



Norwalk United Methodist Church

Connecting Norwalk with God's purpose and Christ's love

thewalknorwalk.com

FEBRUARY 2023

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs
9:00 am- 12:00 pm

Wed, Feb 1st @ 10:00 am
Women's Bible Study
Add'l 8th, 15th, 22nd

Tue, Feb 14th @ 10:00 am
Coffee, Cookies, and Conversations

Tue, Feb 14th @ 7:00 pm
Wolves Den Meeting
Add'l 28th

Thur, Feb 16th @ 5:30
United Women of Faith Meeting @ church

Sat, Feb 18th
Board Member Workshop

Sun, Feb 19th @ 10:00 am
Board Meeting- Open to Everyone

Wed, Feb 22nd @ 6:30
Ash Wednesday Service

Sun, Feb 26th- during service
"Noisy Can" Offering

Sun, Feb 26th- after service
Congregational Meeting



Sunday:

9:00am In-person & Live Stream via Facebook

Faith Formation classes for PK thru 5th grade during service

Adult classes available after the service

Pastor Karen's Corner

I want to thank you for the generous Christmas gift, and for all of the ways you are generous to me and our church staff. It is a blessing to be working with and among you, knowing that you notice and appreciate what we do. Thank you!

This month we'll begin working on one of the goals that you've identified as important to strengthening the congregation's life and ministry - developing a behavioral covenant. Our process will be guided by the work of Dr. Gil Rendle, a (now retired) UMC pastor who spent much of his ministry coaching and consulting with congregations and their leaders. He defines a behavioral covenant as "a written document developed by leaders, agreed to and owned by its creators, and practiced on a daily basis as a spiritual discipline...an action of faith...acting out of one's stated beliefs and values...It speaks of...holy manners - the manners of a faith community." (from his book *Behavioral Covenants in Congregations*)

We start this with a retreat/workshop with the church board on the morning of February 18th, and the "product" of this retreat will be shared at our first quarterly congregational meeting of the year, on February 26th after worship. Pray for our church board as they take up this task. I put "product" in quotes, because this will be the work of our whole congregation. It begins with prayer, discernment and discussion by the board, and continues in development through our conversations with each other about it over the weeks following. After our communal discernment, we'll make an official commitment to one another, to keep these promises that we've made for how we act toward one another, especially in those times when there is disagreement or difficult decisions must be made.

Knowing our promise and intent to work together with love and respect makes all the difference: UMC pastor and coach Rebekah Simon-Peter says that her work with congregations and their leaders shows that when congregations learn to navigate conflict well, they grow. I have found that to be true as well, both personally and in the congregations I've served.

I'm looking forward to continuing to grow with you!
Pastor Karen

We want this newsletter to enhance communication within our faith community; if you have information/events/ideas to include, please send them to norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org, and put "newsletter" in the subject line

p. 515.981.4251
e. norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org
a. 1100 Gordon Ave

Warrior Giving

February 1 - February 8

Laundry Supplies

Detergent, stain remover, dryer sheets, quarters

February 9 - March 8

Cleaning Supplies

Disinfecting wipes/spray, dish soap, bathroom cleaner, toilet cleaner

Warrior Giving is back! We had a record-breaking Warrior Giving Project this year! We served a record number of households and had a record number of donors. It was so great to see the community coming together to bring joy to Norwalk this Christmas. Of course, we couldn't do it without your help! We asked a lot from the churches and you delivered!

Hopefully, the giving spirit will continue throughout the year at the monthly Warrior Giving Project events. Our first event is on February 8th. This event collects items on Wednesday from the community and then the following Thursday the items are given away to families who have signed up to receive them. It's a great way to make a quick impact for a family in Norwalk. Thank you for all your help

-Angie Croll, NAMA Volunteer

Send a Child to Camp

On Sunday, March 5th, we will be participating in a campaign to raise money for camper scholarships. Pledge money that will go towards sending kids to Wesley Woods or Lake Okoboji for an adventure of a lifetime!

Summer Save the Dates

June 25, 26, 27 (Sun, Mon, Tues)- Vacation Bible School. This year, we will be testing out a new VBS date by having it in JUNE. We would like to see if a June date affects attendance, so save the date for June 25, 26, 27!

Friday, July 7 and Friday, August 4- Host Lunch in the Park- We have our dates set for when we host Lunch in the Park.

Easter Scavenger Hunt Around Norwalk

Our church will be hosting our 3rd Easter Scavenger Hunt around Norwalk. Participants come to our church between 9-12 on Saturday, April 1st for a set of clues that will lead them around Norwalk to find Easter eggs and prizes. It is a great opportunity to spread Christ's love throughout Norwalk. Ways to help:

- Volunteer your house for a prize location
- Donate candy
- Volunteer to pass out clues the day of event

Worship Live Feed

Do you get bummed out if you can't make it to worship on a Sunday? Don't worry! Our services are live-streamed online via Facebook. Our page is called "The Walk: Norwalk UMC." Simply go to the Facebook page at 9:00 and the live feed will be at the top of the page. Concluded services are also put on our website at thewalknorwalk.com.

Upcoming Scripture Readings

FEBRUARY 05 |

Isaiah 58:1-9-12; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20

FEBRUARY 12 |

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

FEBRUARY 19 |

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

FEBRUARY 22 | Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

FEBRUARY 26 | First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

February

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Cyndie & Kent Strawn- 14th

Julie & Rob Landstrum 16th

Lia & Kevin Potratz- 23rd

Judy Poulsen- 2nd

Donna Grammer- 6th

Deb Billingsley- 9th

Jackson Warren- 13th

Jackson Wright- 15th

Kyra Greiner- 16th

Nicholaus Rosonke- 16th

Bob Baldwin-17th

William Bruner- 20th

Lia Potratz- 22nd

Brieanna Baker- 23rd

Kyle Patava- 24th

Ashley Jo Rench- 24th

Ken Henke- 25th

Monica Friedman- 26th

Dianna Cooper- 29th