

Northwest Hills Church 9334 Fort Street, Omaha NE 68134

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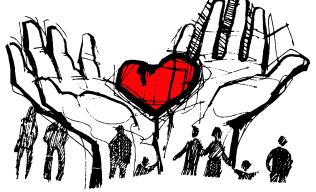
Alex Wolf, Pastor Jim Skrobo, Associate Pastor Suzy Parsons, Director of Christian Education Cheryl Morehouse, Office Administrator

Vol. 47 No. 7 June 21, 2019 Barb Renicker, Choir Director Ruth Negus, Organist and Accompanist Sarah Baird, Nursery Attendant Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

# **July 2019**

9:30 a.m. Worship July 7 Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship Time - C July 14 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion: Youth Newsletter Sunday School - 19A Deadline 10:30 Fellowship Time - C July 21 9:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship Time—C July 28 9:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship Time - C









Deadline for articles/information for the monthly newsletter is usually the second Sunday for the next month's newsletter. Thank you in advance for your contributions!



#### Thank You From the Burnham Family

"To Our Northwest Hills Church Family and Friends: Words cannot express our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your words of comfort, phone calls, notes, cards, visits and concern shown to us at the time of Carl's illness and death. We are so grateful for all of you and for those of you who donated food for the luncheon, worked in the kitchen, and all the many other ways that you may have helped that are not even known to us. We are so blessed to have such a caring church family. Thank you and may God's blessings be with you all, Linda and Lisa"

#### Thank You From the Lemons Family

"To all our friends and church members, please accept our sincere thanks and gratitude for your thoughts and prayers for our beloved Martie. Your expressions of kindness was and is most appreciated and welcomed while enduring our loss. We honor our sorrow in our loss but look to God to heal our hearts and souls. Please keep us in your prayers as we grieve Martie.

The Lemons Family"

"Thank You From Jim Skrobo and the Rock Family for all the prayers, well wishes and cards from our Northwest Hills Family during Edie's illness.

We especially thank Pastor Alex for his visits and exceptional Celebration of Life Service for Edie. We also thank Sarah Circle for the wonderful luncheon and all who provided dishes for everyone to enjoy."

#### **MEETING UPDATES**

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be NO JULY MEETING of the Council.

**MEN'S MINISTRY 1st Saturday Breakfasts** cancelled for summer. Will resume first Saturday morning in September.

**WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:** meeting will be held Thursday, July 11th at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

**Canasta Club** will meet Thursday, July 18th in Rm. 128 at 10 AM. Please bring a sack lunch and be ready to start playing at 10 AM. Team #14 (Norma and Sue) will provide dessert. If you have any questions, please call Judy Intlekofer at 402-292-1060.

\*\*Ginger Morelock is leaving the Canasta card playing group and is looking for a permanent replacement for her team. Please contact Ginger at 402-312-5126 if you or any one you know wants to join a fun-filled, fabulous Canasta team! Looking for a replacement by July 18th \*\*

#### **CIRCLES**

Hannah Circle: There will be a meeting Tuesday, July 16th at 1:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Devotions and refreshments by Pat Mollak. Our mission project for May was held over until June. Our June mission project was kids sugary cereal including pop tarts. We did collect 106 items for May: 38 canned fruit, 5 cereal, 6 dressings, 15 mac & cheese, 27 pasta sauces and 15 misc. Our July mission project is <a href="mailto:soda\_crackers">soda\_crackers</a> (not Ritz or Keebler Club crackers) for the Food Pantry at Hope Lutheran Church. Keep your Family Fare receipts coming and thank you for your support. Questions? Call Lois Gapen, 402-572-6792.

**Ruth Circle** will be meeting Monday, July 15th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Lois Gapen and Annie Kuti will be serving. Questions? Call Ginger Morelock, 402-312-5126.

