



Norwalk United Methodist Church

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

thewalknorwalk.com

MARCH 2024

Sun, March 3rd @ 10:00 am

United Women of Faith Meeting

Sun, March 3rd @ 10:20 am

Holy Conversations

Wed, March 6th @ 10:00 am

Women's Bible Study

Add'l 13th, 20th, 27th

Wed, March 6th @ 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm

Confirmation Class

Add'l 20th, 27th

Sun, March 10th @ 10:00 am

Easter Egg Filling

Tue, March 12th @ 10:00 am

Coffee, Cookies, and Conversations

Sun, March 17th @ 10:00 am

Board Meeting- Open to Everyone

Sat, March 23rd @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Easter Scavenger Hunt Around Norwalk

Sun, March 24th @ 10:20 am

Holy Conversations

Thur, March 28th @ 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service @ NUMC

Fri, March 29th @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service @ Norwalk Christian

Sun, March 31st @ 9:00 am

Easter Service

Sun, March 31st- during service

"Noisy Can" Offering

Sun, April 7th- during service

Camp Sunday- Wesley Woods Campaign

p. 515.981.4251

e. norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org

a. 1100 Gordon Ave



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

"You have multiplied, O Lord our God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were [we] to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted." Psalm 40:5

This month's newsletter is being sent out along with the summary report from the Church Assessment Tool (CAT) survey, which was shared during worship last Sunday. The responses show a high level of consonance between what we share amongst ourselves in informal conversation, the feedback the board regularly receives, the World Café responses, and the CAT. Let me say this another way: the work we have done over the last 2+ years has restored health to our congregation and made it possible for us to dream about, and plan for, the future.

The summary has some areas which are interpreted as indicating we are falling short of expectations: worship/music, flexibility, the pastor's vision, education, and readiness for ministry. As I read the results and pair them with the excellent work you all did in the World Café, I would modify that interpretation. The CAT results show that you want to do more – more in worship, more in education, more in visioning for ministry, more in engagement in the congregation's ministries/ministry in the community. This is less about being unhappy with the present and more about wanting to take the next steps to grow in love of God and one another and to grow in ministry. It shows that following up on what you have already begun will produce fruit, because God has already planted the seeds!

Friends, this is a resurrection story. It is occasion to give glory and thanks to God. What better time to do this reflection and thanksgiving, than in the weeks leading up to our Easter celebrations?

I give thanks to God for you!

Pastor Karen

"But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us." II Corinthians 4:7

"[We] have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, [we] have not restrained [our] lips, as you know, O Lord. [We] have not hidden your saving help within [our] hearts, [we] have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; [we] have not concealed your steadfast love and faithfulness from the great congregation." Psalm 40:9-10

THE WALK | ISSUE 25

Warrior Giving

March 1- March 13

Cleaning Supplies

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

March 14 - April 12

Household Paper

Toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, napkins

"The Walk" No More?

It has been brought to the Board's attention that there is a desire among members of the congregation to discontinue using "The Walk" as our church's identity as we move forward. Here is what would have to be done:

- Paint over the murals on the front walls of the sanctuary and decide at some point what to do with the blank walls.
- We would have to obtain another domain for, and make changes to the website.
- Change the Facebook page.
- These things would cost money and volunteer time to complete.

We also discussed if we should come up with another mission statement or not. We don't really need one as the United Methodist Church already has a broad mission statement, but is something we could talk about and work on if we wish. Think about this with your heart, and we will discuss it with you at the next congregational meeting in April.

Jodi Henke

Board Chair

United Women of Faith

United Women in Faith will meet **Sunday, March 3rd** right after church. We will be discussing the spring dessert fundraiser, start discussing plans for Pastor Karen's retirement/welcoming the new pastor, and other activities.

Summer Save the Dates

May 10th-11th- Women's Retreat at Wesley Woods- more information coming in April! You can also visit wesleywoodsiowa.org/womens-retreat/

June 23, 24, 25 (Sun, Mon, Tues)- Vacation Bible School. Our VBS dates are set! Mark your calendars!

Friday, June 14th and Friday, August 16th- 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 4th Easter Scavenger Hunt around Norwalk. Participants come to our church between 9-12 on Saturday, March 23rd for a set of clues that will lead them around Norwalk to find Easter eggs and prizes. Ways to help:

- We still need at least 3 more houses to be a prize location
- Donate candy or money for candy before Sunday, March 10th
- **Stay after church on Sunday, March 10th to fill Easter Eggs**

Upcoming Scripture Readings

MARCH 03 | 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

MARCH 10 | 4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

MARCH 17 | 5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

MARCH 24 | Passion/Palm Sunday

Palms Lit: Mark 11:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Passion Lit: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

MARCH 31 | Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

March

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Michele & Jason Aagard- 1st

Natalie & Steve Grant- 6th

Brenda & Tim Stephany - 28th

Linda Shearer- 1st

Lynn Karnatz- 2nd

Deb Hobbs- 6th

Mick Fouts- 7th

Drew Rosonke- 9th

Tim Patava- 10th

Nancy Jacobson- 17th

Kendal Bierstedt- 23rd

Dylan Spurr- 24th

Lauren Fick- 27th

Sami Aagard- 29th

Jacob Potratz- 30th