

- Middle School Youth Group: On Summer Break
- High School Youth Group: On Summer Break

**Tue, July 1st @ 10:00 am**  
Veterans Coffee and Camaraderie

**Fri, July 4th- Independence Day**  
Office Closed

**Mon, July 7th @ 6:00 pm**  
Board Meeting- Open to Everyone

**Tue, July 8th @ 10:00 am**  
Coffee, Cookies, and Conversations

**Wed, July 9th @ 8:30 am**  
South Side Clean Up

**Wed, July 9th @ 10:00 am**  
Women’s Bible Study

**Wed, July 9th @ 6:30 pm**  
Confirmation Parent Meeting

**Wed, July 16th @ 10:00 am**  
Women’s Bible Study

**Thur, July 17th @ 6:00 pm**  
Watermelon cutting at church for Lunch in the Park

**Fri, July 18th @ 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
Serve Lunch in the Park

**Wed, July 23rd @ 10:00 am**  
Women’s Bible Study


**Thur, July 24th @ 6:00 pm**  
Food and Fellowship Group

**Sun, July 27th- during Service**  
"Noisy Can" Offering

**Wed, July 30th @ 10:00 am**  
Women’s Bible Study

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](mailto:norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org), and put "newsletter" in the subject line

p. 515.981.4251  
e. [norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org](mailto:norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org)  
a. 1100 Gordon Ave



# Norwalk United Methodist Church

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

[norwalkumc.com](http://norwalkumc.com) JULY 2025



**Sunday:**  
**8:30 am** In-person & Live Stream via Facebook  
 Faith Formation classes for PK thru 5th grade during service  
 Adult classes- on break for the summer

### Pastor Mike’s Minute

*Psalm 19:1 (CEB)*  
*Heaven is declaring God’s glory;*  
*the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.*

Where have you seen God today? As many of you know we recently took a few days and visited Taiwan with our family. Our son-in-law, Kent is from Taiwan, and he wanted to show us around his homeland. It was beautiful. An island about the physical size of Illinois but with twice the population.

We saw cities that were super crowded with one lane streets, and yet, people still managed it without any of the road rage we hear about in the U.S. We saw incredible mountains, and we snorkeled a couple of times in the beautiful South China Sea. Everywhere we went, we could not help but see God’s incredible creation. We witnessed such powerful beauty!

But even though we were in this exotic location, we also witnessed God’s creation in very normal ways. We witnessed God’s creation in the laughs of our grandchildren as they played with, and laughed with the Taiwanese children, even though they all spoke a different language. We witnessed God’s creation in the markets where the fishermen sold their fish, and you could clearly see how much they loved their work. We witnessed God’s beautiful creation in the mountain hot springs and the crowded street markets. Over and over again, we saw God at work during our trip.

I wonder if we saw more of God’s work because God was more present in Taiwan than he is here in the U.S.? Or maybe we were away from our normal routine, and it helped us see it better? I’m pretty sure God is just as much at work here in the U.S. as in the rest of the world. God is not limited by a place or a time, or even a circumstance. God is everywhere we are, all the time. We just needed a break from our daily lives to see God’s work more clearly.

I think the challenge for all of us is to be more intentional about looking for God during our normal day-to-day routine. Let’s take a minute this week to look, pray, and appreciate God’s creation. It might just change our lives!

Peace to All- Mike

# United Women of Faith

United Women of Faith had a great planning meeting in June! Stay tuned for the exciting events they have planned for the fall. This month, all are welcomed to join UWF in cutting watermelon for Lunch in the Park on Thursday, July 17th at 6:00 pm in the church kitchen.

## Lunch in the Park

Lunch in the Park has served a record amount of people this summer, with the highest being 401! Our day to serve is Friday, July 18th. We will be serving chicken nuggets as our main dish. We will need at least 10 volunteers to serve on Friday. We also need monetary donations to buy the nuggets and watermelon, along with other food donations. The list will be sent out via email with the items needed.

## West Des Moines UMC State Fair Help

The West Des Moines United Methodist food stand is celebrating its 76th anniversary at the Iowa State Fair. They are the last church to have a food stand at the fair. They are asking for help with filling shifts. They will donate directly to your organization- \$50 for each 4-hour shift, \$75 for each 6-hour shift, or \$100 for each 8-hour shift that a member of your organization works. If you are interested in volunteering, email the church or talk to Beth and we can forward you the information from WDMUMC.

## NAMA's Shoe Love

The next big Norwalk Area Ministerial Association (NAMA) project is "Shoe Love", where Norwalk students in need receive new socks, shoes, and underwear. NAMA will give us more information on how we can help soon!

## South Side Church

On Wednesday, July 9th at 8:30 am, we will be doing some organizing and small repairs at the South Side Church. We are also looking for people to help with painting during July. If you are interested in helping with either of these projects, please email the church office at [norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org](mailto:norwalkumc@norwalkumc.org). There will also be an email sent out this month with some South Side Church plan updates! So keep an eye on your email!

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was amazing! There were 56 kids that participated and they were able to learn more about Jesus through games, science experiments, music, crafts, and more! A HUGE thank you to the 31 volunteers who made the 3 days possible, along with those who donated supplies and money! Thank you all so much for your support! There is already excitement from the kids who attended to come next year!

## Food and Fellowship

Food and Fellowship had a great meeting last month and are planning to meet again! This month's gathering will be Thursday, July 24th at 6:00. All are invited to come and enjoy each other's company and strengthen their connections! Please bring a potluck item to share.

## July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Stacy & Terry Rosonke- 6th  
Rebecca & David Selene- 8th  
Carol & Steve Sisney- 9th  
Nancy & Steve Jacobson- 10th  
Wanda & Dewey Goodrich Jr- 14th

Haylie Spurr- 1st	Tom Riggs- 13th
Kaitlyn Warren- 1st	Deb Stanley- 18th
Ashley Mowery- 3rd	Dewey Goodrich Jr- 19th
Meribeth Wright- 3rd	Cathy Riggs- 19th
Joni Rench- 6th	Andrew Grant- 21st
Cyndie Strawn- 7th	Marc Collis- 23rd
Alexander Rench- 11th	Beth Greiner- 24th
Donnie Rench- 11th	Stacy Rosonke- 28th