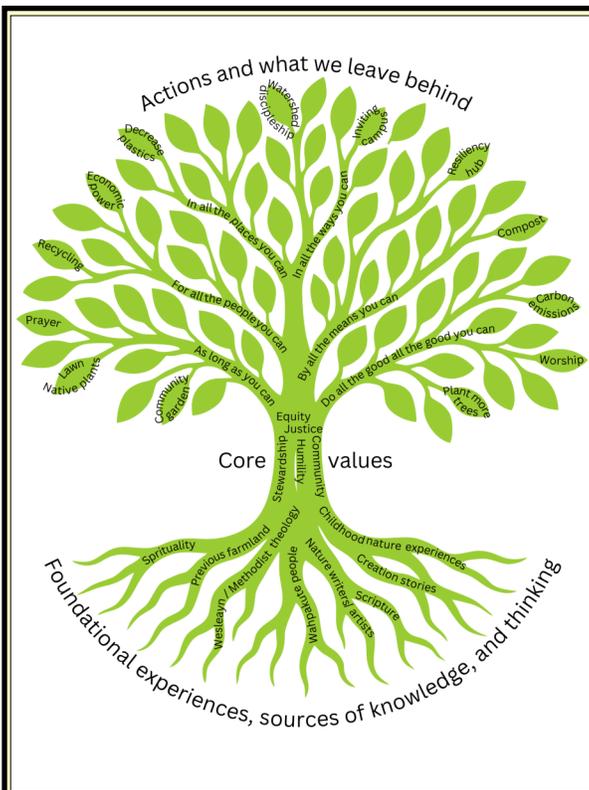


United Methodist Herald

April 2026



From the *Ten Green Commandments of Laudato Si' (Praise Be to You): One Care for Our Common Home*, derived from Pope Francis:

1. **Care for our common home:** Actively protect the planet, recognizing its intrinsic value.
2. **Listen to the cry of the poor:** Recognize that climate change disproportionately affects the vulnerable.
3. **Reduce fossil fuel dependency:** Transition away from coal, oil, and gas to alternative energy sources.
4. **Practice moderation and sobriety:** Consume less, avoid waste, and reject the culture of excess.
5. **Act with ecological justice:** Recognize human roots of the crisis and act to rectify the damage.
6. **Protect biodiversity:** Safeguard all species, acknowledging that non-human life is sacred.
7. **Prioritize sustainable transportation:** Favor public transit, biking, and walking over private vehicles.
8. **Think of future generations:** Act responsibly today to ensure a livable world tomorrow.
9. **Respect nature's wisdom:** Work with ecological systems rather than trying to conquer them.
10. **Educate and advocate:** Cultivate environmental awareness and encourage collective action, such as joining initiatives from organizations 350.org or the Sierra Club.

Inside this Issue

April Worship	1
Message from the Pastor	2
Lenten Schedule	3
Tree Planting/Clean Up Day	
Family Ministry	4
Faith Formation Schedule	5
ISAIAH	
Parish Nurse	6
MICAH	7
Mission Sewing	8
Shared Mission Project	
Mugs and Muffins	
IT Tech Corner	
United Women in Faith	9
Finance Update	10
Announcements	11
Photos	12
April Calendar	13
Church Staff	14

April Worship

April 1, 2026, 6:30 pm

Holy Wednesday Worship with Communion

John 13:3-8, 12-16, 21-30, 32-34; John 19:1-3, 17-18, 28-30

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

April 3, 2026, 6:30 pm

Good Friday Worship

Matthew 27:27-50

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

April 5, 2026, 9:30 am

Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

John 20:1-18

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

April 12, 2026, 9:30 am

John 20:19-31

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

April 19, 2026, 9:30 am

Earth Day, Festival of God's Creation Sunday

Genesis 2:4-25; Colossians 1:15-20

Rev. Clay Oglesbee

April 26, 2026, 9:30 am

Psalm 23; John 10:1-10

Pastor Donna Dempewolf



Message from the Pastor

Seeking | Who are you looking for?

Easter begins in the dark.

Before the lilies, before the alleluias, before the sun rises—Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb. The one she followed has died publicly and brutally on a Roman cross.

The stone is rolled away. She runs to tell the others: “They have taken the Lord... and we do not know where they have laid him.” She is not looking for resurrection—only trying to make sense of loss.

She returns, weeping outside the tomb.

If she is seeking anything, it is closure. A body to anoint.

