







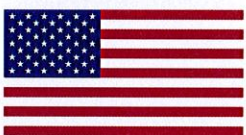
Northwest Hills Church
 9334 Fort Street, Omaha NE 68134
 Phone: 402 572-8392
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 www.northwesthills.com

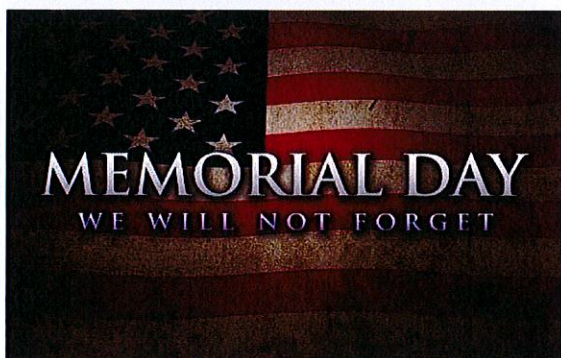
Rev. Alex Wolf, Pastor
 Suzy Parsons, Director of Christian Education
 Cheryl Morehouse, Office Administrator

Vol. 49 No. 5
 April 27, 2021

Barb Renicker, Choir Director
 Ruth Negus, Organist and Accompanist
 Sarah Baird, Nursery Attendant
 Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

May 2021

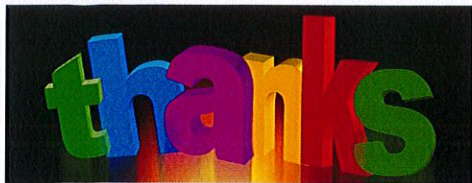
May 2		9:30 AM In Person Worship Service/Communion 9:45 AM Sunday School-19A 1-4 PM Chin Church
May 9 Newsletter Deadline		9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School-19A; EPIC—19D 10:30 AM Choir, Sound & Video Reception—C 1-4 PM Chin Church <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>
May 16		9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School-19A; EPIC—19D 10:30 AM Teacher/Graduate Reception—C 1-4 PM Chin Church 6:30 PM EPIC Youth-FH
May 23 Pentecost Sunday		9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School-19A; EPIC—19D 1-4 PM Chin Church
May 30		9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 1-4 PM Chin Church



Memorial Day honors the men and women who died while serving in the **military**. This solemn occasion is a time to reflect on these American patriots who made the ultimate **sacrifice** while protecting and defending the country they deeply loved.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2021, in recognition of Memorial Day.

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 to the congregation and church for all the prayers and cards for my husband Weldon. He is doing

pretty good. Again, thanks and God bless you all."

— Judy Stockfleth

"Thank you to all of the Northwest Hills family for their prayers, phone calls, beautiful cards and all well wishes. We're both doing well. Thank you again!"

— John & Connie Anderson.

"To my Northwest Hills Church Family: Thank you for all the beautiful cards for my 100th birthday, also the calls. I'm still upon "Cloud 9!" Love all of you!"

— Margaret Reece

"I am expressing my dearest thank you to my church family. For thoughts and prayers relating to my unforeseen COPD weather-related episode I experienced last Tuesday evening, March 23rd. Kathy Caito and myself went to have our vaccines, it was a light continuous rain, after returning home later in the afternoon I had a developing breathing issue. With all of my medications it didn't get any better. Kathleen Hammond took me to the ER at Immanuel Hospital after an hour of this debilitating breathing issue. I was informed I had experienced respiratory distress, With the doctors knowledge and medications I was fortunate to return home later that evening. This was the scariest experience of my life. I don't care to ever repeat it. I am doing so much better now with medication through Easter. Thank you for being there for me with assistance and prayers do work! God does know what is BEST."

-- Sheri A Swift

"Thank you very much for the "stitchers" for the beautiful home-made Easter cards. They are beautiful!"

— The NWH Church Council

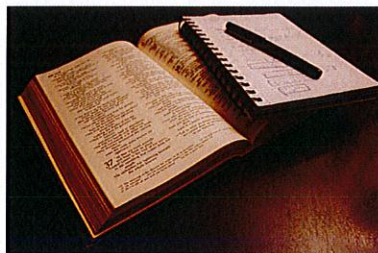
CRAFT GROUP!

