







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

Vol. 49 No. 9
 August 26, 2021

Barb Renicker, Music Director
 Sarah Baird, Nursery Attendant
 Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

September 2021

September 5  HOLY COMMUNION	9:30 AM Worship / Communion No Sunday School or EPIC Re-charge 1-4 PM Chin Church
September 12 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! 	9:30 AM Worship 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge Downstairs 10:45 Lay Visitation Mtg.—L 1-4 PM Chin Church
September 19 	9:30 AM Worship 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge Downstairs 10:30 Jo Morton Birthday Reception—C 10:45-3:00 EPIC Re-charge serves at Open Door Mission 1-4 PM Chin Church
September 26 	9:30 AM Worship 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge Downstairs 1-4 PM Chin Church



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!

PASTORAL VISITS

If you would like a home visit, please let Pastor Alex know via a phone call, email, or note on his desk to set up a date and time. With the COVID-19 pandemic, Pastor Alex isn't always sure who is comfortable with in-person visits and who is not. If you are comfortable, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Pastor Alex is also available to visit those who are hospitalized or going through rehab at a facility. Because hospitals and other institutions do not notify the church when a patient is admitted, we need for you or a family member to notify us. For emergencies, Pastor Alex can be reached at (402) 649-4564.

Whether at home or in the hospital, Pastor Alex is more than happy to accommodate your request for pastoral care.

CRAFT GROUP!

The next craft afternoon will be **Tues., September 14, 2021 in Room 128**. We welcome new ideas for the upcoming year and I know we are all excited to resume another year of crafting. Anyone who has 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 **LIBRARY**. The fellowship and discussions have been wonderful. This month we are discovering nuggets of truth from I and II Samuel. All are welcome!

CHURCH COUNCIL 7 PM Thurs., **September 9**, 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, September 4th 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, September 2nd at noon in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies of the church are invited! Questions? Call Kathleen Hammond, 402-981-3630.

Hannah Circle: Will meet Tuesday, September 21st at 1:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Devotions and dessert by Kathy Coppler and Nicki O'Neil. Questions? Call Lois Gapen, 402-572-6792.

Ruth Circle: Will meet Monday, September 20th at 6:30 PM in the Commons. Questions? Call Ginger Morelock, 402-312-5126.

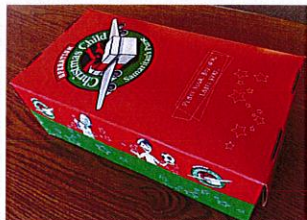
Sarah Circle: Will meet Thursday, September 2nd, 7 PM. Questions? Call Terri Burrigat at (402) 659-6913.

CANASTA: SALAD LUNCH CARD PARTY! The canasta group will attend the Women's Association Salad Lunch Party on Thursday, September 16th. This is always exciting and fun with many delicious salads. Please arrive in plenty of time to begin playing at 10:00 AM. If you have any questions, please call Judy Intlekofer at 402-651-2947.

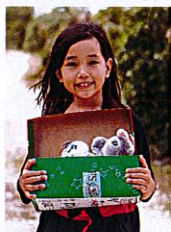


MISSION & SERVICE SEPTEMBER COLLECTION

During September we will be collecting towards shipping costs of our Operation Christmas Child Boxes, and will have a sign up sheet for the great October 17th assembly



line of packing the boxes! (Assembly will occur after church in the Fellowship Hall) See the display to sign up and to make monetary donations towards shipping.



LOOKING AHEAD.... OCTOBER MISSION OUTREACH

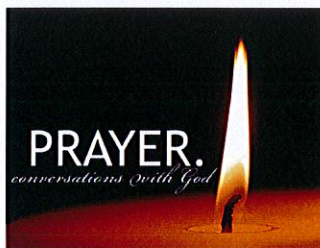
We have an opportunity this year to be a witness to the neighborhood! Halloween falls on a Sunday this year, so



what a PERFECT opportunity to hold a "Trunk or Treat" in Northwest Hills Church parking lot! This offers neighborhood kids a safe alternative or start to their house-to-house journey for treats. The plan is to hold it from 4-6 PM, October 31st. A sign up sheet to participate will be in the Commons. Questions? Please contact Kathy Caito, Mission & Service Chair, for details.

