



Norwalk United Methodist Church

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

norwalkumc.com

FEBRUARY 2025

Sun, Feb 2nd- during Service
Rescheduled "Noisy Can" Offering

Sun, Feb 2nd- after Service
Soup-er Bowl Kick-Off

Sun, Feb 2nd- after service
Choir Rehearsal
Add'l- 9th

Sun, Feb 2nd @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Middle School Youth Group
Add'l- 16th

Tue, Feb 4th @ 10:00 am
Veterans Coffee and Camaraderie

Wed, Feb 5th @ 10:00 am
Women's Bible Study
Add'l- 12th, 19th, 26th

Thur, Feb 6th @ 6:30 pm
Beer and the Bible- 804 Main

Mon, Feb 10th @ 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
Cub Scouts: Add'l- 24th

Tue, Feb 11th @ 10:00 am
Coffee, Cookies, and Conversations

Tue, Feb 11th @ 6:00 pm
Board Meeting- Open to Everyone

Sun, Feb 16th- during Service
Choir Sings

Sun, Feb 16th- after service
Women's Choir Rehearsal
Add'l- 23rd

Mon, Feb 17th- No School Serendipity

Sun, Feb 23rd- during Service
"Noisy Can" Offering

Sun, Feb 23rd- after service
Children's Choir Rehearsal

Sun, Feb 23rd @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
High School Youth Group

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

Join us for Worship

Sunday:

8:30 am In-person & Live Stream via Facebook

Faith Formation classes for PK thru 5th grade during service

Adult classes available after the service

Pastor Mike's Minute

From John Wesley's Journal May 24th, 1738

In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

I began to pray with all my might for those who had in a more especial manner despitefully used me and persecuted me. I then testified openly to all there what I now first felt in my heart. But it was not long before the enemy suggested, "This cannot be faith; for where is thy joy?" Then was I taught that peace and victory over sin are essential to faith in the Captain of our salvation; but that, as to the transports of joy that usually attend the beginning of it, especially in those who have mourned deeply, God sometimes giveth, sometimes withholdeth, them according to the counsels of His own will.

John Wesley was in crisis. Even though he grew up in a religious home, even though he was a priest in the Church of England, he saw people navigating the hard times in their lives with much more joy and contentment than him. He watched as people faced death with less anxiety than him and he saw people around him in the most awful circumstances seem to have no worries at all.

He was sure he had no faith. And then that evening at Aldersgate, he realized that faith must be part of our heart. An emotional response to the living God. Then, we can "feel" God with us even in those tough times. We can "feel" God taking our burdens and worries and we can "feel" God's love for us.

It's okay if you don't "feel" God today, just don't give up trying to. Pray, read your Bible, serve your fellow human in acts of service and soon, as you spend more time being with God, suddenly you will experience your Aldersgate moment. Just don't stop searching!

Happy Heart Day!

Peace to All,

Mike

Soup-er Bowl

Prepare to indulge in some delightful homemade soups! On Sunday, February 2nd, following church, a variety of frozen soups will be available for you to take home and savor. All proceeds will support the launch of our capital campaign aimed at repairing the parking lot and acquiring a new digital sign.

Children's Choir Announcement

We are thrilled to share that a children's choir will perform on Palm Sunday (April 13th). Natalie, our worship leader, will be directing the choir. All children are invited to join! To get ready for Palm Sunday, we have scheduled six after-church rehearsals, starting on Feb 23rd, each lasting about 25 minutes, concluding shortly after 10 A.M. If you intend to participate, please commit to attending rehearsals consistently.

Grief & Loss Support

Coping with loss can be difficult, and grieving is a personal journey. This new support group offers a welcoming space for those who have recently lost a loved one or are dealing with past grief. The first meeting is Monday, March 3rd at 6:30 pm, is free, and is open to the community.

NAMA Opportunities

NAMA is in need for more Food Rescue Drivers. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning, volunteers collect surplus food from Fareway, Kum & Go, and Kwik Star, delivering it to three locations in Norwalk. If you're interested in joining the Norwalk Food Rescue team, please reach out to Beth Greiner at 319-573-9688, and she will help you get involved!

Easter Scavenger Hunt Around Norwalk

Our church will be hosting our 5th Easter Scavenger Hunt around Norwalk. Participants come to our church between 9-12 on Saturday, April 12th 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
- Donate prizes (list provided by Beth)

Camp Sunday

On Sunday, March 9th, we will celebrate Camp Sunday. Former campers will share their experiences and discuss summer camp opportunities. It will be a wonderful chance for youth to learn about what camp entails and how they can register. Additionally, the church will be involved in a fundraising campaign that day to support camper scholarships.

New Office Hire- Karie

We are thrilled to welcome Karie Goheen to our team! Karie lives in Norwalk with her husband, Brad. They settled here in 1997. Karie and Brad have two children. Their son is currently a sophomore at Central College and their daughter is in her senior year at Norwalk. With a strong background in accounting, Karie earned her MBA from Iowa State University. We are so blessed to have Karie's skills and expertise!

February

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Cyndie & Kent Strawn- 14th

Julie & Rob Landstrum 16th

Lia & Kevin Potratz- 23rd

KJudy Poulsen- 2nd

William Bruner- 20th

Deb Billingsley- 9th

Lia Potratz- 22nd

Jackson Warren- 13th

Brianna Baker- 23rd

Jackson Wright- 15th

Kyle Patava- 24th

Nicholaus Rosonke- 16th

Ashley Jo Rensch- 24th

Kyra Greiner- 16th

Ken Henke- 25th

Bob Baldwin-17th

Monica Friedman- 26th

Dianna Cooper- 29th