

Northern Voice Newsletter

2024 - 2025 Winter Edition - November, December, January



With November upon us and Thanksgiving and Advent fast approaching, I am reminded of a song by Art Garfunkel called “Grateful.” You can listen to the full recording [HERE](#), or simply google it on YouTube. This song has always had special meaning for me. It is not a particularly religious song, but its words are charged with spiritual insight. No matter how often I play and replay it, depending on the circumstances each time I listen, its reflections bring me to tears as if hearing it for the first time.

Though gratefulness should be a normal 12-month habit, it seems that a national holiday is required in order to slow us down long enough to pause, reflect, and express our gratitude to God for the bountiful blessings we have been given. This fall, however, with the world in turmoil in almost any location one’s finger could randomly point to on a globe, my “grateful spirit“ has felt more hard pressed. As I again listened to the song, I’ve been reminded that gratefulness is always a choice – both how we look at life circumstances, and then, determining our response to them.

In his letter to the Philippian church, the Apostle Paul provides some helpful advice on shaping and maintaining a grateful spirit.

*Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice....
Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.
Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand...Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.* ~Phil. 4:4-8

What drew me to these particular verses is the setting Paul was dealing with when he shared them—imprisonment! Possibly shackled to military guards.

Given just that circumstance (and there were certainly other challenging issues described in this letter), one can appreciate that his words do not come from an “ivory tower, think-happy-thoughts” idealist, but from someone in difficult, confining, and even life-threatening conditions. Throughout this letter, Paul is very candid about the various challenges he is facing.

By his own admission and born out of deep reflection, he comes to understand them as a collection of learning experiences meant to have a transforming impact on him. He clearly wishes to share what he has learned for the benefit of his beloved Philippian church family. But even more, he is providing thoughts and hope very relevant for us today. With these words in mind, instead of focusing on the latest news-cycle dilemmas, I am attempting to take conscious stock of the blessings right in front of me. Here is a very small list of my “*gratefulnesses*”:

- For a God who is ever present and doesn’t give up on me.
- For a faithful and loving husband of 8 years; 6 wonderful children of whom we are duly proud; outstanding daughters and sons-in-law, remarkable both outwardly and inwardly; 7 uniquely created grandchildren, active, curious, rambunctious, creative and ever amazing and a delight to their grandparents. And 2 bonus exchange students that have been a blessing to our family.
- For local medical personnel who provide caring service to my loved ones as they navigate their difficult health situations.
- For a church family that exemplifies the love of Jesus to me, to each other, this community, and the broader world.
- For over 10 years of pastoral and educational opportunities that have flown by so quickly.

I close with the words from Garfunkel’s “Grateful” which summarize it all:

Grateful, grateful truly grateful I am.

Grateful, grateful, truly blessed and duly grateful.

Pastor Lauren

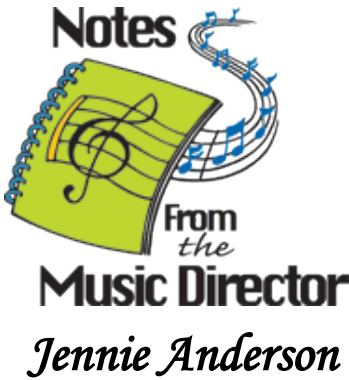
LET US GIVE THANKS

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
November 27, 2024
7:00pm at Hubbard UMC

Dana Kocka
from Calvary Lutheran Church
will speak.

**Come to the service,
stay for the fellowship,
and of course, the *PIE!***





Anyone is welcome to join us,
no experience needed!

Wednesday rehearsals at 7 pm:
November 13 and Tuesday 26;
December 4, 11, and 18.

Sundays we sing
with rehearsal at 8 am:
November 3, and 17;
December 1, 8, 15 and 22.



**Christmas
Hymn Sing is ...
December 29!**

We certainly enjoyed having so many of our summer friends join us this past summer season! It is sad to see them go, but we look forward to their return to make joyful music with them once again.

Looking towards the fall and winter, there will be a few changes to the choir rehearsal and Sunday dates. The biggest change is we will be singing every Sunday in December, except for December 29, which will be a Christmas Hymn Sing.

Choir will sing on Thursday, December 19, for the Blue Christmas Service.

There are new anthems the choir will be working on that we hope will bring you hope and joy throughout the upcoming season.

I wish everyone a blessed fall and Holiday Season!

Jennie



Please consider **VOLUNTEERING** for any of the following volunteer opportunities.

