



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

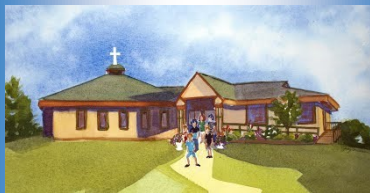
Check out our website for online worship, pictures and upcoming events! Weekly newsletters and bulletins also are available for viewing.

www.northwoodesko.com

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!

Sunday, September 20 ~ Parking lot worship in Northwood's parking lot at 9:00 am. Bulletins will be available at the service. If you are unable to attend the parking lot worship please view online worship on Facebook or YouTube at 9:00 am. Links to view the video will be emailed out prior to Sunday. The link will also be available at 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 or on the Worship page at www.northwoodesko.com

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

SHOUT OUTS FOR . . .

- Phyllis Kruell and Kim Herrig of Asbury UMC for the special music piano duet on Sunday, September 13, "America the Beautiful."

WHEELS ON WEDNESDAYS (WOW) . . .

Our Wheels on Wednesdays bike riding get together will meet Wednesday, September 16 at 4:00 pm at the Munger Trail Pavilion in Carlton. We will social distance while riding our bikes for fun! Families welcome. Helmets required.

Additionally, we will meet at the Munger Trail Pavilion for future WOW meetings.

For more info, call Barb Lammi at 218-393-9608.



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

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

COLLOQUIES with Pastor Brian

Living the Gospel

Philippians 1:27-28

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.



Matthew 20:1-16

¹For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?" ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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

ALL: Thanks be to God! Let us pray: Amen.

There are LOTS of ways to get noticed. Different faith communities employ lots of strategies to create a buzz about their community. For some, it is sign strategy. My last congregation in North Carolina had a desire to put up a modern-looking marquee, complete with time, temperature, and pictures for those driving along their busy road. Another congregation I knew of took trees out of their front yard so the growing community nearby could see the building. And another church community made sure to put ads in the local newspaper each week giving details of what was going on in their congregation.

The best way to be known in a community however is a congregation's expression of love. The other parts of advertising are important, but not equally so. The buzz in a community comes from interacting with members or the ministries of a church.

Our passage from Paul's letter to the Philippians this week reminds the congregation then and now that how we LIVE the gospel we profess is the most important thing we can do, and this is how Paul will know how the congregation is doing. When you match Paul's letter with our passage from Matthew 20:1-16, it is a good reminder that we who follow the teachings of Christ are also committed to expressions of generosity in our community. Offering meals, sharing materials and help where it is

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wanted, supporting our community members when they are low or in need; these are all ways we 'share' who we are in this community.

Putting up signs and looking good as a congregation has its place; we DO want people to know where we worship so they might join us. But their very desire to join will be based upon our fruit as a congregation. Do we offer a physical expression of the grace, forgiveness and generosity we profess to believe and follow? I pray it may be so, and readily evident to all.

With love, Pastor Brian

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS NEEDS OUR HELP! . . .

The Lutheran World Relief, where school backpacks are sent through the God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) program, are in desperate need of school supplies. Please collect and deliver your supplies to Zion Lutheran Church, 1000 Washington Ave., Cloquet, before September 29.

Due to the pandemic there will **NOT** be a large group of volunteers assembling the school supplies in the backpacks as only a couple of individuals are needed.

Zion Lutheran Church office hours are Monday—Thursday 9:00 to 11:00 am, and Friday 11:00 am to noon. Please call ahead 879-4647. Or, you can contact Barb Lammi before September 28 at 218-393-9608 and she will pick up your items.



“Grow Into Forgiveness!”

— Pastor Brian

PRAYER WARRIORS! . . .

Northwood United Methodist Church is in the finishing stages of getting the childcare program at the church, Growing with Love, LLC, up and running (we have two remaining inspections). Northwood's childcare subcommittee met recently and are asking everyone to join them in praying:

*"As we prepare to open this new childcare facility,
let us ask God's blessing on all who will be involved in its operation —
as students, educators, parents, and staff.
We praise you for the gift of children, who bring joy to our lives,
and brighten our hearts with promise.
We thank You for calling us to serve You by caring for their educational needs.
We pray that this new childcare be a place of joy, love, peace and growth
in knowledge and skills illumined by faith.
Send your holy angels to abide here,
to guide and protect all who pass through these doors.
May all who enter and exit the childcare be filled
with the love of Jesus in their hearts.
We make this prayer to You, Jesus Christ, who is Lord. Amen"*

Thank you for spreading your love!

An article on Amanda Groth and Growing With Love, LLC, appeared in the August 27, 2020 edition of the Pine Journal. A tentative opening date is set for September 28. To read the entire article please go to: <https://www.pinejournal.com/business/small-business/6631886-New-day-care-center-addresses-need-in-Esko>



JOYS, CONCERNS, GRATITUDE & NEEDS . . .

- Continuing prayers for everyone and all circumstances being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prayer raised up by John Thierer for all students and teachers as they navigate their way into the new school year.
- Prayers for all the displaced people from the wildfires in several western states.
- Prayers for the people affected by the tropical storms in the southern states.
- Prayers for Nancy, Barb's sister, who is recovering at Benedictine Health Center with a broken hip. Prayers to keep her spirits up as visitors are not allowed.
- Prayers requested by Shane that all people can see God in each other. This is most important now with all the division amongst each other.
- Congratulations and prayers of joy for Amanda and Matthew Tonner on the birth of Adalynn Mae Tonner, September 9, weighing in at 6 lbs, 11 oz.
- Prayer of joy for Amanda Zbacnik's brother & sister-in-law expecting in January.
- Prayers of gratitude from Pastor Brian for our wonderful bishop, Rev. Bruce Ough, for his thoughtful and caring ways.
- Prayers of gratitude from Pastor Brian that his sons are able to participate in cross-country running.

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



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. 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 or Facebook. A PM group will be created out of those interested and Pastor Brian plans to give it a go for about four weeks.

See you virtually and until we meet again ...

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