

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter



A Resurrection Soul Stroll

Our monthly soul strolls have been such a gift to me. Not only have I gotten to know the church property and neighborhood better, I've gotten to know my traveling companions and their prayers for this place.

We started out in Advent, before the winter snow had settled in, pondering how we might welcome Christ's coming. We've continued the first Saturday of each month (with one Covid-forced pause), wandering and wondering together. Each journey, I discover something new about God among the people and in this place.

Speaking of journeys of discovery, I can't help but think about one of my favorite resurrection stories in Luke 24:13-35. It happened on the same day that Jesus had risen, and the disciples were still trying to make sense of what had happened. Two of them headed out to a village called Emmaus and a stranger started walking along with them. I've always experienced that something special happens when we walk along with others. Conversation just seems to flow freely. The disciples started sharing the story of Jesus with the stranger, and also how the women's tale of his resurrection had confounded them.

If you know the story, you know that the stranger was Jesus. But, the disciples didn't recognize him. Even after he explained everything in light of the scripture, they still didn't get it. Though, later on they reflected, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

When they arrived at their destination, they invited the stranger inside to share a meal with them. Then, they saw something they had seen before: *When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.*

Then - scripture says - their eyes were opened, and they recognized him in the breaking of the bread.

I look forward to the journeys to come, especially those blazing heart moments when this whole God thing isn't simply something we talk/think about, but something that burns from inside our bodies. I also look forward to more chances to break bread together, trusting that - as we do so - we'll discover Christ's presence in new and life-changing ways.

Resurrection Blessings,
Pastor Ben

PS - Our May Soul Stroll will take place on the second Saturday, May 14 (instead of our typical first Saturday) because I will be away on retreat with leaders of Northbrook. Please keep our leaders in prayer so that it may be a time of renewal and discernment for the next season in our life together. And, I hope you can join us on the next Soul Stroll journey at 9am on May 14!

"Live the Love of Jesus Christ"



Sunday, May 1 at 11am (following worship)

Join us for good food, bingo games and a silent auction! Tickets are \$10 or \$25 per family. Proceeds will benefit the Northbrook Youth Programs. Contact Ken Stetson for more information.

Care and Share Donation Drive: May 8 - 22



The Mission Connection Committee will be collecting diapers and baby wipes for **Baby Basics of Troy Ministry**, beginning on Mother's Day, May 8. Baby Basics is a non-profit volunteer organization that provides and distributes diapers and kindness to working low-income families who do not receive governmental cash assistance. Please place your donations in or near the manger outside the entrance to Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your support!

May Soul Stroll - Saturday, May 14 at 9am

We'll gather on the second Saturday of May (instead of our regular stroll on the first Saturday) to see how spring has sprung on the Northbrook campus. Come ready to stroll, pray, and marvel at the new creation springing up all around us.

Friday Fun Zoom - Friday, May 20th at 7pm

Are you longing for fun conversation, fellowship, and some laughs with friends? The May Friday Fun Zoom will take place on Friday, May 20th from 7-8:30 p.m. If you'd like to join, let Winnie Davies-Hancock know at winsomeann@aol.com by Friday at 4pm (please put Northbrook in the memo line when you email Winnie for the Zoom details). The May theme will be on the broad topic of music: our favorite genres, songs, performers, instruments, musicals, etc., or chat may also include sharing our own impactful experiences with music and/or at music-related events. Join the fun!

Men's Connection – Tuesdays at 8am & 10am

The 8am gathering meets via Zoom, while the 10am gathering is hybrid, with the option to gather in the library or attend via Zoom. Please contact Walt Young at walt2701@earthlink.net for details.

Pastor's Pivot Point Bible Study - Wednesdays at 10am and 7pm

For the season of Easter, we are going to spend a few more weeks exploring the practices found in *A Deeply Formed Life*. Whether you have read the book or not, you are invited to join us for an opportunity to implement some spiritual practices in our lives and reflect on the impact. Meetings are all hybrid, so you can gather in person in the church library or attend via Zoom. For more details, please contact Pastor Ben at ben@northbrookpc.org.