Our craft "nights" will now be crafter "afternoons" held in Rm. 128 beginning at **1:00 p.m.** on the second Tuesday of each month. The next craft afternoon will be Tuesday, May 11, 2021. We welcome

new ideas for the upcoming year and I know we are all excited to resume another year of crafting. Anyone who has an interest in helping with craft items is invited to attend these fun and productive get-togethers. **No special skills are required!!** Please continue to work on your individual craft items at home if you are unable to attend. You can either bring a craft project to work on or choose from a craft in the craft room. Questions? Please feel free to call Sherry Mitchell at (402) 498-3597. We look forward to many wonderful afternoons of crafting with friends, while working toward Northwest Hills' Craft Show in October!!



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY



Wednesday Morning Bible Study continues each week at 10:00 AM in the Commons. The fellowship and discussions have been wonderful. We've had a great turnout since the beginning of March,

and the questions and discussions have been rich and thoughtful. It has been wonderful to see everyone again! All are welcome!



CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting
7:00 PM Thursday, May 13, 2021,
Commons.

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

The men of Northwest Hills Church will be getting together again for a Men's Ministry Breakfast! We will meet Saturday, May 8th in the Commons at 9:00 AM.



It is a "BYOB: Bring Your Own Breakfast" or you can eat breakfast before you come. Mark your calendars to plan on attending for a great time of fellowship!



Women's Association: Will meet Thursday, May 6th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to bring a sack lunch. Questions? Call Kathleen Hammond, 402-981-3630.

Hannah Circle: Will meet Tuesday, May 18th at 1:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Call Lois Gapen, 402-572-6792.

Ruth Circle: Will meet Monday, May 17th at 6:30 PM in the Commons. Questions? Call Ginger Morelock, 402-312-5126.

Sarah Circle: Will meet Wednesday, May 12th at 7:00 PM in the Commons. Questions? Call Terri Burrigh at (402) 659-6913.

NEW MAY MISSION PROJECT

The Open Door Mission Outreach Center is in desperate need of cereal, so we are going to do an additional cereal drive during the month of May. See display in Commons for collections. Questions? Contact Kathy Caito. Thanks in advance!



MISSION/SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP Cmtes.

MAY COLLECTION

We are excited to bless TWO community partners: Big Brothers/Big Sisters is supported by Thrift World, and Y.E.S. (Youth Emergency Services) is supported by Tip Top Thrift. During May, we will be collecting gently-used toys and children's and teen's clothing items. Collection bins are in the Commons. Questions? Contact Kathy Caito (Chair, Mission & Service Committee) or Kathleen Hammond (Chair, Fellowship Committee). Here is some information from the respective websites of both organizations to help bring understanding of their heart and community impact:

Y.E.S. (Youth Emergency Services)

Our Mission: Youth Emergency Services assists youth experiencing homelessness and near homelessness by providing critically-needed resources which support them in their desire to be self-sufficient. Basically, we help youth in crisis get back on their feet in whatever ways we can. After meeting their immediate needs for food, shelter, clothing and safety, we create a support system which helps them flourish.

Our Vision: We envision a community which understands and embraces its youth, creating an environment where youth homelessness no longer exists.

At first, YES was led strictly by volunteers who invited youth in crisis to stay in their homes. In time, it was decided it was time to invest in a home, which became known as the YES house. The YES House (known today as the Emergency Shelter) has been serving youth in crisis for over 40 years. YES added its Street Outreach Program in 1999. YES launched its Transitional Living Program (TLP) and Maternity Home in 2008. YES started its Rapid Rehousing program in 2019.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

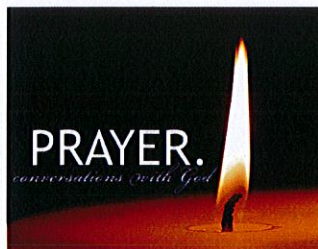
Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 7 through 21, throughout the Omaha/Council Bluffs metro area. We develop positive friendships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

VISION: All youth achieve their full potential.

MISSION: Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

ACCOUNTABILITY: By partnering with parents/guardians, volunteers, and others in the community we are accountable for each child in our program achieving:

- Higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships
- Avoidance of risky behaviors
- Educational success



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 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: Dirk Huston (Janet Delehoy's nephew), Nancy Norton (friend of Carol Scott), Sandy Christopherson, Al Cummings (Janet Delehoy's brother), Sharon Marchese (Kathleen Hammond's sister), Carol Scott, Lynn Hammond, Drew Botsakos, Kathleen Hammond, Mary LaHood, Dianne Hasch (Dianna Cupps' friend), Barb Karstens, Jeff Walton, John Gerken (Sheri Swift's cousin), Susie Ryan, Weldon Stockfleth, Cierra Ervin

On-Going Cancer Treatment: 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, Sue Day, Robert Baker, Sharon McNutt (Ruth Negus' friend's sister), Betty Benskin, Judy Intlekofer, Bill Owens, Pam Burright, Marvin Schoonover (Pat Mollak's brother), Ken Lemons (Jim Lemons' son), Coleen Vincent, Mary Whipple (friend of Ginger Morelock), Gail Formanack (Bev Ambrosius' friend), Paul Nitsick, Hank Kessler

"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

FROM PASTOR ALEX WOLF

Grace and peace to you in the name of the risen Christ!

