

The North Star

Newsletter of the North Ontario Methodist Church



July &
August
2025

I love being by the water in the summer. Every time I was on the edge of a calm pond I would try to skip rocks with little success. Most times my rock would just plop into the water without skipping even once. Instead of getting frustrated with myself about my lack of coordination, I learned to appreciate the ripples the rocks made upon the calm surface of the pond water.

The last Bible Study, until we begin anew in the fall, mentioned a simple way to visualize the good effects of your faith. "Consider that believers are like stones thrown into a pond — our lives are meant to have a rippling effect so others can feel the influence of our gifts and faith."¹ The "ripples in a pond" metaphor is commonly used to illustrate the idea that small actions can have large and far-reaching effects. This imagery suggests that even seemingly insignificant actions can create waves of change that spread outward and impact many people or situations.

Ponder your own ripples, what do you find? Can you identify someone who has come to faith because you shared your own? Perhaps someone felt the Spirit's peace with your gentle presence in times of turmoil? Perhaps God has used you to bring justice in a situation of great injustice. Can you identify the ripples you are leaving in the lives of others?

Our greatest joy is becoming a stone in God's hand to be thrown into the water or skipped across the surface of the pond. Whatever pond you find yourself in today, allow your ripples to spread across the surface. Allow God to use you in mighty ways as you live out your faith in the world. Just because summer is here doesn't mean you can ignore the call of God to spread your ripples.

"Unlike the ripples created by an ordinary stone, the ripple effect of faith need never stop as long as we live. Pray that God will make waves with your faith, even rocking a few boats along the way."¹ Whether home, in your cabin, in your motorhome, hiking, walking, or on vacation continue to spread ripples for God this summer!

Blessings,

Pastor Linda

CHURCH EVENTS, NOTES & REMINDERS

MINISTRY TEAMS & CHURCH COUNCIL

*Questions should be addressed to the Team Leader.

There will be no meetings during summer months - Meetings will resume in September 2025



MISSION TEAM UPDATE

BBQ – Next BBQ will be in Sept., date TBD. For the May BBQ, we sold 169 meals of the 200 chickens that were cooked. On Sunday, 28 more were sold to the congregation. We grossed \$2,897, expenses were quite high at \$1,097, for a profit of \$1,800. We decided to divide the profits as follows: \$1,000 to the church, \$200 each to Pines of Peace, Fire Dept, Food Pantry and GMC Disaster Relief. Pastor also suggested that we find more volunteers to help the pre-event work like making the coleslaw. A big thanks to all who volunteered and attended.

Respite – We continue to have a sizeable group at each meeting and all enjoy the fellowship. We have 6 people on waiting list.

Summer Picnic – We selected Thursday, July 24 for our picnic, and will be inviting the other churches in our community. Bob Buck is organizing. We will be asking attendees to bring a dish to pass. Please make plans to join us!

Mission Central – We will not be traveling to MC this year. However, the Webster Methodist church has a bus trip planned in the Fall to the Sight and Sound theater. See Page 4.



FINANCE UPDATE

Financial Data - The weekly average tithing for May was \$2,324. We have \$2,760 in the General Fund which is very low, a drop of \$9,000 from last month due to expenses. Our year-to-date income was \$4,933 greater than the plan. Our year-to-date expenses were \$9,143 greater than the plan.

TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES UPDATE

- Lift Rental to repair the parking lot lights and gutter on the Sanctuary I scheduled for June 25th, weather permitting.
- Tree & shrub trimming at the Parsonage has been completed.
- Shower trim is finished at the Parsonage
- An area of the ceiling that was removed in the downstairs room of the Parsonage, for access to plumbing for the shower, has been repaired.
- Our new copier was installed in the Church Office.
- Shrub trimming at the Church has been completed.
- Flowers have been planted at the gazebo in preparation for our outdoor services.



WORSHIP TEAM UPDATE

- **Summer Worship Dates:**
Sunday, 7/6/25 through Sunday, 8/31/25 @ 9am
- **Next Meeting** – Meetings will resume in September.

Respite

RESPITE PROGRAM UPDATE

- We welcomed a new participant and a new volunteer at our last gathering.
- We have a waiting list for 6 participants and would benefit from more volunteers. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact Wanda Klem.
- Our Summer program dates are, **Wed., July 2nd & 16th and August 6th & 20th**
- Please keep participants, and their families in your prayers.



EDUCATION TEAM UPDATES

- **Graduates** – Congratulations to our Graduates & prayers as they embark on their futures!
- **Summer Study** – The Adult & Children's studies were chosen. Please see details on Page 4.
- **Next Meeting** – Meetings will resume in September.



NURTURE OUTREACH UPDATE

- **JULY FOOD DRIVE:** We are conducting a Food Drive for The Ontario Food Pantry. Please see page 4 for specific details. This is a year around program. Your donations are very much appreciated.
- **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** We will be collection items throughout the Summer for OCC. Please see page 4 for monthly details.



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

This year's outdoor worship dates will be:

Sunday, 7/6/25 through Sunday, 8/31/25 @ 9am.

