

United Methodist Herald

August 2025



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August Worship

August 3, 2025

Celebration of Holy Communion

Youth Mission Trip Blessing

1 John 4:1-12

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

August 10, 2025

Mark 2:13-17, Luke 19:1-9, John 13:33-35

Guest Preacher Richard Waters

August 17, 2025

1 Kings 19:1-15a

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

August 24, 2025

2 Kings 5:1-17

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

August 31, 2025

Hebrews 13:1-8

Pastor Donna Dempewolf



Message from the Pastor

Ordinary Time: Co-Creating with the Spirit

"Ordinary Time challenges us to live our faith in the long stretches of the mundane, to find God in the daily, the overlooked, the slowly transforming."

—Debie Thomas, *Journey with Jesus*

Ordinary Time is anything but ordinary. It stretches across two long seasons in the church year—the first beginning after Epiphany Day and ending the day before Ash Wednesday, and the second starting after Pentecost and continuing until the start of Advent. Marked by the color green—the color of growth, renewal, and unfolding life—Ordinary Time invites us to tend to our faith, deepen our spiritual roots, and discover the sacred in the rhythms of daily living.

This summer, our sanctuary reflects that invitation through new pulpit and altar paraments that stir the imagination and awaken the spirit. With shapes that evoke leaves twisting and reaching like prayer, and wind and waves that echo time and movement, these banners remind us that the Spirit still stirs—shaping us, molding us, and inviting us to co-create with the Divine.

We each carry gifts—charisms—that are uniquely ours to offer. Whether through art, service, leadership, compassion, advocacy, or curiosity, the Spirit equips us all to participate in God's renewing work. Our worship space itself is a testimony to that truth, made more beautiful through the creative gifts of fabric artist Judi Severson and the ongoing imagination of our faithful visuals team.

And the Spirit's movement isn't limited to the sanctuary. This season, we celebrate the many ways our church is alive with faith and joy:

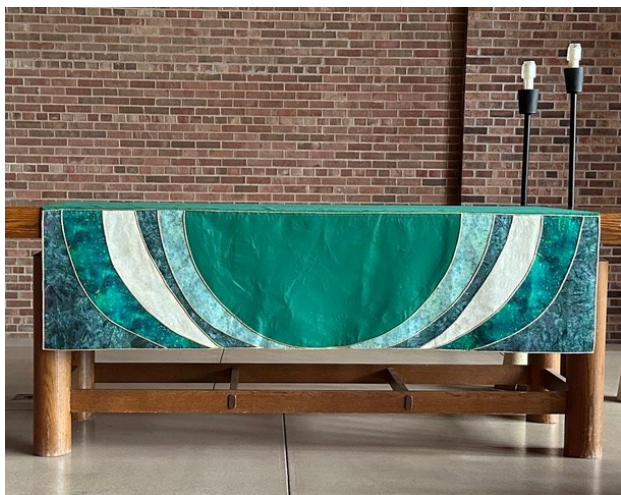
August 3–8: Our youth will travel to Kansas to serve, grow, and experience God's presence in new ways. Please keep them in your prayers as they embody Christ's love through hands-on mission and ministry.

August 10, 5–7:30 p.m.: Families are invited to a **Movie Night** featuring *How to Train Your Dragon*—a story of courage, friendship, and discovery. We'll share pizza, popcorn, an ice-breaker game, and a special welcome for rising 6th graders as they meet our Youth Director, Kristen Twitchell.

August 23, 1–4 p.m.: Celebrate summer's end at **Summer Splash!** There'll be a slip-n-slide, water balloons, bounce house, and cold treats for all ages—an intergenerational afternoon of fun, fellowship, and joy. Invite your neighbors and neighborhood children!

Together, may we continue to grow—rooted in grace, filled with wonder, and open to the Spirit's creative leading. In the green and growing days of Ordinary Time, may we see that God is still speaking, still calling, and still co-creating life and love through us all.

Blessings,
Donna





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

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 or by emailing northfieldumc@gmail.com.