I thought we had a wonderful Easter celebration in April. We had singing, praising, beautiful flowers, and smiling faces (under masks, of course!). Easter Sunday is a triumphant day when we rejoice in God's victory over death and evil through Jesus' rising from the dead. Christ's death and resurrection are the centerpiece of the Christian faith. It brings us wonderful joy and hope.

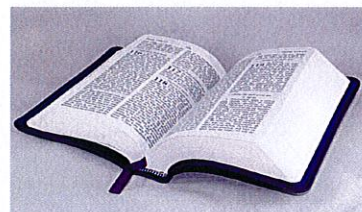
While Jesus' resurrection is a glorious event, we can't help but admit that the effects of sin and death can still be felt in the world around us. We've seen it recently in so many COVID-19 related deaths, in multiple shootings, in hate and violence committed toward people of differing skin colors. We see and experience it through hunger and thirst, through broken relationships, through emotional and physical abuse. We each bear scars from the brokenness of our world.

What's interesting to me is that Jesus, risen from the grave, still bears the scars of the cross on his hands and side. The disciple Thomas touched Jesus' wounds (see John 20:24-31). Jesus' scars tell us that he knows our pain. Though he was in the form of God, he became like us (see Philippians 2:6-8). He knows what it's like to suffer and be scarred. He knows what it's like to be human. While his scars tell us that we as humans endure hardships and suffering, his resurrection shows that he has overcome them. Jesus' scars are not a defect, but a testimony to his victory over the forces of evil. Through his own suffering and pain, Jesus identifies with what we're going through. And through his resurrection, Jesus brings us through our darkest times to light and life.

Easter is often a grand celebration, but it can be a difficult time for those still experiencing their own Good Friday. The scars on the hands and side of the resurrected Jesus show us how he sits in the ashes with us, mourns with us, and shares our burdens with us. Whether he has already and will someday soon, he also shares with us joy and new life, scars and all. Hold on to that hope, hold on to Jesus, the One crucified and risen, the One who knows you and walks with you through the darkest valleys all the way to the mountain tops.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Alex



Sermon Topics and Scriptures for May

Church Words

Eastertide 2021 Sermon Series

Language is important to us as humans. We use words to communicate our thoughts and actions. Christians use unique words to define our faith. Sometimes, these words confuse non-Christians (and at times, even Christians themselves!). Join us as we define seven "churchy" words Christians often use.

May 2—"Grace" – Ephesians 2:1-10

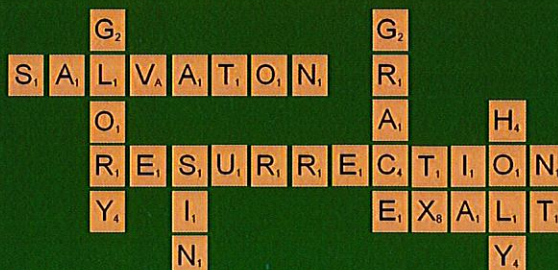
May 9—"Salvation" – Colossians 1:15-23

May 16—"Exalt" – Philippians 2:1-11

May 23—Pentecost: "Filled with Power" - Acts 18:24-19:7

May 30—"Doubt" - John 20:24-29

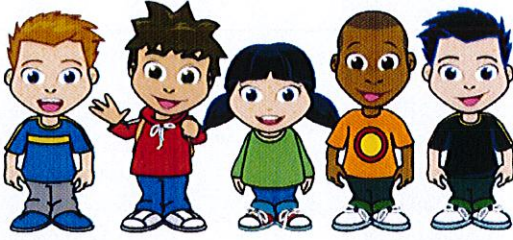
CHURCH WORDS



Eastertide 2021 Sermon Series
April 4 – May 16
Northwest Hills Church

Preschool Update

March 22, 2021: We worked on math skills by making patterns with blocks .



