



newsletter






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

Vol. 51 No. 10
 September 26, 2023

Barb Renicker, Music Director
 Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

October 2023

October 1		9:30 AM Worship/Communion (no Sunday School) 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship/Communion <i>World Communion Day</i> <i>Neighbors in Need Collection</i>
October 8 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!		9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship
October 15		9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship
October 22		9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship
October 29		9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School 10:30 AM "Thank You" Fellowship—C 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 4-6 PM Trunk or Treat!

ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR AND BAKE SALE, Sat., October 21, 2023, 9 AM—3 PM

- * Halloween, Fall and Christmas Crafts, Needlework, Knitting, Crochet, Garden Décor, Jewelry
- * BAKE SALE (Bakers: please mark if product contains nuts): breads, cakes, pies, cookies, fudge, caramels, candy, jams & Jellies
- * BOOK SALE: Women's Assoc. used book sale (Lower Level)
- * WHITE ELEPHANT SALE (Community Room, Upper Level)
- * LUNCH served 11 AM—1:30 PM (Lower Level), \$7.00 per person



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!



"On behalf of my very special friend, Lois Gapen, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards, flowers, gifts and unending support of Lois, particularly during the past seven months of her health challenges.

I am eternally grateful for those of you who tirelessly helped me before and after her passing. Your gifts of time and hard work can never be repaid and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. May our dear friend, Lois, rest in peace. May God bless you all. —Sherry Mitchell

"Our thanks to those of you who helped to make our church Family Picnic a success! To Don and Peggy Truckenbrod for donating and cooking the yummy meats. To all the volunteers who helped in the kitchen, helped to set up and helped to do the clean up. Your help was greatly appreciated. To all who attended and brought such a wonderful variety of 'Pot Luck' dishes. A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL WHO ATTENDED!"

— Church & Ministry Committee

"Thank you to all who celebrated the 5th anniversary of my ordination with me on September 17th. Thank you to Ruth Circle for furnishing the refreshments. I'm beyond blessed to be your pastor and I look forward to continuing our shared ministry in the years to come!" -- Pastor Alex

"We want to thank all of our church friends and family for coming to help us celebrate our 70th anniversary. We are so glad you could come. Thank you very much for all of the beautiful cards, and for being there. Love you all!"

—John & Connie Anderson

CRAFTERS! Please join the Craft Fair Crafters for the last two Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 PM in Room 128 on October 4th and October 11th Please bring any finished crafts to be priced. We need set-up help Oct. 19 & 20 starting at 9:30 AM, and help Saturday with cashiers and bagging purchases. For questions please call Leigh Powell at 402-680-1366. Books can be donated and brought to Room 119 and placed on floor (to be sorted) by October 15th. There will be a White Elephant Sale. However, due to lack of space, items can *only be brought to the church Sun., October 8th through the 15th*. White Elephant donations will be placed in Room 128 (choir room/community room). **Please, no clothes.** For questions about the White Elephant Sale, call Terri Burright, 402-659-6913.

Donated baked goods will be accepted Friday, Oct. 20th from 2-4:30 PM. On Saturday, baked goods need to be delivered prior to the 9 AM start time. For bake sale questions, contact Ardell Reuter. A flier about the craft sale/bake sale/book sale/white elephant sale/luncheon is included in this Newsletter. Paper fliers will be available at the church for your convenience to invite others.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will meet Thursday, October 5th at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Devotions will be by Kathleen Hammond; dessert will be provided by Ardell Reuter and Molly McCoy. For questions, please call Kathleen Hammond at 402-981-3630.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, October 3rd at 11 AM in the Commons. Dessert provided by Cindy Urban. Any questions, please contact Kathleen Hammond.

HANNAH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, October 17th at 1:15 PM in the Commons. Devotions by Linda Chandler; dessert provided by Kathy Coppler. We will be collecting non-perishable Thanksgiving fixings (boxed dressing, canned/jarred gravy, green beans, etc.) for the pantry, and invite our Northwest Hills Church to participate. As always, ANY non-perishable donations for the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Food Pantry are greatly appreciated! Thank you for your generosity!

SARAH CIRCLE will meet Thursday, October 5th at 6:30 PM in Room 128. Questions? Call Terri Burright, 402-659-6913.

MEN'S "BYOB" (Bring Your Own Breakfast) **MINISTRY BREAKFAST** will meet Saturday, October 7th at 9:00 AM in the Commons. Questions? See Pastor Alex. All men of Northwest Hills Church are invited for a great time of fellowship.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES are continuing through autumn! We are excited to get together every Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM in Room 128 (except for Oct. 18th) for our special time of fellowship around the Word! Look forward to seeing as many as can come — all are invited and welcome to join us!

