

United Methodist Herald

May 2026



Photo of Earth from the Orion spacecraft's window on April 2, 2026.

“...for just a moment, have the world pause and remember that this is a beautiful planet in a very special place in our universe, and we should all cherish what we have, what we have been gifted.” – Reid Wiseman, Artemis II Commander.

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May Worship

May 3, 2026

Worship with Communion

John 14:1-14

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

May 10, 2026

John 14:15-21

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

May 17, 2026

United Women in Faith Sunday

Acts 2:46-47, Matthew 10:40-42

May 24, 2026

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Pastor Donna Dempewolf

May 31, 2026

Philippians 2:14-15, I John 3:18

Pastor Richard Waters



Message from the Pastor

A Wider View, A Living Earth

"The earth is at the same time mother; she is mother of all that is natural, mother of all that is human."

- Hildegard of Bingen

In the midst of our busy, sometimes overwhelming lives, something remarkable has just happened. The crew of Artemis II journeyed beyond the orbit that holds our daily concerns and circled the moon. From that distance, they witnessed what astronauts call "Earthset"—our planet slowly slipping out of view behind another world.

Imagine that for a moment.

All that feels urgent. All that divides us. All that consumes our attention—reduced to a small, beautiful, fragile sphere suspended in darkness.

From space, there are no borders. No denominations. No sides to take. Just one shared home.

Astronaut Victor Glover said it simply: *"You look like one thing... all one people."*

It is a perspective that echoes voices much older than space travel. Hildegard of Bingen understood creation not as a collection of objects, but as a living, breathing whole—suffused with God's presence. She spoke of *viriditas*—the greening power of God—alive in the earth and in us.

That same creative Spirit is still at work. God is not finished creating. And neither are we.

To be made in the image of God is to be creative—to participate in the ongoing work of life, healing, wholeness, and renewal. Creation care is not simply about preservation; it is about participation. It is about joining God's "greening" work in tangible, hopeful ways.

That is why I am grateful for the leadership of our Creation Care Team. They are helping us move from awareness to action—from appreciation of the earth to care for it.

And sometimes the next faithful step is beautifully simple.

Planting a tree.

A tree is an act of hope. It is a commitment to a future we may not fully see. It is a quiet but powerful declaration that life will continue, that beauty matters, that this earth is worth tending.

This month, I invite you to take one next step—however small it may be. Maybe it is planting a tree. Maybe it is tending a garden, reducing waste, or simply paying closer attention to the living world around you.

What kind of world are we creating on this small, shared home? From the spacecraft window, emerging from darkness, the wider view reveals something beautiful.

And Right here, in our watershed, it begins with us.

In mid-May I'll be joining others from the our creation care team at the Midwest Bioregional Hub Summit for earth-based spiritual practices, hands-on learning in land conservation and restoration, and cross congregational sharing. I look forward to this time of grounding and reflection, and to sharing more with you when I return.

Grace and peace,
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.

Creation-Care and Facilities Appeal: Planting "Climate-Appropriate" Trees on Clean-Up Day

During the Spring Clean-up Day in April, our Facilities Team led the Creation-Care Team and other volunteers on a special project. In addition to other works on grounds and facilities, volunteers planted 10 trees of varieties suitable for our changing climate (as we experience more heat waves, more drought, and greater rainfall but accompanied by faster evaporation). We had lost nearly 30 trees over the past few years due to storms, stress, and ash borers. Much appreciated new plantings had not kept up with the losses. Therefore, we have begun, and we are still encouraging families or households to "sponsor" a tree by actually planting it and keeping it watered over the first summer, AND by making a special contribution to NUMC designated for "Trees" to offset the approximate \$300 cost per tree. We celebrated commitments at our Earth Day/Festival of Creation-themed worship service on April 19 by planting our first new tree then. Other trees were planted on the Clean-Up Day.

This is only a start for Creation-Care efforts in cooperation with Facilities. 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 discipleship" in our own 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. Other efforts will include personal and church decisions about transportation, heating and cooling, nutrition, policy advocacy and so on.

Please make a gift of \$300 (or more, or whatever you can afford) today for "Trees" to the Northfield United Methodist Church, and commit to assisting with keeping these new trees watered through the summer months. At this time, we need a total of about \$3,000. We are grateful to share these steps in Creation Care with you! --the Facilities Team, The Creation Care Team, the Church Board, and Pastor Donna Dempewolf.