March 23, 2021: Today was sense of touch day and Fine Motor. We had Feely boxes, bubble wrap, stickers and Geo Boards. It was a bust day.



March 24, 2021: today was sense of sight we made colorful pictures with our jingle bell paintbrushes. We also did a color freeze dance, when the music stopped they had to find the color I held up. We threw in a tornado drill when all the kids heard the sirens going off.



March 31, 2021: the special guest visitor today was Suzy's daughter, Jessie, who is a veterinary technician. She explained what she does to take care of animals. The preschoolers brought in a stuffed animal, so that they could take turns listening to their own heart and lungs and do an "examination" on their stuffed animal. Of course one of the preschoolers was an over-achiever and brought in a nearly 4 foot tall dinosaur!

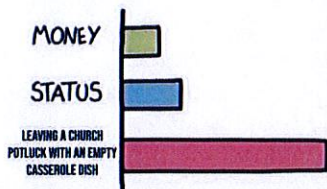


Thank you to the UCC Conference and Arbor Day Foundation for the tree! The preschoolers will be planting it and making it part of their outdoor classroom! We will keep our Northwest Hills Church family posted with details and pictures!

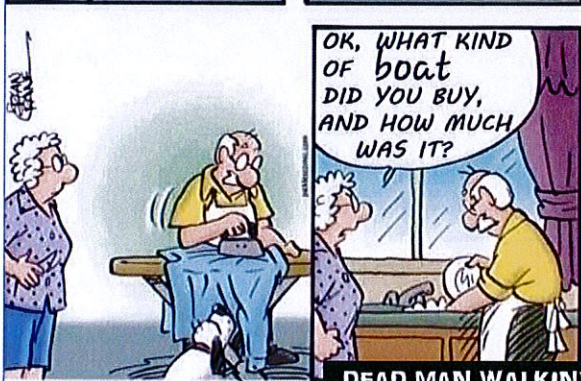
save EARTH!
plant a TREE ...



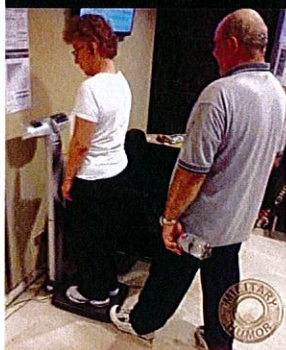
WHAT GIVES PEOPLE FEELINGS OF POWER



BIRTHDAY CAKES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT



DEAD MAN WALKIN'



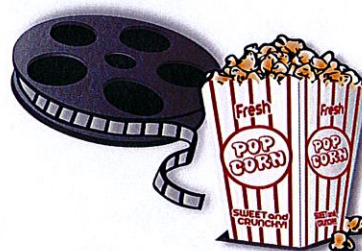
Attention All Singles & All Our Church Friends!

Our May activity is **Saturday, May 15th**.

We're going to watch a moving in the Sanctuary! Ginger Morelock is hostess and needs your help!



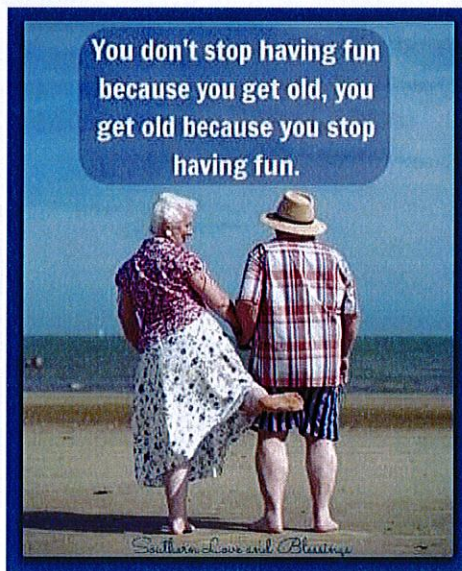
What movie would you like to see? Contact Ginger after church or at (402) 312-5126 with your movie suggestions. The movie with the most suggestions wins! If you have the movie on CD, we'll borrow it from you or see if that movie is available. Popcorn will be provided and enjoyed during the movie. We will respect social distancing. We'll notify you if we have interest in getting together for dinner after the movie. Please join us for an afternoon outing! Watch for further information. Thank you!



