



OUR CHURCH

Dear Northwest District family,

I hope you are enjoying the summer. While this season often provides opportunities to rest, I also understand that sometimes circumstances may not always allow for it.

As we begin this new church year, I invite you to reflect on how God is calling your congregations to serve your communities. I encourage you to reach out to your communities and build new relationships for your neighbors, rather than waiting for them to come to you. When thinking of the health of our congregations, some of us have expressed concerns about declining attendance and limited church growth, despite trying various approaches. Let us remember that the Lord who called us to be the Body of Christ is faithful.

In Matthew 28:19-20, before ascending into heaven, Jesus commissioned His followers: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." This is not a request, but a directive for all who have accepted Jesus Christ, who promised to be with us always, even to the end of the age.

Let us not limit God's work by our own boundaries. Guided by the Holy Spirit, let us move beyond our comfort zones to build new relationships and invite others to our fellowship and worship. John Wesley, founder of Methodism, recognized the importance of Christ's command to make disciples of all nations, stating, "...the world is my parish." Today, this mission of making disciples of all nations is ours.

We are responsible for preparing the church we have inherited for future generations. If your congregation is having difficulty connecting with the community, please contact the Northwest District Office. We are ready to help you begin an outreach ministry. Do not wait until membership decline becomes critical to seek ways to strengthen your ministries.

May God bless you. Enjoy your summer.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Michel Lundula

District Superintendent



PASTOR

Pastor Susan Rohden

515-351-7050 (cell)

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Talk To Us

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Find Us

on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.](https://www.facebook.com/GowrieUMC/)

[com/ GowrieUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/GowrieUMC/)

or Website

www.gowrieumc.com



GIVE NOW

Your generosity is helping us impact our community
with the Good News of the Gospel!

SERVE

- **Council** - August 4 6:30 pm
- **"Singing the Favorites"** August 9
- **Church Landscaping care** - Come work in around the church to help care for the flowers and bushes.
- **"The Kindness Bucket List" and Random Acts of Kindness** - Intentional Acts of Kindness by all who worship with/at Gowrie UMC.
- **Send an card to someone in a nursing home or homebound, addresses in the church narthex or call Carrie .**

GATHER

- **Sundays Together**
9:00 Coffee and Conversation
9:30 am Worship Service
10:30am Adult Sunday School

Facebook live, later on Web-Cal channel 575

- **Backpack Blessings** August 16
 - Please bring your Backpacks to Church
- **Camp Sunday** August 16

Adult Bible Study



Will be continuing as able throughout the summer months. Please join us if you have availability.

PRAY

Please call in or email your prayer request, changes and updates to the office.

Care Facilities and Assisted Living: Joan Orness, Colleen Traster, Mike Krayenhagen, Roger Brandes, Richard Learned.

Health Concerns: Kitty (Pastor's Friend in SD), Larry Riblet (Sybil's Husband), Viney Mulder, Gabe & Jess Olson From Paton-Son Otto who is home, Carol Orness. Jason Louk (stroke survivor) from Paton. All those fighting cancer. All those suffering from chronic pain. All those experiencing family distress, divorce, financial difficulties, chemical dependency etc..

Grief: Family of DJ (Randy & Viney Mulder's Son-in-Law), Randy & Viney Mulder's Family after the loss of Randy's brother to cancer

Congregational Prayer Focus:

Pray for Church of Damascus Road Prison Ministry.

Pray for Venezuela as they recover from a recent earthquake.

Pray for the people of Sudan and Nigeria, the Middle East and Ukraine.

Pray for Gowrie UMC its ministries, its people, and its Pastor.

Pray for all who have yet to know the saving Grace of Jesus.

CELEBRATE

August 6
Transfiguration Of the Lord



August 16
Backpack Blessing

August 26
First Day of School



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness Psalm 17:15

Hello Friends, looking at the face of God is very much out of the reach of humankind. Our sinful nature cannot stand and behold the Holiness that is our God. In Exodus, Moses hid his face for he was afraid to look at the face of God in the burning bush. Later in Exodus when Moses had been walking with God longer, Moses asked God to show him God's glory and God states "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the Name, "The Lord"... but you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live."