FINANCE UPDATE

General Fund YTD 2026 contributions \$79,012.74
General Fund YTD 2025 contributions \$76,203.36

General Fund March 2026 contributions \$21,636.00
General Fund March 2025 contributions \$23,259.91

Treasurer's Report for March 2026

General Fund - The CRB checking account balance at the end of March was \$26,723.76 compared to February balance of \$40,875.66; shows a monthly decrease of \$14,151.90. Apportionments for the first three months of the year have NOT been paid because of cash flow; that's a total of \$12,323.72 we owe the conference.

Monthly Offering Income for March was \$21,636.00. YTD Actual Offering Income was \$79,012.74 which is \$8,487.23 less than YTD Budget of \$87,499.97. Other Income Totals of \$2,708.95 for March came from Interest Income, Super Wednesday Meal Proceeds, and Facility Usage. General Fund Income Total for March was \$24,344.95. Thus, General Fund YTD Actual Income was \$86,071.95; that's \$15,286.71 less than the YTD Budget of \$101,358.66.

Monthly Expenses for March totaled \$35,417.86. YTD Actual Expense Totals were \$102,974.15; \$15,754.89 less than the YTD Budget of \$118,729.04. YTD expenses exceed income by \$16,902.2 which is \$468.18 less than the YTD Budgeted shortfall of \$17,370.38.

Physical Plant - Monthly income for March totaled \$11,728.42 which included \$11,448.42 Support from General Fund, \$280 continuing contributions to the Building Fund. YTD Actual Income was \$56,819.47; \$35,779.47 Support from General Fund, \$1,040.00 for Building Fund, and \$20,000 from Endowment Fund. YTD Actual Expenses were \$44,967.60 which leaves a positive balance of \$11,851.87. Total YTD insurance costs (buildings and workers comp) were \$7,808.61. YTD funds spent for Fellowship Hall and Worship Area sound improvements total \$5,161.49.

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 March (including deposits, withdrawals, market value fluctuations and fees) was \$1,036,081.83 which shows a YTD gain of \$67,241.50.

June Happenings at NUMC

Community Art Exhibit – June - Share your creativity with the NUMC community! We invite you to contribute artwork—painting, drawing, stained glass, mosaics, quilting, and more—for display throughout the month of June. **Drop off your artwork anytime after May 20 in the church office.** Let's celebrate the gifts and creativity within our community!

Coffee Hour at the Parsonage – June 14 - Join us for a relaxed and welcoming coffee hour at the parsonage on Sunday, June 14, co-hosted by Pastor Donna and the Men's Breakfast Group. Come for good conversation, connection, and community—everyone is welcome!

Pub Theology – Beginning June 8 - "Different brews, different views." We're excited to launch Pub Theology in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northfield. Join us at Chapel Brewing in Dundas on the **second Monday of every month**, 6:30–8:00 PM (beginning June 8). This is a space for open, thoughtful conversation—**all perspectives welcome.**

Life Happens Meditation – Tuesdays, 7:00–8:00 PM - Take a midweek pause with a community meditation group. Life Happens Meditation offers a quiet space to breathe, reflect, and reconnect—no experience needed.

For more information visit northstarmeditation.org.



2026 Love Offering

Each year, churches in the Minnesota Annual Conference take a Love Offering for missions in conjunction with our Annual Conference Session. The 2026 Annual Conference will take place June 16-18, 2026 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, with a theme of "Created to Serve Joyfully." This year's Love Offering will go to:

[Midwest Mission](#) (30%) [Love Boldly Mental Health Ministries Grant for Minnesota Conference Churches](#) (20%) [Endowment for Ministerial Education](#) (20%) Minnesota Conference's Emergency Response Fund (20%) [Volunteers in Mission \(VIM\) Scholarships](#) (10%)

If you would like to give to this year's Love Offering simply make a check payable to NUMC and write "Love Offering" in the memo.

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. **Our last Super Wednesday will be Wednesday, May 7. Join us as we celebrate together.**

Summer Is Coming—Stay Connected!

- **Camp Minnesota**
Explore a variety of camp options at Camp Minnesota or pick up a brochure at church.
- **Good Earth Village Summer Camp** (near Spring Valley, MN)
The Northfield week is August 2–6, open to children in grades 2–5. More details coming soon.
- **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**
We'll partner with area churches for a fun, faith-filled VBS experience. More details coming soon!
- **Summer Meet-Ups**
Watch for simple, family-friendly gatherings at the pool and softball park (dates TBD)—easy ways to stay connected through the summer.



