukraine's two main goals endorsed was: **"Create two development centers in Ukraine to deal with the trauma of war:** The focus of the centers will be discipleship and leadership development." Watch a video, read about his travels, and learn how you can help: <https://www.minnesotaucmc.org/newsdetail/fredvanderwerf-updateonukraine-18131982>



**Regular  
Church Office Hours**  
Mon.– Thurs.,  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday - 8:00 - noon

## HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**The church office will be closed  
December 25 - January 1st  
for the Christmas break.**

**For emergency Pastoral care during this time  
please call the church office voice mail (507-645-5689) for instructions.**

**The church office will be closed January 15 in observance of  
Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday.**

## Mission Sewing Project

On November 19th, Mission Sewing presented Pastor Jerad with a Happy Hearts Quilt to be given to the Refugee Resettlement Project.

Mission Quilts also donated 30 quilts to Operation Joy.

We are working on items to donate to the Midwest Distribution Center. We will give more information about these items in the next newsletter.

Mission Sewing wants to thank everyone who helped us meet our goals this year: Peg Jones, Thalia Duffield, Connie Hehling, Ilsa Jones, Peg Jennings, Ruth Paulson, Jane Skluzacek, Marge Randolph, Ann Richards, Linda Davis, Catherine Williams, Martha Waddell, Kathy Lillevold, Mary Twitchell, Karen Groth, Merrell Thorton, Darlene Cox, Dorothy Orde.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 24th to tie quilts and discuss projects for 2024. We meet at 9AM in Room 120.



## Mugs and Muffins

Mugs and Muffins will not meet until March 18th. We take the winter months off. We will be continuing our study of the "Boys of the Bible Quilt Block Series."

New members and guests are always welcome.



## Who was actually in the Manger? Animals of the Nativity

Have you ever wondered about the animals in the nativity scene? Well I have (of course). Most representations of Jesus' birth show donkeys, cows, and sheep watching over the baby Jesus and a camel or two arriving with the Three Kings. But sometimes you come across other animals in the nativity and if you are like me, you might wonder why. The nativity scene, a universal symbol of the Christmas celebration, is open to interpretation across different cultures. One of the most interesting aspects of this is the inclusion of local animals based on geography. For example, in Italy the nativity scene often features dogs among the traditional animals. Dogs are associated with shepherds. They symbolize loyalty and vigilance. South American nativity scenes often include native animals such as llamas and alpacas, often used as pack animals and for their wool, celebrating the region's rich cultural heritage. African interpretations of the nativity scene may include zebras, lions, giraffes and elephants as a sign of strength alongside the traditional animals.



Do you include unique animals in your nativity scene? Do you have a non-traditional nativity scene? Besides a traditional nativity scene, I also have an all-dog nativity scene. Is anyone surprised? My nephew's family always has Barney the purple dinosaur in their nativity scene. When he was a little boy his parents always had the traditional nativity scene set up at Christmas time. He liked to play with the animals in it, which his parents were fine with as long as he always returned them to the nativity scene. One day his parents noticed that there was an addition to their nativity scene. A large purple Barney dinosaur had appeared in the manger. (see photo to left) Seems my nephew decided Barney needed to be watching over the manger. It became a Christmas tradition each year after that to have Barney in the nativity scene. It just wasn't

complete without Barney. This tradition continued as he grew up and to this day, my nephew who is now in his middle thirties with three kids of his own continues to place Barney in the nativity scene at Christmas. Barney in the manger holds a special childhood memory for him at Christmas.

There are many theories on which animals (if any) were at the birth of Jesus as well as their significance, symbolic or historical reason to have been there. The most famous ones are probably the donkey, oxen/cows, along with perhaps sheep and of course camels. Mary is thought to have rode to Bethlehem on a donkey which was a common mode of transportation for the poor in biblical times, thus a donkey would have more than likely been present. The oxen may have attracted the Holy Family into the manger with its bellowing and stories include it giving up eating its straw to provide a bed for Jesus in the manger. Cattle also became associated with the nativity scene after the late 19th century Christmas carol "Away in a Manger" and its phrase "the cattle were lowing." Since there were probably several shepherds in the area around Bethlehem at the time it's very possible there could have been sheep in the manger. Including sheep could also be a metaphor of Jesus as the Good Shepherd who guides and protects his flock. Camels, who are often included in the nativity scene with the Magi, or the Three Wise Men may symbolize the long and challenging journey undertaken from the East to witness the newborn Savior. They also add an element of historical accuracy as they would have been used for a mode of travel. We may at times find other barnyard animals included in the nativity scene such as horses, geese, pigs, chickens and other birds, as well as dogs and even cats. There are many beliefs around the existence of the various animals depicted in the nativity scene.