**Sarah Circle** meeting TBD. Please call Terri Burright at (402) 659-6913 if you have questions.

**CRAFT NIGHT!** Craft night will be held in Room 128 at Northwest Hills Church at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, July 9, 2019. Rose Daneff will bring treats. Are you looking for a fun evening out of the house? We always welcome new crafters, so please come and share the fun in designing new and creative craft items. Should have any questions, please feel free to call Sherry Mitchell at 402-498-3597.

#### SINGLES & FRIENDS July Outing!

Fontenelle Forest, 3:30 PM Roma Italian Restaurant, 5:00 PM Saturday, July 20th



Take a walk in the forest! Easy board-walks are wheelchair accessible. Admission \$10 for seniors. Then meet at Roma Italian Restaurant for dinner. For dinner only, carpool from the church at 4:15 PM. Dinner at 5:00 PM.

Directions for forest: take Hwy 75 to Chandler Exit. Turn left and go 1 mile to Bellevue Blvd. Follow the signs to the Forest. Free parking. (1111 Bellevue Blvd. North).

Directions to Roma: take Hwy 75 to Chandler Exit. Turn left and then turn right on Ft. Crook Rd. Turn left on Virginia and right on the service road to Roma. (605 Ft. Crook Rd. North). For questions call Judy Intlekofer or Linda Nelsen.



### American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

American Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, August 11th after church (10-2:30 PM)

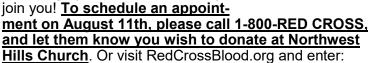
Please mark your calendar and plan on donating! General whole blood donation requirements are:

- Donation frequency: Every 56 days\*
- You must be in good health and feeling well\*\*
- You must be at least 16 years old in most states
- You must weigh at least 110 lbs.

(There is a Red Cross eligibility hotline you can call if you have any questions or concerns that may affect your eligibility: 1-866-236-3276.)

The American Red Cross has continually been on the ground in our community in countless ways assisting those affected by spring flooding. Did you know that 90% of the work done by the Red Cross is carried out by volunteers? Early in the flood season, The Red Cross provided 6,300 shelter stays for displaced residents in a total of 30 shelters, served nearly 140,000 meals and snacks, distributed emergency relief supplies to more than 7,700 households, distributed more than 750 comfort kits, and made more than 2,000 health service contacts and 1,300 mental health contacts. And that was at the BEGINNING of the flooding! Those numbers have kept going up with the relentless wet weather.

Your part, by donating blood, helps the Red Cross accomplish great things to help and serve In our community. Please consider donating, and encourage your friends and family to



NWHillsChurch to schedule an appointment.

Thank you in advance for partnering with the Red Cross in saving lives!

**THANK YOU**, church family, for supporting the June 16th Lemonade Stand! The stand brought in \$173.30, which, in combination with daily VBS offerings and Lord of Love's contribution, helped us exceed our goal of reaching \$500 to purchase a cow through Heifer International!





Heifer helps families out of poverty by donating animals that will provide them with a method of making money and providing food for their families. We should even have enough \$\$ left over to also purchase a goat!





Ever wonder what those baskets are for in the Commons area on the coat rack shelves? The one



marked "Pill Bottles" is for your empty prescription bottles: these are recycled and reused by the Nebraska Humane Society for medications sent home with

adopted and foster furbabies!

Other NHS "wish list" items include: clean blankets and towels, rubber-backed rugs, unopened jars of peanut butter (for giving medications), gallon-size Ziploc freezer bags, digital thermometers, clear Rubbermaid tubs, clean dog and cat beds, box fans.

Want to donate items, but can't get them to NHS? The wonderful folks at PetInfo-Omaha will pick up your NHS donations! Just email petinfo.usa@gmail.com with your name, address, and a phone number where you can be reached. One of their volunteers will contact you to make arrangements for pick-up.