Please let Darlene Canan know if you would like to help with parking, bulletins, or sound for the services
– training would be provided.



REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS – Update

~ Richard Adams
 ~ Sue Backus
 ~ Barb, Judy Porray's SIL
 ~ Missy Bergen
 ~ Beverly Brown
 ~ Michael Buck, Mary Lou's son
 ~ Brenda Burley, Healing from fall
 ~ Sherry Carr's father, health issues
 ~ Chris Chelini, recovery
 ~ Georgia Christ, health issues
 ~ Christie, Ginny Eaton's niece
 ~ Gwen Coleman, health issues
 ~ Audrey Collins, friend of S. Calus
 ~ Frank Cornelius, brain cancer
 ~ Nancy DeMagistris, Joyce Lyke's SIL
 ~ Stephanie Derse, brain tumor
 ~ Kenny DiRenzo, Sue Smith's nephew
 ~ Mary Earlandt, health issues
 ~ Bob Eaton
 ~ Janice Foulke
 ~ Carol Gillespie, surgery recovery
 ~ Les Gillespie
 ~ Kay Graham, illness
 ~ Kirk Graham, Kay as caregiver
 ~ Donna Greene, Gene Bergen's MIL

~ Suzanne Gresens, Missie Bergen's Niece
 ~ Sharon Hastings, Doug's sister illness
 ~ Gale Howell, & family caregivers
 ~ Ann Insalaco
 ~ Judy (with Respite), injury from fall
 ~ Shirley Kuhn, in medical rehab
 ~ Logan, Judy Porray's grandson
 ~ Bob Lootens, recovery from surgery
 ~ Jim Makins
 ~ Barb Martin, car accident recovery
 ~ Andrew, Martha McGlory's grandson
 ~ Ann, Martha McGlory's daughter
 ~ Lori Powers
 ~ Julie Sondervan
 ~ Lillian Speakman
 ~ Stacey, Dawn Russell's daughter
 ~ John Stanton, ALS
 ~ Dave Stark, Joan as his caretaker
 ~ Mike Stengline
 ~ Dawn Straub, heart issues
 ~ Amy Thormahlen, Haak's daughter
 ~ Jean Van Ingen
 ~ Jane Wage
 ~ Destiny Grace Whitnoble,
 Judy Porray's Granddaughter
 ~ Zeb, Judy Porray's student



JULY CELEBRATIONS

2 Gillespie, Carol
 5 Miller, Robert
 5 EATON, GARY & VIRGINIA
 6 Killion, Caleb
 6 Killion, Lucas
 8 Jones, Paul
 12 FOULKE, ERIC & ANNE
 13 Ryan, Kara
 13 HASTINGS, DOUGLAS & FRAN
 18 Pickering, Gretchen
 20 Dyer, Kimberlee
 21 Graham, Kay
 21 Jones, Jill
 22 STRAMONINE, JOSEPH & LEORA
 24 Deichmiller, Michael (Thomas)
 27 JONES, PAUL & DEANA
 29 Buck, Mary Lou

Birthdays: Upper/Lower Case
 ANNIVERSARIES: ALL CAPS



IMPORTANT DATES

HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL DATES

July 4th Happy Independence Day!
 July 6th Outdoor Summer Worship Begins
 July 24th Church Picnic & Campfire
 August 31st Last Outdoor Service

SCHOOL WILL BEGIN: September 2nd



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOMC ANNUAL CHURCH SUMMER PICNIC & CAMPFIRE

Our Summer Picnic & Campfire will be held on
Thursday, July 24, 2025 ** 5:00pm ~ Rain or Shine ~
 We're asking everyone to bring a dish to pass.
 Direct questions to Bob Buck



WENDY – OUT OF OFFICE – OFFICE CLOSED

Wendy will be out of the office July 1st – 3rd
 As always, email will be checked as well as phone
 messages for any of the days the office is closed.

PASTOR LINDA – OUT OF OFFICE IN AUGUST

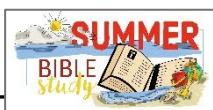
Pastor Linda will be out of the office **Aug 15th – Aug 23rd**
 The contact person, in the event of a pastoral emergency,
 will be announced as we get closer to date.

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

1 DYER, KIMBERLEE & ROBERT
 4 Eaton, Tucker
 5 Ryan, Carly
 5 Thomas, Ken
 6 Chelini, Matthew
 6 Killion, Kristen (Hastings)
 7 Hershberger, Kristen
 7 Pringle, Wendy
 7 EATON, ANNETTE & JEREMY
 9 DUFFY, BRYAN & SHARON
 12 Sanger, Daniel
 14 Hancock, Tammi
 16 Foulke, Merryn
 16 Ryan, Nathan
 18 LUDINGTON, DONNA & JIM
 19 Coomber, Jeff
 19 Peck, Pamela
 21 Canan, Barbara
 23 Klem, Wanda
 25 Deichmiller, Ryan (Thomas)
 25 Waeghe, Russell
 27 STRAUB, DOUG & DAWN
 27 Eaton, Laney
 29 Foulke, Anne
 31 Hancock, Steven

Birthdays: Upper/Lower Case
 ANNIVERSARIES: ALL CAPS





SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER ALL-CHURCH STUDY

The Summer Study was chosen based on the experiences and teaching at our Global Methodist Northeast Annual Conference.