And in the quiet of that garden, she hears a question that echoes still: **“Who are you looking for?”**

It’s a deeply personal question. How we answer it shapes what we see.

Mary looks through the lens of grief. She sees angels but stays fixed on her loss. She turns and sees Jesus, but does not recognize him—assuming he is the gardener. She does not yet see that resurrection is standing right in front of her.

Then he speaks her name—*Mary*.

And everything shifts. Resurrection becomes visible.

Easter reminds us that we, too, are always seeking—even when we don’t realize it. What we are looking for can either limit us or open us to new life.

Are we looking for a God who confirms our fears?
Or a God who surprises us with hope?
Are we looking for what has been lost?
Or for what is being made new?

It’s more than an idea; it’s a way of seeing—it’s a way of being. As Wendell Berry says, we are called to “practice resurrection”—to live as if new life is already breaking in, even when we don’t fully see it yet.

And this practice is not abstract. It’s earthy. Rooted in the world around us.

Look outside.

The ground is softening. The days are lengthening. What looked barren just weeks ago is beginning to stir. As the hymn puts it, *“Now the green blade rises from the buried grain.”* It’s a quiet testimony that life is stronger than death.

This Easter season, may we practice resurrection by:

- Planting something—flowers, vegetables, or even a tree whose shade we may never sit under
- Stepping outside and noticing signs of life returning
- Offering a word that helps someone else rise
- Investing in what comes next, trusting that what we nurture today will grow beyond us

Resurrection, after all, is not just something we believe—it’s something we live.

In a world that knows loss and dying all too well, Easter invites us into the harder, holier work of rising—together.

So this April, as creation greens around us, listen for the voice that calls you by name.

And ask yourself: **Who are you really looking for?**

Because the good news of Easter is this:
even in the dark,
the One we seek
is already seeking us.

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.

Northfield United Methodist Church Mission Statement

We are companions in Christ, called, nurtured, and sent out for this purpose: to glorify God by acts of worship, devotion, compassion, and justice.



Northfield United Methodist Church Worship. Devotion. Compassion. Justice.

Open our hearts, O God, to your presence already at work in our lives. Break through any barrier in our hearts separating us from you and others. By your Spirit, show us possibilities beyond what we can imagine for ourselves and our church. Make us ready; our hands are yours. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Lenten Schedule

Holy Wednesday Worship with Communion

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 6:30 pm

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 3, 2026, 6:30 pm

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 1:00 pm

Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

Sunday, April 5, 2026, 9:30 am

Easter Brunch following worship

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 6th

TREE PLANTING AND SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Spring Clean-up Day led by our Facilities Team will be Saturday, April 25, starting at 8 am and last until around noon(ish). With assistance by the Creation Care Team, a special project this year will be to plant 10 trees of varieties suitable for our changing climate. We have lost many trees due to storms, stress, and ash borers over the past few years. Much appreciated new plantings have not kept up with the losses. We invite and encourage families to "sponsor" a tree by actually planting it, keeping it watered over the first summer, or making a special contribution to NUMC designated for "Trees" to offset the approximate \$300 cost per tree (make your check payable to NUMC and note "trees" in the memo). We will celebrate commitments at our Earth Day themed worship service on April 19. In case of bad weather on April 25, May 2 is our backup date.

We will also need volunteers for our regular spring church grounds cleanup on April 25. Bring appropriate outdoor work clothes and gear; rakes, shovels, gloves, etc. There will be jobs for all abilities! No RSVP needed, just show up.

This is only a start. Over the past several months our new Creation Care team has explored the theology behind our responsibility to the home we share with all creation, and to focus on our watershed as the natural locality where we can concentrate our efforts as we turn motivation to action. We are exploring several projects to bring our natural world to our doorstep. Trees take the most time, so make a good project to start.

Questions? Contact Bruce Paulson at 507-301-5428.



Children's Ministry

Children's Church (Pre-K–5th) — Sundays during 9:30 am worship

Children start in worship with their families and then head out around 9:40 am for Children's Church—a fun, welcoming space for storytelling, creativity, and play as they grow in faith together.

Super Wednesdays (Grades K–5) — 3:30–5:30 pm

Midweek is full of energy with a mix of sports, arts, games, and time to connect and learn about Jesus. Kids share highs and lows, try new things, and build friendships in a place where they can be themselves. Snacks included.

