



newsletter





Northwest Hills Church
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Rev. Alex Wolf, Pastor
Suzy Parsons, CE Director
Cheryl Morehouse, Office Administrator

Vol. 52 No. 4
March 26, 2024

Barb Renicker, Music Director
Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

April 2024

<p>April 7</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Communion/No Sunday School</p> <p>7-9 PM Square Dancing—FH</p>
<p>April 14</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School</p> <p>2-6 PM Set up for Monday's OES Card Party-FH</p>
<p>April 21</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School</p> <p>7-9 PM Square Dancing—FH</p>
<p>April 28</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship Cmte. Fellowship Coffee—C</p> <p>7-9 PM Square Dancing—FH</p>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

CHURCH WORK DAY on Saturday, April 20th—
from 8:30 AM until 12:00 noon. Help us be good
stewards of our grounds and property. There will
be jobs for all ages, indoors and outside! See

Wayne Bennett, Buildings &
Grounds Chair, for details or if you
have questions.

Thanks in advance for your help!



The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 1st for the Easter Holiday.

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!

It is the little kindnesses we can do for one another that often make the greatest impact. Our friends from the Monday Night AA Group that meets in the Fellowship Hall sent us the nicest thank you note for the valentines and hot cocoa treat kits that the Northwest Hills Church family provided.



Here are some of the comments (the original thank-you card is posted on the bulletin board in the Commons): *"Thank you for the wonderful Valentine cards and everything you need to make some delicious hot cocoa!" "You guys are alright!" "You guys are the best!" "God bless you! Thanks" "with appreciation for your kindness and generosity: the 164 Group" Thank you so much for the beautiful valentines day cards. They were awesome and I could tell you all worked really hard on them."*

Hannah Circle invites our Northwest Hills Church family to continue to donate to the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry (our community partner that we support year round). Rohn Collins, our contact at Holy Cross (and the gentleman who so kindly comes to pick up our regular donations) shared that their greatest need this month is for ramen noodles, mac 'n cheese, and pasta. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity in helping provide non-perishables to those in need and experiencing food insecurity in our immediate community. A bin is located in the Commons for this year round support.



OTHER COLLECTIONS: we continue to collect Family Fare receipts for Project Hope, old eyeglasses to recycle for the Lions Club International, and floral arrangement bases for HyVee to recycle for their beautiful creations!

CRAFTERS! We so enjoy getting together on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 PM year round. All are welcome! You can bring your own crafts, or we have several to choose from. No "super talent" needed: we will help you! Thank you for joining us as we build up our "inventory" for the big Craft Fair in October. Many hands make the work light. Come for an enjoyable time of creativity and fellowship! Questions? Please contact



Leigh Powell.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, April 2nd at 11:00 AM in the Commons. Refreshments by Kathleen Hammond.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will meet Thursday, April 4th for a special "Ladies Day Out!" Meet up with us at 12 noon at Tussey's Casual Grill, 9229 Mormon Bridge Plaza (located at the intersection of 48th & McKinley Streets, just south of I-680 at the 48th Street exit). Any questions, please contact Kathleen Hammond. RSVP to Kathleen or to the Church Office.

HANNA CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, April 16th at 1:00 PM in the Commons. Devotions by Linda Chandler; dessert by Ardell Reuter.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet as needed. For any questions, call Terri Burrigot, 402-659-6913.

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST: We look forward to getting together on Saturday, April 6th at 9:00 AM in the Commons. It is a BYOB: "Bring Your Own Breakfast." All men of the church are invited for this great time of fellowship!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: We are enjoying our Wednesday Bible Studies at 10:00 AM in Room 128! We will meet every Wednesday in April EXCEPT the 10th. All are invited to come and fellowship around the precious Word of God!

Did you know.... Northwest Hills Church actually supports TWO different Food Pantries? The one we support all year (the bin in the Commons) and then with special requests for needed items — and special holidays like the Thanksgiving meals — is the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry (4117 Terrace Dr.), and our wonderful friend there, Rohn Collins, is the one who picks up our donations.



The other one is the Project Hope Food Pantry, located at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (off N. 60th St.). We support them through the "Direct Your Dollars" Program at all Family Fare grocery stores. When you bring your Family Fare receipts to the drop-off box in the Commons, these are aggregated with other receipts, and when hitting a certain amount, Family Fare cuts a sizeable check to Project Hope — the last one was \$1,000! — so that Project Hope can purchase much needed pantry items! So both are a win-win situation when the body of Christ partners together to meet the needs of the community! Whichever way you choose to help — either by bringing non-perishables or receipts — you are blessing others!