- ⇒ Greeters and Ushers - Contact Shari Perrine
- ⇒ Scripture Readers - Contact Diane Thielke or sign-up in Welcome Area
- ⇒ Fellowship servers - Contact Janell Saunders or sign-up in Welcome Area
- ⇒ Tech people - Contact Jeff Hauger
- ⇒ Communion set-up and servers - Contact Joy Derr

Advent and Christmas Calendar

December 1 First Sunday of Advent

December 8 Second Sunday of Advent

December 15 Third Sunday of Advent

December 19 Blue Christmas 7:00 PM
Service of Remembrance and Hope
at Hubbard UMC
with Riverside and Calvary Lutheran

December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24 Christmas Eve 4:00 PM

*Please check the Bulletin
and Friday Announcements
for details as these dates get closer!*



MISSIONS Offerings

JULY MISSION GIVING

8/16/2024

MISSION COMMITTEE

\$ 000.00

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

Pastor's Discretionary Fund \$ 824.51

TOTAL MISSION GIVING - JULY \$ 824.51



AUGUST MISSION GIVING

9/3/2024

MISSION COMMITTEE

Jasper's Theater - Hubbard Co DAC \$ 814.98

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

UMCOR \$ 500.00

World Vision - Wellspring \$ 100.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund \$ 650.00

TOTAL MISSION GIVING - AUGUST \$ 2,064.98



SEPTEMBER MISSION GIVING

10/9/2024

MISSION COMMITTEE

\$ 000.00

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

World Vision - Wellspring \$ 100.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund \$ 1,930.68

TOTAL MISSION GIVING - SEPTEMBER

\$ 2,030.68



UMCOR

Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

Packing Event

Sunday, October 20, HUMC packed
30 Cleaning Kits and
30 Hygiene Kits for MMDC.

Jasper's Theater

HUMC gifted 26 DAC employees tickets to attend The Great Gospel and Comedy Show at Jasper's Theater on Saturday, September 28.



Volunteers from HUMC deliver **Meals on Wheels** to Park Rapids residents once every 5 weeks. If you are interested in becoming a delivery person for this rewarding activity, please contact Arnie Kuhn at 701-730-3667.

"Thank You" to our many dedicated volunteers!

Hubbard MOW Dates:

November 11 - 15, 2024

December 16 - 20, 2024

January 20 - 24, 2025

General Board of Global Ministries updates (the mission agency of the United Methodist Church)

AMOS receives a grant from Encounter with Christ

For more than 30 years, Encounter with Christ (EWC) has been in ministry with churches and agencies in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition to church relationships and mission teams to the region, EWC created a permanent mission fund, housed within the General Board of Global Ministries, to provide programmatic funding for ministries and outreach programs in the region.



Earlier this year AMOS was invited to apply for a grant and was awarded \$20,000 that will be used in the Maternal Child Health Program. The project entitled “Parenting with Love and Health—Matagalpa” will assist with the critical issue of maternal/child health in 6 remote communities of Matagalpa lacking access to health facilities and benefiting more than 1,100 people. The grant contributes to Global Ministries’s priority of Global Health and achieve the goal to alleviate human suffering.

AMOS Health and Hope

AMOS continues bringing health and hope to vulnerable communities.

AMOS Health Fairs

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines the word “fair” as an exposition that promotes the availability of services or opportunities. AMOS Health Fairs are just that – to make available quality healthcare for patients with chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension or people with mobility challenges or children, many of whom may not otherwise receive ongoing sustainable treatment. Based on AMOS’s faith-based values, the fairs are modeled on Jesus’s teachings to serve others and for all to be embraced by God’s grace and love.

I am excited for the ways God is strengthening the partnership between United Methodists and AMOS Health and Hope!

Dr. Belinda Forbes,
Global Missionary of The United Methodist Church

*Mark your Calendar for these very
Special Services in December!*

Blue Christmas

December 19
7:00 pm
at Hubbard UMC

**Overwhelmed? Sad? Lost? Alone?
Depressed? Abandoned? Exhausted?
Brokenhearted? Despairing?**



Silent Night. Holy Night.

Christmas Eve Service

**December 24, 2024
4:00 pm
at Hubbard UMC**



HAPPY Birthday

November

Doug Rathbun	1
Arnie Kuhn	2
Angie Hutchins	4
Pam Davis	7
Ron Taggart	7
Randy Wimmer	9
Denise Kissler	10
Liz Stevens	13
Aaron Kjernaas	13
Neil Jordheim	16
Dennis Bolton	19
Travis Bolton	23
Betty Larsen	26
Bob Stevens	26



December

Marshall Howe	2
Arlene Valentin	12
Tom Moore	16
Locky Horst	19
Maxine Rathbun	20
Nancy Martinson	20
Gayle Laine	21
Noel Moore	25
Janet Gray	27
Sharilyn Perrine	27
Jim Eisele	28
Dave Thaelke	31

January

Bob Boyd	4
Nash Selander	4
Mary Sue Skelton	8
Melvin Bolton	11
Cheryl Steinborn	14
Bekah Sundsrud	15
Lauren Hauger	15
Carolyn Carter	16
Martha Tacker	16
Betty Barrett	18
Janet McMillen	19
Jennie Anderson	20
Janet Munson	21
John Davis	22
Andy Hendrickson	22
Don Balk	23
Edna Underwood	24
Lily Friedl	27
Robyn Wimmer	30



November

Janet McMillen	
& Marshall Howe	8
Bob & Liz Stevens	9
John & Denise Kissler	13
Bill & Cherilyn Sinner	25

December

Ron & Margi Taggart	3
Steve & Rose Christenson	26
Bob & Barb Boyd	27
John & Alice Strom	28
Steve & Cheryl Steinborn	28