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet Thursday, October 12th at 7:00 PM in Room 128.

CANASTA CLUB will attend the OES Card Party on Tuesday, October 10th in Papillion (84th and Centennial St, Papillion). The cost for lunch is \$10.00. There will also be raffles and door prizes. Please arrive and be ready to start playing by 10:00 a.m., and have a Great time!! If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact Deb Shafer at 402-392-0418, 402-999-1052, or ddshafer@outlook.com. Also, we still need subs (men or women). Please contact Ardell Reuter at 1-918-703-1068.

FREE: 46" Samsung flat screen (not smart) located in CE Office. First come, first serve, you haul!

MISSION & SERVICE OCTOBER PROJECT

TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 29th from 4 to 6 pm!

We would like everyone to start planning how to decorate their trunks. Need ideas? Check out Pinterest or see Kathy Caito. We have room for 13 cars or trucks or vans. We need everyone's participation whether you decorate a car, help in the kitchen, greet our guests or bring candy, soup or supplies. See sign-ups in the Commons. Thanks for your help with this fun event!

—Missions & Service Committee!



Neighbors in Need Offering: Sunday, October 1

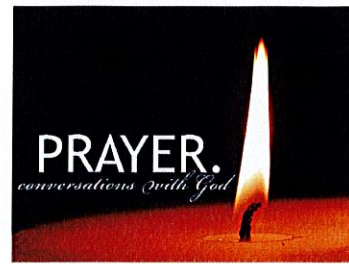
This year, the Neighbors in Need (NIN) "Behold!" offering focuses on environmental justice. This year's offering will go to support initiatives, advocacy efforts, and service projects that focus on reducing plastic, electronic, and other non-compostable wastes being thrown into landfills and waterways. One-third of the NIN offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry. We will receive the NIN offering on Sunday, October 1 as part of our World Communion Sunday celebration.

LOOKING AHEAD:

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

MISSION & SERVICE OUTREACH

The Mission & Service Committee will be inviting our Northwest Hills Church family to once again help out with a coat drive for the Salvation Army Winter Night Watch. Stay tuned for upcoming details.



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: Connie Klaumann, Sandy Christopherson, Dianne Hasch (Dianna Cupps' friend), Jeff Walton, Susie Ryan, Cierra Ervin, Kelly Pitts, Kyle Hurt & Jacoby, Marchelle Conrad, Peg Hawkins (friend of Annie Kuti), Steve Swift

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), Tracy Else

"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.

It was a rough couple of months for many people around the world. Week after week, reports came out of wildfires, earthquakes, and hurricanes. There's also talk of another surge in COVID across the U.S. I've seen people asking the question: why is this happening? Could this be the beginning of the end?

It is sad to see so many disasters happening, but I don't think I'd go that far. While God holds all nature together and sometimes influences the weather, I think we need to be careful assessing the why behind these disasters. I am reminded of the book *Why? Making Sense of God's Will* by the Rev. Adam Hamilton, a United Methodist pastor. When discussing natural disasters, Rev. Hamilton writes how God brilliantly designed the world. Our planet's crust is made up of plates which move to keep the earth's core from superheating. Unfortunately, the movement of these plates create earthquakes, which can cause destruction. Monsoons and hurricanes help keep the temperature of earth's atmosphere in check. Unfortunately, they also result in terrible flooding. Yet, these forces of nature are essential to support life on our planet.

Sickness and disease are tougher to explain. As amazing and resilient as the human body is, our bodies are not indestructible. Yet, sickness is not the will of God. When Jesus walked the earth, he devoted much of his time to healing the sick.

While we do not fully understand why certain things happen, we do trust that God will work things together for good. When an earthquake or a hurricane hit a city, God sends people to clean up, to provide resources, and to rebuild. When someone is sick, God empowers physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals to make medicine and heal. The question then becomes, "Who among God's people will respond to the call?"

When disaster strikes, there are many ways in which we can help those in need. The first thing we can do is to pray for God's Spirit to move among us. We can then send money and resources through various disaster ministries. And if you feel led to do so, you can volunteer your own time and energy to the cause. Will you be the vessel through whom God responds and works?

God never promised us an easy life, but God has promised that suffering and hardship do not get the last word. We follow Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord, who promises to walk with us through the fires and the floodwaters. In a world wrought with all kinds of hurts and pains, he is our source of hope, comfort, help, and strength.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Alex



Sermon Topics and Scriptures for October

"The Big 10: Laws of Love and Life" Fall 2023 Sermon Series

October 1—2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-17, 26-27 "Honoring Your Vows"
October 8—Luke 19:1-10 "Don't Steal"
October 15—Mark 14:53-65 "Speaking the Truth"
October 22—Luke 12:13-21 "Don't Covet"
October 29—Holy Conversation



NORTHWEST HILLS SINGLES & FRIENDS!