Transportation is available with after-school busing from Bridgewater, Greenvale, and the Middle School, plus an escort from Spring Creek—free of charge. Register for busing: northfieldumc.org/bus-registration

Our children's ministries are supported by interns Izel Thoele (Wednesdays) and Jane Dagher (Sundays), and caring adults who grow alongside our kids.

Join Us This April

- Community Easter Egg Hunt — Saturday, April 4 at 1:00 pm Bring a basket and a friend—it's a great way to meet others and enjoy the afternoon together.
- Easter Sunday — April 5 Celebrate hope, joy, and new life.
- Earth Day Sunday — April 19 A family-friendly way to worship and care for God's creation.

Looking Ahead

- Last day of Super Wednesdays: May 6
- Last day of Children's Church: May 17

Whether you're new to Northfield or just looking for a place to connect, you and your kids are always welcome here.

For more information, contact Pastor Donna at ddempewolf@northfieldumc.org

Youth Ministry

Easter Brunch Youth Fundraiser

Please support our youth programs, including a summer creation-care themed mini adventure trip. Brunch is immediately following worship and includes pastries, fresh fruit, and egg bags. Vegetarian option available.

If you would like to make an egg bake to support the youth, please email Kristen: youth@northfieldumc.org or text 507-676-3600

April Youth Group

Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm

All youth in 6-12 grades and their friends are invited to participate!

April 1: Attend Holy Wednesday service and then prep for the Easter Egg Hunt, plus a mini-youth Egg Hunt.

April 8: Famous Bible Characters-Trivia

Learn more about some of the most famous Bible characters in a fun trivia setting.

April 15: Simple Faith Practices

Young people incredibly busy and stressful lives. We will explore some simple practices that can help stress and grow your faith.

April 22: Game On!

Enjoy your favorite youth group games—outside weather permitting.

April 29: Creative in Christ

Art has helped express faith for centuries. This fun evening lets you be creative in a fun, no pressure setting.

Save the Date—Senior Sunday: June 7

Look for more info in the May Herald



Adult Faith Formation

Reception Room following worship on Sundays

HOPE FOR CREATION. A Four-Part Series with Hildegard of Bingen — Season of Easter 2026

4/12: Session 1 “In the Beginning, All Things Were Green:” New Greening for creation and the soul

The medieval mystic Hildegard of Bingen gave us a word for what we feel when spring breaks through after a long winter: *viriditas*, the greening life force, the very “greenness of God’s finger,” woven into every living thing at creation’s dawn. We begin here, in wonder and welcome, letting Easter’s promise enter into the body, the garden, and the soul.

4/19: Session 2 “Stitched Together with the Stars:” Hildegard’s Vision of a Living Cosmos

For Hildegard, creation is an orderly, interconnected weave in which humanity is called not to dominate but to become co-creators in God’s garden, to act as partners in what she named *opus cum creatura*, the sacred work done with creation rather than against it. This session introduces her astonishing cosmology and asks: what does it mean to truly belong to this world?

4/26: Session 3 “We Can No Longer Keep Going:” Crisis and Lament

Nine hundred years ago, Hildegard gave voice to the earth itself crying out — winds and waters lamenting in their own voices that human greed had ground creation like a mill, leaving it starved for justice. In this session we hold what is hard to hold: the grief of a wounded creation, and the ancient practice of lament as the first honest step toward hope.

5/12: Session 4 “Hasten Toward Justice, Return to Green:” Hildegard’s Call into “Cosmic Partnership”

For Hildegard, redemption is not escape from creation but creation’s renewal. We begin with a moral and spiritual turning that allows the greening power to flow again through body, soul, and all creation. We close the circle where we began, now understanding *viriditas* not only as gift but as calling: a practice of justice, healing, and holy partnership with the living world.



PALM SUNDAY FAITH in ACTION

Christians from more than 200 churches across denominations came together on Palm Sunday to process to the Capitol. Similar public worship events were held in 17 states. This was to celebrate, worship and embody our faith together as we reclaimed our gospel-centered values: caring for the sick, feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, and loving all of our neighbors. We proclaimed a better way than what we

are experiencing. Our time together at the Capitol included amazing and uplifting music, diverse and dynamic speakers, Scripture, prayer.

As the election season has already begun, Isaiah members are meeting with candidates to educate and discuss with them our People Agenda. We want our representatives to support making life better for all Minnesotans.