General Fund YTD 2025 contributions \$147,458.88
General Fund YTD 2024 contributions \$148,960.96
General Fund YTD Budget 2025 \$162,500.02

How to make tithes and offerings

You can make your tithes and offerings other ways as well:

1. Donate online using a credit card, by clicking on the GiveMN tab on the church website northfieldumc.org.
2. Drop a check in the offering basket during in person worship.
3. Mail a check to: Northfield United Methodist Church
1401 S. Maple St., Northfield, MN 55057

General Fund June 2025 contributions \$19,638.15
General Fund June 2024 contributions \$10,996.66

Treasurer's Report for June 2025

General Fund

The CRB checking account balance at the end of June was \$41,891.34 compared to May's balance of \$60,323.48. Significant facility insurance payments totaling \$16,606.51 were made in June which contributed to most of the change. January, February and March apportionments of \$4,106.50 each were previously paid. April and May apportionments will be paid by mid-July.

Monthly Offering Income for June was \$19,638.15. YTD Actual Offering Income was \$147,458.88; \$1,501.12 less than YTD Last Year and \$15,041.12 less than YTD Budget of \$162,500.00. Other Income Totals for June of \$2,304.41 came from Interest Income and Regular Facility Usage. Thus, General Fund Income Total for June was \$21,942.56. General Fund YTD Actual Income was \$160,682.84; \$1,692.91 less than YTD Last Year, and \$19,090.16 less than the YTD Budget of \$179,780.00.

Monthly Expenses for June totaled \$42,839.71. YTD Actual Expense Totals were \$222,575.60; \$7,353.97 less than the YTD Budget of \$229,929.57. YTD expenses exceed income by \$61,892.76 which is \$11,743.21 more than was budgeted for the end of June 2025.

Physical Plant

Monthly income (Support from General Fund) for June was \$24,653.43. In February \$18,000 was withdrawn from the Building Maintenance Endowment Fund to help pay planned expenses associated with the kitchen, dining room and main floor bathroom cabinet upgrades at the parsonage. In May a total of \$21,043.37 was withdrawn from the Building Maintenance Endowment Fund; \$11,000 to help pay for annual gap (excess wind and hail) insurance; and, annual interest income of \$10,043.37. YTD Actual Income was \$116,725.49; \$74,035.33 from General Fund Support for Physical Plant, \$2,665.00 from continuing contributions to the Building Fund, \$18,981.79 from Other Building Contributions, and \$21,043.37 from the Building Maintenance Endowment. YTD Actual Expenses were \$97,141.33 which leaves a positive balance of \$19,584.16. Significant facility insurance payments totaling \$16,606.51 were made in June; \$11,399.08 to Lamb Insurance Services for annual excess wind and hail coverage and \$5,207.43 to Church Mutual for initial 3 months of church and parsonage coverage.

Endowment Funds

At the beginning of January 2025, the total value of the four endowment funds was \$742,577.34. In February \$199,046.17 from the Jim Finholt Estate was deposited into the Undesignated Endowment Fund and \$18,000 was withdrawn from the Building Maintenance Endowment Fund to pay for the estimated costs of the parsonage kitchen cabinet remodel. In May \$11,000 was withdrawn from the Building Maintenance Endowment Fund to help pay for the annual gap insurance. In May 3% of the end of April balances in the Sather Missions, Sather Scholarship and Building Maintenance Funds, a total of \$24,885.79, was also withdrawn. Thus, the YTD Balance at the end of June (including market value fluctuations and fees) was \$940,046.61 which shows a YTD gain of \$197,469.27.

2025 MN Annual Conference Delegate Report

From June 11-13, 2025, nearly 500 Methodists from across Minnesota descended on the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center to worship, learn, discern our shared future, and celebrate what God is doing through us. The theme of this year's conference, "Created to Love Boldly," draws on 1 John 4, especially verses 17-21. The three days were filled with inspiring worship services and music, valuable teaching and learning opportunities, times for shared remembrance and reflection, uplifting celebrations of the Life of Ministry, and, of course, deliberations on legislation and budget matters. Bishop Lanette Plambeck presented the new vision statement for the denomination, developed through collaboration of the Council of Bishops and Connectional Table: "The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections." This vision flows out from our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In her Episcopal Address, Bishop Plambeck urged us to lean into "the reckless, unrelenting grace of God" when the world around us seems bent on despair. In the bishop's reflection on the word "hallelujah," she encouraged us to be a people who love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously. Rev. Dr. Tim Eberhart, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, offered two teaching sessions in which he used the metaphor of "fire seeds," ones that need fire to break their dormancy and bring new life, to encourage us to engage in renewal through active discipleship, social holiness, lifelong learning, radical equality, and a bold, embodied belief that God is love. This year's conference preacher, Rev. Matt Sipe, Hilltop UMC-Mankato, reminded us that in a world filled with division, fear, and hopelessness, the gospel teaches us that lament and sweetness can coexist. In the session reserved for laity, three lay co-leaders reminded lay people that they are called to ministry through our baptism. A new Board of Lay Ministry is in the process of being established to equip and enable lay persons to be in mission and ministry in all aspects of life.