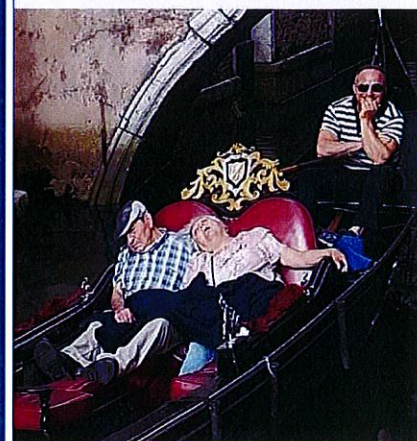
Singles & Friends is open to all Church members, friends, single or not! **If plans should change or the event is postponed, we will notify everyone.**

Come join the festivities!

Any questions, please contact Ginger Morelock at 402-312-5126.



Why you shouldn't wait until retirement to start traveling

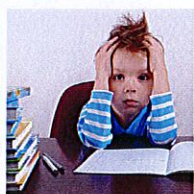


GRADUATE INFORMATION:

If you or an immediate family member is graduating with your High School Diploma, Bachelors, Masters or Doctorate this spring or summer, we will be honoring you on Sunday, May 16. Please contact Suzy (402) 572-8392, suzy@northwesthills.com) with your graduation information including name, school future plans and interests/hobbies by May 9th.



Congratulations!



Northwest Hills Preschool Update

We are in the home stretch of Preschool this year. Our new teacher, Lori, is doing a fantastic job and has many great ideas. She has had extensive training in Love and Logic: a behavioral program based on choices for the children. Over the next several weeks we will be further developing the outdoor classroom.

April 12-16 was the "Week of the Young Child." Different activities are planned for each day:



- ◇ Music Monday
- ◇ Tasty Tuesday
- ◇ Work Together Wednesday
- ◇ Artsy Thursday
- ◇ Family Friday



On Friday the 16th, families were invited for donuts, coffee and juice and they were encouraged to stay and visit their child's class and participate in activities.

Spread the word...we are registering kids for the 2021-2022 school year. If you know of any families with 3 to 5 year old children looking for a great preschool, information is available in the church office.



THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS DAY

(From <https://www.hfotusa.org/difference-memorial-day-veterans-day> on May 20, 2020 by Teresa Verity)

Memorial Day and Veterans Day are both patriotic holidays honoring the military, but there is a significant difference between the two aside from when they land on the calendar.

Memorial Day, which falls on the last Monday in May, honors the men and women who died while serving in the military. This solemn occasion is a time to reflect on these American patriots who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting and defending the country they deeply loved. Veterans Day, observed every November 11, recognizes all who have served in the Armed Forces.

You may wonder: What is the proper way to acknowledge each holiday? On Memorial Day you can honor the fallen by attending memorial services within your community or laying flowers and planting flags on graves at your local Veterans cemetery. Veterans Day is an opportunity to do the same, but it is also an appropriate time to show your appreciation to Veteran friends and family. You can also recognize Veterans Day by flying the American flag outside your home, visiting or volunteering at a Veteran facility, attending a local event, and, of course, thanking Veterans and their families for their service.

You do not have to wait for a national holiday to show your gratitude to Service members. Any day is a good day to support Veterans either through a charity or giving a heartfelt "thank you" to those who served.



MAY

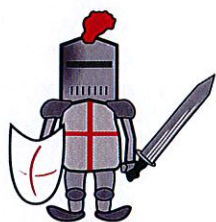
Kids K-5th Grade Happenings



May 2nd	Sunday School: "What is grace?"	9:45 a.m.
May 9th	Sunday School: "Holy holy holy!"	9:45 a.m.
May 16th	Sunday School: "Save me!"	9:45 a.m.
May 23rd	Sunday School: "Praise Him!"	9:45 a.m.
May 30th	No Sunday School	

Coming in June and July:

"Sunday School in the Park!" Summer Sunday School will be held in North Oaks Park (93rd & Ellison). We will meet there each Sunday from 9:30-10:30. Please drop children off at the park.
Vacation Bible School: July 26-30 at Lord of Love Church, 107th & Fort. Join us for Knights of North Castle: A Quest for the King's Armor" 5:30-8:00 PM.



EPIC Youth



6th~12th Grade

May 1st	Meet behind church to delivery May Day Bags!	9:30 a.m.
May 2nd	Join your families for Communion)	9:30 a.m.
May 9th	EPIC Discussion Group (formerly known as EPIC Bible Study)-19D <i>Don't forget to tell mom "Happy Mother's Day!"</i>	9:45 a.m.
May 16th	EPIC Discussion Group—19D EPIC Youth— " <i>Mission Possible:</i> " <i>we will be doing a mission project: making dog treats for a local animal shelter.</i>	9:45 a.m. 6:30-8 p.m.
May 23rd	EPIC Discussion Group—19D	9:45 a.m.