So how then do we see God? Because of sin we cannot see God as Adam did when God walked with Adam & Eve in the garden, so can we see God's face? How do we see God's face? Psalm 17:15 says "I shall behold your face in righteousness."

Where does righteousness exist? By itself or within relationship? I have often heard the statement that righteousness is - being right with - which implies relationship. *With?* Right with God. Right with others. "I shall behold your face in righteousness." What does that mean to you personally and as a church body? Is it important to behold God's face? Is it important to you as a follower/followers of Christ Jesus? Is it important to you as an adopted child/children of God? What are you willing to do to be right with God and Man? Mmmm? Just thinking.

Pastor Susan

August Worship Series

Praise Break: Let us take a short, 3-week pause in the busyness of summer to remind ourselves that the God we worship and the Christ we follow are with us every step along the way. And the only appropriate response to encountering the divine among us is to sing, shout, and declare our praise!

Lessons in Leadership: As we head into fall, we are called back together to work out how we live in community as a witness to our faith. We will consider these "Lessons in Leadership" as a way of shaping the body we seek to be. This is not a how-to with specifics for each communal situation, but an attitude check, a value inventory to ask who we will be together as we build up the church.



August 2

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21



August 9

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33



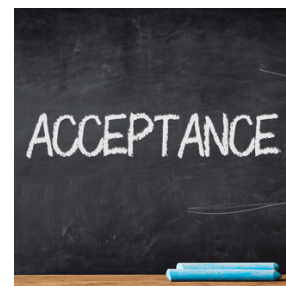
August 16

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28



August 23

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20



August 30

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

As for me, I shall behold God's face in righteousness

AUGUST SUNDAY SERVICES



9:00 am Coffee and Conversation

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Adult Bible Study

10:15 am Sunday Worship and Facebook live,
later on Web-Cal Channel 575

Bergan & Carrie Dalley	August 2 & 9
Gail McLoud	August 16
Jane Frahm	August 23 & 30

August 2

Lay Leader:	Jeff Patterson
Worship Leader:	Mary Patterson
Music:	Colleen Plamer & Jeff Patterson
Tech:	Bergan & Carrie Dalley
Altar Flowers:	
Bulletins/Online:	



August 9

Communion:	"Singing the Favorites" Choir
Worship Leader:	Nuss Family
Music:	Gary Vosberg
Tech:	Nancy Vogt & Jeff Patterson
Altar Flowers:	Bergan & Carrie Dalley
Bulletins/Online:	

August 17

Worship Leader:	Camp Sunday/ Backpack Blessings
Music:	Bergan Dalley
Tech:	Tom Hlubek & Jeff Patterson
Altar Flowers:	Keith & Dena Sytsma
Bulletins/Online:	

August 24

Worship Leader:	Eric Adam
Music:	Jeff Patterson
Tech:	Owen Nuss; Glenn Rohden
Altar Flowers:	
Bulletins/Online:	

August 31

Worship Leader:	Jeremy Viles
Music:	Jeff Patterson
Tech:	Bergan & Carrie Dalley
Altar Flowers:	
Bulletins/Online:	

Extravagant Giving

In July:

- We served at Midwest Missions with our confirmation students!!
- On July 7th, Jeremy (council board chair) and Pastor Susan, attended potluck with Cal Hamster Circuit, representing your congregation and connecting with other churches in our area.
- We welcomed our community young people to VBS, 40 youth and their parents graced our church!
- Offered hospitality, cool air conditioning and served a hot chicken dinner to about 200 people on July 4th. Also served meals to Beacon of Hope and 6 carnival workers. Our goal of showing hospitality and love was accomplished. In addition, we received \$746.20 for ministries in our community. Servants both young and old felt tired and satisfied at the end of the day.



