

# The Church Chat Room

## Newsletter of the Westmoreland United Church

### NOTICE

A graveside service for Ken Walker will be held Sunday, June 27th at 1:00 at the North Cemetery off Great Meadow Ferry Road (Rt 63) Westmoreland to be followed by a Celebration of Life 2-4 at the Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House.

We are Back After Covid 19 for our Twelveth year

### YARD AND CRAFT SALE SET FOR SATURDAY , July 17th 8AM-2PM

DROP OFF DAYS WILL BE:  
FRIDAY, July 9th FROM 1-6.  
SATURDAY, July 10th FROM  
9-1

WE ARE ONLY  
ACCEPTING CHILDREN'S  
CLOTHES UP TO SIZE 10.

INTERESTED IN SETTING  
UP YOUR OWN TABLE. FOR  
\$20 YOU CAN SET UP A  
TABLE TO SELL YOUR  
CRAFTS OR HAVE YOUR  
OWN YARD SALE.

THE LOCATION ON THE  
TOWN COMMON IS  
PERFECT. YOU MUST BRING  
YOUR OWN TABLE. We do all  
the advertising.

PLEASE CALL Judy  
Rancourt 399-4828 or Jeanie Sy  
352-8032 to make these  
arrangements.

## In-Person Worship Services Resume in Brick Church

by Carol Austin, Moderator

After discussing the topic for many months, the Governing Board made the decision at its June meeting to resume Sunday morning worship services in the Brick Church beginning on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The windows in the balcony were opened. The doors were also open for good ventilation. Masks were worn and people spread out in the sanctuary. Pastor Lynn included those unable to attend by setting up the Zoom option as well. All who attended expressed gratitude for being able to resume worship in the Brick Church after so many months. Pastor Lynn's message spoke to love and hope. She read what we hoped for...before the pandemic even arrived...and faith, including the parable of Jesus found in Mark 4: 31 about the tiny mustard seed that grows greater than all the herbs...like our faith.

No fellowship time in Fellowship Hall was scheduled but people enjoyed outside visiting.

The Board is making on-going decisions about the rentals of Fellowship Hall on an individual basis with recommendations such as good ventilation in the building, using the outdoor area to avoid crowding within the building, masks, etc..

Having postponed the 2020 and 2021 annual church yard sale for many months, that yard sale is finally scheduled for Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Please see additional information elsewhere in this issue.

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### Fishing Advice

The topic for the children's message was Matthew 4:19, when Jesus told his disciples to become fishers of men. The woman giving the message asked the children if they'd ever been fishing -- and what they used for bait.

"Worms!" the children answered.

Then the woman explained that Jesus wants his friends to follow him and tell others about him. "How would you catch men?" she asked.

One little girl piped up, "With cologne!"

-- Faith Lutheran Church, Specer, Iowa

## Missions Ministry

by Judy Rancourt

Our Missions for the summer are Joan's Pantry (first Sunday of the month) and Hundred Nights. On 5/17 I delivered food to Hundred Nights and on 5/21 I delivered 5 bags of groceries to Joan's Pantry. Donations may be left in the Church.

Hundred Nights Wish List:

Powdered or liquid coffee creamer

Jams and Jellies

Pop-top cans of heat and eat

Meals

Sturdy Plasticware

Paper plates and bowls

Bottle Water

Toilet Paper

Tarps

Tents

Sleeping Bags and rope

### **Congratulations on the birth of your new baby**

To celebrate we have a hand-made blanket and books for your family

Please email Carrie at [4492berner@gmail.com](mailto:4492berner@gmail.com)

You can meet us at Fellowship Hall or we will deliver to you

Masks and social distance Of course!

### **CHURCH WEBSITE..and NOW FACEBOOK**

We are now on Facebook. Just click on the Facebook symbol at the bottom of the Church's home page to go to the Facebook page.

Our church website is [www.westmorelandunitedchurch.org](http://www.westmorelandunitedchurch.org)

## Upreach Ministry

by Flossie Gray

The Westmoreland United Church is excited to announce that the Church is holding in person services. Each of us is thrilled to be able to come together at the brick Church each Sunday. With summer upon us and the ability to travel, we expect folks will be coming and going throughout the summer months. To assist with the Sunday scripture readings there will be a signup list as you enter the Church. Please feel free to sign up for any Sundays that are convenient for you. At this point in time we will not have any ushers, just scripture readers and I appreciate your willingness to assist.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Pastor Lynn and Ashley Morse for all their work in making our zoom services flow smoothly over the past fifteen months. In addition I would like to thank our whole congregation for being supportive of the Church during these difficult times.