The Adult Summer All-Church Study will be:
"Who on Earth Is the Holy Spirit?"



The Older (9-12) Children's Summer Study is:
"I Want to Know the Holy Spirit"



The Younger (3-8) Children's Summer Study is:
"The Fruit of the Holy"



ONTARIO FOOD PANTRY



The Nurture/Outreach Team is hosting a
July Food Drive for the Ontario Food Pantry

This is to replenish a few food staples that they need help in stocking over the next few months.

We encourage our church family to participate in this food drive to support our community and families in need.

The food items we will be collecting during the month of July are:

- ~ Tuna
- ~ Soups
- ~ Peanut Butter
- ~ Jelly/Jam
- ~ Canned Fruits (Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pears, Mandarin Oranges, Apricots, etc.)
Cans are a healthy way for families to get some fruit.
- ~ Fruit Cups (Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pears, Mandarin Oranges, etc.)
Individual fruit cups are a healthy snack for children.
- ~ Applesauce Cups

All donations can be put in the food trunk located in Motley Hall.

The Nurture/Outreach Team and the Ontario Food Pantry thanks you in advance for your support of this activity! If you have any questions, please see Dawn Thomas. Thank you!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Nurture/Outreach Team has provided the list of items they would like to have purchased and donated for each month. **Just a reminder that all items need to fit into shoeboxes.** We thank you in advance for your donations.

July

Summer Items & Toys: Flip Flops (Dollar Tree stores have a great selection) dolls, Jacks, toy trucks/cars, playing cards, card games, kazoos, yo-yos, jump robes, balls, small stuffed animals, toys that make noise & light up (include batteries).

August

School Supplies: Pens, regular and colored pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamp, and ink pad sets, writing pads, flash cards, solar calculators, coloring, activity and picture books.

September

Hygiene Items: **MOST IN NEED** – toothbrush, (**NO TOOTHPASTE**), mild bar soap (in plastic bag), washcloth, combs, brushes, headbands, hair accessories.

Do Not Include:

Used or damaged items, war-related toys, chocolate, food, out of date candy, toothpaste, liquids, lotions, medications, vitamins, no breakables, glass, or aerosol cans.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT HERITAGE SQUARE

FAMILY FESTIVAL: Celebrate our Independence & Taste of Ontario ~ Jul 12th ~ 3:30 – 7p ~ \$5/car

STEPPING BACK IN TIME: A free education program for kids ages 6-10. Held on Thursdays;
Jul 24th & Aug 28th ~ 10a-11:30a

****Registration required****

FAMILY CAMP OUT: Aug 23rd - 24th

****Registration required****

For more info, see our bulletin board and/or visit:
www.heritagesquaremuseum.com

SIGHT & SOUND

**** WEBSTER METHODIST CHURCH **** **OCTOBER SIGHT & SOUND TRIP**

- The Webster Methodist Church is planning an area wide (open to all GMC churches) trip to see "Noah" at Sight and Sound in October.
- More details to follow soon, as reservations will be required to be made by the end of July.



2025

VVH – VandeVate Hall

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>The Nurture/Outreach Team is hosting a July Food Drive for the Ontario Food Pantry</p>		Office Closed 1	Office Closed 2 10a Respite – VVH	Office Closed 3	<p>Independence Day</p>	5
		Wendy on Vacation				VVH Reserved All Day
9a Outdoor Worship 6		8	9		11	12
9a Outdoor Worship 13	14	15	16 10a Respite – VVH	17	18	19
9a Outdoor Worship 20	21		22	<p>5p Church Cookout & Campfire</p>	25	26
9a Outdoor Worship 27	28	29	30	31		



2025

VVH – VandeVate Hall

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
9a Outdoor Worship 3		4	5	6 10a Respite – VVH 5p VVH Reserved		9
9a Outdoor Worship 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					Pastor Linda On Vacation	
9a Outdoor Worship 17 Mary Lou Buck, Pulpit		18	19	20 10a Respite – VVH 5p Ontario Cnt Presb Using Fire Pit & VVH		23
Pastor Linda On Vacation						
9a Outdoor Worship 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9a Outdoor Worship 31 Last Outdoor Service for Summer						



North Ontario Methodist Church

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Wendy Pringle

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nomcOffices@gmail.com

Office: 315-524-9509

Church Office Hours:

Tue, Wed & Thu 10a – 2p

Pastor:

Rev. Linda Haight

pastorlinda11@gmail.com

585-330-0618



North Ontario Methodist Church exists to:

Spread the Gospel in our community and elsewhere as we share
Christ's hope and love with the world.

Global Methodist Church Vision:

Worship Passionately, Love Extravagantly, Witness Boldly



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Options:

You can remain in cars and listen in parking lot,

Radio channel 101.9 FM

OR

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