Please join us! - Mary Lynn



Notes from the Parish Nurse

Each year, over 350,000 Americans experience sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) outside of a hospital. CPR and early defibrillation with an automated external defibrillator (AED) increase a victim's chance of survival significantly. An AED is a portable electronic device that can audibly prompt and deliver an electric shock that will disrupt or stop the heart's irregular electrical activity. In November 2008 our church was able to purchase an AED thanks to Myrtle "Peggy" Houston. Peggy, who died in January 2008 at the age of 100, was a nurse at the Northfield Hospital for many years. The Stewardship and Finance Committee voted to use money from Peggy's estate to buy an AED for the church. It was very fitting and appropriate to use some of her money to continue to save lives as she did during her nursing career. Our defibrillator was purchased through the Northfield Hospital with a grant from The Initial Life Support Foundation. Be sure to check out the location of our AED which is in the wooden cabinet (made by Ken Fineran) on the east wall of the Gathering Space near the door to the Fellowship Hall.



CARDIAC ARREST VS **HEART ATTACK**

- Unconscious
- Unresponsive
- Absent or abnormal breathing

- Chest pain
- Difficulty breathing
- Nauseous
- Light-headed

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is different than a heart attack, which happens when blood flow to a portion of the heart is blocked, thus depriving the heart muscle of necessary oxygen. SCA is the sudden, unexpected loss of heart function, breathing and consciousness. This results from an electrical disturbance in the heart that disrupts pumping action and causes blood to stop flowing to the rest of the body and the brain. It is a medical emergency which will result in sudden cardiac death if not treated immediately. Hands Only Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) can increase chances of survival until emergency personnel arrive, but survival rates are as high as 38% if defibrillation is used to shock the heart back to a normal rhythm.

Over the years, several dozen church staff and members have taken training in CPR and use of the AED. Please consider taking a CPR/AED training session.

Local classes are periodically offered at Fifty North, www.FiftyNorth.org, (507) 664-3700 or through Northfield Public Schools Community Education, www.northfieldschools.org/communityeducation, (507) 664-3649. And do talk with Ruth Kruse, NUMC Parish Nurse, if you have questions about CPR or AED training.



The Laity Collaborative

The Laity Collaborative 2026: Online. The Laity Collaborative is a learning community focused on equipping laity and unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit throughout the Minnesota Conference. Access a series of learning sessions and resources.

Community Organizing with Rev. Dana Neuhauser: April 14, 6-8 p.m.
Caregiving for All: April 23, 6:30-8 p.m.



**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



Olive Oil for Sale
Palestinian organic, fair trade, extra virgin olive oil.
500 ml. 16.8 oz - \$25.00

A Palestinian Way of the Cross

You are invited to view MICAH's A Palestinian Way of the Cross exhibit in the Gathering Space at the south entry of Northfield UMC. This will be up until Holy Saturday, April 4th. Many Palestinian Christians refer to their experiences of living under occupation, and the suffering they endure, as "Walking the Via Dolorosa" or the Way of the Cross.



Reflections:

From Jesse Steed

It was 26 years ago that I was in Jerusalem. I used to walk or take a sherut (taxi) from the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus down to the Damascus Gate of the old city. Roaming the historic streets with all the sights and sounds (and smells) was inspirational. I highly recommend spending time with The Way of the Cross, or any stations of the cross experience. Focus on immersing yourself in the history, the experience of Christ, and the call on your heart today personally and communally. You may be surprised at the results.

At the March NUMC Board meeting, NUMC officially signed on to the Apartheid-Free Pledge:

WE AFFIRM

our commitment to freedom, justice, and equality for the Palestinian people and all people;

WE OPPOSE

all forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, and oppression; and

WE DECLARE

ourselves an Apartheid-free community and to that end,

WE PLEDGE

to join others in working to end all support to Israel's Apartheid regime, settler colonialism, and military occupation.

MICAH wishes to thank the members of the NUMC Board for taking this step. We are truly grateful for the support from our church family!

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A prayer from Palestinian Christians for these times:

Holy God, hear the cries rising from every city and village in our region, cries that empire tries to silence but will not be able to erase. Deliver us from the systems, governments, ideologies and theologies that justify so much suffering and oppression. Hosanna in the highest, to Christ who entered Jerusalem not on a white stallion but on a donkey. Save us from our arrogance and our unbelief, and deliver the oppressed from the modern-day Pharaohs and Pilates.

