

The North Star

Newsletter of the North Ontario Methodist Church



For as long as I can remember summer always changes my schedule. The routines may be the same, but I seem to have more hours in my day. I seem to have more opportunities to travel, to go to events, more opportunities to visit with friends and family, or to sit and just enjoy some quiet time. Maybe it has to do with more sunshine hours and warmer temperatures.

As I sat to ponder this phenomenon, I realized it was the extra daylight hours. Even during summer, I like to be home before it gets too dark and the extra daylight hours allow for more activities. Not that I can't drive at night, I just don't like to go too far when I do. The sun makes a difference with the warmer temps as well making travel easier when you're not worried about a snow storm a few miles down the road.

Even medical personnel have recognized that more sunlight makes a difference to our lives and well-being. There is a medical condition called Seasonal Affective Disorder. It is triggered by the natural decrease in sunlight during the shorter, darker days of fall and winter. Reduced daylight limits the brain's production of serotonin (a mood-boosting chemical) and melatonin (which regulates sleep) and this affects the moods and energy levels of those who suffer from this disorder.

When we allow more light into our lives, we gain the energy and desire to be more engaged with the activities around us, our mood elevates and our energy levels increase. I believe this works with natural sunlight and with adding more "SON"-light into our lives as well.

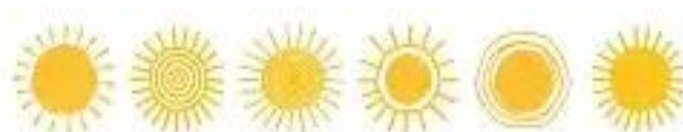
When we allow Jesus to increase in us our mood changes, our outlook changes and our lives change. With the added sunlight hours you have been graced with this summer, I encourage you to increase your reading of scripture, increase your prayer time, and overall spend more time with Jesus. Increase your "SON"-light.

The light of Christ can change your life and give you more energy which will warm you up. We find these words in Exodus 15:2, "The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him; my father's God, and I will exalt him." Allow Christ, our Lord, to shine brighter in and around you not just this summer but always.

This summer, enjoy the added sunlight and bask in the added "Son"-light as well.

Blessings,

Pastor Linda



CHURCH EVENTS, NOTES & REMINDERS



PLEASE!
NOTE

NO MEETINGS DURING SUMMER MINISTRY TEAMS & CHURCH COUNCIL

*If you have any questions, they should be addressed to the Team Leader.



MISSION TEAM UPDATE

Respite – We have a good number of participants at each meeting and all seem to enjoy the fellowship!

BBQ – The BBQ was a sell-out! With our proceeds we made donations to; Ontario Food Pantry, Pines of Peace, Mercy Flight, Mission Central, Ontario Fire Company, Williamson Come-Unity Center, and the GMC Disaster Relief Fund. Many thanks to the kitchen volunteers and bakers who helped to make this event a success!

TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES UPDATE

- The new benches in the fire pit area are an Eagle Scout Project completed by Lucas Berry (Troop 127) Great Job!
- Upgrades to the sound system are planned for over the summer while the sanctuary is not being used for Sunday services. These upgrades will improve sound quality in the church but also when listed over the internet.
- We are still considering DIY options for a fire alarm system and will be doing more research.
- We hope to replace the furnace/AC in the closet adjacent to the nursery over the summer.
- The outside windows were washed on June 15th.
- The filming of scenes for a faith-based TV series took place at the church on June 11th. It was impressive! There is another filming scheduled for July 28th.



WORSHIP TEAM

- Summer services will be held indoors in VandeVate Hall, all summer long.
- We're looking to add some new banners. Due to possible costs, we're hoping that some of our quilters would be willing to help make some banners. Updates will follow after summer.



NOMC ANNUAL CHURCH SUMMER PICNIC & CAMPFIRE

Our Summer Picnic & Campfire will be held on **Wednesday, July 22, 2026 ** 6:00pm ~ Rain or Shine ~**
We're asking everyone to bring a dish to pass.
Hot Dogs, Burgers & Drinks will be provided
There will be sign-up sheets - Direct questions to Bob Buck

FINANCE UPDATE

Financial Data – The weekly average tithing for May was \$2,534. The General Fund is at \$41,776, which is very large due to our church being a beneficiary to an account. Over the next few months, we will decide how and when to use this money. The year-to-date income was \$42,803 greater than the plan, and the year-to-date expenses were \$3,587, also greater than the plan.