Senior Soup Lunch - May 12 & May 26 at 1pm

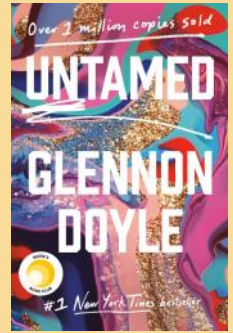
Senior Soup Lunch takes place on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 1pm in the library. You are invited to come and enjoy a delicious soup, salad, bread, and dessert lunch. There will be plenty of time for conversation and getting to know one another.

Knit Wits—Wednesday, May 25 at 1pm

The Knit Wits meets monthly meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1-3pm in the Library.

Northbrook Book Club—Monday, May 16 at 7pm

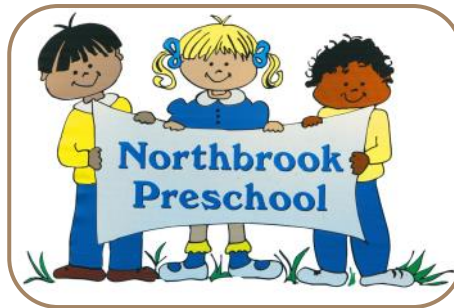
The Northbrook Book Club will meet on Monday, May 16 at 7pm (in-person or via Zoom), to discuss an inspiring book, Untamed, by Glennon Doyle. Take some time for yourself and read this non-fiction book which gives you an opportunity for reflection and empowerment. Please contact Nancy Best for Zoom log-in details. In-person discussion will be at the church. ***New members are always welcomed!***



The June book, Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng will be discussed on Monday, June 27 at 7pm. This book will be a book kit from the West Bloomfield Public Library, and books will be distributed at the May 16th meeting. If you have questions, contact Nancy Best.

Please mark your calendars with the upcoming book club dates:

- ♦ June 27: *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng, fiction, mystery, 298 pages (Kim hosts)
- ♦ August 8: *Save for Fireflies* by Nathaniel Missildine (Pastor Ben's friend)
- ♦ September 19: *A Place at the Table* by Susan Rebecca White, fiction, 336 pages (Winnie hosts)
- ♦ October 24: *The Women of the Copper Country* by Mary Doria Russell, historical fiction, 341 pages. Michigan Great Read book (Barb hosts)
- ♦ December 5: *The Yellow House* by Sarah M. Broom, memoir, 384 pages (Paulette hosts)



We have been busy down in the preschool getting ready for Muffins with Mom!! We are so happy that it is finally getting warm out!! We are registering for the 2022-2023 school year. We have a waitlist for our three-year-old class and only a couple of spots left in our Pre-K class!!

Support for Ukraine

On Sunday, April 4th, we had a special blessing for the yellow and blue ribbons to start a "prayer tree" for Ukraine. Many of us tied the ribbons to a tree in front of the church in remembrance of our collective prayers for the people of Ukraine and for peace in the region. Others took a ribbon home as a daily reminder to pray for Ukraine, and we invited our neighbors and members of the community to join us. We also provided information on how people can contribute financially through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, who through partners in Ukraine and surrounding countries, is providing food and shelter to refugees. The response was incredible and your generosity and prayers are greatly appreciated. If you'd still like to make a donation to aid in the efforts in Ukraine, you may write a check to Northbrook with "Ukraine" in the memo.

With deep gratitude for your generous hearts,
Mission Connection Committee





2022





Pentecost Special Offering

Through our gifts, we help inspire young people to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world, and in so doing, bring hope to others. Our gifts help connect young people with each other and with caring communities. Our PCUSA annual Pentecost Offering is one of our four special offerings of the year. This offering focuses on youth ministries; PCUSA Young Adult Volunteers, affectionately known as YAVs; and initiatives that support children, youth, and young adults who are at risk. Forty percent of our Northbrook collection remains with our church to use for and/or contribute to such purposes. There is a special envelope included in your envelope packet, but you may mail in your check in a regular envelope to the church or pay via Northbrook's website. Whichever way you contribute, please note with your payment that it is for the Pentecost Offering. Thank you for your support and generosity. **Contributions may be sent in through Monday, June 6.**



You can find and print a special Pentecost coloring page here: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/resource/pentecost-mandela-coloring-page/>.