Celebration of Life in Ministry: In a very moving worship service, 15 clergy entering retirement were honored for their years of dedication. In addition, the celebration of life in ministry included one pastor ordained as a deacon, five ordained as elders, five commissioned as provisional pastors (a step on the way to ordination), one recognized as an elder in full connection from another denomination, and five authorized to serve as local pastors in the congregations and ministry areas in which they are appointed. In addition, the bishop planned to travel to Pennsylvania to ordain Richard Huskey who, due to illness, was unable to attend the conference. In 1977, after Huskey disclosed that he was gay while in process to become an elder, the Minnesota Conference discontinued his orders. After the 2024 General Conference removed the denomination's decades-long ban on gay clergy, Huskey requested to be ordained and was approved by the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

Love Offering for Missions: As of the end of Annual Conference, churches across the state had together given \$57,615 in Love Offering. This year's recipients are: United Methodist-related Africa University for student scholarships (30%), Immigration Law and Justice Network (30%), OC Ministries, which ministers to children around the world (20%), and Midwest Mission, a depot in the United Methodist Committee on Relief supply network (20%).

Legislation and Other Business: Three resolutions were passed by hand vote: 1) Promote Creation Care Every local church, charge, cluster, or district is urged to create a "green team" or strengthen an existing one for action in four areas each year – worship, education, practice, and advocacy. 2) Eliminate Racial Covenant Language from property deeds, discriminatory laws from city/county books Examine church property deeds/personal/business property deeds, as well as the books in their respective municipalities and counties, for discriminatory language/laws and have them removed. 3) Creation of a Study to Alleviate the Church Insurance Crisis Minnesota Conference Board of Trustees is directed to study measures taken by the United Methodist Insurance Program, the Northern Illinois Conference, and other entity-developed options including a collective, reserve pool for local church insurance deductible payments. Two resolutions were passed by ballot: 1) Ethnic Cleansing in Gaza and the West Bank By a ballot vote of 244-20, annual conference members adopted a resolution that publicly opposes the U.S. presidential administration's rejection of a plan for the reconstruction of Gaza, as endorsed by Arab leaders, and denounced the proposed plan for the U.S. to "take over" and own" the Gaza Strip. 2) U.S. Humanitarian Aid to Gaza By a ballot vote of 253-12, members approved a resolution affirming that withholding humanitarian aid to those in need is antithetical to the Gospel message and opposing the actions of the U.S. government to withhold aid from the people of Gaza at a time when essentials needed for basic survival are unattainable for many.

The 2026 Apportioned Budget totaling \$4,965,615, with an uncollectible contingency of \$375,000, for a total apportioned budget of \$5,340,615, an increase of \$48,636 over 2025, was approved by hand vote. Compass Retirement Plan for Clergy: Automatic Enrollment Contribution in the Compass retirement plan for clergy, set at 4% of participant compensation when the plan takes effect January 1, 2026, was approved by voice vote.

continued on next page

Vote to Ratify Four Constitutional Amendments passed by General Conference in 2024: Amendments must be ratified by 2/3 of the total voting members of all United Methodist annual conferences combined to become church law. Amendments are related to: 1) Worldwide regionalization 2) Inclusion in membership 3) Racial justice 4) Educational requirements for voting rights. The results of our conference's votes, and the votes of other annual conferences, will not be shared publicly in an effort to protect the integrity of the worldwide voting process. The results will be announced Nov. 7, 2025, by the Council of Bishops.

At the close of worship on June 13, Bishop Plambeck announced that the Minnesota Conference has been selected to host the General Conference in 2028.

It was a privilege to serve as delegate from the Northfield United Methodist Church at the annual conference this year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Submitted by: Jolene Barjasteh, Lay Delegate to the MN Annual Conference

Adult Forum

Adult Faith Formation Plans for NUMC 2025-2026

From Tim Goodwin and Rev. Clay Oglesbee, Facilitators for Adult Faith Formation

Sunday Worship: The congregation will offer a combination of short-term sermon series and lectionary-based worship, based on liturgical seasons and teaching and/or preaching themes. Nearly every Sunday will include special invitations to climate action, acts of compassion and justice, and spiritual practice encouragement notes, themes or emphasis, provided by the Creation Care Team, and other teams and committees.