EDUCATION TEAM UPDATES

- **Summer Study: Children:** "Believe Coloring Book"
Adults/Young Adults: "Devotion: The Raw Truth Journal and Following Jesus"
Any questions should be directed to Wanda Klem.
- **A Fall Worship movie** will be shown on **Sunday, September 20th after worship** in VandeVate Hall. **Lunch Provided!!**

Respite

RESPITE PROGRAM UPDATE

- Meetings continue throughout the Summer months. Meetings will be on **July 1st & 15th, August 5th & 19th**
- There are still several people on a waiting list.
- **Each week, we will need volunteers to reset the chairs and tables for Sunday Worship.**



NURTURE OUTREACH TEAM UPDATE

Operation Christmas Child program collections have begun and will continue through the summer months. **See page 4 for details.**



SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

There will be a 4-part Summer Bible Study
Wed. 7/8, 7/22, 8/12 & Tue 7/25 @ 10am
Meeting in Choir Room

Bring a willing heart & your bible



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Beginning **July 5th**, our **Summer Worship Services** will be held in **VandeVate Hall @ 9:00am**
- **On certain weeks, see page 4 & calendars, we will need volunteers to reset the chairs and tables for our Outreach Programs & Services through the Summer.**



REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

- ~ Richard Adams
- ~ Tammy Austin, bad fall
- ~ Sue Backus
- ~ Delores Beckens
- ~ Missy Bergen
- ~ Brett Boring, cancer treatment
- ~ Beverly Brown
- ~ Michael Buck, cancer
- ~ Bud Burdick
- ~ Brenda Burley
- ~ Judy Chamberlain, medical issues
- ~ Georgia Christ
- ~ Gwen Coleman, health issues
- ~ Linda Cone, healing at home
- ~ Frank Cornelius, brain cancer
- ~ Nancy DeMagistris, Joyce Lyke's SIL
- ~ Rich Denison, healing
- ~ Kenny DiRenzo, Sue Smith's nephew
- ~ Edith Douglas, rehab
- ~ Mary Earlandt
- ~ Bob Eaton
- ~ Kathy Furmage, Bergen Family member
- ~ Carol & Les Gillespie
- ~ Kay Graham, & Kirk as caregiver
- ~ Donna Greene, Gene Bergen's MIL
- ~ Suzanne Gresens, M. Bergen's Niece
- ~ Diane Howell
- ~ Craig Ingalls, home recovering
- ~ Ann Insalaco
- ~ Nicholas Kaforey, deployed to Iran
- ~ Jack Kellly, stroke recovery

- ~ Shirley Kuhn
- ~ Lloyd Lawrence, Darlene's cousin in hospital, reaction to cancer treatment.
- ~ Layla, Waeghe's great-granddaughter
- ~ Angela May, Barber's granddaughter
- ~ Rodney Perry, and Marcia (caretaker)
- ~ Ann, Martha McGlory's daughter
- ~ Elizabeth Porray, Judy's daughter
- ~ Lori Powers
- ~ Tracey Ridley, ALS
- ~ Ray Sanger, recovery going well.
- ~ Wayne Schultz, comfort care
- ~ Sandy Shenk, in hospital
- ~ Jamie Smith
- ~ Julie Sondervan
- ~ Elliot Soniville, friend of Caleb Killion
- ~ Ryan Sonneville, thyroid cancer
- ~ Lillian Speakman
- ~ John Stanton, ALS
- ~ Dave Stark, Joan as his caretaker
- ~ Sophie Stark, Joan Stark's granddaughter
- ~ Mike Stengline
- ~ Leith Steele, track injury & recovery
- ~ Georgie Schweigart, Rebekkah Haight's brother
- ~ Jim Thornbury's Great-Granddaughter,
- ~ Gianna Vaccaro, Wendy's Granddaughter
- ~ Jean Van Ingen
- ~ Jane Wage
- ~ Destiny Grace Whitnable, Judy Porray's Granddaughter
- ~ Zebb, friend of J. Porray

JULY CELEBRATIONS

- 2 Gillespie, Carol
- 5 Miller, Robert
- 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)
- 26 JONES, MIKE & JILL
- 26 Mollie Latin
- 27 JONES, PAUL & DEANA
- 29 Buck, Mary Lou

Birthdays: Upper/Lower Case
ANNIVERSARIES: ALL CAPS



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



OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Wendy will be out of town
July 1st & 2nd, and also July 29th - Aug 6th
So, the office will be closed.
Office messages (phone & email) will be checked



PASTOR LINDA WILL BE ON VACATION

Pastor Linda's vacation dates this summer are:
July 22nd – August 1st
Aug 26th - Aug 29th
Updates will be noted in weekly bulletins

IMPORTANT DATES

SUMMER HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL DATES

- July 4th** Independence Day
- July 5th** Summer Worship begins
- July 12th** Combined Worship with Gracepoint GMC Church & Music with Praise Band
- July 22nd** Church Campfire
- Aug 2nd** Worship service with Praise Band
- Aug 16th** Invited to service at Gracepoint GMC - Webster

SPECIAL EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – 2026

The Nurture/Outreach Team is holding a collection of items for Operation Christmas Child throughout the summer. Below is a list of items we would like to have purchased and donated **by month**.