When I set out to research what animals were present in the manger at the birth of Jesus and their significance for this article, I expected to find very specific answers. That is not what I found at all. In fact, what I found was really a mystery in regard to the animals. Surprisingly (at least to me) the Bible doesn't specifically say if any animals were there. While there are references in other parts of the Bible to the "ox and ass", nowhere does it come right out and say, "Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem" or "an ox greeted Mary and Joseph in the manger". Scholars and historians have various theories on whether there even were any animals present, let alone which ones. What I found most interesting were the variety of animals depicted in nativity scenes based on geography. I guess I never thought about how different cultures around the world may envision different animals' importance at the birth of Jesus. Regardless of whether or not there were animals present or which animals were present, the one universal message of the nativity scene is the same everywhere...one of hope, peace, comfort and joy. Something animals tend to give effortlessly to humans all the time and something our current state of the world could really use right about now.



So, no matter if your nativity scene includes animals or not, the traditional donkey, ox and sheep or Barney the purple dinosaur; the message of the nativity scene is one I hope resonates with you this Christmas season. May we all find a little hope, peace, comfort and joy. Humans and animals alike. Sandy Vesledahl - Office Administrator

# Announcements

Join us for fellowship and coffee in the Fellowship Hall following worship every Sunday!

For Sunday 9:30 am livestreamed worship service, visit our website: [northfieldumc.org](http://northfieldumc.org)



## Aluminum Cans for Operation Backpack

Collect your aluminum cans and place in the container behind the church kitchen. All proceeds from the cans go towards Operation Backpack.

## Year End Giving Statements

The annual giving statements for 2023 will be mailed in January 2024.

If you would like a statement sent to you in the month of December to review before the end of the year please contact the church office at [northfieldumc@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldumc@gmail.com) to request a statement be either mailed or emailed to you.

Everyone will receive a final 2023 giving statement in January 2024.

## Card Making with Margie

Monday, December 18, 2023 and Monday, January 22, 2024  
2:30-4:00 pm, in classroom #120

Cost: \$10 to cover supplies.

Join Margie Brockton for a fun time of making greeting cards. She will have all the supplies needed.

Call 507-649-2324 to register.



## Snow Shoveling Volunteers Needed!

The facilities team needs sidewalk snow shoveling help on **Sundays** when there is a snow event.



We need two people for each Sunday. With folks traveling in the winter months we currently do not have enough of us to cover all Sundays. Please contact Kerry Hanson at 612-940-1395 if you are willing to help out.

## 2023 Contributions and Expense Reimbursements

All contributions intended for 2023 must be received in the church office prior to December 31st in order to be credited for 2023.

All expense reimbursement requests for items in 2023 must also be turned in to the church office prior to December 31st.

If you have questions, please contact Sandy in the church office at 507-645-5689.

## 2024 Offering Envelopes

Using your numbered offering envelopes helps the counters and the office correctly credit your contributions to you.



The 2024 offering envelopes will be available for pickup towards the middle of December. Watch for them on the table outside the church office. If you have not had numbered envelopes in the past and would like to receive some please contact Sandy in the church office at 507-645-5689.

Don't Miss the **DEADLINE!**

## February Herald Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the February issue of the Herald Newsletter is:

**Noon on Monday, January 22, 2024**

Please submit your items for the newsletter in a digital format (word document) to [northfieldumc@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldumc@gmail.com).

Late submissions will not be accepted.



# Because every picture has a story to tell...

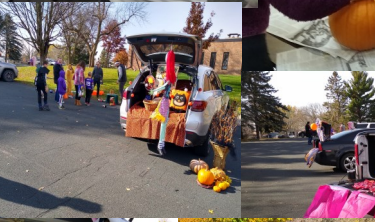


Kids of all ages making themselves at home on Super Wednesdays!

KC3 checks in over snacks!



Carving pumpkins, making a mess, and celebrating the joy of fellowship - our SALT (Serving and Learning Team) hosted the annual pumpkin carving party.



This years Trunk or Treat was a huge success! Thanks to all who brought their decorated cars, candy and costumes to share in the fun for children in our community!



What a blessing (after a far too long absence) to have both the Adult Choir and Handbell Choir in worship on November 19th! We're gonna sing when the spirit says SING!



# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 8:30 UWF Holiday Bazaar &amp; Bake Sale 9:30 Worship with Communion 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 1:30-4:00 SALT Parents Day out</p>	<p>4 3:00 UWF Board mtg. 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>5 9:00 Bible Study 12:30-2:00 Pastor Rachel Coffee shop hours Caribou Coffee 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile</p>	<p>6 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 5:30 Shared Meal 6:00 Adult Choir 6:30 Youth Bowling 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Open Gym</p>	<p>7 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile</p>	<p>1 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>2 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p> <p>9 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>10 Children's Bible Sunday 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 6:00-8:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>11 10:00 MICAH mtg. 10:00-11:30 Community Reservation 1:00 Esther Circle - Kildahl 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>12 9:00 Bible Study 12:30-2:00 Pastor Rachel Coffee shop hours Caribou Coffee 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile</p>	<p>13 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday Roast Beef Dinner 3:30-5:30 Christmas Pageant rehearsal 5:30 Shared Meal 6:30 Christmas Pageant 6:30 Open Gym Handbell Choir and Adult Choir check with your leaders for rehearsal info.</p>	<p>14 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile</p>	<p>15 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>16 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>17 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>18 2:30 Card Making with Margie 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>19 9:00 Bible Study 12:30-2:00 Pastor Rachel Coffee shop hours Caribou Coffee 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile 7:00 Facilities Team Mtg.</p>	<p>20 9:00 Mission Sewing No Super Wednesday 4:00 Advent Service of Peace &amp; Healing St. Peter's Lutheran Church</p>	<p>21 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile 7:00 Renewal via zoom</p>	<p>22 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>23 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>24 9:30 am Christmas Eve Worship with Communion 10:30 am Coffee in Fellowship Hall 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship 10:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship</p>	<p>25 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation No Super Wednesday Church Office Closed</p>	<p>28 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>29 8:00 Men's Breakfast Church Office Closed</p>	<p>30 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>31 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>2 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile</p>	<p>3 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation No Super Wednesday</p>	<p>4 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile 3:00 UWF Board Mtg.</p>	<p>5 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>6 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>

# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	1 <b>Church Office Closed</b>	2 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	3 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation <b>No Super Wednesday</b>	4 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile 3:00 UWF Board Mtg.	5 8:00 Men's Breakfast	6 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation
7 9:30 Worship with Communion 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	8 10:00 MICAH mtg. 1:00 Esther Circle - Kildahl 7:00 Community Reservation	9 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	10 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation <b>Super Wednesday</b> 3:30 KC3 5:30 Shared Meal 6:00 Adult Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Open Gym	11 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	12 8:00 Men's Breakfast	13 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation
14 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 6:00-8:00 Community Reservation	15 <b>Church Office Closed</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday</b> 7:00 Community Reservation	16 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	17 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation <b>Super Wednesday</b> 3:30 KC3 5:30 Shared Meal 6:00 Adult Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Open Gym	18 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile 7:00 Renewal via zoom	19 8:00 Men's Breakfast	20 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation
21 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	22 2:30 Card Making with Margie <b>Noon - Herald Newsletter Deadline</b> 7:00 Community Reservation	23 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	24 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation <b>Super Wednesday</b> 3:30 KC3 5:30 Shared Meal 6:00 Adult Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Open Gym	25 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	26 8:00 Men's Breakfast	27 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation
28 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	29 7:00 Community Reservation	30 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 9:00 Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	31 9:00 Mission Sewing 11:30-1:00 Community Reservation <b>Super Wednesday</b> 3:30 KC3 5:30 Shared Meal 5:30 NUMC Board mtg. 6:00 Adult Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Open Gym	1 8:30-10:00 Playtime for Toddlers 12:00 Community Reservation 2:00-4:00 Methodist Mile	2 8:00 Men's Breakfast	3 8:30-11:00 Community Reservation

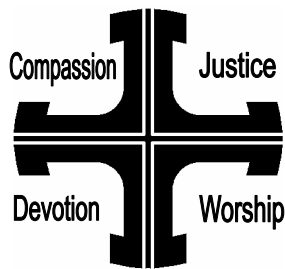
**NORTHFIELD  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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*Offering Christ*

**E - NEWSLETTER  
SIGN UP**



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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Church Staff**

Pastors	Rev. Rachel McIver Morey Rev. Jerad Morey
Parish Nurse	Ruth Kruse
Office Administrator	Sandy Vesledahl
Child Care Provider	Kathryn Steed
Children's Ministry	Gregory Ennis
NUMC Band	Dave Miller
Handbell Choir Director	Kathy Szydlo
Adult Choir	Deborah Rae Miller
Custodian	Arturo Rosas Avila
Information & Worship Technology Consultant	Jesse Steed
Treasurer	David Wolf (Volunteer)
Retired Clergy: Wayne Abdella, Carl Caskey, Richard Collman, Jeanne Martin, Dick Waters, Mary Keen, Gordon Orde, Clay Oglesbee, Melvin Henrichs, Dana Hauck	