Adult Discipleship Classes (most meet 10:30 AM on Sundays): We are expanding and deepening our discipleship ministries by launching a full schedule of classes and small groups for all adults from September 14 to May 2026. We will invite all to full and active 21st century Wesleyan discipleship, particularly in the areas of intergenerational connection, worship, climate crisis and social justice, and spiritual life and practices. Our plans for Fall Classes up to the beginning of Advent appear below.

Creation Care Team (CCT): During the next 12-15 months, Creation Care and Climate action will be a priority commitment of our congregation for adult discipleship in collaboration with Rev. Dr. Timothy Eberhart's pilot program for several United Methodist churches in the Upper Midwest Region. We will study and take action on climate concerns and care of creation.

Gatherings of the CCT will be announced later this year. These ordinarily take place during mid-week or Sundays in three seven-session teaching series. Both the global General Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Minnesota Annual Conference have strongly encouraged formation and activation of such "Green Teams" in every congregation.

Fall Schedule—Church School Launch and End of Pentecost

9/14 **Celebration Sunday** –Intergenerational Activities (no separate adult classes)

Creation Care Team (CCT): Training for this team only; church classes begin in Advent.

Fall Schedule TBD, Weekly training and preparation gatherings for the CCT in cooperation with the Center for Ecological Regeneration and other climate action groups)

Understanding the Revised Social Principles 2025-2028: What new social ministry guidance has been adopted during the denomination's reorganization? (Facilitator: Clay Oglesbee)

- 9/21 The Community of All Creation
- 9/28 The Economic Community
- 10/5 The Political Community
- 10/12 The Social Community

Spirituality of the Arts: What values, spirituality and emotions go into the creative work of artists? (Facilitator: Tim Goodwin)

- 10/19 Spirituality of the Visual Artist: Two guest artists will speak.
- 10/26 Spirituality of Writing and Theatre: Two guest authors will speak.
- 11/2 Spirituality of the Church Musician (Organists): Richard Collman and Joanne Rodland

Social Concerns (Facilitator: Darlene Cox)

- 11/9 Justice for Palestine: Joan Deming (Darlene Cox)
- 11/16 Israel and Palestinians: Bob Goonin (Darlene Cox)
- 11/23 Reconciling Ministries: Ellie Krug

FAMILY ministry

Coming this Fall: Fun, Faith, and Food for All!

Beginning this fall, Wednesday nights at NUMC will take on a new rhythm—Fun, Faith, and Food for All! We're embracing an intergenerational approach to ministry that brings people of all ages together through structured and free play, creative activities, storytelling, and shared snacks and meals.

Our elementary-aged children remain at the heart of this after-school ministry, supported by two engaging curricula—GenOn Ministries and A Joyful Path.

As part of this transition, Gregory Ennis will be stepping away from his current role. We are deeply grateful for the time he has shared with us and for the care he has shown our children.

Pastor Donna will serve as the interim point person as we continue to discern the best path forward for this initiative.

We invite your insight, prayers, and participation as we move into this next season. If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, we'd love to hear from you!

Donna Dempewolf, Pastor
Sara Newberg, SPRC Liaison

Upcoming Events!

Children's Ministry

Sunday, August 10 from 5:00–7:00 p.m. – Movie Night

Come for pizza, popcorn, and a family-friendly movie. Rising 6th graders will also have a chance to meet our Youth Director, Kristen Twitchell.

Sunday, August 23, 1:00-4:00 pm - Back to School

Summer Splash Party

Let's wrap up the summer with water fun for all ages with a slip'n slide, water balloons, a bounce house, and more!

Beginning Wednesday, September 17

from 3:30-5:30 pm

Fun, Faith and Food for All!

Watch for more details!

Youth Ministry

Saturday, August 2 - Cub Foods Youth Fundraiser

Please let me know if your youth is available to help, even if they aren't going on the trip. It's still a fun way to hang with youth group friends and support service opportunities.

August 3-8 - Youth Mission Trip to Kansas City

August 3: Mission Trip commissioning/blessing during 9:30 am worship. If you are in town, please consider coming to support our youth as they prepare to leave on their trip.

Youth Group Email/Text List

Please be on the lookout for upcoming August dates!