NOVEMBER MISSION OUTREACH

We will be focusing on the annual Thanksgiving Dinner provided by our Community Partner, Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry! We will be collecting the "fixings" for a Thanksgiving dinner for our local families in need. Last year we were able to provide a wonderful Thanksgiving meal care package (including turkeys from HyVee) to over 140 families! We anticipate the need will be greater this year. Items we will be collecting: dressing/stuffing, canned pumpkin, cranberry relish, green beans, sweet potatoes. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity! Questions? Please call Pat Mollak at 402-493-1969.



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), Michael Gulliams (Bev Ambrosius' nephew), 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, Justin Everett (Sherry Mitchell's cousin's son), Sally (Ginger's cousin in Florida), Nicki O'Neil

On-Going Cancer Treatment: Mike Lambert, Mary Larson, Sharon Kirby (Janet Delehoy's sister-in-law), Dick McCoy, Gail Schroeder, 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, Gail Formanack (friend of Bev Ambrosius), Paul Nitsick, Gary Dutton, David Arthur (friend of the Vincents), Susan Higginson

"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 from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I've shared with many of you photos of my new nephew, Calvin. Calvin was born on Thursday, July 22. He is healthy and has a loving dad (my brother), mom and sister. When I first met Calvin, it was amazing holding him in my arms. He seemed so fragile. My heart was filled with joy as I stared at his little ears and nose, his adorable fingers and toes. I held a new life in my arms, and I could only imagine what is in store for him in the days, months, and years to come.

This has become a season of new beginnings. September marks the start of a new school year. Children receive new clothes, books, and supplies as they enter a new grade and meet new friends. A new sporting season has begun, and every team has the expectation to win and win big. We begin a new season in September, unofficially at Labor Day, officially with the autumn equinox. Each new season gives the opportunity to start again.

In his writings, the prophet Isaiah spoke to the people of Israel as they lived in exile in Babylon, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up: do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland" (Isaiah 43:18-19). Through the prophet's words, God spoke to the Israelites and told them to look for God to bring them home through another exodus-like event. God was doing a new thing with them.

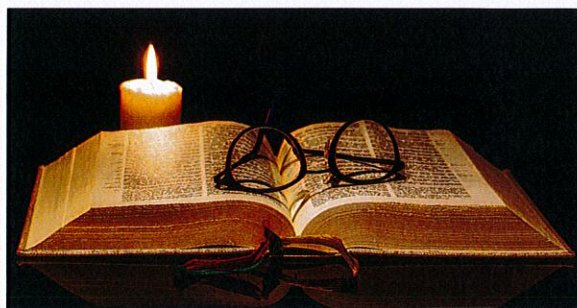
I know that in some ways, this doesn't feel like a season of new beginnings. With the talk of virus variants and safety protocols, some may feel we're going backward. But one way or another, we push forward; we keep going. God's Spirit is always moving, leading us to new things, ultimately making us new creations in Jesus Christ.

What new thing is God doing in your life? Has God brought someone new into your life, led you to a new place in life, or just a new phase of something you've already been doing? How are you feeling about this fresh thing? Does it excite you, or do you crave the familiar? Do you love new adventures, or are you stressed out by them? Fear not, as God would say! Whatever new path God leads you on, God supports you, encourages you, and strengthens you along the way.

If you aren't currently starting something new, perhaps keep a look out for what God could be doing in your life. As the author of Lamentations wrote, God's mercies "are new every morning" (Lam. 3:23).