ANNUAL POT LUCK LUNCHEON AND PLANNING MEETING

12 noon, Saturday, October 25th
Fellowship Hall

It's time for our annual end-of-the-year potluck luncheon followed by our planning meeting for 2024!

Break out that crockpot, casserole dish or baking pan! Please bring your favorite dish and your great ideas to fill our activity calendar for another successful year together. We need your help setting up at 11:30 AM. We will be ready to eat at 12 noon.

We extend an invitation to our church family: all are welcome!

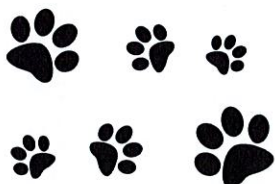
Thank you for a successful 2023!
Questions: Call Ginger Broyles 402-312-5126.



Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 7, 10:30 AM

"Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures..."
Francis of Assisi, *The Canticle of the Creatures*

Everyone is invited to bring your pet(s) for our annual Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 1 at 10:30 AM. The brief service will be in the Memorial Garden on the west side of the church. Please bring your dog(s) on a leash and other pets in their appropriate carriers. If your pet does not play well with others, you may bring a picture of your pet.



Northwest Hills Preschool *SPROUT, BLOOM, GROW*

By Jacque Nelson

Preschool is now in full swing with us entering our first full week of school. We have 10 children enrolled and one in the process of joining us. We will have eight children who attend five days a week and three who attend three days. The children are getting acquainted with each other and their new surroundings. Recess seems to be the favorite activity – surprise surprise! They all seem to be adjusting well with very few tears! We will be celebrating Ms. Lori's birthday on the 18th with special treats. Ms. Jacque will start the weekly Bible lessons on Wednesday. Her plan is to have a monthly overarching theme with a memory verse to follow. *Be kind and care for one another.* *Ephesians 4:32a* will be September's theme with an emphasis on being a kind friend. We covet prayers as we navigate new cultures, new faces, and a new year!



Silly String
EVERYWHERE
for Miss Lori's
birthday!



Now where'd that
string go?....



**ALL SAINTS
SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
NOVEMBER 5TH**

On November 5, 2023, we are honoring all our Veterans, both the living and those gone on ahead of us, as well as our friends, family, and loved ones who entered eternity during this past year. We are inviting all veterans and their family members to bring a picture of their veteran, IN UNIFORM, to display at church. We will have refreshments following the service so everyone can view the photos. We look forward to honoring all of our Veterans. Questions, please call Kathleen Hammond at 402-981-3630.

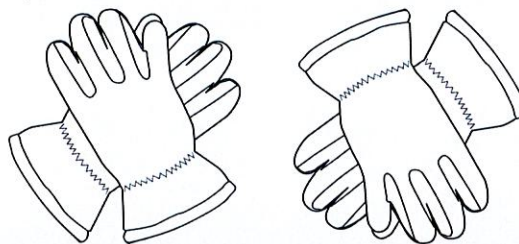


**MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION
DRUG AND HEALTH PLAN OPEN
ENROLLMENT**

It's that time again – the Medicare Prescription Drug and Health Plans Annual Open Enrollment Period starts OCTOBER 15 and ends DECEMBER 7! The 2024 plans' information will be on the Medicare website and the best way to determine how the changes will affect you and determine which plan will be best for you next year is to use Medicare's Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov.

Statewide Senior Health counseling will be providing assistance only via phone due to Covid again this year. Call 402-444-6617 and Volunteers Assisting Seniors will set up a PHONE appointment. Rick Scofield (who is an official VAS Volunteer) has kindly agreed to help those in our congregation by phone or in person after October 15th. Also, if you're approaching 65 or retirement, Rick can provide Medicare counseling about the decisions you need to make.

BRRRRR!!! It's getting colder outside. Just a reminder that winter will soon be here. Ruth Circle will be collecting ladies and men's gloves through the month of October. These will go to charities that distribute them for winter. We are inviting our Northwest Hills Church family to help with this specific collection. Thanks in advance!



HATS GLOVES, MITTENS & SCARVES!

From October 22nd through November 19th Sarah Circle will be collecting and donating these items to a local school to help keep children warm this winter. Look for a display in the Commons. For any questions, please call Terri Burright at (402) 659-6913.

BAKE SALES are coming! Save the dates and mark your calendars for Sarah Circle Bake Sales November 19th and December 17th. Order forms will be available closer to those dates.