Thank you thank you!



APRIL
MISSION & SERVICE PROJECT

We're looking ahead to our annual
BLOCK PARTY!

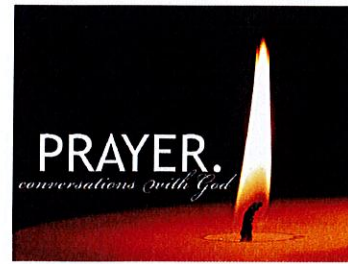


During the months of April and May, we will be collecting items needed for the Block Party on Sunday, May 19th from 5-9 PM (in back of the church). Sign ups will also be available to help out with the different activities, and to bake cakes for the "Cake Walk," etc.

Stay tuned for further details coming in the electronic Midweek Update and in the weekly Bulletins.

"Many hands make the work light!" We need you, and greatly appreciate your help and participation to make this community outreach a success and blessing to our neighbors.

Have you seen the box above the coatrack in the Commons labeled "Eyeglasses" and wonder what it's for? Our Northwest Hills Church family for years has partnered with the local Lions Club "Recycle for Sight" Program! Refractive errors can be easily corrected with eyeglasses, yet millions living in low and middle income countries lack access to basic eye care services. Lions have recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and collect usable glasses in their communities. When you bring and drop off your old glasses – whether they are reading glasses or prescription glasses – to the box in our Commons, those glasses are then taken to an official Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center for processing. There, the glasses are sorted to determine those that are usable or unusable, processed, and placed in inventory for distribution to optical missions around the world. Even the "unusable" glasses don't go to waste! The Lions Club "Recycle for Sight" Program also helps to minimize landfill waste by supporting precious metal reclamation and scrap processing for damaged glasses that are unusable. So it's a win-win situation! Thank you in advance for bringing your old and/or unused glasses to our collection box! You are making a difference around the world!



Prayer chain requests can be called to Ardell Reuter at 1-918-703-1068 or the church office at (402) 572-8392.

Thank you for your kind responses regarding updating our prayer list. We are always encouraged to hear when our loved ones are 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: Sandy Christopherson, Dianne Hasch (Dianna Cupps' friend), Jeff Walton, Susie Ryan, Cierra Ervin, Kyle Hurt & Jacoby, Marchelle Conrad, Peg Hawkins (friend of Annie Kuti), Steve Swift, Jerrie Wilcox, Tom Vincent, Nikki Heim

On-Going Cancer Treatment: Mike Lambert, Mary Larson, Patricia Gename (Mary Hinman's daughter), Gail Schroeder, Dave Merriam, Sue Day, Robert Baker, Sharon McNutt (Ruth Negus' friend's sister), Betty Benskin, Judy Intlekofer, Gail Formanack (friend of Bev Ambrosius), Gary Dutton, David Arthur (friend of the Vincents), Vicki Nolan, (Leigh Powell's sister), Ena Nolan, (Leigh Powell's niece), Bill Owens

"He sent His Word, and healed them"

— Psalm 107:20

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

— Isaiah 53:5

**HE HEALED THE ONE
WHO ARRESTED HIM,
SERVED THE ONE WHO
BETRAYED HIM, AND
LOVED THE WORLD
WHO CRUCIFIED HIM
THAT'S MY JESUS**



FROM PASTOR ALEX WOLF

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

April is Earth Month as well as home to Earth Day (April 22nd). Earth Month and Earth Day are yearly reminders to reflect on our relationship with this planet we call home. As Christians, it is a good time to reflect our Creator in His love for creation.

Caring for creation is an important aspect of our faith. Creation itself proclaims God's glory (Psalm 19:1-6). Adam and Eve were given the responsibility to be stewards of the earth (Genesis 2:15), and proper care of our world remains a primary responsibility of all humanity as made in the image of God. The earth is our home and God is doing work to restore it through Christ's resurrection.

So, what can we do to help care for the earth during the month of April? One way is to help clean up trash. Sometimes I can't believe how much garbage I see on sidewalks, in gutters, and on lawns. You don't have to go too far to pick up trash and make an instant impact.

A second way to help care for the earth is to dry clothes outdoors. With temperatures rising and the sun shining longer, why not try to get that fresh air-dried scent into your clothes?! It'll save wear and tear on you dryer and lower your electricity bill!