To find ways to TAKE ACTION go to: kairosresponse.org
United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR)



Mission Sewing Project

Mission sewing has a goal of completing 35 quilts for Operation Joy. We have a good start for 2026, we have completed 10 quilts. Mission sewing has filled a box ready to go to Midwest Distribution Center. The box has 3 layette gowns, 6 baby sweaters, 6 girl sets (top and shorts) and 75 diapers. The whole group meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. We are always looking for more



Shared Mission Project

Northfield United Methodist Church and Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church, Faribault joined talents to create 2 quilts to support Emma Norton Services. Dorothy Orde pieced the quilts and Marcia Spieker long arm quilted the quilts. The red quilt will be given directly to Emma Norton Services. The blue and gold quilt will be used in a fund-raising raffle at NUMC in May. Those funds will be given to Emma Norton Services.



Mugs and Muffins

Due to the spring blizzard, Mugs and Muffins did not meet in March. Mugs and Muffins will meet on April 20th to continue a study of "Women of the Bible" quilt blocks. The women we will be studying in April are Bathsheba, Esther, Naomi, and Judith. We meet in the church library at 9 AM. New members and visitors are always welcome.



IT Tech Corner by Jesse Steed

Hey, the words got bigger

That's right, bigger. As in, larger or taller, not more complex or sophisticated, although if wishing made it so...

You may have noticed a change recently in Sunday Worship services. The song lyrics are now bigger on the screen. An emboldened group of church members recently discussed the benefits of increasing the font size for hymn lyrics and the modification has been efficacious. Many folks have expressed their sheer delight as they now have a manageable experience reading the words to their favorite hymns, even in the far NE corner at 97 feet from the screen across the sanctuary*.

Now that progress has been made to improve the worship experience for "seasoned eyes" (thanks to regular reader Bob for the expression), look for upcoming improvements for "seasoned ears" as a new hearing-assist system will soon be tested in our sanctuary.

*The dimensions of the sanctuary are 73x65 and the screen is 20 feet up. Accounting for a seated position in the furthest seat away, we use dual right triangles to find the hypotenuses to calculate that Perry is 97 feet from the hymn lyrics, line-of-sight. More or less.



United
Women
in Faith

River Bluffs Area Gathering Quilt Raffle for Emma Norton

United Women in Faith - Meeting Dates

April 6, 2026 - UWF Executive Board meeting - 10:00 am Room 120

April 13, 2026 - Esther Circle - Kildahl, 888 Cannon Valley Drive

April 20, 2026 - Mugs and Muffins - Church Library - 9:00 am Third Monday of the Month

National Website www.UWFaith.org

New Minnesota Website www.uwfaithmn.com

UWFaith - April 18, 2026 River Bluffs Area meeting – NUMC hosts - Annissa Zynda, of Second Harvest Heartland, speaking – \$20, lunch included. Register with Thalia Duffield at NUMC.

Northfield United Women in Faith is hosting a gathering of women from the southeastern Minnesota area on April 18, 2026, 8:30-2:00. We will learn more about food insecurity, and sharing fundraising ideas for UWFaith missions.



Emma Norton Services 2026 Open Doors Gala: Thursday, April 23, 2026; 5-8 PM; Intercontinental Riverfront, St. Paul, MN – register at emmanorton.org. Our quilting group is sending a beautiful quilt to Emma Norton Services. ENS will decide what to do with it. They could be putting it into their silent auction for the April 23 Open Door Gala fundraiser. Even you can send something for the live or silent auction. Marsha Spiker machine quilted the quilt, and Dorothy Orde pieced it, Merrell Thornton donated the red material. **Marsha and Dorothy have also done a quilt of the same pattern, pineapple star, but different colors, for the NUMC raffle for our Emma Norton Services donation coming in April and May.**

The UWFaith Reading Program has several interesting books on the cart in the library. Become one of the readers picking them up. Catherine read **Everyday Ubuntu: Living Better Together the African Way by Mungi Ngomane, Archbishop Desmond Tutu's granddaughter.** Ubuntu is a south African philosophy that says: "I am because you are." (p. 11) Respect for oneself and for others is the main premise. You see everyone as fully human and a person of worth. We get our identity from others around us and our experiences in our lifetime. Reach out to those around you. "They make you who you are." (p.15)

The 14 lessons of ubuntu are: "See yourself in other people. Strength lies in unity. Put yourself in the shoes of others. Choose to see them with perspective. Have dignity and respect for yourself and others. Believe in the good of everyone. Choose hope over optimism. Seek out ways to connect. The power of the F- word – Forgiveness. Embrace our diversity. Acknowledge reality. Find the humor in our humanity. Why little things make a big difference. Learn to listen so that you can hear." (Pp. 222-226)

The life's work of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Tutu, was based on this philosophy. These guiding principles were used when in prison, healing nations from apartheid, and in family life.