If you or your youth would like to be added to our chat group, please email their/your phone number or text it with the name and number to 507-676-3600 or if you would like added to our email group contact:
youth@northfieldumc.org.





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

*“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*

**Save the date!
Brick Oven Bakery
Fundraiser
October 4, 2025**



Olive Oil for Sale
Palestinian organic, fair trade,
extra virgin olive oil.
750 ml/25.4 oz. for \$30.00

A Land With A People book report.

By Bruce Benson

A Land With A People was recommended as a good book for a discussion group. I thought I could check it out and I was blown away. A Land With A People Palestinians and Jews Confront Zionism. A collection of personal stories, history, poetry, and art was edited by Esther Farmer, Rosalind Petchesky, and Sarah Sills. It was published in 2021.

The book begins with an explanatory Forward and Preface followed by a concise history of Zionism and the conflict in Palestine titled Zionism's Twilight, Colonial Dreams, Racist Nightmares, Liberated Futures. Petchesky wrote the history and it is an impressive job. After the history is clarified there comes the personal stories, artworks, photos, and poetry.

This section began as a storytelling project of Jewish Voice for Peace-New York City. Angela Davis wrote in her review of the book, "In giving us everyday narratives of Palestinian courage and resilience, alongside accounts of a growing Jewish resistance to Zionism, the book offers a collective story of fierce struggles against racism and apartheid". These stories of struggle and resistance gave me a bit of hope after 21 months of war.

There is a timeline charting 150 years of Palestinian and Jewish resistance to Zionism. This book tied together all the other books I've read on the Nakba. It will be available in the Church library.

Last month's questions:

How would you define apartheid?

Our answer: Apartheid isn't just a word for the history books, it is happening before our very eyes in Palestine/Israel today. Apartheid in Palestine/Israel is the total domination of the Palestinians by the Israeli government.

MICAH's Question Of The Month: Where does apartheid exist today?

Look for MICAH's answer next Herald, along with a new question of the month for reflection.

Dear Friends,

The message below is from UMKR, and I am sharing it with you because I hope you would like to support an important piece of church legislation adopted by General Conference in 2024. Please sign the Wespeth petition and also spread the word - share the petition widely!

In peace,

MICAH Team

<https://umkr.salsalabs.org/wespathpetition2025/index.html>



URGENT UPDATE FROM PALESTINE/ISRAEL

The famine in Gaza is escalating to unprecedented levels, with only one or two weeks predicted left before mass numbers of civilians start dying from hunger and thirst. Trucks that could feed the entire population of Gaza for three months are currently blocked from entry by Israel.

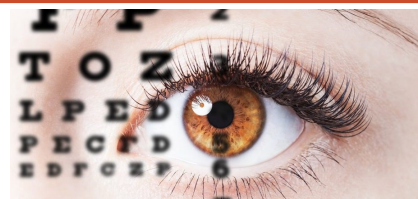
Holy God, we have no more words to describe the evils that we are witnessing. Our hearts are shattered by the cries of the hungry and the silence of the world around them. We plead with you from the depths of our grief, brokenness, and anger. Yet even in this darkness, we turn to you, because there is nowhere else to turn. God of justice, God of the oppressed, give the people of Gaza both their daily bread that you have promised and help us to lift this inhumane siege.





Notes from the Parish Nurse

Are you remembering to wear sun glasses when you are outside in the bright summer sunlight? It is important to do so because excessive exposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun can increase one's risk of developing cataracts. Sun glasses need to block at least 99% of UV rays. Wearing a hat or cap will also help to protect a person's eyes.



A cataract is NOT a growth, but a clouding of the clear lens in one's eye. The lens, which is composed of water and proteins, lets light through with minimal distortion, but with age the proteins can clump together. When this happens, less light can get through and vision is affected.

Age-related cataracts start small and may develop in one or both eyes. At first they cause no symptoms, but with time they might cause glare, blurring, double vision, poor night vision, dull color vision, worsening nearsightedness, sensitivity to light, halos around lights, or need for a brighter reading light. Cataracts don't typically cause change in the appearance of one's eyes. Signs and symptoms such as pain, redness, itching, or irritation aren't symptoms of a cataract, but could signify other eye disorders.

Everyone is at risk for developing cataracts sometime, because age is the single greatest risk factor. By age 65 one has a 50 percent chance of having the beginning of a cataract. By age 75, 70 percent of Americans have cataracts. Other factors that increase one's risk of having cataracts are diabetes, family history of cataracts, smoking, or previous eye injury or surgery.