WORK DAY!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th 8:30 AM-Noon

Come join your NWH family in getting our facility and grounds ready for the winter months! There will be something for everyone to do! Don't have to stay the whole time: if you are only to help for a little while, we welcome the help! Questions? Please contact Wayne Bennett. Thanks in advance for your help!



 **Samaritan's Purse®**
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

HELPING IN JESUS' NAME®

Thanks to the generosity of our Northwest Hills Church family, we were able to provide the following through Samaritan's Purse: planting a grove of fruit trees, gave a dairy goat, provided honeybees for beekeeping, baby chicks, and a bit of extra money was left over to go where most needed! You've made an investment in improving people's lives across the world! Fabulous!

Annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale



Saturday, October 21, 2023

9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Halloween, Fall and Christmas Crafts,
Needlework, Knitting, Crochet
Garden Décor, Jewelry



BAKE SALE (Bakers – please mark if product contains nuts)
Breads, Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Fudge, Candy, Jams & Jellies,
Caramels

BOOK SALE
Women's Association Used Book Sale
(Lower Level)



HUGE WHITE ELEPHANT SALE
(Community Room—Upper Level)

Lunch served in Fellowship Hall on the Lower Level

Sloppy Joes or Hot dogs, Chips, Bars, Beverage

11:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. \$7.00 per person

Northwest Hills Church
9334 Fort Street
(402) 572-8392

All proceeds benefit Women's Association church projects.



October 2023



PK-5th Grade Sunday School

Introducing: **KIDS QUEST!!**

(The new name for PK-5th grade kids Sunday School)



October 1	No Kid's Quest! Join families in the church service.
October 8	Kids Quest: Jacob and Essau
October 15	Helping Hands Mission Project
October 22	Kids Quest: Let My People Go
October 29	Kids Quest: Ten Commandments



EPIC Re-Charge

(6th—12th grade discussion group)

October 1	No EPIC Re-Charge. Join families for church service.
October 8	Discussion Topic
October 15	Helping Hands Mission Project
October 15	6:30-8 PM Firepit & S'mores in back of church
October 22	Discussion Topic
October 29	Discussion Topic

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship/Communion (No Sunday School) 11 Contemporary Worship/ Communion	2 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	3 11 AM Ruth Circle— C 6:30 Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH	4 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafters-128 6:30 Choir Practice	5 12 noon Women's Assoc. Meeting—FH 6:30 PM Sarah Circle Meeting—Rm. 128	6 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D	7 9:00 Men's BYOB-C 10:30 Pet Blessing in Memorial Garden 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
8 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 11 Contemporary Worship	9 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	10 10-2 Nile Card Party In Papillion 6:30 Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH	11 10 Bible Study-128 12-3 Kensington-C 1-3 Crafters-128 6:30 Choir Practice	12 7 PM Church Council -128	13 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D	14 8:30-noon Work Day! 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
15 9:30 Worship/SS 11 Contemporary Worship	16 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	17 1:15 Hannah Circle- Commons 6:30 Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH	18 6:30 Choir Practice	19 9:30 Craft Show Set Up	20 9:30 Craft Show Set Up	21 9-3 Craft Show!
22 9:30 Worship/SS 11 Contemporary Worship	23 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	24 6:30 Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH	25 10 Bible Study-128 11:15 Preschool Fall Parade 6:30 Choir Practice	26 Parent/Teacher Conferences 9 AM NSL crew—C	27 Parent/Teacher Conferences 6-10 PM Old Dominion Dance FH	28 12-3 Singles Potluck- FH 10A-3P Lambert Prayer Group-19D
29 9:30 Worship/SS 10:30 Thank You Fellowship-C 11 Contemporary Worship 4-6 PM Trunk or Treat!	30 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	31 6:30 Bell Practice 7 PM Scouts-FH				

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Virginia Moore	9	Jean McKimmey	22	Isobel Taylor	29	Ginger Broyles
2	Larry Kalina	9	James Ryan	22	Bev Webster	30	Thomas White
2	Laurie Massa	12	James Langdoc	24	Donald Truckenbrod	31	Dennis Webster
3	Juli Meador	13	Dianna Cupps	25	Joseph Carlin		
4	Bret Meador	13	Ava Infante	25	John Spencer		
6	David Higginson	14	Anna Killion	26	Doug Dudley		
7	Connie Anderson	17	Kent Beal	28	Jackie Robinson		
7	Rose Kenney	19	Doris Norgard	29	Wayne Bennett		
8	Sara Marxsen	20	Cindy Key	29	Norma Lippincott		

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

13	Robert & Sara Marxsen	18	Seth & Emilie Tracy
14	Dennis & Bev Webster	19	Joseph & Annette Carlin
16	Rick & Margaret Scofield		