Alliance Stamp Ministry (Florida) has been supported by United Women in Faith of Northfield UMC since 2023. All types of cancelled postage stamps are accepted. Bring yours to the box in our Fellowship Hall. "Any type of used postage stamps, including torn or wrinkled stamps, can be used. Do not soak the stamps off the envelope. Carefully cut the postage stamps from the envelope, leaving ¼ to 1/3 inch margin around the stamp. "United States stamps are divided into: common stamps, commemorative, love, Christmas, nonprofit, high value, airmail, off paper, and computer generated stamps. All foreign stamps and stamp collections are also welcomed. **We just sent another box full of stamps, via Martha Waddell, to Alliance Stamp Ministry. Keep them coming.**

All the ways you can donate funds to NUMC!

How to make tithes and offerings

You can make your tithes and offerings several ways:

1. Drop your offering in the offering basket during worship
2. Donate online using a credit/debit card by clicking on the Donate tab on the church website northfieldumc.org
3. Donate with a credit/debit card via "Text to Give" 844-946-1577
4. Donate via our QR code using a credit/debit card
5. Automatic Electronic Giving monthly
6. Mail a check to: NUMC - 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, in the church office or by emailing northfieldumc@gmail.com.

FINANCE UPDATE

General Fund YTD 2026 contributions \$57,376.74
General Fund YTD 2025 contributions \$52,943.45

General Fund February 2026 contributions \$39,723.00
General Fund February 2025 contributions \$21,945.90

Treasurer's Report for February 2026

General Fund

The CRB checking account balance at the end of February was \$40,875.66 compared to January balance of \$25,175.97. The increase of \$15,699.69 is primarily due to a \$20,000 Building Maintenance Endowment Fund withdrawal to pay for Fellowship Hall and Worship Area sound improvements.

Monthly Offering Income for February was \$39,723.00. YTD Actual Offering Income was \$57,376.74 which is \$956.56 less than YTD Budget of \$58,333.30. Other Income Totals of \$1,392.96 for February came from Interest Income, Super Wednesday Meal Proceeds, and Facility Usage. General Fund Income Total for February was \$41,115.96. Thus, General Fund YTD Actual Income was \$61,727.00; \$5,845.40 less than the YTD Budget of \$67,572.40.

Monthly Expenses for February totaled \$40,409.18. YTD Actual Expense Totals were \$67,556.29; \$11,596.39 less than the YTD Budget of \$79,152.68. YTD expenses exceed income by \$5,829.29 which is \$5,750.99 less than the YTD Budgeted shortfall of \$11,580.28.

Physical Plant

Monthly income for February totaled \$37,210.50 which included \$16,480.50 Support from General Fund, \$730 continuing contributions to the Building Fund and \$20,000 withdrawal from the Building Maintenance Endowment Fund. YTD Actual Income was \$45,091.05; \$24,331.05 Support from General Fund, \$760.00 for Building Fund, and \$20,000 from Endowment Fund.

YTD Actual Expenses were \$30,458.30 which leaves a positive balance of \$14,632.75. Total YTD insurance costs (buildings and workers comp) were \$6,109.74. YTD funds spent for Fellowship Hall and Worship Area sound improvements total \$5,592.38.

Endowment Funds

At the beginning of January 2026, the total value of the four endowment funds was \$968,840.33. Gifts from the Hanson Estate included \$52,381.89 in January and \$50,496.80 in February were deposited into the Building Maintenance Fund designated for hearing and sound improvements within the Fellowship Hall and Worship Area. The combined YTD Balance of all four funds at the end of February (including deposits, withdrawals, market value fluctuations and fees) was \$1,089,313.22 which shows a YTD gain of \$120,472.89.

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.

A retreat with Alan Storey

MANNA AND MERCY



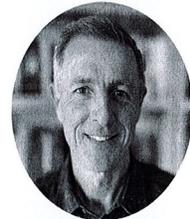
A BRIEF HISTORY OF GOD'S UNFOLDING PROMISE TO FEED THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE

Daniel Erlender

Twin Cities: April 17-18, 2026

Northfield: April 24-25, 2026

Rev. Alan Storey is a gospel storyteller and facilitator of personal and political change. He is the author of the 2025 Andrew Murray Desmond Tutu Prize winning *The bell, banners & blasphemy*.