All this is possible
because of your
Generosity!

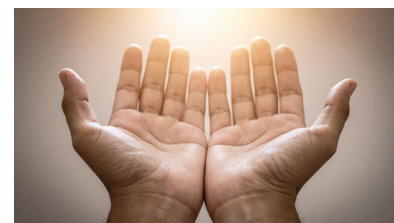
You are God's Church!



July Offerings

\$9,648.00

Thank You!



AUGUST 2026

SCIENCEPARK: SOCIAL CONNECTION IS THE #1 PREDICTOR OF HAPPINESS AND LONGEVITY.
KINDNESS TOWARD NEIGHBORS STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY SAFETY AND BELONGING.



**make
kindness
the norm.**

randomactsofkindness.org

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION®

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 Leave a cheerful note or flower on someone's doorstep.	27 Offer to help an elderly neighbor bring in their trash bins.	28 Organize a mini neighborhood cleanup or park spruce-up.	29 Share homegrown veggies, herbs, or fruit with a neighbor.	30 Leave chalk messages of encouragement on the sidewalk.	31 Wave and say hello to five neighbors you don't usually talk to.	1 Wave and say hello to five neighbors you don't usually talk to.
2 Create a "Take What You Need" kindness box with snacks or toiletries.	3 Invite a new neighbor over for tea, coffee, or playtime.	4 Offer to walk someone's dog or feed their pets while they're away.	5 Make kindness bookmarks and leave them in library books.	6 Ask your local fire or police station what small gestures of thanks they appreciate most.	7 Write a thank-you note to your mail carrier or delivery driver.	8 Host a lemonade or popsicle stand—proceeds go to a local cause.
9 Host a potluck or "snack swap" where everyone brings a favorite dish.	10 Compliment three people today—bonus points if they're strangers.	11 Collect and donate gently used sports equipment or books.	12 Write encouraging words on stones and leave them around your neighborhood.	13 Offer to mow a neighbor's lawn or water their plants.	14 Surprise a friend or neighbor with a small act of service—wash their car, bring a meal, or pick up groceries.	15 Organize a back-to-school kindness supply drive.
16 Share your favorite playlist or podcast that lifts your mood.	17 Learn your neighbors' names (and maybe their pets' names too!).	18 Host a "Kindness Movie Night" outdoors or in your living room.	19 Volunteer together as a family at a local food bank or shelter.	20 Write positive sticky notes and place them on mirrors, mailboxes, or bus stops with permission.	21 Make homemade thank-you cards for local teachers and school staff.	22 Offer to babysit or help with a carpool for a busy parent.
23 Share a skill—teach a neighbor how to bake, garden, or play an instrument.	24 End the month with a neighborhood gratitude circle—each person shares one good thing about living where they do.	25 31	26 2	27 3	28 3	29 4

SEPTEMBER

JULY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6



Ingathering



November 7, 2026

Trinity United Methodist Church

PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT



- 1 Hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 Washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 Adult toothbrush – individually packaged
- 1 Bar soap - 3-4 oz
- 1 Shampoo - 12-19 oz - lid taped
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- 1 Lotion - 8-10 oz - lid taped
- 1 One-gallon resealable plastic bag

Place all items in the resealable plastic bag.
\$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag.

We will collect items for
any kit that is in the
midwest missions
brochure.

The start of School is a
great time to look for
back to school deals for
school kits!

All kits are sent to those
in need around the
world thru Midwest
Missions.

Please bring all items, or
assembled kits into the
church by October 25.

STUDENT KIT



- 3 Notebooks - 1 subject spiral 8"x 10 1/2"
- 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
- 6 Pencils - unsharpened
- 1 Pencil sharpener
- 1 Eraser - 2" or larger
- 1 Box 12 colored pencils
- 1 Box 24 crayons
- 1 Pair student scissors
- 1 One-handled cloth bag*

Place all items in the cloth bag or a grocery sack.