Summer's just around the corner so mark your calendars! Save these important dates:



helping
hands

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." 1 Corinthians 3:9

Join us for

OMT

Omaha
Mission
Trip

July 11-16

You can be the helping hands in the city of Omaha. It's important to help out in our own community. It makes us realize how close some of the issues are to our own homes and how blessed we really are.

See Suzy for details.

EPIC Youth and other Northwest Hills members meet **Saturday, May 1st at 9:30 AM** in the lower parking lot to walk the neighborhood in back of the church to delivery May Day bags to our neighbors.

Mission Trip July 11-16: We will be spending the week at Scatter Joy Acres and the Salvation Army. We will be spending the afternoons and nights at Suzy's lake house.

Vacation Bible School: July 26-30 at Lord of Love Church, 107th & Fort. Join us for "Knights of North Castle: A Quest for the King's Armor!" 5:30-8:00 PM each day. Plan to be part of VBS!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAY						
2 9:30 Worship/Communion 9:45 Sunday School-19A 1-4 Chin Church-S	3 6:45 PM AA Mtg—Rm. 128	4 “May the 4th be with you!” 7:00 Bell Practice 7:00 Scouts - FH	5 10 Bible Study-C	6 12 noon W/A-FH	7	8 9:00 AM Men's Ministry Breakfast (bring your own) - Commons
9 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School-19A; EPIC Discussion Group—19D 10:30 Choir, Sound & Video Reception-C 1-4 Chin Church-S	10 6:45 PM AA Mtg. Rm. 128	11 GENERAL ELECTION-C 1 PM CRAFTS Room 128 7:00 Scouts—FH	12 Preschool Picnic In the Park 10 Bible Study-C 7:00 Sarah Circle— Commons	13 7 Council Meeting-C	14	15 3 PM Movie in the Sanctuary & Dinner Singles & Friends, TBD
Newsletter Deadline						
16 9:30 Worship-S 9:45 Sunday School-19A; EPIC Discussion Group—19D 10:30 Teacher/Graduate Reception-C 1-4 Chin Church-S 6:30-8 PM EPIC Youth—FH	17 6:30 PM Ruth Circle-Commons 6:45 PM AA Mtg. Rm. 128	18 1:15 PM Hannah Circle-FH 7:00 Bell Practice 7:00 Scouts - FH	19 10 Bible Study-C 6:30 Choir practice	20	21 Preschool Graduation Last Day of Preschool	22
23 9:30 Worship—S 9:45 Sunday School-19A; EPIC Discussion Group—19D 1-4 Chin Church-S	24 6:45 PM AA Mtg. Rm. 128	25 9 Newsletter Crew In Commons 7:00 Bell Practice 7:00 Scouts—FH	26 10 Bible Study-C	27	28	29
30 9:30 Worship—S 1-4 Chin Church-S	31 MEMORIAL DAY (office closed) 6:45 PM AA Mtg. Rm. 128					S: Sanctuary C: Commons L: Library FH: Fellowship Hall

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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OMAHA NE
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MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Kathy Coppler	7	Carol Scott	18	Conner McKimmey
1	Chloe Henkel	7	Clemensene Zuckweiler	19	Mike McKimmey
1	Annie Kuti	8	Janet Davis	20	Grant Barker
2	Betty Benskin	8	Susan Ryan	21	Michael Ervin
2	Darby Carlin	10	Ashton Christensen	21	Dallin Nastasi
3	Kathleen Hammond	11	Rosemary Morton	21	Peggy Truckenbrod
4	Pastor Alex Wolf	11	Tanner White	22	Sheri Swift
5	Katelynn Beberniss	13	Hank Kessler	23	Terri Burright
6	Michael Davis	13	Shirley Spencer	26	Heather Jacobsen
6	William Owens	14	Virginia Wiese	26	Richard Stricker
7	John Anderson	16	Linda Stricker	27	Jan Hannasch
7	Kelsie Henkel	18	Nikki Heim	28	Sondra Putzstuck
7	Duane Salonen			29	Lucas Hunter

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

12	Michael & Janet Davis	20	Terry & Paula Markuson
15	Al & Sue Penner	22	Bob & Brenda Taylor
17	Brad & Christina Beal	25	Jack & Carolyn Williams
18	Donald & Peggy Truckenbrod	26	Jim & Coleen Vincent
19	Robert and Sharon Dolezal		