Northwest Hills Church ladies are the BEST cooks and bakers! Your recent donations for luncheons are so greatly appreciated. **PLEASE BE SURE TO ALWAYS LABEL** the lid and container with your name so we can return your dishes (if you get tons of return labels in the mail from non-profits, this would be a brilliant use for them!). Please check in the Commons from above the coat rack area for recently-orphaned containers looking for their original homes. Thank you for your generosity, great servant hearts, and for sharing your fabulous culinary skills!



Prayer chain requests can be called to Lois Gapen at (402) 572-6792 or the church office at (402) 572-8392.

Thank you for your kind responses regarding updating our prayer list. We were pleased to hear several that were much improved. Please continue to let us know of any changes so that we can update our list and assure that the prayers going out weekly are the most current and urgent needs expressed. Thank you in advance. The ongoing list is below:

Continued Prayer Requests: Dirk Huston (Janet Delehoy's nephew), Karen Vrtiska (friend of Janet Delehoy), Nancy Norton (friend of Carol Scott), Bob Gardner (Janet Delehoy's daughter's, friend), Michael Guilliams (Bev Ambrosius' nephew), Sandy Christopherson, Pearl Christopherson, Ivan Vrtiska, Al Cummings (Janet Delehoy's brother), Sharon Marchese (Kathleen Hammond's sister), SuEllyn Negus, Carol Scott, Lynn Hammond, Ed Lippincott, Drew Botsakos, Jim Taylor, Kathleen Hammond, Marla Wilson (Sue Miller's sister-in-law's sister), Mary LaHood, Dianne Hasch (Dianna Cupps' friend), Al Hagemeyer (Jean Barker's brother), Kathy Caito, Barb Karstens, Connie Klaumann, Rodney Hopkins (Becky Hopkins' brother)

On-Going Cancer Treatment: Ena Nolan, Mike Lambert, Mary Larson, Patricia Gename (Mary Hinman's daughter), Sharon Kirby (Janet Delehoy's sister-in-law), Dick McCoy, Gail Schroeder, Pam Dutton, Dave Merriam, Anita Sohm, Sue Day, Robert Baker, Sharon Cook (cousin of Carol Scott), Evelyn Walton, Sharon McNutt (Ruth Negus' friend's sister), Betty Benskin, Ingrid Kerfoot (friend of Sherry Mitchell), Kathy Stow (friend of Bev Ambrosius)



#### **FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS**



Every time you shop at your local Family Fare store, save your receipts. Bring your complete receipt to church and place in the box in the Commons. We will collect them and send them on to Project Hope. When Project Hope has collected and submitted \$150,000 in receipts, Family Fare will send

Project Hope \$1,000! This is a Share Omaha Project.

#### **BIBLE STUDY UPDATES**

Wednesday 10 AM Bible study and Sunday 10:30 AM Bible study are both cancelled for the summer, and will resume around Labor Day. Watch the bulletins and midweek emails for details closer to the end of the summer.

Wednesday evening Bible study at 7 PM in the Library with Pastor Alex will continue through the summer months. Any occasional cancellations will be posted in the bulletins or midweek emails.

#### "Bearers of Bad (then Good) News: The Prophets" Summer 2019 Sermon Series

We often don't like to hear bad news. We especially don't like to be bearers of bad news. Welcome to the life of a prophet! The prophets of the Old Testament did preach a message of sin and judgment, but also preached messages of restoration and God's love and mercy. Join us on Sundays to hear how these ancient prophets' messages are still relevant today.

July 21 - Isaiah 6:1-13: "The Right Person for the Job" August 4 - Amos 5:18-27: "What is Your Worship Worth" August 11 - Amos 9:11-15: "Roses and Lavender" August 18 - Hosea 2:2-13: "An Affair to Remember, Pt. 1" August 25: Hosea 14:1-9: "An Affair to Remember, Pt. 2" September 1 - Micah 3:1-12: "Against the Establishment" September 8 - Micah 7:7-20: "Back On Our Feet" September 15 - Habakkuk 1:12-2:20: "God's Perfect Justice"







#### FROM PASTOR ALEX WOLF

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

As we enter the month of July, we find ourselves in the swing of summer. Baseball and softball diamonds are constantly packed with games, children are cooling off at both public and private pools, some families are hitting the road taking their annual vacations, and other families are gathering together for reunions and enjoying seeing their loved ones over a lovely picnic in the park.