A third way is to visit a local farmers' market. Not only will this help support farmers and growers in the area, but buying local helps cut down on pollution due to transportation across the country.

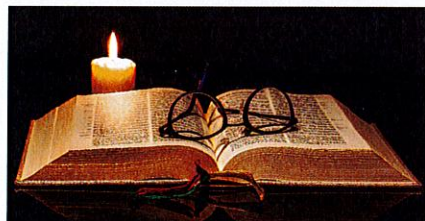
A fourth way is to go for a walk or a bike ride. Go see the beauty of God's creation on a trail or around a lake. It's a great way to get some exercise as well as saving on gas and car emissions.

Speaking of cars, a fifth (but certainly not final) way to care for the earth this month is to check the air filter on your vehicle. A dirty air filter can decrease your fuel economy by up to 10%. A quick cleaning will do your car and the environment a service.

Caring for God's creation doesn't always require huge actions. Often, small things can add up quickly. So, this April (and beyond), may we do what our Creator has asked us to do and be good stewards of His creation.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Alex



Sermon Topics and Scriptures for April

Waiting for the Feast

Eastertide 2024 Sermon Series

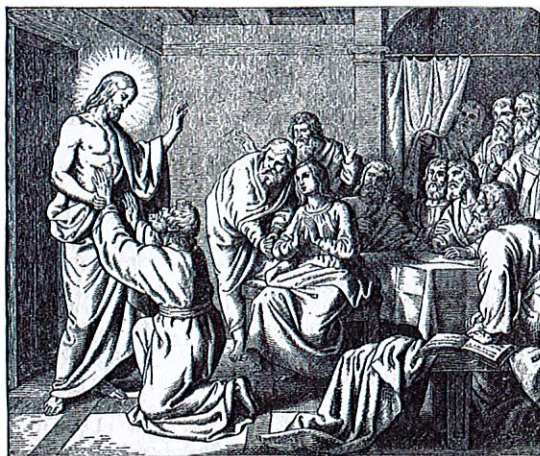
The prophet Isaiah wrote, "On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast... See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Isaiah 25:6, 9). The fulfillment of a long-held hope can be both joyous and unsettling. When the first disciples heard accounts circulating that Jesus is not dead, they were filled with amazement and fear. Were God's promises truly being fulfilled? Join us as we overcome our trepidation and rejoice in Christ's resurrection.

April 7 – John 20:19-31, "Peace Be With You"

April 14 – Guest preacher, Pastor Linda Newman

April 21 – John 10:11-18, "Power to Lay It Down"

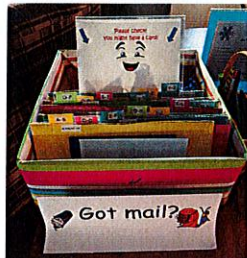
April 28 – John 15:1-8, "Abiding in Love"



Homestead Exemption

Property Tax Homestead Exemption: the VAS (Volunteers Assisting Seniors) is offering assistance for residents of the Omaha Area to complete the application. Member Rick Scofield is assisting with VAS in providing in person or telephone assistance. If you have any questions about this exemption or to make an appointment, and what to bring, you may contact him at 402-680-4705 or call the VAS at 402-444-6617. The deadline for filing is June 30.

REMINDER: Please be sure to check out our "You've Got Mail" table, especially if you have or will be celebrating a birthday or anniversary. Helps us as a church be wise stewards of our resources with saving on postage. Thank you!



COFFEE: The little blue Commons Coffee Coffe is hungry and needs to be fed....thank you in advance for your kind donations to keep the hot coffee flowing!



A big THANK YOU to everyone who faithfully orders and purchases yummy treats through our Sarah Circle Cookie Sales! Your steadfast support speaks volumes and helps us accomplish much to be a blessing to our church family and the surrounding community.

Our Northwest Hills Church family is the BEST!

GRADUATION PRAYER

May you celebrate the past and look hopefully toward your future.

May you have courage to use your gifts in new ways and places.

May you take a step every day toward your dreams and truth.

May home always bring inspiration and comfort.

DR. WERNER P. JENSEN SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are available for active participants of Northwest Hills Church who are pursuing a certificate or diploma from an institution of higher learning. The scholarship will be paid directly to the institution of education. Completed applications should be returned to the church. Hard copies of the application and recommendation forms will be made available in the Commons or via email.