It is important for all of us to have routine eye exams by a qualified eye specialist. Until age 65, one needs to have an eye exam every two to four years. After the age of 65, exams should be every one to two years, but be sure to have any new eye problems checked right away.

Cataracts cannot be cured with medications or dietary supplements. Surgery to remove the clouded lens is the only effective treatment and it should be done when the cataract interferes with vision. During the procedure, a clear intraocular lens (IOL) is usually implanted after the natural lens is removed. At one time cataract surgery was considered complicated and risky, but now it is considered one of the most common, and safest surgeries performed in the United States.

Unless one has other medical conditions that need monitoring, it is customary to go home right from the recovery room. Postoperative care includes administering the following eye drops: antibiotic (to prevent infection), steroid (to reduce inflammation), and/or NSAID (for discomfort); having a 1 day post-op eye exam and a 1 week post-op eye exam. Returning to daily activities, driving, and working can resume in just a few days. Depending on the type of lens that was implanted, one might see better immediately or certainly within a few weeks. Eventually more than 98 percent of people have improved vision.

Sites referenced: www.ao.org www.ascrs.org www.preventblindness.org



Isaiah 1:17 (NRSV)

*"Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan, plead for the widow."*

On Sunday, July 20 we celebrated the 170th anniversary founding of our church. It was that same year, 1855, that John Wesley North is credited with the founding of Northfield. Both the founder of the church, Mr. McKinley and the founder of Northfield, Mr. North, were Christians. They both held deep belief and conviction that to be Christian means to be connected to the well-being of the wider community. For Mr. North, who had trained at a Methodist seminary, this meant that he needed to stand against slavery, for women's rights and for temperance. These were not necessarily popular opinions in the church or at the time. However, he committed his life to this, and in Northfield and elsewhere, he actively worked to end slavery and to advocate for the dignity of all.

As I listened to a sermon about this, I thought about the work of Isaiah. The focus of the work of Isaiah is for the well-being of all. We stand on the shoulders of these leaders of 170 years ago. They set our precedent of social engagement. Today, Isaiah is concerned about legislation that will disproportionately affect children and the elderly. Our action has been to stand against the budget bill that was recently passed. We held a prayer walk in Faribault. You can read about it in the Wednesday, July 9 Northfield News.

Calls to the state representatives did not have the result we hoped for, yet we continue to work on behalf of those who will be harmed and negatively affected. In addition to the prayer walk there have been house meetings to learn of matters that are important to rural residents, and research visits with local officials. I invite you to join Isaiah in its actions. please let me know if you would like to be added to the action list to be informed of upcoming activities. —Mary Lynn Oglesbee



Mugs and Muffins

Mugs and Muffins will meet on August 18th to continue our study of "Boys of the Bible" Quilt Blocks. The men we will be studying are Lamech, Enoch, Gideon, Balaam, and Samson. We meet the church library at 9 AM. New members and visitors are always welcome.



Mission Sewing Project

In June, Pastor Donna helped us by bringing a box to Annual Conference that would go in the Midwest Mission Distribution Truck. The box contained 19 onesies, 50 layette jackets, 16 receiving blankets, and 9 diapers. A big thank you to Peg Jennings who made the layette jackets and to all the other sewers who are helping by sewing diapes and receiving blankets. This is an ongoing project of Mission Sewing. Mission Sewing is busy working on meeting goals for 2025. Our goal is to do 35 quilts for Operation Joy. We have completed 22 quilts. We are always looking for more people to help meet our goals. Our next meeting to tie quilts will be on August 27th. We meet at 9AM in Room 120.



IT Tech Corner By Jesse Steed

Let's get graphic, as in, graphic design. Tools like Canva greatly simplify the process of producing flyers, posters, thumbnails, even videos and more. NUMC uses Canva for Teams on [Canva.com](https://www.canva.com), and NUMC committee members are welcome to join and make use of the thousands of professional templates and vast library of images. Create high quality PDFs, PowerPoint slides, and MP4 video slideshows to showcase the work of your ministry.

If you can imagine it, Canva can do it. Probably. I mean, it has a huge app integration section that pulls in your content from other cloud sources like Google Drive, Google Photos, Instagram, Jotform, and plenty of AI enhancements that cover text, image generation, and loads of inspiration.

When you need high quality content for your ministry, use [Canva.com](https://www.canva.com) to reach your audience with your message. Contact me for any help along the way.