More details will be shared in the weeks ahead—we're looking forward to a joyful summer together! For more information, contact Pastor Donna at ddempewolf@northfieldumc.org

Youth Ministry

Northfield UMC Youth Group (grades 6-12) - NUMC Youth Group includes time for fun and recreation, community building games and activities, a mini-lesson to help our young people connect to God in everyday moments, and time for supporting and celebrating each other through our highs and lows.

May Youth Group Schedule - *Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm unless otherwise noted*

May 6: Spring Cleaning - Spring is the time for cleaning out the old and making way for the new. Games, activities, and discussion will focus on what we need to "clean out" or "let go of" to make room for more Joy and Light in our lives! **Last Super Wednesday program. Youth group will continue to meet in May, but there will not be a Super Wednesday meal before.**

May 13: Movie Night (6-8pm) - We will gather at 6pm for pizza and a movie in the youth room. Feel free to wear comfy clothes and bring a cozy blanket.

May 20: Blanket Service Project (6:30-8pm) - Youth are invited to help create tie-blankets for our HS seniors. This is a special send off gift for our seniors (also a great way to earn volunteer hours if you need them for Scouts, NHS, etc).

May 27: No Youth Group (High School Choir Concert at NMS)

June 3: Finals Break! (6:30-8pm) - Take a break from finals! We will finish the blankets and then take an outing to the Blast for ice cream treats.

Senior Sunday - June 7 - We will celebrate our High School Seniors on Sunday, June 7 during the 9:30am worship. We would also love for our Seniors to have a role in worship that morning. If your HS Senior plans to participate in Senior Sunday, please email Kristen at youth@northfieldumc.org by **Sunday May 17**. In your email, please include the Senior's full name, plans for the Fall (college name, travel, Rotary Study abroad, gap year, etc), and attach 6-8 pictures including a baby picture, senior picture, pictures that include church life (confirmation, Christmas pageant, etc) and a few pictures that highlight the Senior's activities and/or travels. There will be a Cake Reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

HS Senior Scholarship Award - NUMC high school seniors are eligible for a special college scholarship program through the church. Please email youth@northfieldumc.org for more information.

Summer Youth Group - Youth Group will continue to meet approximately 2 times per month for outings, games, and special events. More info to come.

Easter Brunch Thank You! - Special thank you to everyone who donated food, time, and funds to help support our Youth Programs. The Brunch raised almost \$500 for our youth programs.

Thank you to the following for contributing to our Easter Flower display

Mike Boehne in memory of Colleen Boehne.
 Robert and Catherine Williams in memory of our parents.
 Donna Dempewolf in memory of Virgil and Marie Dempewolf, and Samuel May.
 Ruth and Perry Kruse in honor of our children and our grandson.
 George and Linda Davis in memory of our parents Mary and Wayne Davis and Marian and Lloyd Wayland, and brother Randy Wayland.
 Gordon and Dorothy Orde in memory of our grandson Noah Wesley Ronning.
 Kevin and Amy Allin in memory of Lew and Joyce Allin.
 Clare Mather and Philip Spensley in memory of our parents.
 Connie Hehling in memory of loved ones.
 Reggie Fineran in memory of Ken Fineran.
 Mary Lynn and Clay Oglesbee in memory of our parents.
 Bruce Benson in memory of two friends, Richard Hussey and Arleen Mollenhauer.
 Tracy and Tim Goodwin in memory of Carol Hasek.
 Peg Jennings in memory of Dave Jennings.
 Dennis and Marge Randolph in memory of Brian Randolph.
 Ann Richards and John Stull in memory of our parents.
 Al and Jody Mousel in memory of Robert and Evelyn Mousel and Shirley Claude.



I was able to participate in the Isaiah Palm Sunday gathering at the Capital. It was a joyful time as thousands of us Christians from across denominations processed and gathered to sing, be inspired by clergy speakers and call for justice from our state and federal lawmakers.

While the event was celebratory, it was also somber as we looked at the work that is in front of us to create and change systems that will work for all of us.

Isaiah is actively supporting the fight to save HCMC, which serves the entire state with its outstanding emergency care. Funding child care and health are also priorities. As mid-term elections get closer, Faith In Minnesota, Isaiah's sister organization, will be educating the public on candidates' positions. It will be important for us to study which candidates support the people's agenda and stand for democracy. For on-going information on the work of Isaiah you can go to isaiahmn.org. – Mary Lynn Oglesbee



Photos from Pastor Donna from the Palm Sunday march.