Northbrook Mission Care & Share Donation Drive-In

Saturday, June 4, 2022
10 AM – NOON (Rain or Shine)
Northbrook Parking Lot



We will be collecting the following donations for the Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries Program's 7th Annual *Cereal for Summer Drive*:

- *Kid-friendly cereals
- *Breakfast and granola bars
- *Personal & hygiene care travel size items
- *Healthy cereals
- *Individual serving size fruits
- *Travel-style toothbrushes
- *Juice and milk boxes (individual servings) that don't require refrigeration until after opening

Please use the Lahser entrance and drive along the front of the church to drop off your items in the vehicles parked there. Exit via the parking lot via 14 Mile Road. If you are unable to deliver your items on June 4th, you may bring them into the church on Sunday or during office hours. Please call ahead to make sure someone will be there when you arrive. We will collect items at the church through Monday, June 13th.

Thank you! It's a joy to help others.

If you would like to **volunteer** to help with the drive or if you have any **questions**, please contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at 248-931-0821 or via email, winsomeann@aol.com.

Northbrook Youth Group

Our mid and seniors highs meet on Sundays following worship. For more information, contact Youth Director, Ken Stetson, at stetson.kenny@gmail.com.

Graduation Sunday is June 5th!

If you or a family member will be graduating from school (high school, college, or trade school), please let Becky in the office know by *Friday, May 27* so that they may be recognized on Sunday, June 5th.



JULY 31–AUG. 6

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT CAMP
REGISTRATION**



Calendar

May 1	10am 11am 11am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Communion/Family Sunday Bingo de Mayo Fundraiser Deacons' Meeting
May 3	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
May 4	10am 7pm	Pivot Point Bible Study Pivot Point Bible Study
May 6		Retreat
May 8	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Happy Mother's Day~
May 10	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
May 11	10am 7pm	Pivot Point Bible Study Pivot Point Bible Study
May 12	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
May 14	9am	Soul Stroll
May 15	10am 11:15am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Session Meeting
May 16	7pm	Book Club Meeting
May 17	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
May 18	10am 7pm	Pivot Point Bible Study Pivot Point Bible Study
May 20	7pm	Friday Fun Zoom
May 22	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
May 24	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
May 25	10am 1pm 7pm	Pivot Point Bible Study Knit Wits Pivot Point Bible Study
May 26	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
May 29	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
May 31	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom

May Birthdays

05/03 Jojo Sandercock	05/22 Marilyn Thomas
05/05 Alma Ross	05/23 Jackson Back
05/06 Maggie Francis	05/23 Wendy Powell
05/08 Hal Koss	05/24 Suzanne Burger
05/09 Steve Taylor	05/26 Kim Ault
05/10 Lauren Guindi	05/27 Susan Boese
05/19 Pierce Broadwell	05/29 Karen Vander Weide
05/19 Cooper Sowle	05/30 Zephyr Ault
05/21 Kai'Yah King	05/30 Susan Riggan
05/22 Kim Bowden-Adair	05/31 Keith Lepard
05/22 Claire LaSota	

May Anniversaries

Michael & Roberta Campion – 51 years on May 1
 Beverly & Jeff Singer – 42 years on May 10
 Michael & Michele Buscaino – 36 years on May 17
 Tom & Valerie MacFarlane – 32 years on May 19
 Jeff & Marjorie Wilhelmi – 30 years on May 24
 Erin & David Swenson – 8 years on May 25

Family Sundays

We are excited to have the families of Northbrook lead worship on the **first Sunday of each month**. You won't want to miss this special monthly service: led by our young people, for *all God's people*.



Please visit our website:
www.northbroopc.org for the most update
 calendar information.



The church office will be
 closed Monday, May 30 in
 observance of Memorial Day.

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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Worship with Us

Sundays at 10am

- In-person in the sanctuary
- Livestream—[NorthbrookPresCh YouTube Channel](#)
- Livestream on [Facebook](#)—Northbrookpc

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 9am-noon

Staff Contact Information

The Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Pastor	ext. 17
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