In Christ's love,

Pastor Alex



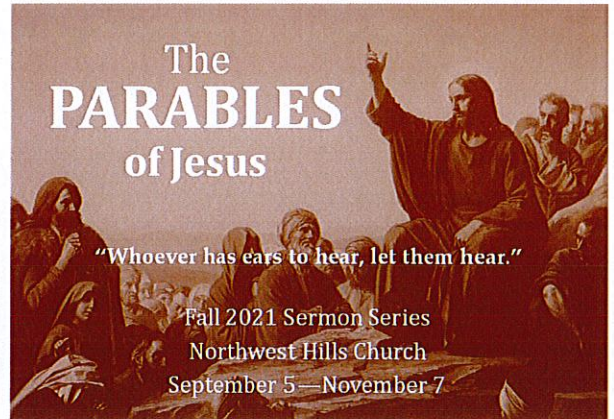
Starting your fall "spring cleaning?" Doing a "purge" of your cupboards and storage areas? The NWH Craft Fair is coming Saturday, October 16th from 9 AM – 3 PM. There WILL BE a "White Elephant" sale at the Craft Fair: however, items can *only be brought to the church Sunday, October 3rd and 10th*. Please, no clothes. Questions? Please contact Terri Burright.



Sermon Topics and Scriptures for September

The Parables of Jesus: Fall 2021 Sermon Series

Stories capture our attention and engage us. Stories can shape us; they can strengthen or challenge us. Stories can teach us so much about ourselves, others, and the world around us. Jesus understood the power of stories and often taught people about the kingdom of God using stories, also known as parables. Jesus' parables were challenging, yet profound. Join us this Fall as we look at some of the parables told by Jesus.



- September 5: Mark 4:1-20, The Parable of the Sower
September 12: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, The Parable of the Weeds
September 19: Matthew 13:31-35, The Parable of the Mustard Seed and Yeast
(The Reverend Mary McQueen preaching)
September 26: Matthew 13:44-46, The Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

A little bit about our 9/19 guest speaker.....

On Sunday, September 19, we welcome the Rev. Mary McQueen as our guest preacher. Pastor Mary has served congregations in Nebraska and Florida. She studied Shakespeare in Great Britain and myths and tales about volcanoes in the Pacific Northwest. Pastor Mary has helped hundreds of mothers deliver their babies. She is a prison chaplain as well as a published author. Pastor Mary and her husband, who is also a pastor, lives in Lincoln.

The awkward moment when your husband finds all your Hobby Lobby purchases hiding in the guest bedroom, and now you have some explaining to do...



Just for a smile.....

This is something that happened at an assisted living center. The people who lived there had small apartments but they all ate at a central cafeteria. One morning one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so my wife went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was OK. She could hear him through the door and he said that he was running late and would be down shortly, so she went back to the dining area.

An hour later he still hadn't arrived, so she went back up towards his room but found him on the stairs. He was coming down the stairs but was having a hard time. He had a death grip on the hand rail and seemed to have trouble getting his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her no, he wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. So, she helped him the rest of the way down the stairs and he had his breakfast. When he tried to return to his room, he was completely unable to get up even the first stair step, so they called an ambulance for him.

A couple of hours later she called the hospital to see how he was doing. The receptionist there said he was fine, he just had both of his legs in one side of his boxer shorts.

I'm send this to my children so that they don't sell the house before they know all the facts...

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!"

Psalm 98:4, English Standard Version

We are inviting you to join the choir as a new member! Some sing high, some sing low, and some sing in-between. Come make a joyful noise! We are a friendly bunch and will help you find your parts and get all settled in. Male and female voices are needed. Help us fill up the choir loft and fill the sanctuary with glorious praise! He is worthy! Please contact Barb Renicker for details on how to get started.

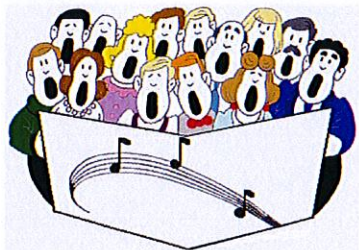
The **Bell Choir** will start up Tuesday practices at 7:00 PM on September 7th.

The **Choir** will start up Wednesday practices at 6:30 PM on September 8th.

Remember.... "Jesus replied, I tell you, if these people keep silent, the stones will cry out in praise!" *Luke 19:40 Amplified Version*



You don't want to be outdone by a bunch of rocks, do you?



