

Northern Voice Newsletter

2026 Winter Edition – November, December, January



An Unlikely Winter: A Season of Rest, Renewal, and the Road Ahead

Dear Hubbard Church Family,

As the winter chill sets in and the nights grow longer, we are invited into a sacred season of reflection, warmth, and deep community. Winter is a season for growing in faith together as a church family. Over the course of this next year, our shared prayer and focus is to truly live into a season of loving one another well, grounding ourselves in God's word and in deeper fellowship.

As I find myself in the midst of a time of a season of rest and renewal—planning to return just as we enter into our season of Advent—it is my hope and prayer that you have been blessed by your own season of renewal. I pray that Pastor Holly and the rest of the leadership at Hubbard Church have begun "resetting your souls" during this sermon series, Soul Reset by Junius Dotson, and that you have either joined along in the corresponding book study that Samantha is leading, or you have picked up the book and are following along with Pastor Holly on your own!

As we focus on renewing our own souls, I ask that you also tend carefully to Pastor Holly's soul as she navigates her own tender health journey through this season as well. Let us surround her with the same grace, prayers, and deep care she so faithfully gives to us.

Many of you have asked what your pastor is reading during this time of renewal! I have been following Bishop Lanette's Dog-Eared Disciple's Book Study, and I am currently diving into *Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God* by Kaitlin B. Curtice and *Wintering* by Katherine May. Also on my list are *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr, *Curveball* by Peter Enns, and *Being Here* by Pádraig Ó Tuama.

I look forward to being back with you soon, with new stories, new experiences, and a renewed perspective on our season ahead as we look forward to Spring!

To help us continue to grow, we are launching two powerful worship and study series this winter, complete with opportunities for you to dive deeper through congregational book studies.

1. *Advent: An Unlikely Advent*

Our journey begins in the season of Advent. We will be exploring the Extraordinary People of the Christmas Story through Rachel Billups's book, *An Unlikely Advent*.

Too often, we smooth over the rough edges of the nativity narrative. Together, we will be invited to look closely at the unlikely and unexpected ways that God worked in the very first Christmas—and how God still works in the messy, surprising, and beautiful realities of our lives today. Come prepare your hearts for the birth of Christ by encountering the raw hope of those who first witnessed Christ's coming.

2. *Epiphany: Genesis: A Beginner's Guide to the Beginning*

Following the celebration of Christmas, we will move into the Epiphany season by turning our eyes to the very foundations

of our faith. We will bring to life some of Scripture's most foundational and compelling stories of creation, conflict, judgment, and mercy.

Guided by Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Genesis: A Beginner's Guide to the Beginning*, we will look at these ancient texts with fresh eyes. By understanding our spiritual beginnings, we can better understand how to navigate our current world with grace, justice, and love.

Living and Loving Together This Winter

Friends, faith is not a solo sport—it is meant to be lived out in community. Both of these sermon series will feature a corresponding book studies that you can join along in. These groups will be a space to ask questions, share insights, and practice the very love that we are preaching about.

Beyond our book studies, our faith will take flight through active community service and joyful fellowship events. This winter, we will intentionally create spaces:

- For healing as we support one another through life's colder seasons.
- For singing as we lift our voices in praise and shared joy.
- For loving and for living fully in the present moment, anchoring ourselves in Christ's peace.

All of these moments are designed to nurture our souls and strengthen our bonds as we look forward with hope to the Spring.

I encourage you to grab your copies of the books, find a small group, and commit to growing with us this season. Let us open our hearts to the unexpected ways God is moving among us.

Blessings, and may you have a restorative, connected, and hopeful winter season, growing deep roots in faith as we wait in joyful anticipation for the light to come.

Pastor Lauren



Jennie Anderson



Anyone is welcome to join us,
no experience needed!

Wednesday rehearsals at 7 pm:

November 11
December 2, 16, 30
January 13

Sundays we sing

with rehearsal at 8 am:
November 1 and 15
December 6 and 20
January 3 and 17

Wow! The fall colors have been spectacular and the warm weather a bonus! It's hard to believe that winter is knocking on the door.

The choir continues to bring the message through song on the first and third Sundays of each month. There is always room for more singers! If you haven't figured out your area of service for the church – perhaps it's with the choir. You don't even need to read music, we all learn as we go and with practice! Plus, we have fun! Contact me with any questions!

We already miss our snowbirds and hope they are enjoying their warmer surroundings! As this article covers many major holidays – I pray you each find the joy and happiness each one brings.