If you no longer wish to receive The Church Chat Room, to unsubscribe email [jrancourt3@myfairpoint.net](mailto:jrancourt3@myfairpoint.net) or call 399-4828.

### **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT EMAIL LIST**

If you would like to be on the church email list to receive important church announcements, please email [tinafletch55@gmail.com](mailto:tinafletch55@gmail.com) and I will add you to the list.

THANK YOU! *Tina Fletcher*

## Outreach Ministry

by Carrie Staples

Hope finally having a service inside our wonderful church has lifted the spirits of those who attended and will bring us there to worship again on a regular basis.

Baby blankets will be distributed to two new babies here in town this week. Please contact me if you know of a family, not necessarily in our church, who also may have a new member to their family.

I had several pumpkin plants put out in an area in front of our barn, only to find out they were rabbit food. I will try again. Lynn has started seeds outside the front door of fellowship hall. Hope she has better luck.

### **The Church Chat Room**

Newsletter of Westmoreland United Church

Reaching out to members and friends of

Westmoreland United Church

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Editor.....Judy Rancourt

Minister.....Pastor Lynn

Wickberg

Choir Director/Organist..

Ashley Morse

Custodian . Leslie L.

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## Pastoral Ponderings, June 16, 2021

Dear beloved community of Westmoreland United Church,

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, for you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy!”  
(drawing from Psalm 92, NRSV)

We sang for joy as we gathered in person this past Sunday, June 13, for our worship service! It had been fifteen months since the last time we were physically together.

On March 8, 2020 part of our service included a form of labyrinth walking inside the Brick Church where we were reflecting on where we were on our lives' journeys. We pondered questions of: “As I turn to God, what am I turning away from?” and “As I turn to God, what am I turning towards?” – hurts and hopes...

At the center point of the labyrinth our prayer was:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit.” (Psalm 51: 10-12)

By God's grace and mercy, that day we stepped forth into what became a pandemic way of life. We stepped forth being held in God's steadfast lovingkindness. God continued and continues to restore and sustain us as we stepped forth this past Sunday being held in that same abundant lovingkindness that is steadfast every day of our being, including today. So no matter where we are in our lives' journeys, we go forth giving our heart to and trusting The LORD who keeps our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore. Praise be to God!

Shalom,  
Pastor Lynn

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## The View

“Christian faith is a grand cathedral, with divinely pictured windows. Standing without, you see no glory, nor can imagine any. But standing within, every ray of light reveals a harmony of unspeakable splendors.”

--Nathaniel Hawthorne

Scripture readings of the Revised Common Lectionary for Ordinary Time (season after Pentecost), Year B, complementary, which you may also find at <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> where the text is included.

### June 20, 2021, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38: 1-11

Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-32

II Corinthians 6: 1-13

Mark 4: 35-41

### June 27, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Wisdom of Solomon 1: 13-15, 2: 23-24 OR Lamentations 3: 22-23

Psalm 30

II Corinthians 8: 7-15

Mark 5: 21-43

### July 4, 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2: 1-5

Psalm 123

II Corinthians 12: 2-10

Mark 6: 1-13

### July 11, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7: 7-15

Psalm 85: 8-13

Ephesians 1: 3-14

Mark 6: 14-29

### July 18, 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalm 23

Ephesians 2: 11-22

Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

Please note that the Ladies Aid Society will hostess receptions, with food choices, for a nominal fee.

Please contact a Ladies Aid member if you need assistance with receptions.

## **AMAZON SMILES**

The Westmoreland United Church is now set up through Amazon Smiles. Simply click this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0407386>

and you will be taken directly to the Westmoreland United Church through Amazon Smiles. Once you select this as your charity - anytime you shop on Amazon Smiles, Westmoreland United Church will receive a donation! During this time where we are ordering more often on line so we don't have to physically go into stores we hope you will take the time to do this to help our Church.

If the link doesn't work, you can just sign up for Amazon Smiles and it will ask you what your charity is. Just type in Westmoreland United Church and it should come up.

Thank You for supporting Westmoreland United Church!

Please feel free to share this email with friends and neighbors!