Notes from the Parish Nurse

Food Allergy Awareness Week (FAAW) will be taking place May 10-16, 2026. There is a food allergy epidemic in the United States and FAAW aims to raise public awareness about food allergies by increasing understanding of the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and supporting the food allergy community through education, advocacy, and prevention. Education is needed to learn signs of anaphylaxis and the importance of prompt epinephrine administration. Advocacy includes supporting policies for better food labeling and allergy management in schools. And prevention can be addressed by always reading labels for hidden allergens and to avoid cross-contamination when preparing food.



Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) released two large scale studies about food allergy prevalence, which showed that 33 million Americans (1 in 10 adults and 1 in 13 children) are living with potentially life-threatening food allergies. Of those who have had allergic reactions, 51% of adults and 42% of children have had a severe reaction. These statistics are valuable in defining the scope of food allergies in the United States, but to confirm these survey findings more epidemiological research needs to be done.

People often wonder what causes a food allergy. “The job of the body’s immune system is to identify and destroy germs (such as bacteria or viruses) that make you sick. A food allergy happens when your immune system overreacts to a harmless food protein—an allergen.” It mistakenly identifies a food or a substance in a food (even just a tiny amount) as harmful and triggers cells to release an antibody to neutralize that allergen. The next time a small amount of the allergen is ingested, the antibodies sense it and signal the immune system to release histamines, which cause the allergic symptoms.

Signs and symptoms of food allergies can occur within a few minutes up to 2 hours after eating the food. One can have a mild to moderate reaction with just a few hives, tingling or itching in the mouth, swelling of the lips and face, or abdominal pain with diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting. Anaphylaxis is the most severe allergic reaction. The life threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis include tightening airways, swollen throat, difficulty breathing, shock (blood pressure dropping and pulse increasing), and dizziness or lightheadedness which can result in loss of consciousness. It is important to seek help immediately for anaphylaxis as it can cause coma or death.

Although any food can trigger an allergic reaction, there are eight common allergens. They are milk, eggs, peanuts (which are legumes like peas and lentils), tree nuts, soy, wheat, fish, and shellfish. All eight allergens must be included on the list of ingredients on grocery items. Sesame also affects hundreds of thousands of Americans, but it is not required on labeling. It might just be under the general term of “natural flavorings.”

Cow’s milk causes the most food allergies. It usually affects children in the first year of life, can be mild to severe, and is usually outgrown. Other foods to avoid with a milk allergy might be: butter, buttermilk, cottage cheese, cheese, cream, casein, custard, puddings, and sour cream. The second most common food allergy is to eggs. It is actually to the protein in the egg white, but it is easier to avoid eggs all together since they are hard to separate. Foods to avoid include albumin, eggnog, mayonnaise, meringue, and some baked goods, marshmallows and nougats.

Prevention is the best way to counteract reactions to food allergies. Know what you are eating and drinking, read food labels, talk with your server or the chef if you eat out, or pack meals and snacks from home rather than eating out. If you get severe reactions, wear a medical alert bracelet and get a prescription for and carry an epinephrine auto-injector such as EpiPen or Auvi-Q.



**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



What is the Nakba (Catastrophe)?

In 1948 Israel ethnically cleansed about 750,000 Palestinians – over 80% of the population living in the territory of what became the State of Israel (May 14, 1948). Eleven Palestinian towns and cities, and over 500 villages were destroyed or depopulated. Thousands of Palestinians were killed in dozens of massacres.

A NAKBA REMEMBRANCE

This is the 13th year of this annual event in Northfield. The main part of the event is the ceremony of reading the names of the Palestinian villages that were depopulated and razed in 1948. Most attendees choose to take a turn at placing a small Palestinian flag in the location of one of the villages on a very large map. Children can participate in this activity. This year the program has been adapted with music being added and a remembrance of a Nakba survivor by a granddaughter. We hope you can attend this special event. Estimated duration is about 1 hour.

This Nakba Remembrance event will include:

- Music
- Ceremony of reading the names of depopulated & razed Palestinian villages.
- Placing small flags in a large map showing the location of these villages.
- Remembrance of a Nakba Survivor by a teenage granddaughter.
- Free resources. Some seating provided, but you may bring a folding chair.
- Free and open to all. Suitable for children.

The Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank continue to endure horrific injustices every single day - an ongoing Nakba.