Do you have a heart for people? Do you like to send a card, or pick up a phone to call and cheer up someone you haven't seen for a while? Do you like to make a personal

visit and chat with family or a dear friend?



On Sunday, September 12th after service at 10:45 in the Library, our Lay Visitation team will be gathering to regroup and revitalize. If you'd like to get involved keeping folks connected by one or more of the

three methods above, we welcome you to join us in our journey to strengthen the tie that binds.

Questions? Please see Pastor Alex. Thanks for considering to come and explore how you can make an impact in staying connected with our church family.

SINGLES & FRIENDS! SEPTEMBER OUTING

Please watch for details for the Singles activity for September. The Mahoney Melodrama was on our schedule for 2020. Mahoney doesn't have their schedule listed yet. We will plan something for the weekend of September 25th, but not sure what it will be at this time. We'll let you know soon! Any questions, please contact Ginger Morelock at 402-312-5126. Thanks!



Northwest Hills Preschool



SPROUT, BLOOM, GROW

We have been getting ready to welcome our new preschool students on September 7th. I can't wait — YAY!! It's always fun to see the young kids already to learn and parents eager to see what projects they bring home. It's hard to imagine many of the things older people take for granted our little ones haven't even experienced yet.

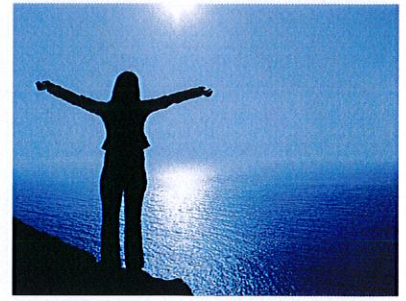
At the time of this writing, we have 9 kids enrolled (and we still have room for more). Lori Rahn, the teacher, has been getting the classroom ready. She has many ideas to improve the quality of the preschool experience. We have an Eagle Scout ready to make improvements on the outdoor classroom. Thank you to Women's Association for their donation for other improvements.

We look forward to a great year...remember spread the word about our great preschool!



Announcing A New Worship Service

Beginning October 3



We are excited to announce that at its August meeting, our church council voted to move forward with the creation of a second worship service set to begin October 3. We believe this service will provide an important worship experience for our congregation and our surrounding community. Here are a few “questions and answers” that will help you learn about this exciting new development:

1) What kind of worship will this second service be?

This second service will provide a Spirit-filled, contemporary worship experience centered around the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The service will include recorded praise music, Scripture, a message, and prayer.

2) Why a second worship service?

Our current 9:30 service serves those who appreciate a classical, traditional style of worship. A contemporary service allows those in our congregation who seek to worship God in a different way a meaningful avenue to do so. A contemporary service could also be an entry point into our congregation for younger visitors and families.

3) When and where will it be held?

11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary.

4) What about Sunday School?

We will continue to have Sunday School during the 9:30 service only. If the need to have Sunday School during the 11:00 service become apparent, we will work to include it at that time. As always, children are welcome in worship. We have activity bags for children in the commons area if they need the distraction.

5) What about major church events?

We would not have the second service on Sunday with major events, such as the annual congregational meeting, Christmas cantata, or children’s Christmas program. On those Sundays, we would all worship together at 9:30.

6) When will this service begin?

Sunday, October 3, 2021



We are excited and look forward to what God is doing here at Northwest Hills Church.

SEPTEMBER

Kids K-4th* Grade Happenings

* Please note change in grades: 5th graders are now able to attend all EPIC Youth activities!

September 5	No Sunday school: join your families for the church service and communion.	9:30 a.m.
September 12	Sunday School: "Storytelling by Jesus"	9:30 a.m.
September 19	Sunday School: "Stories Jesus Told"	9:30 a.m.
September 26	Sunday School: "Lessons from Jesus"	9:30 a.m.

EPIC Re-charge



5th* Grade- Young Adult

* Please note change in grades: 5th graders are now able to attend all EPIC Youth activities!