We thank you in advance for your donations!

Just a reminder: all items need to fit into shoeboxes.

June

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).

July

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.

August

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.



COMBINED CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Please Join us on **Sunday, July 12th @ 9am in VandeVate Hall** when we welcome Webster Gracepoint GMC Church and their Praise Band for a combined contemporary worship service.

On **Aug 2nd** we will again worship with Gracepoint Praise Band

In Addition, we are invited to attend a special service at Gracepoint GMC Church (Webster) on **Sunday, August 16th @ 10:30am**



SAVE THE DATE!! – 2026 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

NEXT-TO-NEW SALE & BAKE SALE

Save the dates for this year's bazaar on **Friday, Oct. 30th and Saturday, Oct. 31st**. Hope you're working on your crafts to sell and setting aside your treasures for the "**Next to New - New to You**" sale & **Holiday Bazaar!**

Watch future bulletins and newsletters for ways you can help!



HELP NEEDED WITH CHAIRS AND TABLES!!

VandeVate Hall will need to be set up for worship on Thursdays and torn down after worship on the Sundays before respite meets.

Specific Dates as follows:

Setup Thursday, July 2nd at 10am for worship on Sunday, July 5th
Tear down for respite after worship on Sunday, July 12th
Setup Thursday, July 16th at 10am for worship on Sunday, July 19th
Tear down for respite after worship on Sunday, Aug 2nd
Setup Thursday, Aug 6th at 10am for worship on Sunday, Aug 9th
Tear down for respite after worship on Sunday, Aug 16th
Setup Thursday, Aug 20th at 10am for worship on Sunday, Aug 23rd
Tear down for respite after worship on Sunday, Aug 30th
Setup Thursday, Sept 3rd at 10am for worship on Sunday, Sept 6th

Please see Darlene Canan if you would be willing to help.

Watch future bulletins with details for set up and tear down during July and August. The dates are also noted on the July & August calendars in yellow.



JULY

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			10a Respite - VVH 1 Wendy Out of Town Office Closed	2 SET UP	3	4 
9a Worship VandeVate Hall 5	6 Nat'l Ice Cream Month!! 	7	8 10a Bible Study - VVH Liberty Bell Day 	9	10 Teddy Bear Picnic Day! 	11
9a Worship VandeVate Hall w/Gracepoint Church & Praise Band TEAR DOWN 12	13	14 Cow Appreciation Day 	15 10a Respite - VVH	16 SET UP	17	18
9a Worship VandeVate Hall 19	20 National Lollipop Day 	21	22 10a Bible Study - VVH 6p Church Campfire	23 Pastor Linda Out of Town 	24	25
9a Worship VandeVate Hall Mary Lou Buck, Pulpit 26	27	28 Movie Filming on site at NOMC	29 Pastor Linda Out of Town Wendy Out of Town Office Closed	30	31 Gorgeous Grandma Day! 	

AUGUST

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Respect for Parents Day 
9a Worship VandeVate Hall w/Gracepoint Praise Band TEAR DOWN 2	3	4	5 Wendy Out of Town Office Closed 10a Respite - VVH	6 SET UP	7	8 International Cat Day 
9a Worship VandeVate Hall 9	10 National S'mores Day!! 	11	12 10a Bible Study - VVH	13 World Calligraphy Day 	14	15
9a Worship VandeVate Hall & 10:30a Service at Gracepoint Church in Webster TEAR DOWN 16	17	18 National Fajita Day 	19 10a Respite - VVH	20 SET UP	21 National Senior Citizens Day 	22
9a Worship VandeVate Hall 23	24	25 10a Bible Study - VVH	26 Pastor Linda Out of Town	27	28	29
9a Worship VandeVate Hall TEAR DOWN 30	31		SHINE ON! 			



North Ontario Methodist Church

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Rev. Linda Haight

pastorlinda11@gmail.com

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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



VIEWING WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE or RADIO

Options:

You can remain in cars and listen in parking lot,
Radio channel 101.9 FM

OR

View Online through our Facebook page.