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Happy Birthday! Emma Sytsma Jenny Ganef Steve Tucker 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30 Adult Bible Study	3 Pastor's Sabbath	4 9am Office Open	5 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	6 9am Office Open	7 Happy Birthday! Randy Johnson Pastor's Prep Day	8
9 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30 Adult Bible Study	10 Pastor's Sabbath	11 Happy Birthday! Sue Crouch 9am Office Open	12 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	13 9am Office Open	14 Happy Birthday! Emily Joyce Pastor's Prep Day	15
16 Backpack Blessings/ Camping Sunday 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30 Adult Bible Study	17 Pastor's Sabbath	18 Happy Birthday! BenJohnson Graydon Gustofson 9am Office Open	19 Happy Birthday! Max Johnson 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	20 Happy Birthday! Lisa Willardson 9am Office Open	21 Pastor's Prep Day	22
23 Happy Birthday! Bruce Long Everly Scott 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30 Adult Bible Study	24 Pastor's Sabbath	25 Happy Birthday! Pat Lomicka 9am Office Open	26 Happy Birthday! August Akins 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion	27 Happy Birthday! Judi Tjepkes 9am Office Open	28 Pastor's Prep Day	29
30 9:00am Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30 Adult Bible Study	31 Pastor's Sabbath					



You are invited to participate in a year of intentional “random acts of kindness”. Each week during worship, we will scratch off a card from our “The Kindness Bucket List” We are encouraged to share this act of kindness in our daily life that week.

May God bless you as you share his love.

As for me, I shall behold God's face in righteousness

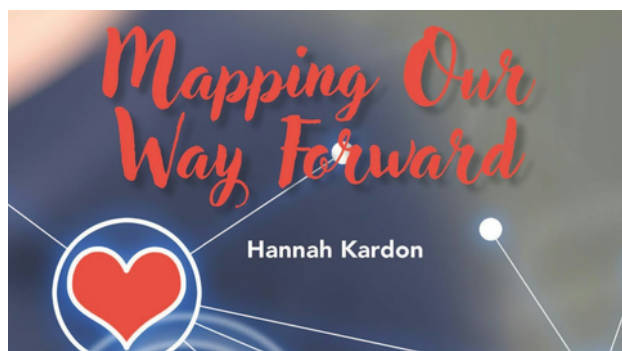


United
Women
in Faith

2026: Mapping Our Way Forward

No Meeting July and August
See you again in September!

Matthew 21:22 (CEB) “If you have faith, you
will receive whatever you pray for.”



With a warm heart I want to thank our UMC for the
prayers and donations for Will on his 2 year
mission trip to Honduras. He leaves soon!

My Love and Thanks,
Joan Orness

Would you like to help with
worship!?

Want to add to your own and
other's experience?

We are looking for volunteers!

Running the clicker, or operating
the soundboard/camera.

No experience needed to start!

You will be working with
someone experienced to learn.



Please talk to Carrie
in the office, or
Pastor Susan.



Calling All “Singing the Favorites” Members

Help us plan out our year for
“Singing the Favorites” Choir!
Please plan to meet August 9,
before Worship, in the
Fellowship Hall.



Thank you to everyone who helped plan, set up, and worked at VBS.

You did a Great Job! See you all next year!

Midwest Missions Service Day's July 14 and 21

We had two great days serving at Midwest Missions. We helped unload a truck, sort school supplies, built school kits and personal care kits, and made rice meal bags.

- 60 Personal Care Kits
- 120 School Kits
- Rice Bags made to Feed 1920 People





Gowrie United Methodist Church
1306 Market Street, PO Box 479
Gowrie, IA 50543

Office Schedule

Tuesday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Worship Schedule

Coffee and Conversation 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Adult Bible Study 10:30 am
Facebook Live
Later on Channel 575 at 11:00 am



**Serving
Opportunities
Books**

Serving Opportunities books will be in
the Narthex for the
August 2026-July 2027 year.
Please look at the name at the top of
the book or grab a blank copy to see
how you can help this year!