Sunday School for Middle School and High School is now called **EPIC Re-charge!**
Meet in the Youth Room at 9:30 AM for games, discussion, and free time.

September 5	No EPIC Re-charge: join your families for the church service and communion.	9:30-10:15 a.m.
September 12	EPIC Re-charge: Are you a weed eater?	9:30-10:15 a.m.
September 19	EPIC Re-charge: Mustard or bread? Meet at church to carpool to the Open Door Mission to serve lunch. We will stop on the way home to get ice cream. We will return to the church by 3:00 p.m.	9:30-10:15 a.m. 10:45-3:00
September 26	EPIC Re-charge: Hidden Treasures	9:30-10:15 a.m.

Want to be a kid again? Consider being a facilitator for the kids and youth at Northwest Hills on Sunday mornings! One hour a week, supplies furnished, and the lesson is planned. We are looking for YOU! Contact Suzy Parsons for more info.

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00 AM Bible Study—L	2 12 noon W/A-FH 7 PM Sarah Circle—C	3	4 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast-C
5 9:30 Worship/Communion-S 1-4 Chin Church-S NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	6 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:45 PM AA Mtg.—128	7 Preschool starts! 7 PM Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts—FH	8 10 Bible Study-L 12-3 OES Mtg-C 6:30 PM Choir Practice	9 7 PM Church Council	10	11
12 9:30 Worship-S 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge downstairs 10:45 Lay Visitation Mtg—L 1-4 Chin Church-S	13 6:45 PM AA Mtg. -128	14 1:00 Crafts-128 7 PM Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts - FH	15 10 NO BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM Choir Practice	16 10 Card Party / Salad Luncheon-FH	17	18
19 9:30 Worship—S 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge downstairs 10:30 Jo Morton Birthday Reception—C 10:45-3 EPIC Re-charge serves at Open Door Mission 1-4 Chin Church-S	20 6:30 Ruth Circle-C 6:45 PM AA Mtg. - 128	21 1:15 Hannah Cir.-FH 7 PM Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts—FH	22 10 Bible Study-L 6:30 PM Choir Practice	23	24	25 Singles & Friends TBD
26 9:30 Worship—S 9:30 Sunday School / EPIC Re-charge downstairs 1-4 Chin Church-S	27 6:45 PM AA Mtg. - 128	28 9 NSL Crew—C 7 PM Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH	29 10 Bible Study-L 6:30 PM Choir Practice	30		S: Sanctuary C: Commons L: Library FH: Fellowship Hall

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

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Cierra Ervin	7	Marlene Roberts	19	Sandi Woods
1	Ralph Hawkins	10	Maliha Standley	20	Piper Marxsen
1	Carrie Novak	10	Gwen Volmer	21	Marti Elias
2	Jerry Peck	11	Samantha Peck	23	Gene Barnhill
3	George Bilger	13	David Taylor	23	Jessi Buckley
5	Joyce Jacobsen	15	Paula Markuson	24	Gerry Conry
6	Alexis Beberniss	17	Ashley Truckenbrod	24	Bruce Crary
6	Kimberley Wheels	18	Brad Beal	25	Chad Meador
7	Barbi Beberniss	18	Jacoby Granados	26	Ruth Negus
7	Richard McCoy	18	Zoe Granados	27	Cheyenne Myers
7	Brad Nitsick	19	Wesley Bertch	29	Collin Henkel
7	Bill Parsons	19	Jo Morton		

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1	Nate & Rita Merriam	10	Mike & Jean McKimmey
2	Dennis & Nancy Ressel	10	Kevin & Heather Antoniak
4	Matthew & Cindy Key	10	Doug & Carla Dudley
4	Kevin & Juli Meador	20	Gary & Annie Kuti
6	John & Connie Anderson	22	Ron & Nikki Heim
8	Jerry & Barb May	25	Tim & Melissa Brusnahan
9	Mike & Jessi Buckley	28	Richard & Linda Stricker
9	Ernest & Judy Summers	30	Andy & Carrie Novak