January

Bill & MarySue Skelton	14
Jim & Nancy Vogt	31

Upcoming *Sermon Series*

November 3 - 24
Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude

December 1 - January 5
From Generation to Generation



Nov 5	Holden Service @ Calvary	4:00 and 6:30 pm
Nov 6	UWF meeting	1:00 pm
Nov 9	ABIDE Summit Faith UMC in St. Anthony	10:00 - 4:00
Nov 14	Finance Committee meeting	2:00 pm
Nov 14	Ad Council meeting	3:00 pm
Nov 27	Thanksgiving Eve Service	7:00 pm
Nov 30	Hanging of the Greens	9:00 am
Dec 17	Quilters Christmas Luncheon	12:00 pm
Dec 19	Blue Christmas	7:00 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service	4:00 pm
Dec 29	Hymn Sing	9:00 am
Jan 4	Take down Christmas decorations	9:00 am

A Note from the Trustees

Know a really good Painter??

We are in need of a good painter to re-paint the interior walls of our church. Any leads will be greatly appreciated.

Memorial Garden Tools

Maintaining the Remembrance Wall requires some unusual tools kept in a labeled, plastic storage box on a certain garage shelf.

Recently, when attempting to change/update a plaque, a key tool was missing from this box. Whoever removed it, is kindly asked to explain.

Thank you.

Rich Perrine

**Please Consider Giving to the
Pastor Discretionary Fund Today!
The needs are great!**

Quilters Hop - Perham

- All women of Hubbard UMC are welcome to join the Threads of Love Quilters on their next Quilters Hop. Next up is a trip to Perham on November 19.
- Watch for information in the Friday Announcements.





United Women in Faith

The United Women in Faith meet the
1st Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm
All are welcome!

Hubbard UMC United Women in Faith are participating in a Thank Bank Offering. If you would like to join us in this Mission Giving event, please pick up a jar in the Welcome Area and return to Shari Perrine or Marion Hansen by Sunday, November 24, 2025. We give in gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy and in turn share with others our God provided abundance so that people in need may receive the support and services they need.

The Hubbard UMC United Women in Faith are again collecting unused Christmas Cards with envelopes (please put a postage stamp on if you can). These cards are provided to the inmates in the Hubbard County Jail so they can connect with their family at Christmas. Please place the cards in the basket provided in the Welcome Area. About 300 cards are needed for this Mission, so thank you in advance for your generosity.

The Hubbard UMC United Women in Faith group doesn't meet in January or February; however, that doesn't mean "we are idle". This is a great time to check out a new book from our reading program. Check out the display in the Welcome Area to check out a book.

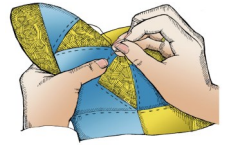
If you would like to add a book to the display, please contact Marion Hansen.

Marion Hansen
UWF President





Care And Comfort



Threads of Love

Women of HUMC: December 17 Is Your Day!

*“There will always be ladies who have lunch.
Always. And apparently, they live a long time.”*

Please join us on Tuesday, **December 17**, at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall for a **Christmas Luncheon** for the women of HUMC, a time to celebrate the season with friends, fellowship, food and fun. Your hosts, the Threads of Love Quilters, encourage you to bring a friend.

This holiday luncheon is our opportunity to say “Thank You” for the support you have shown the quilting mission over the years. This past year we delivered quilts and fleece blankets to more than 100 women, men and children in need of care and comfort.

Please let Mary Takle or call the church office if you can attend. We look forward to seeing you!

More details to follow.

PS – As we are a mission-minded group, you are welcome to bring a food item for the Food Shelf or mittens and hats for adults or children.

*We are a group of women
who are richly blessed
by the mission and
fellowship of the
Threads of Love Quilters.*

*Won't you join us?
Mary Takle, Coordinator*

“When you said,
'Let's have lunch,'

I knew it was going
to be a fantastic day.”



Let us be a praying church! Remember those on our Weekly Prayer Guide in your daily prayers.

Please have all joys and prayer requests into the church office by Friday morning - 9:00 am. You may also fill out a "Prayer Request" form, found on the back of the sanctuary pews, and place in the offertory collection or leave in the church office. If desired, we will add your request to the prayer chain and the weekly prayer guide.

Please notify the office if/when you would like your name removed from the prayer list.



Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, November 30

9:00 am

All are welcome to decorate.



FROM THE
CHURCH
OFFICE

Northern Voice- Newsletter Deadline

The Northern Voice newsletter is published quarterly. Our next Northern Voice will be **SPRING 2025**, for the months of November, December, and January. The article submission deadline is **January 15th**.



Have you heard of the "I Don't Know" Prayer?



It's very spiritual: you just go
somewhere quiet and hidden
and you walk right up to the heart of God
and say, "I don't know."

I don't know where to go from here.

I don't know what is happening.

I don't know how to process this.

I don't know what to do with these emotions.

I don't know what to do in this situation.

This prayer covers a lot of I-don't-knows.

*And then with whatever dusty,
little grain of faith you have, you say,*

"But You know."

And you leave it there.

God most certainly hears that prayer.

~Diane Kellerman