



NORTHWOOD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 295, 62 West Highway 61, Esko, MN 55733

Pastor Brian Cornell ~ 828-434-6995

bcornell@wnccumc.net

Sunday Worship: 9:00 am

The little church with a BIG heart.



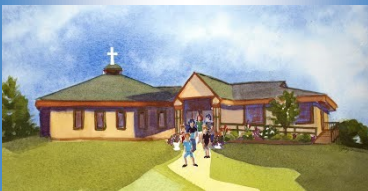
Reverend Brian Cornell

Check out our website for pictures and upcoming events! Weekly bulletins (current month) and weekly newsletters also are available for viewing.
www.northwoodesko.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK @ Northwood United Methodist Church, Esko MN (include *ESKO MN* in the address) for the most current information and event albums.

DIRECT ANNOUNCEMENTS to Shirley Brandt for the bulletin by Tuesday by 5:00 pm and/or for the weekly newsletter by Monday afternoon at: shirleybob15@gmail.com.

Please also cc to Ann Butler at: annonpond@yahoo.com



PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

ALL APRIL EVENTS INCLUDING SUNDAY SERVICE ARE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

GOING FORWARD WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF FUTURE CANCELLATIONS VIA EMAIL AND/OR FACEBOOK.

CANCELLED! Friday, April 3 ~ Outreach meeting at the home of Kora Cavanaugh at 9:30 am.

POSTPONED! Saturday, April 4 ~ Youth event at 7:00 pm! Mercy Me and Jeremy Camp concert at Amsoil Arena.

POSTPONED! Wednesday, April 8 ~ Administrative Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

CANCELLED! Thursday, April 9 ~ Annual Judeo Christian Seder Meal at 5:30 pm.

CANCELLED! Sunday, April 12 ~ Easter morning breakfast at 8:00 am!

CANCELLED! Wednesday, April 15 ~ Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting in the Fireside Room at 5:30 pm.

POSTPONED! Sunday, April 26 ~ Spring Auction at 10:30 am! Bring items for auction or think of a service item to auction. **(Information on when it is okay to drop items off will be in an upcoming newsletter.)** If you haven't attended in the past, now is the time to check out this fun, laugh-a-minute, fast-paced fundraiser that will guarantee enjoyment! You could very well be going home with some very unique items! If you can't attend, please consider donating an item or a service to the auction.

Please check the message board in the Narthex for upcoming events offered.

NUMC OUTREACH SQUAD . . .

Hello Church Family! Do you need:

- A helping hand?
- Grocery items?
- Prescription or medicine pick up?
- Take-out meal pick-up and delivery?
- Cheering up?

Call the Northwood Outreach Squad to get the help you need! We are "on the ready" to help! Don't hesitate! Our schedule is filling up fast!

Barb Lammi (r) 218-383-9608 or Kora Cavanaugh (l) 218 310-7380.



COLLOQUIES with Pastor Brian

Dear Family of Northwood,

Most years, preachers have a big decision to make. Do I preach the Palms... or do I preach the Passion? Unless a congregation has a long history of doing worship each day of Holy Week (and some do), the Passion might be missed in favor of waving Palm branches one week and celebrating The Resurrection the next. In my opinion, this is also why some congregations miss the emotional depths available for Easter Sunday. If you shout Hosannah one week and Hallelujah the next, where do you put the tears that fall in between?

Yet this year might be the one I am tempted to preach the Palm branches, because we've seen plenty of tears. Tears over the massive changes in our lives, in our work, in the world and even in our worship. Tears of concern over what might still be ahead for people we love. Tears of longing for the people we've seen so easily and now must shelter them with distance. I'm not judging either. Right now, there is plenty to cry about.

Yet maybe it is a blessing we will preach the Passion yet again this week as we have all the Sundays of Lent. Because we set out on a journey together for this season of studying "Entering the Passion of Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine, we have had a personal guide to focus upon so much of what is often overlooked or covered over with palms. This week especially, as we go to Gethsemane where Jesus is tempted, maybe we, too, will be reminded of some of the things we have left behind that were often taken for granted. Maybe as we go through this week, we can feel grateful that the tears and challenges we face in this brave new world were echoed by our Lord and savior so very long ago. Maybe we can take comfort that while our world has changed overnight, we are neither alone nor are our experiences unique to us. Jesus has walked some of these paths as well.

And, I am also reminded that while we face challenges unprecedented in modern times, we have some gifts to share and draw upon for days such as this. We still meet regularly for worship, albeit online. We still gather each other's prayers. Our mission and outreach is changing, yet continuing. We still are planning for an August day/childcare program and future events. We still check in with each other formally and informally with text and calls and drive-by waves of warm hearts.

This is okay, too. While the Palms without the Passion presents a Sunny Side up Christianity lacking roots or depth, a Passion without Resurrection is frightening and bleak. We are the survivors of the Passion and we are the children of the Resurrection.

So let's go another brave week together, shall we? Seeking ways to stay in love with God through our hearts, souls, strength and mind. Finding some new ways to reach out to our neighbor to love them as we desire to be loved. And, continuing to be the people following Jesus, bearing the banner of Northwood and serving the Esko area for the sake of Christ.

Your brother,

Brian, 828-434-6995





JOYS, CONCERNS, GRATITUDE & NEEDS . . .

Prayer Requests related to COVID-19:

- Prayers for those who have had their jobs eliminated or hours reduced.
- Prayers for all healthcare workers and essential workers.
- Prayers for older community members who need help.
- Prayers for Ethan who is on the front line testing people for COVID 19.

Other Prayer Requests

- Prayers for Andrew Kaiser's family who lost his battle from bile duct cancer. He is survived by his wife, Brooke, and two young children.
- Prayers for Jon Severson who continues to deal with his cancer diagnosis,

*Prayer Requests may be texted or called in to Pastor Brian at 828-434-6995.
 Prayer requests also may be emailed to Pastor Brian at bcornell@wnccumc.net
 If you would like your request to appear in the newsletter, please also email to Shirley at shirleybob15@gmail.com and/or Ann Butler at annonpond@yahoo.com*

PRAYER MINISTRY . . .

The tea light candles we light on the altar each Sunday remind us of our ministry of prayer to the military service personnel and their families within our congregation. Especially Gavin Day stationed in Fort Campbell, KY, nephew of Dan and Beth Belden and grandson of Dennis and Julie Day, Kevin Jensen, cousin to Daisy Rose and Holly Compo, deployed to Japan and Alex Lammi serving in Memphis, son of Barb and Ted Lammi.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Sunday, April meetings
 7:00 to 8:15 pm
 Esko BS Troop 152
 meeting at Northwood UMC.

CANCELLED!

girl scouts

Monday, April meetings
 5:30 to 6:30 pm
 Esko GS Troop 4139
 meeting at Northwood UMC.

See you in church! and till then ...
SCATTER JOY, INSPIRE HOPE, SHARE LOVE, AND SEEK PEACE.