The West Bank is experiencing the worst violence it has known in decades, as the world looks elsewhere. The Israeli government encourages the rampant violence of Israeli settlers against Palestinian communities. Tens of thousands of Palestinians have been driven from their homes over the last two years, by settlers and the Israeli military. Many villages have been completely emptied or destroyed.

Amidst the vast devastation in Gaza, Israel has closed border crossings and cut off aid. Families are struggling to survive without access to food, water, medical care, or shelter, as homes, hospitals, and even now, essential infrastructure continue to be destroyed.

A Prayer of Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem:

God of the oppressed, every day crimes are being committed at such a rate that we have lost count. We cry out for your justice in a world that is numb to injustice. Remind us that even though the leaders of the world seem to function with double standards, all are seen equal before your eyes, and all will be judged accordingly before you. Protect the people of the West Bank and Gaza as they experience further displacement and violence.

MICAH signs seen at the NO Kings Day rally in Northfield.





Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing has a goal of completing 35 quilts for Operation Joy. We have a good start for 2026, we have completed 12 quilts.

Mission Sewing received a donation of flannel, so we are busy cutting out receiving blankets and diapers. We have volunteers who help sew these much needed items for Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

The whole group meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. We are always looking for more people to help meet our goals. Our next meetings to tie quilts will be on May 27th.



Mugs and Muffins

Mugs and Muffins will meet on May 18th to continue a study of "Women of the Bible" quilt blocks. The women we will be studying in April are Asenath, Jephthah's daughter, Miriam, Deborah. We meet the church library at 9 AM. New members and visitors are always welcome.



IT Tech Corner by Jesse Steed

Report it!

Ever notice something that seems a little off? A word is spelled wrong, a worship slide is out of order, a microphone is crackling, someone's sneeze is too loud. Could be anything. You're on your own for the sneeze thing, but if it has to do with technology at the church, please report it.

I've received plenty of helpful feedback over the decades. In fact, it's actually really helpful to know what people like or don't like so I can prioritize my time and problem-solving efforts.

Whether it's something you see on the church webpage, social media accounts, Youtube videos, emails, printed materials, whatever, please point out the error or odd thing you noticed so I can document it and look into making it better. If it bugs you, chances are it bugs someone else too. Just tell me on a Sunday or Wednesday when you see me at church, or email me at jsted@northfieldumc.org.

One of the odd things that some of you have pointed out, and I noticed too, was that the audio would do odd things during Youtube livestreams. For some devices, the sound wouldn't play no matter how hard you willed it to be so. My research into the issue led me to investigate the sound board, Youtube settings, my own devices, and the switcher configuration. At first glance, nothing seemed to be out of place yet the left and right audio channels seemed to have issues when I tried to play worship video audio on my Android phone. The sound worked if I used headphones or if I panned left or right, but nothing when centered. This was driving me crazy.

I consulted various experts and based on their advice, I was able to determine that this was not a common problem. Even diving into the deep trenches of internet AV forums wasn't turning up any solutions, not even crazy ones. Then I found a clue. An obscure post from an AV rando said to switch the Left/Right cables on the sound board. I switched the two cables for Mix 9/10 and it worked! At least it worked for last week's video.

As I continue to monitor livestream audio, and everything else, I'll be using ancient IT magic to hope it works for the future - by crossing my fingers.



United
Women
in Faith

Quilt Raffle for Emma Norton Personal Dignity Kits

United Women in Faith - Meeting Dates

May 4, 2026 - UWF Executive Board meeting - 10:00 am Room 120

May 11, 2026 - Esther Circle - Kildahl, 888 Cannon Valley Drive

May 18, 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

Thank You to all that helped make River Bluffs Area meeting a success! - Annissa Zynda, of Second Harvest Heartland, explained the difference between a foodbank (purchase, re-package food and distribute to food shelves) and a food shelf (food directly to the people). Giving food is great, but monetary donations go 30 times farther.



Emma Norton Services 2026 **Open Doors Gala** had the red Pineapple Star quilt in their silent auction. **Marcia Speiker and Dorothy Orde have also completed a quilt of the same pattern, pineapple star, in blues and golds. It is now up for the NUMC raffle in April and May.**

Northfield's UWFaith unit has pledged \$750 to Emma Norton Services. Emma Norton services "is housing first program, and provides permanent supportive housing. This funding is at risk. HUD has been directed to stop funding housing first programs [Restoring Waters and off campus housing], and their Federal HUD contract for the family program [Emma's Place] is significant. Rapid inflation is impacting the cost of direct support items like paper products and cleaning supplies."