With all the activities we often pack into the summer months, we usually have to leave some activities off our "to-do" lists. Often, church activities get dropped from our lists. This occurrence isn't just during the summertime. Throughout the year, church attendance varies. An August 2018 Pew Research Center survey found that many people have various reasons for not attending religious services. A few reasons include people practicing their faith in other ways, they don't feel welcome, or they don't have the time.

We all have made reasons before to not attend a church service. Sometimes, I myself find the bed a little too comfortable on a Sunday morning. Instead of focusing on the reasons why not to attend, I'd like to present three reasons why we should attend church services.

First, we are refreshed. After a busy week where many things went wrong and our energy tanks are low, coming to church is a great away for us to be recharged. David writes in Psalm 23:2-3 how being in God's presence refreshes and restores the soul. When we come into the presence of God, we can refocus our hearts and minds on God's love, grace, and truth. Hearing the word of God, praying, and singing is a great way to allow the Holy Spirit to refresh our souls as we start another week.

Second, we find community. The church is not the building we enter or programs we have. The church is a family made up of spiritual mothers and fathers, sons and daughters who love each other, help each other, and live life together in faith. Paul wrote in Romans 12:4-8 that each member's participation and gifts are essential for the whole body of Christ to thrive. Hearing Christian messages on television, radio or through books are wonderful additions to our spiritual lives, but we are communal beings who need the time to love and be loved by others.

Third, we are able to serve others. Jesus told his disciples in John 13:35, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Everyone is looking to be loved and for a place to belong. When God's people commit to loving those in and outside our church family, we are able to serve people in so many ways. Being a part of the body of Christ allows us to not only serve others but also serve and please God as well.

There are so many things to do in this world. I hope and pray that we have the desire to become closer with our Creator through the church community. I pray the Holy Spirit stir in us a zeal and commitment to meet together with God's people in God's presence as much as we can. And when we do gather, may we feel God's love and joy together.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Alex





**Habitat Update:** Thanks to the generosity of the Northwest Hills Church Family, we were able to provide a check to Habitat for \$1,600! Because of this generous donation, Habitat will include Northwest Hills Church on their sponsor house signage and our congregation will be invited to attend the home dedication at the end of the year! Stay tuned for details towards the end of the year.





THANK YOU to everyone who pitched in and helped with decorating, teaching, coaching, cooking, and the countless tasks and time spent making VBS a success this year!



...the Sanctuary was transformed.....



...as well as the Commons...





The walls in the Fellowship Hall were cleverly transformed into "lockers" that the kids could decorate with their designated sports memorabilia and Inspirational messages.





Sports choices were: soccer, basketball, cheerleading, spirit (arts and crafts) and preschool.





Learning how to cheer!!



Mastering the basics...



Grateful for indoor space to learn soccer moves when the weather outside didn't cooperate!



Joyous celebration in God's House!



At last: sunshine and blue skies! Practice in the fresh air!





# Sunday School (Children Ages 4-11)

Sunday School is held for elementary-age children. Kids exit with Suzy after the Children's Moment. Children are encouraged to join us as we discover "Mission Possible!"

**Sunday School Offering:** The Sunday School classes take an offering each Sunday. The kids will decide what annual mission they want their offering to go to.

# Northwest Hills Preschool



Sprout, Bloom, Grow

THANK YOU to the work crew who helped tear out and install the new cabinets in the preschool rooms! Here are a couple pictures of the progress mid-way in June:





Come and check out the new cabinets in the preschool rooms!! They look great and will help to keep us more organized and make it easier to find curriculum. The new cabinets really freshen up the rooms!