Ring Them Bells!

The Handbell Choir is in need of a few more ringers. We are looking for people who:

- ◆ like being part of a fun, welcoming group
- ◆ can read (or are willing to learn) basic music notation
- ◆ like to laugh a lot

We rehearse most Wednesday evenings from September through May, and play during church services once every month or so.

For more information, contact Kathy Szydlo at szydlo@q.com





United
Women
in Faith

Sole Care - Ladies Day Apart at NUMC
September 27, 2025
NUMC Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale 11/16/25

United Women in Faith - Meeting Dates

August 4, 2025 – UWF Executive Board meeting – 10:00 AM in Room 120.

September 8, 2025 - Esther Circle – Kildahl, 888 Cannon Valley Drive. **No summer meetings.**

August 18, 2025 – Mugs and Muffins – Church Library – 9:00 am Third Monday of the month

National Website www.UWFaith.org

New Minnesota Website www.uwfaithmn.com

Sole Care Ladies Day Apart 2025 – Northfield Ecumenical Women from Northfield churches are invited to join us for our 2025 day apart. “Sole Care is part of an event for enrichment and is a pathway to connect with new women focused on giving care to the whole person – mind, body, and spirit. Spiritual Growth includes a unique and meaningful experience to stretch our thinking and increase our awareness of [God’s] presence in our life. Join in to explore nurturing the whole self. Come to experience connections with new women, self-care, and spiritual rejuvenation.” (source: UWFaith.org)

Northfield UMC Sole Care Day Apart Saturday, September 27, 2025

9:30 Registration – 10:00 Welcome & Speaker – 11:00 Special Presentation

12:00 to 1:00 PM Salad Lunch Northfield United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

River Bluffs Area’s Fall Annual UWFaith Gathering will be hosted by Stewartville United Women in Faith Saturday, **September 13, at Stewartville UMC** - 900 John Welsey Avenue, NW, Stewartville, MN 55976

River Bluffs Gathering morning speaker will be **Brittany Radford, our MN Conference UMC’s director of Racial Equity and Justice.** After lunch **Brenda Blair** will update us on **Project Mondema in Sierra Leone.** We will honor our departed sisters with a Remembrance Service. Everyone is invited to attend! Registration information will be on the conference website after August 1 (<http://www.uwfaithmn.com>). As United Women in Faith, we are called to put our faith into action in everything we do, wherever we are, individually and together. All of us must answer this call! Jane Baker, UWFaith River Bluffs President. Contact Catherine Williams or Thalia Duffield for more information.

Quilting and Sewing Group – Work has started on our 35 quilts for Christmas Joy! Women are meeting most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in the sewing room #120. The whole group meets once a month on the fourth (4th) Wednesday. You do not need sewing skills to help with this mission project.

Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale November 16, 2025 – We welcome the creations of men, women, and younger crafters to fill out the offerings for this sale. When you are making your crafts for family and friends, please make an extra five (5) or so to donate to this mini Holiday Bazaar. Knitting, sewing, woodworking, painting, decoupage, crocheting, other crafts you are willing to give for sale are all welcome. Monies go to the UWFaith general budget which is passed on to UWFaith Minnesota conference and then on to national for world mission. Keep the buzz going! Questions? Call or email Lin Wolf – 612-532-1467 or lin_wolf@charter.net Bring your craft offerings to Lin after November 1st.

Alliance Stamp Ministry: All types of cancelled postage stamps and stamp collections are accepted. Put them in the box in Fellowship Hall.

Spend some time reading the great books in the UWFaith reading library this summer. Find them on the cart to the left in our church library. Children and youth books are there too.

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



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.

Super Wednesday Community Meals

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped provide another season of meals and fellowship on Wednesday evenings. It takes a dedicated crew each week. Super Wednesday meals will return on September 17th!



Summer Church Office Hours
Mon.– Thurs.,
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday – closed

Contribution Statements Available



If you would like a statement of your 2025 contributions to the church for the first half of the year please contact Sandy in the church office at: northfieldumc@gmail.com or 507-645-5689 and one will be emailed to you.

NORTHFIELD NOONTIME ORGAN RECITALS

18th Season – Seven Recitals
Wednesdays, 12:15 to 12:45 pm

August 6 – Joanne Rodland, Organ; Donna Paulsen, Piano, United Methodist Church, 1401 S. Maple St.
August 13 – Stephen May, First United Church of Christ, 300 Union St.

