

Newsletter

THE NORTHWEST REMINDER

FINAL ISSUE



JULY 2025



Serving the congregation and friends of
Northwest Church
Disciples of Christ



A “GENTLE” LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear Northwest members and friends,

With a full heart and deep gratitude, I write to share that I will be retiring as your pastor at Northwest United Protestant Church this fall. My final Sunday will be on September 28, 2025.

This decision comes after much prayer, reflection, and conversation. Serving as your pastor has been one of the greatest joys and honors of my life. Together, we have celebrated joys, mourned losses, grown in faith, and walked side by side through seasons of challenges. I have witnessed the love of Christ made real through your kindness, your service, and your unwavering faith.

**** See emailed or print copy for full the message to members ****

While I look forward to the next chapter of my life in retirement, I do so knowing I will deeply miss the weekly rhythm of our shared ministry.

In the coming months, I will work closely with our board leadership and Rev. Paul Allen, Regional Minister of the Northern Lights Region, as we make decisions together.

My heart is filled with gratitude for each of you. Please keep me in your prayers during this time of transition, just as I will continue to hold each of you in mine.

With gratitude and blessings,
Pastor Miriam

IMPORTANT VOTE

We will have a congregational meeting and vote after worship on **Sun, July 27, 2025**.

The topic of this meeting will be the board's recommendation for the church's future.

Members are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.



NEW MAILING ADDRESS

NWUP Church, PO Box 735, Richland WA 99352

CHURCH OFFICE STAFFING

Pastor Miriam will continue reduced administrative functions of the church from her home office. Please contact her cell or email to get in touch.

Toma has stepped down from being part of the paid office staff due to her course schedule at WSU Tri-Cities. She plans to be part of the congregation as the Treasurer and Board Clerk in a volunteer capacity.

DISCUSSION OF SALE PROCEEDS

The property sold for \$1,550,000 on June 30, 2025. The board is considering the following charitable organizations to support with a portion of the proceeds:

Non-Profits we have supported in the past

Tri-cities Food Bank

Meals on Wheels

B5/World Relief

2nd Harvest

ARC of Tri-cities

Chaplaincy Healthcare

Grace Clinic

Communities in Schools of Benton County (Jefferson School)

Safe Harbor

My Friends Place

*Northern Lights Region/
Disciples Mission Fund*

Other potential charities to support with sales proceeds.

Elijah Family Homes

Children's Development Center

Local "Head Start"

Mid-Columbia Reading Foundation

Grace Collective

Salvation Army

Fields of Grace

Diaper Banks

Local Habitat for Humanity

SIGN Fracture Care (Richland)

Disciples Pastoral Scholarship

Seed money for new churches

FOOD 4 FRIENDS

Food 4 Friends operated for 8.5 years between 2017 and 2025. Records varied at the beginning , but the calculations we have now are as follows: The chefs made 617 “bags of love” and the drivers delivered them to 1,182 friends over 87 total sessions.

WORSHIP IN THE PARLOR

Correction to previous announcements: We will **not** be meeting in the Fellowship Hall, or using the Educational Building in any capacity in July 2025. **Join us for worship on Sundays at 10AM in the Parlor.**

The buyer (New Heights Church) clarified that Northwest Church has use of the Parlor and adjoined kitchen for a limited time at no cost. We will begin services in the Parlor in July 2025.

Parking/Street Access: 1315 Wright Ave, Richland WA 99354

SERVICE LINE UP

Worship Reader: Pastor Miriam will ask someone from the congregation to read the scriptures as needed.

Deacons and Counters: Please communicate with one another about switching days. We won't be able to send a weekly email.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Counters	Dalene Jim K	John Pat	Aleks Carolyn	Donna W Sue J
Deacons	Donna W Joyce (Joe)	Dalene Candace (Sue J)	Anna Jim K	Caroline John

RETIREMENT BREAKFAST

Please RSVP to office.nwup@gmail.com if you can join us at The Original Pancake House on Keene Rd. to celebrate Rev. Gentle's retirement on Sunday, September 28, 2025.