Jennie
Music Director





Advent and Christmas Calendar

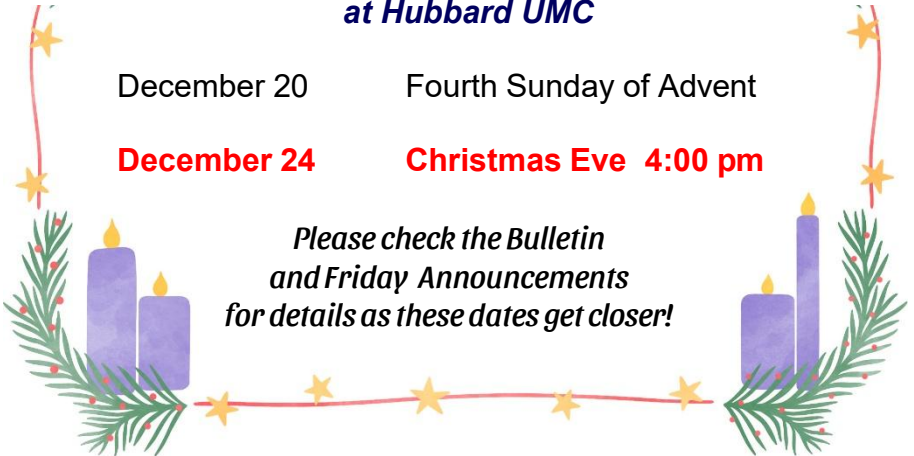
November 28	Hanging of the Greens
November 29	First Sunday of Advent
December 6	Second Sunday of Advent
December 13	Third Sunday of Advent

December 17 **Blue Christmas 7:00 pm**
Service of Remembrance and Hope
at Hubbard UMC

December 20	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!*



**Marie and Joy have been busy gathering your
Advent Devotionals. Once again, you all had
wonderful stories to share.**

**Watch for the 2026 Advent Devotional Booklet
to be available around November 22.**

***Thank you* to everyone who shared a story!**



MISSIONS

JULY MISSION GIVING

MISSION COMMITTEE

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$ 100.00
UMCOR	<u>\$ 500.00</u>

TOTAL JULY MISSION GIVING **\$ 600.00**

AUGUST MISSION GIVING

MISSION COMMITTEE

Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Mahube	\$ 900.00
Earthquake Relief – Venezuela	\$ 500.00
Helping Hands – Century School	\$ 499.72

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

Pastor Discretionary Fund	<u>\$ 1,880.00</u>
---------------------------	--------------------

TOTAL AUGUST MISSION GIVING **\$ 4,779.72**

SEPTEMBER MISSION GIVING

MISSION COMMITTEE

DESIGNATED MISSION GIVING

Pastor Discretionary Fund	<u>\$ 350.00</u>
---------------------------	------------------

TOTAL SEPTEMBER MISSION GIVING **\$ 350.00**



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday - November 25, 2026

7:00 pm at Hubbard UMC



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



44th Annual Community Thanks Meal

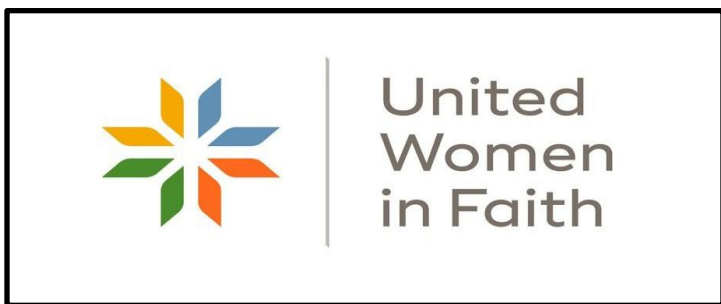


November 26, 2026

Riverside UMC

11:30 – 2:00

All are welcome!



Hubbard United Women in Faith

Hubbard UWF meets at 1:00 pm in the Wesley Room the first Wednesday of the month during March - December. Feel free to join us for fellowship and event planning.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to all who donated items, helped set-up and cleaned up. It takes many hands to hold a successful sale and we are able to do just that with your support!

THANK BANKS

Thank Bank Jars are available in the Welcome Area by the Mission bulletin board. Feel free to take a jar, insert your change etc. and return to Shari Perrine by Thanksgiving. All proceeds support Mission.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A basket will be put out in the Welcome Area in November for new Christmas cards with envelopes (place a postage stamp if you can). At our December UWFaith meeting, we will sort them and get them ready to be routed to the jail for inmates to use and connect with their family at Christmas.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

UWFaith doesn't meet in January or February. Watch for Reading Program books in the Wesley Room that can be checked out.