Some recitals will include a free-will offering to defray publicity expenses. For more information, contact Richard Collman at 507-645-1357 or email rkcollman@msn.com.

Remember to reserve your meeting space at the church!

As you can see by the calendar the NUMC campus is a very busy place and as fall programming starts back up will be even busier! If you are **planning a church meeting or event** please make sure that you reserve your space on line at northfieldumc.org.

Click on “reserve a room” and fill in the blanks.

Without a reservation we cannot guarantee the space you want will be available or will have the HVAC turned on.

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

September Herald Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September issue will be:

Noon on Wednesday, August 20, 2025

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

THANK you

Northfield United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for the \$1000 scholarship to help with my college!

I am very grateful to be selected, and can't wait to attend Oklahoma State in the fall.

Thanks again!
Maria Hegland

Because every picture has a story to tell...



Fun at the ballpark! Come on out Sunday nights to cheer on our NUMC team!



Northfield UMC was well represented at Northfield's Pride in the Park on Saturday, June 7th.



On July 20th NUMC celebrated the 170th anniversary of the Northfield United Methodist Church with Rev. Clay Oglesbee as guest preacher. The service included period hymns and camp meeting songs. After the service folks enjoyed refreshments and making "flat" Wesleys.



On July 18th the NUMC Men's Breakfast group held their weekly breakfast at the beautiful Ron and Ruth Sommers barn.

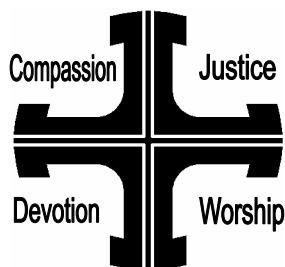
August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:30 Worship with Communion Youth Mission Trip Blessing 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall Youth Mission Trip	4 3:00 UWF Mtg. 5:30-8:30 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation Youth Mission Trip	5 9:00 Bible Study Youth Mission Trip	6 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 12:15-12:45 Noontime Organ Recital 5:00 Community Reservation Youth Mission Trip	7 11:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation 5:00-9:00 Community Reservation Youth Mission Trip	1 8:00 Men's Breakfast Youth Mission Trip Church Office Closed 8 8:00 Men's Breakfast 3:00-10:00 Community Reservaton Youth Mission Trip Church Office Closed	2 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation Cub Foods Youth Fundraiser 9 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation 8:00-5:00 Community Reservation
10 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 5:00-7:00 Family Movie Night 6:30 Community Reservation	11 6:30 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation	12 9:00 Bible Study	13 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 5:00 Community Reservation	14 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation	15 8:00 Men's Breakfast Church Office Closed	16 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation
17 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	18 9:00 Mugs and Muffins 7:00 Community Reservation	19 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Facilities Mtg	20 9:00 Mission Sewing Noon - September Herald Newsletter Deadline 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 5:00 Community Reservation	21 12:00 Community Reservation 7:00 Renewal via zoom	22 8:00 Men's Breakfast Church Office Closed	23 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation 1:00-4:00 Summer Splash Party
24 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	25 6:30 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation	26 9:00 Bible Study	27 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 5:00 Community Reservation	28 12:00 Community Reservation	29 8:00 Men's Breakfast Church Office Closed	30 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation
31 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall	1 Labor Day Holiday Closed	2 9:00 Bible Study	3 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 5:00 Community Reservation	4 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation	5 8:00 Men's Breakfast Church Office Closed	6 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation

**NORTHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

1401 South Maple Street
Northfield, MN 55057

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



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**E - NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP**

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

Pastor	Donna Dempewolf
Parish Nurse	Ruth Kruse
Office Administrator	Sandy Vesledahl
Child Care Provider	Kathryn Steed
Interim Children's Director	Donna Dempewolf
Interim Youth Director	Kristen Twitchell
NUMC Band	Dave Miller
Handbell Choir Director	Kathy Szydlo
Adult Choir	Deborah Rae Miller
Organists	Donna Paulsen Joanne Rodland
Custodian	Arturo Rosas Avila
Information & Worship Technology Consultant	Jesse Steed
Treasurer	David Wolf (Volunteer)
Retired Clergy: Wayne Abdella, Carl Caskey, Richard Collman, Melvin Henrichs, Dana Houck, Mary Keen, Jeanne Martin, Clay Oglesbee, Gordon Orde, Dick Waters	