Criteria for Consideration:

Applicant must:

- Have an established personal affiliation with Northwest Hills Church (attend or assist with Sunday School or other church activities)
- Exhibit an active commitment of faith
- Have applied to an institution of higher learning
- Complete the written application as described (see application form)
- Return recommendation letter(s) as described (see application form)
- Interview with committee, upon request

Priority will be given to applicant not previously awarded this scholarship.

DEADLINE: The **application** deadline is April 30th. **Recommendation forms** are also due April 30th. All documents must be returned to Northwest Hills Church, 9334 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134, Attn: Scholarship Committee.



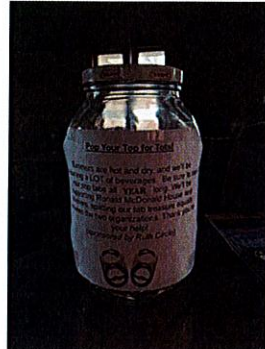
Save the date: June 27th
 Women's Tea Party
 (More details to follow)



OES CARD PARTY!

Monday, April 15th, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. Cost for the luncheon is \$10.00. There will also be raffles and door prizes. Plan to arrive in time to start playing by 10:00 AM. If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact Deb Shafer at 402-392-0418 or 402-999-1052. We still need subs (men or women). Please contact Ardell Reuter at 1-918-703-1068."

POP TABS: Our pop tab collection was so successful that we've decided to make this a year-round project! Now you can bring your pop tabs to church at your convenience so they don't accumulate in a pile at your home! Look for the big jar in the Commons. Thank you for your participation as we look forward to blessing our community partners – Ronald McDonald House and the Shriners – with our collective accumulation. (Ruth Circle)



Having some troubles hearing clearly in the sanctuary? Don't forget we have a half-dozen "receivers" that can be borrowed during services so you don't miss a thing! Try it out!

SINGLES & FRIENDS APRIL OUTING!

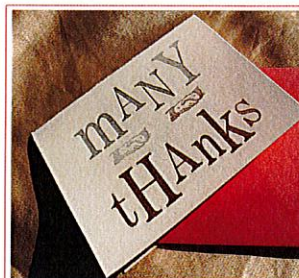
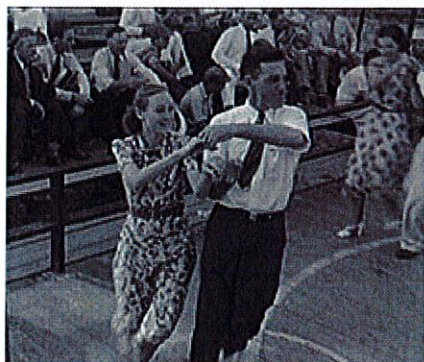
Saturday, April 20th, 3 games of bowling!

1:30 PM Bowling, West Lanes, 72nd & Dodge
 (Bowling rates and shoe rental are similar to previous years).

If you can't or don't bowl, come cheer on the teams! Dinner to follow at Pizza Ranch, 3010 S. 84th St. (just north of the Interstate on 84th St.). There are no reservations: let them know you are with the big group. We would like to thank David McNeil, our host. Any questions, please call Ginger at 402-312-5126. Hope to see you there: all are welcome!

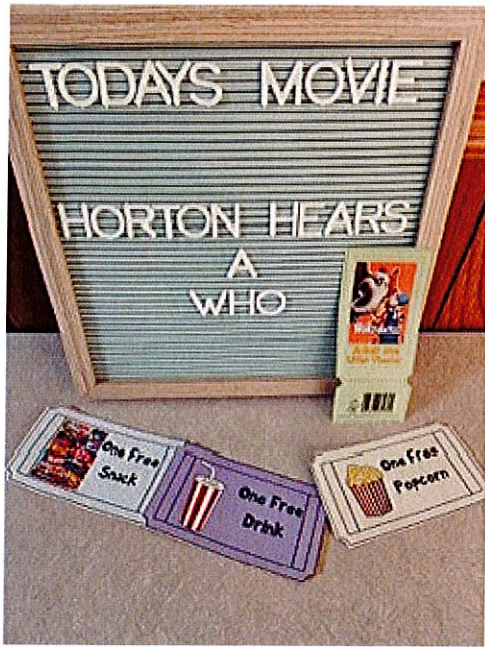


SQUARE DANCING from 7:00-9 :00 PM in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday in April (except April 14th). If you would like to get involved or have questions, please call Darwin Barker at 402-210-6228.