EPIC YOUTH: No Youth Bible Study June-August. We will resume on September 8th.

THANK YOU to our Youth who really stepped up and helped out at VBS this summer! It is such a joy to see the growth, connections, and leadership skills develop in our younger generation!



# JULY

#### Kids K-5th Grade Happenings

Summer Sunday School will consist of several missions in which the children can get involved. We will begin with a mission to God's creatures. This will entail hands-on activities, such as making dog treats, Bible verse memory, and learning a song. We want our children to know that they, too, can serve God's Kingdom!

July 7	Summer Sunday School: Mission Possible	9:45 a.m.
July 14	Summer Sunday School: Mission Possible	9:45 a.m.
July 21	Summer Sunday School: Mission Possible	9:45 a.m.
July 28	Summer Sunday School: Mission Possible	9:45 a.m.



No Youth Bible Study June-August: we will resume on September 8th.

July 7-13	Shannondale Mission Trip
July 14	Youth Conduct the Worship Service
July 21	Lake Manawa Outing

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ANT		2 7:00 Scouts—FH	င	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	2	9
7 9:30 Worship - S Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship - C Youth Mission Trip to ->	8 Shannondale->	9 6:00 Crafters—128 7:00 Scouts - FH Missouri — — — >	9-12 Preschool Play Date	<b>11</b> 12 Women's Assoc FH	12	13 Youth back at noon from Mission Trip
<b>14 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 9:30 Worship - S Communion Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship - C	<b>15</b> 6:30 PM Ruth Circle—FH	<b>16</b> 1:15 Hannah Circle-FH 7:00 Scouts—FH	<b>17</b> 9-12 Preschool Play Date 7:00 Bible Study-L	<b>18</b> 10:00 Canasta-128	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM Auto Club	<b>20</b> 3:30 Singles & Friends Fontenelle Forest 5:00 Roma Italian Restaurant
<b>21</b> 9:30 Worship - S Sunday School - 19A 10:30 Fellowship- C Youth Lake Manawa	22	<b>23</b> 7:00 Scouts - FH	<b>24</b> 9-12 Preschool Play Date	25	26	27
<b>28</b> 9:30 Worship - S Sunday School 19A 10:30 Fellowship - C 10:45 CE Mtg-119	29	30 7:00 Scouts—FH	<b>31</b> 9-12 Preschool Play Date 7:00 Bible Study-L			S: Sanctuary C: Commons L: Library FH: Fellowship Hall

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### **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

1	Jack Pullen	10	Chloe Christensen	18	Shirley Dutton
4	Kenneth Peterson	10	Mikey Mehlenbacher	20	Joseph Urban
5	Faith Hurt	10	Mike Pierce	21	Ian Sittner
5	Janis Johnson	11	Mary Longenecker	22	Deb Hahn
5	Bob Taylor	13	Andy Novak	22	Ruby Peterson
6	Kevin Antoniak	14	Mary Ellen Dixon	24	Ronald Heim
6	Darwin Barker	15	Avery Beberniss	24	Karen Morris
6	Madison Hultman	15	Mary Hinman	27	Amanda Hyatt Miller
6	Andrew Nitsick	15	Damian VanVranken	27	Jessica Brusnahan
8	Colleen Djureen	16	Nancy Loehr	29	Charli Brusnahan
9	Michael Callahan	18	Victoria Coufal	29	Jim Skrobo
9	Chris Jewell				

## **JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

1	Virgil & Carol Beaty	15	William & Kathy Owens
1	Wesley & Stephanie Bertch	23	Brandon & Michelle Hultman
3	Mike & Inga Mehlenbacher	28	Fred & Carol Scott
4	Andrew & Jaime Robinson	30	Steve & Jan Jacobsen
11	Christopher & Jennifer Hunter		