If you have questions about any of our events, please contact Marion Hansen, marionha@wcta.net

Marion Hansen, UWF President



2026 Advent Study with Bishop Lanette



Join us for this beloved tradition: The 2026 Advent Study with Bishop Lanette Plambeck! This is a unique study written by Bishop Lanette Plambeck. United Methodists across the Dakotas and Minnesota are invited. All are welcome! Hundreds of people participate in this study every year, and it is a wonderful time of connection and conversation as we prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas. **Register today** and encourage others to join you!

When: Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm CT Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, & 21

Discussions will be held via Zoom. **Since there is not an accompanying book to read**, attending the sessions live will provide the most meaningful experience, but each one will be recorded and sent to all registrants within a couple days of each gathering.

When Hope is Born: An Advent Study in the Theology of Midwifery

What if Advent is not only about waiting for hope, but about helping hope be born?

This Advent, join Bishop Lanette Plambeck for When Hope Is Born, a four-session journey through Scripture exploring the sacred work of midwifery: noticing what God is bringing to life, tending what is vulnerable, making room for what is emerging, and courageously participating in the birth of hope.

This Advent, we will listen for the heartbeat of hope.
We will watch for what God is bringing to life.
And we will ask:

Here is the link for more information and to register
minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/19945924?month=11&year=2026&day=1&display=m



November

Doug Rathbun	1
Pam Davis	7
Ron Taggart	7
Randy Wimmer	9
Denise Kisser	10
Liz Stevens	13
Aaron Kjenaas	13
Barbara Gauldin	16
Neil Jordheim	16
Dennis Bolton	19
Benn Sundsrud	21
Travis Bolton	23
Betty Larsen	26
Bob Stevens	26

December

Marshall Howe	2
Pat Thomas	12
Arlene Valentin	12
Bette Zaffke	12
Maxine Rathbun	20
Janet Gray	27
Sharilyn Perrine	27
Jim Eisele	28
Dave Thaelke	31

January

Bob Boyd	4
Mary Sue Skelton	8
Melvin Bolton	11
Cheryl Steinborn	14
Lauren Hauger	15
Bill Schmieg	15
Bekah Sundsrud	15
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 Kisser	13
Bill & Cherilyn Sinner	25

December

Ron & Margi Taggart	3
Neil & Nancy Jordheim	18
Dick & Jackie Lundstrom	20
Denny & Lynne Boulden	26
Steve & Rose Christenson	26
Bob & Barb Boyd	27
John & Alice Strom	28
Steve & Cheryl Steinborn	28
Steve & Phyllis Trutna	30

January

Dave & Holly Aastuen	7
----------------------	---

Is your birthday or anniversary
missing from the list?

We want to celebrate with you!

Email the office at

hubbardumc@unitelc.com

Or call the office at

218-732-0224 to be added
to the birthday and
anniversary list.



Hanging of the Greens

Saturday - November 28

9:00 am

All are welcome to help decorate!



Volunteers from HUMC deliver
Meals on Wheels
to Park Rapids residents every 6 weeks.

Upcoming HUMC Delivery Weeks
December 7 – 11; January 18 – 22; March 1 - 5

"Thank You"
to our many dedicated volunteers!



Drivers Wanted!
Make a difference for someone today!



volunteer!

**Drivers Wanted -
Meals on Wheels Needs You!!**

If you are interested in becoming
a delivery person for this
rewarding activity, please contact
Don Haagenson at 218-255-2788

Do the holidays have you feeling blue?

Grieving a loved one, lonely,
feeling depressed, struggling with illness,
financial burden, estrangement from family,
newly sober...



Please join us for a service of
comfort, healing, hope, and renewal.



Blue Christmas Service

Hubbard UMC

Thursday, December 17 7:00pm



Pastoral Discretionary Fund

The Pastor Discretionary Fund allows Pastor Lauren
to respond quickly and compassionately
to the immediate needs of individuals and families
within our congregation or community.

These funds are typically used to help
With food, utilities, housing, car repairs, etc.