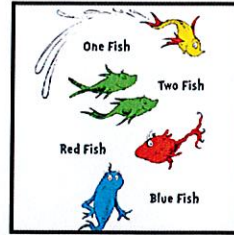


A HUGE THANK YOU to the Building & Grounds Committee gentlemen who stepped up all during the month of March to cover all of the cleaning and table/chair set up duties of the church while our custodian, Nate Merriam, was/is in the process of recuperating from

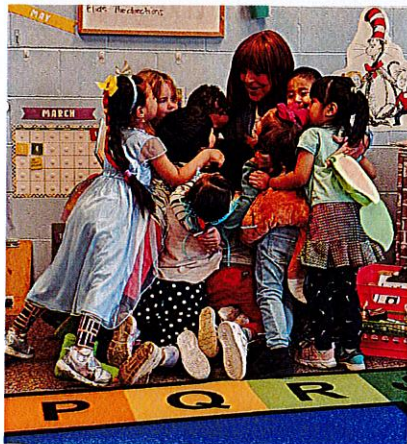
hernia surgery. Our Northwest Hills guys are the best! Special thanks go out to the following gentlemen: **Virgil Beaty, Wayne Bennett, Mark Cupps, Jerry May, Al Penner, and Rick Scofield.** We are blessed to have such a team with great servants' hearts!



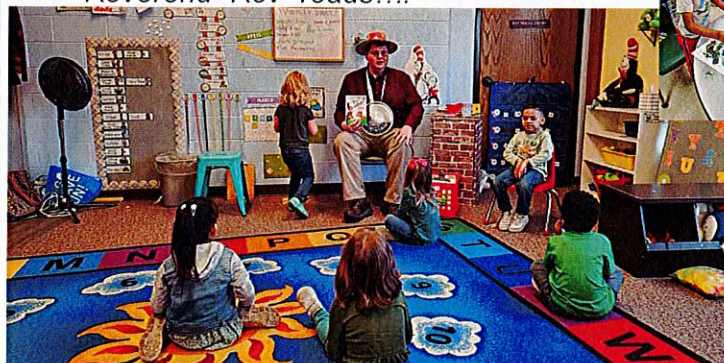
Dr. Seuss Week fun! Movies, complete with tickets for drinks, popcorn, snacks, and movie tickets!



Reading books, creating, hugs....



Reverend "Rev" reads...



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Church Office Closed for Easter Holiday	2 11 AM Ruth Circle Mtg—C 7 PM Scouts-FH	3 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafters—128	4 12 noon Women's Assoc. "Ladies Day Out" at Tussey's	5	6 9 Men's BYOB-C 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
7 9:30 Worship/Communion (No Sunday School) 7-9 PM Square Dancing-FH	8 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	9 6:30 Bells 7 PM Scouts-FH	10 1-3 Crafters—128 6:30 Choir Practice	11	12	13 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
14 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 2-6 PM Set up for Monday's OES Card Party-FH	15 10-2 OES Card Party— FH 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	16 1:00 PM Hannah Circle Mtg.—C 7 PM Scouts-FH	17 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafters—128	18	19	20 8:30-12 noon Work Day 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D 1:30 Singles West Lanes Bowling followed by 4:30 Pizza Ranch Dinner
21 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 7-9 PM Square Dancing-FH	22 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	23 9 AM Newsletter Crew—C 6:30 Bell Choir 7 PM Scouts-FH	24 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafters—128 6:30 Choir Practice	25	26	27 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
28 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship Cmte.—C 7-9 PM Square Dancing-FH	29 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	30 6:30 Bell Choir 7 PM Scouts-FH				S: Sanctuary C: Commons L: Library FH: Fellowship Hall

**NORTHWEST HILLS CHURCH
9334 FORT STREET
OMAHA NE 68134**

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Jim Lemons	5 Cindy Urban	16 Charlene Wozny	23 Kristi Stamp-Svacina
1 James Putzstuck	7 Leigh Powell	17 Amie Meador	25 Ardell Reuter
3 Thomas Frank	9 Nancy Miller	19 Suzy Parsons	25 Buddy Vincent
3 Carson Korus	11 Rick Henkel	19 Judy Summers	26 Sue Slowik
3 Courtney Scofield	11 Coleen Vincent	20 Taylor Tracy	28 Kathy Merriam
4 Dave Merriam	12 Kylee Pierce	21 Lawrence Jacobsen	30 Melanie Brusnahan
5 Carla Dudley	16 Martha Allen	21 Jerod Urban	

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

14	Lynn & Kathleen Hammond
30	Dave & Kathy Merriam