Goals of Emma Norton Services:

1. Provide safe, secure, affordable housing for women, individuals, and families in transition.
2. Provide support, advocacy and referrals to community services for individuals and families to stabilize their lives, build confidence and enable self-sufficiency.
3. confidence and enable self-sufficiency.
4. Through radical compassion and radical acceptance, provide a comprehensive array of services that foster harmony, wholeness and completeness.
5. Create inclusive environments that support empowerment, diversity, innovation and adaptability to promote healing." (source: Emma Norton website)

We are asking everyone to help us reach our goal for this worthy service AND to bring needed living supplies as listed on the donation table by May 17, 2026.

We are also gathering items for **Personal Dignity Kits** to be taken to Annual Conference for the truck that goes to Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 Hand towel – no kitchen towels | 1 Washcloth – no dish cloths |
| 1 Adult toothbrush – no multi packs | 1 Bar of soap – 3-4 oz. |
| 1 Shampoo – 12-19 oz. | 1 Lotion – 8-10 oz. |
| 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz – stick, roll on, or pump | |
| 1 One-gallon resealable plastic bag. Place all items in the plastic bag. | |
| \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag. | |

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 to the box in Fellowship Hall.

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 Meal
The final Super Wednesday meal for this program year will be **Wednesday, May 6th.**

Menu

Sloppy Joe's

Hot Dogs

Chips

Baked Beans

Salad

Ice Cream and Treats

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and talents in the kitchen and helping with the Wednesday evening meals!

Card Making with Margie

Monday, May 18, 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.

***THANK YOU* to the members of the Northfield UMC Choir for leading our worship this year!**



Jolene Barjasteh
Linda Davis
Jody Friedow
Connie Hehling
Alice Hemenway
Ruth Kruse

Clare Mather
Ned Newberg
Janine Petersen
Philip Spensley
Steve Twitchell
Bob Williams



David Miller, accompanist

Thank you for once again allowing me to work with you! —Debbie
(If anyone is interested in joining the adult choir, contact choir@northfieldumc.org)

The Gaia Prayer – Tim Goodwin

Gaia around and in us
Sacred is all the Earth.
You give us life
And we live in your love
Front the ground and into the heavens.
From your grace everything grows.
Forgive us the harm we've done
To one another, to Earth, and to all life,
As we renew our kinship
And turn away from greed.
For we all share this Earth
And all of your bounty
For ever and ever, Amen

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

**June/July
Herald Newsletter
Deadline**

This will be a double issue covering all happenings in June and July. There will not be a separate issue for July.

The deadline for the June/July issue will be:

Noon on Wednesday, May 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...



MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 9:30 Worship with Communion 9:40 Children Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 10:30 Faith Formation 4:00-6:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>4 10:00 UWF Mtg. 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>5 9:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>6 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Final 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</p>	<p>7 12:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>1 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p> <hr/> <p>8 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>2 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p> <hr/> <p>9 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>10 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 6:30-8:30 Community Reservation</p>	<p>11 10:00 MICAHA mtg 1:00 Esther Circle - Kildahl 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>12 9:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>13 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>14 10:30 Community Reservation 12:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>15 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>16 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>17 9:30 Worship 9:40 Final Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall 2:30-5:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>18 9:00 Mugs and Muffins 2:30 Card Making 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>19 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Facilities Mtg.</p>	<p>20 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation Noon-June/July Herald Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>21 12:00 Community Reservation 7:00 Renewal via zoom</p>	<p>22 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>23 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>24 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>25 Memorial Day Holiday - Office Closed</p>	<p>26 9:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>27 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>28 12:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>29 8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>30 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation</p>
<p>31 9:30 Worship 9:40 Children's Church 10:30 Coffee in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>1 6:30 Community Reservation 7:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>2 9:00 Bible Study 6:00-9:30 Community Reservation</p>	<p>3 9:00 Mission Sewing 12:00-1:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>4 12:00 Community Reservation</p>	<p>5 8:00 Men's Breakfast Office Closed Summer Hours Begin</p>	<p>6 9:30-11:00 Community Reservation 12:00-3:00 Community Reservation</p>

**NORTHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

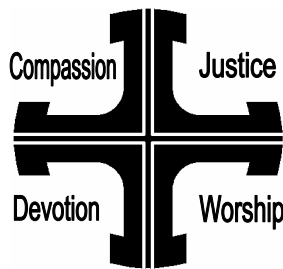
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Offering Christ

**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

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