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



Winter EVENTS

Nov 3	Trustees meeting	1:00 pm
Nov 4	Book Study – Soul Reset	10:00 am
Nov 4	UWF meeting	1:00 pm
Nov 6	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Nov 11	Book Study – Soul Reset	10:00 am
Nov 12	Finance Committee meeting	2:00 pm
Nov 12	Ad Council meeting	3:00 pm
Nov 13	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Nov 18	Book Study – Soul Reset	10:00 am
Nov 20	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Nov 22	Thanks Jar due	
Nov 22	Cluster Conference – DL UMC	1:00 pm
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Eve Service	7:00 pm
Nov 26	Community Thanks Meal	11:30 - 2:00
Nov 28	Hanging of the Greens	9:00 am
Nov 29	Advent begins	
Dec 2	UWF meeting	1:00 pm
Dec 4	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Dec 4	PR Classic Chorale Christmas Concert	7:30 pm
Dec 6	PR Classic Chorale Christmas Concert	3:00 pm
Dec 11	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Dec 17	Blue Christmas	7:00 pm
Dec 18	Potluck and Game Night	5:30 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service	4:00 pm
Jan 2	Taking down the Greens	9:00 am
Jan 15	Spring newsletter submissions due	





Care And Comfort



Threads of Love

Quilting: An Act of Love

"Quilts remind us of something bigger than ourselves."

Ken Burns

Ken Burns, best known as an award-winning American filmmaker, is also a collector of antique hand sewn American quilts, a collection inspired by a quilt his grandmother stitched for him as a child and which he keeps by his bedside.

How does this relate to you, and specifically, the Threads of Love Quilters?

Well, perhaps you have a quilt made by your grandmother or was it a favorite aunt? Maybe you received a quilt as a wedding gift (I did) and know nothing about its origin.

In the PBS documentary, *The Quilts of Ken Burns*, which aired in 2018, Burns reassured those of us who love quilts by explaining, "You may know it was stitched by Hannah, but you don't know if she was 18 or 28 or 88; if she was happy or sad; single or married; stitched alone or with other women."

Our own Sue Harmon, a certified quilt appraiser, also has a collection of quilts, some antique and some that "I just fell in love with." Yes, the provenance of a quilt is important, but for some quilts, their history may never be known.

In the documentary Burns also noted that, "Quilts are the cleanest, most authentic expression of who we are as American people" and that they represent the "myriad of people" — women, Native Americans, free and enslaved Black people, teenagers — whose stories are often absent from traditional "top-down" history."

According to Burns, "Quilts are just a beautiful thing, like a sunset or a sugar maple ablaze with red and orange—one of those things where you just sort of shake your head and realize how insignificant we are in the face of creation. Quilts remind us of something bigger than ourselves."

In researching quilting's enduring popularity, one magazine article noted that "It's a craft that has evolved and incorporates modern designs and new techniques while blending history, creativity, therapy, and love. Quilting offers a tangible connection

to the past, a creative outlet for self-expression, a therapeutic escape from stress, and a heartfelt way to connect with others.”

On Tuesdays, a group of quilters “connect with each other” in the Fellowship Hall, creating beautiful quilts that they will then give to someone in need of “care and comfort.” First organized in 2007, the Threads of Love Quilters are looking forward to celebrating their 20th anniversary in 2027. New members are welcome at anytime; just be prepared for fun, fellowship and friendship!

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



*Please
join us!*

Christmas Eve Service

**Thursday
December 24**

4:00 pm

at Hubbard UMC



Christmas Eve
SERVICE

Notes
from the
Office

HUMC office will be closed

Friday – November 27

Friday – December 25

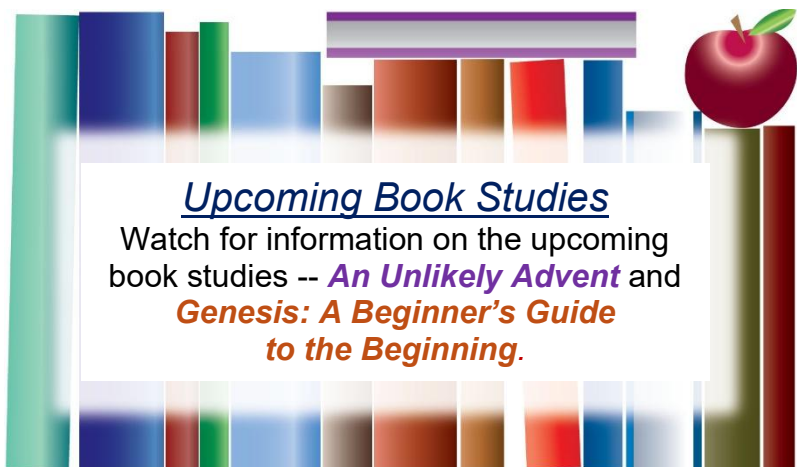
Friday – January 1

Northern Voice- Newsletter Deadline

The Northern Voice newsletter is published quarterly.

Our next Northern Voice will be **SPRING 2027** –
for the months of February, March and April.

The article submission deadline is **January 15th**.



THANK YOU to our ushers,
greeters, scripture readers,
fellowship servers,
communion servers, and
tech booth volunteers!

We appreciate YOU!

