



# 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 Online Worship: 9:00 am

### A church with a BIG heart!



**Reverend Brian Cornell**

Check out our website for online worship, pictures and upcoming events! Weekly newsletters and bulletins also are available for viewing.

[www.northwoodesko.com](http://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](mailto:shirleybob15@gmail.com).

Please also cc to Ann Butler at: [annonpond@yahoo.com](mailto:annonpond@yahoo.com)



## PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**Wednesday, August 12** ~ Administrative Council Meeting at 7:00 pm.

**Sunday, August 16** ~ Facebook or YouTube Live Worship service at 9:00 am. Links to view the video will be emailed out prior to Sunday. The link will also be on Northwood UMC's website at [www.northwoodesko.com](http://www.northwoodesko.com)

All online worship services may be viewed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Northwood-United-Methodist-Church-Esko-MN-113344768735604/> on YouTube at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCizZVSYdgxa81\\_CEBbIXQyw?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCizZVSYdgxa81_CEBbIXQyw?view_as=subscriber) or on the Worship page at [www.northwoodesko.com](http://www.northwoodesko.com)

**Please send your Tithes and Offerings to Northwood UMC, P. O. Box 295, Esko MN 55733**

### SHOUT OUTS FOR . . .

- Team Bourdeau accompanied by Kathy Moland from Norton Park UMC for the special music, "In the Garden" on Sunday, August 9. Slideshow credit "Garden Tour" to Shari Ghann, Norton Park UMC.

### 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, and Alex Lammi serving in Memphis, son of Barb and Ted Lammi.

### VIDEOS NEEDED . . .

The Worship Team is looking for videos or a collage of pictures about 3 minutes in length to be played as a backdrop for Sunday's Special Music each week. Nature videos would be most appropriate. If you have a good eye and camera, please e-mail your result to Pastor Brian at [bcornell@wnccumc.net](mailto:bcornell@wnccumc.net)

### CHECKING IN . . .

Where have you See God? Need God? Feel Joy? Feel Gratitude? Please share your thoughts by calling Pastor Brian at 828-434-6995 or emailing [bcornell@wnccumc.net](mailto:bcornell@wnccumc.net)

If you would like to share your thoughts in the newsletter, please email to Shirley at [shirleybob15@gmail.com](mailto:shirleybob15@gmail.com) and/or Ann Butler at [annonpond@yahoo.com](mailto:annonpond@yahoo.com)

# COLLOQUIES with Pastor Brian

## When the Answer Seems To Be NO!

**Romans:** *I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.*



**Matthew:** *Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.*

Leader: May God add blessings to the reading and hearing of these words.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**W**hat are some of the things you've asked for before and haven't received? Our scriptures this week invite us to consider various requests made of God and Jesus and to observe how the Divine reacts. One of the Scriptures - Matthew 15, verses 21-28 specifically, invites us to consider what it looks like when the answer seems to be 'NO'.

I also wondered what this might look like for someone else, so I asked my youngest son what things he's asked for but didn't get. He thought for a while and shared some things that didn't surprise me, like 'video games, money, trips to see trains' (David really loves trains). Then he said a few things that were honest but hurt. "You had to say 'no' to me about most of our summer plans, Dad You also say no to me when I want to play games with you sometimes." Ugh. Those are absolutely correct AND I really wish to have some of those 'no's' back.

I'm guessing that this is part of the human condition. Wishing we had choices back or the chance to give different answers to all of these questions is probably a sign of our humanity. So it is comforting to know that Jesus' humanity is like our own; that he sometimes gave an answer that needed some tweaking.

If this article looks a little short today, it is because I said 'yes' to David wanting some time with his Dad and just told my need for perfection in writing things to wait until next time. If Jesus can change his answer, so can we . Right?

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Brian

## JOYS, CONCERNS, GRATITUDE & NEEDS . . .

- Continuing prayers for everyone and all circumstances being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prayers for Amanda Zbacnik's brother's girlfriend, Shiloh, who is recovering from breaking her collarbone due to a barrel racing accident.
- Prayers for Amanda's brother, Andy, and wife, Carissa, who are expecting a baby in January.
- Prayers of joy that adopted kitty Nikko has joined the Zbacnik household.
- Prayers of gratitude for the rain.
- Prayers from Susan Taylor for patience. Her daughter, Stephanie, recently moved back home.
- Prayers for safety and direction for her Susan's son, Brian, who has returned to college in Chapel Hill, NC.
- Prayers from Ronda for school boards and leaders as children return to school.
- Prayers of thanks for the Norton Park UMC Annual Garden Tour, on August 8.



*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](mailto:bcornell@wnccumc.net)*

*If you would like your request to appear in the newsletter, please also email to Shirley at [shirleybob15@gmail.com](mailto:shirleybob15@gmail.com) and/or Ann Butler at [annonpond@yahoo.com](mailto:annonpond@yahoo.com)*

## AUGUST 16 SPECIAL MUSIC VIDEO REQUEST . . .

Northwood UMC is offering the special music on August 16 with Amanda Zbacnik singing. "Precious Lord Take My Hand". Northwood is responsible for the background video for worship service. It would be so much appreciated if everyone would take a moment to shoot a short video or just take a picture focusing on hands. Most appropriate would be someone offering their hand to another, or photos of holding hands. Send your videos or photos to Pastor Brian.



## DISCIPLESHIP WORK PARTNERS SOUGHT . . .

Pastor Brian is looking to create or partner with a new group of faith friends for discipleship work. Short-term goals are the current priority; later he would like to turn to long-term goals. The Cornell family has adopted a daily practice of efforts to grow physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally. They set goals on Sunday, then use lunch every day to see how each person is doing. Pastor Brian's goals this week are:

- Walk five days up to or beyond 8000 steps.
- Practice Support Breathing when stress or anguish hit.
- Name 10 things each day for which he is grateful (or write them down).
- "Play" in the garage four times this week (up to an hour).

If any of you would like to partner in this, please let Pastor Brian know. He especially wants to invite members of Northwood and Norton Park UMC, but anyone can participate. If you are interested, please contact him by calling or texting to phone at 828-434-6995 or email at [bcornell@wnccumc.net](mailto:bcornell@wnccumc.net) or Facebook. A PM group will be created out of those interested and Pastor Brian plans to give it a go for around four weeks.

*See you virtually and until we meet again . . .*

**SCATTER JOY, INSPIRE HOPE, SHARE LOVE, AND SEEK PEACE.**