Register: alanstoreyinminnesota.org

A sliding-scale registration fee includes a Friday opening dinner, lunch on Saturday, and a copy of Manna and Mercy.

Super Wednesday Community Meal

Serving 5:30-6:15 pm, Wednesdays during the program year.

April 1

Lasagna
Caesar Salad
Bread
Ice Cream and Treats

April 22

Pizza
Salad Bar
Ice Cream and Treats

April 8

Mexican Pork Loin
Green Rice
Salad
Ice Cream and Treats

April 29

Chicken Quesadilla
Pinto Beans
Salad
Ice Cream and Treats

April 15

Turkey
Potatoes
Stuffing
Green Beans
Bread
Ice Cream and Treats

May 6 (final Super Wednesday)

Sloppy Joe's
Hot Dogs
Chips
Baked Beans
Salad
Ice Cream and Treats

Card Making with Margie



Monday, April 20, 2026, 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.

Don't Miss the **DEADLINE!**

May Herald Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May issue will be:

Noon on Monday, April 20th

Please submit your items for the newsletter in a digital format (word document) to northfieldumc@gmail.com.
If you have photos of your events, please email those for the newsletter as well!

Because every picture has a story to tell...



Children and Youth Ministry activities and fun on Super Wednesdays!



APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation 3:30-5:30 Faith, Food & Fun (snack) 5:30-6:15 Shared Meal 6:00 Choir 6:30 Holy Wednesday Service 6:30 Youth Fellowship	2 12:00 Community Reservation	3 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Good Friday Service	4 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation 1:00 Community Easter Egg Hunt
5 9:30 Easter Sunday Worship - Communion 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Easter Brunch	6 Office Closed Easter Holiday 7:00 Community Reservation	7 9:00 Bible Study	8 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Faith, Food & Fun (snack) 5:30-6:15 Shared Meal 6:15 Choir 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship	9 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation	10 8:00 Men's Breakfast	11 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation
12 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 10:30 Faith Formation	13 10:00 MICAH mtg 1:00 Esther Circle - Kildahl 3:00-8:00 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation	14 9:00 Bible Study	15 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Faith, Food & Fun (snack) 5:30-6:15 Shared Meal 6:15 Choir 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship	16 12:00 Community Reservation 7:00 Renewal via zoom	17 8:00 Men's Breakfast	18 8:00-3:00 UWF River Bluffs Area meeting 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation
19 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 10:30 Faith Formation	20 9:00 Mugs and Muffins Noon - April Herald Newsletter Deadline 2:00 Card Making 7:00 Community Reservation	21 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Facilities Mtg	22 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Faith, Food & Fun (snack) 5:30-6:15 Shared Meal 6:15 Choir 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship	23 12:00 Community Reservation	24 8:00 Men's Breakfast	25 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation 8:00 - noon(ish) Facilities Work Day and Tree Planting
26 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 10:30 Faith Formation	27 6:30 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation	28 9:00 Bible Study	29 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Super Wednesday 3:30-5:30 Faith, Food & Fun (snack) 5:30-6:15 Shared Meal 6:00 Choir 6:30 Handbell Choir 6:30 Youth Fellowship	30 12:00 Community Reservation	1 8:00 Men's Breakfast	2 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation

**NORTHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

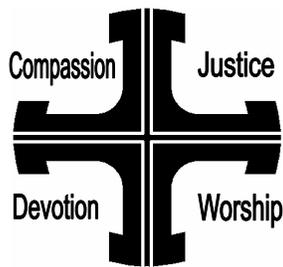
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**E - NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP**



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
Interim Children's Director	Donna Dempewolf
Child Care Provider	Kathryn Steed
Interim Youth Director	Kristen Twitchell
Children and Youth Intern	Izel Thoele, Jane Dagher
NUMC Band	Dave Miller
Handbell Choir Director	Kathy Szydlo
Adult Choir	Deborah Rae Miller
Organists	Joanne Rodland
Office Administrator	Sandy Vesledahl
Custodian	Arturo Rosas Avila
Information & Worship Technology Consultant	Jesse Steed
Treasurer	David Wolf (Volunteer)

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