

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

God-Enthralled

I have so loved reading *Tattoos On the Heart* with you this summer, filled with moving reflections by Father Gregory Boyle about his years of ministry with gang members in Los Angeles. As I read, I often find myself in awe of just how different - and difficult - the “homies” life experiences are compared with my own. Heartbreaking hardships and tragedies abound. Father Greg shares his ultimate agony: “when kids I love kill kids I love.”

In the midst of all this pain, Father Greg is relentless in his commitment to share his presence and love with these young men and women. The more I read their stories, the more I find myself relating with them. Even though our life experiences may differ, Father Greg points out, “there is a longing in us all to be God-enthralled.”

I suppose it was this desire to be enthralled that made me sign up for a journey on the Schooner Inland Seas as a continuing education experience. As the flag ship of the [Inland Seas Education Association](#), the sailing vessel promotes curiosity, stewardship and passion for the Great Lakes.

I volunteered to be a deckhand and quickly realized that I was going to be on a steep learning curve... literally learning the ropes! Thankfully, the crew was both welcoming and savvy, proving to be excellent teachers (and correcting my frequent mistakes).

We left Detroit early on a Wednesday and sailed all the way across Lake Erie to participate in the [Cleveland Tall Ships Festival](#). We spent four days taking passengers - 38 at a time - out for sails around Cleveland. It was exhausting, humbling, and wonderful.

On the return journey to Detroit, we were somewhere in the middle of Lake Erie. I was enjoying the beauty of the schooner under full sails, moving steadily through the waves and sending spray rippling out. Seemingly out of nowhere, some swallows appeared. For half an hour, they flitted and flew around us, diving among the sails and riding the various pockets of wind around them. What a joy to observe creation at play, simply for the delight of it. Enthralled.

May you find yourself God-enthralled this summer!

~ Pastor Ben



“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Camp Sunday

Join us on Sunday, August 7 at 9:30am for Camp Sunday! Get ready for some upbeat music and reflections from the campers as they share their experiences of God while at camp.

Northbrook Back-to-School Care & Share Donation Drive-In

Sunday, August 7—Sunday, August 21

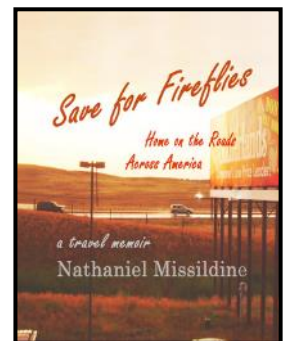
Beginning Sunday, August 7 and continuing through Sunday, August 21, we will be collecting school supplies for students served by our mission partner, WORD at Calvin East Presbyterian Church, as well as students in the Pontiac schools. See the list below for items they need. Please place your donations in the manger in the main hallway.

The WORD program is a free tutoring program that focuses on building reading skills for children in the Calvin East community. It is held on Wednesday evenings at the church during the school year. The tutoring time is followed by a free community dinner each week.

- Pencils
- Pens
- Markers
- Crayons
- Highlighters
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Pencil Box/Holder
- Erasers
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Rulers
- Folders
- Notebooks
- Composition Books
- Ruled Index Cards
- USB Flash Drives
- Backpacks with padded computer/tablet compartment

Northbrook Book Club—Monday, August 8 at 7pm

The Northbrook Book Club will meet in-person and via Zoom on Monday, August 8th at 7pm to discuss *Save for Fireflies* by Nathaniel Missildine. Please contact Nancy Best for a Zoom invitation. In-person discussion will be at the church on the outdoor patio, weather permitting. Enjoy memories of a cross-country family road trip from the unique perspective of Pastor Ben's college friend, Nat Missildine. *In 2008, after years living in France, the author returned to his native United States with his wife and two young daughters to drive a full loop around the country. His travel memoir of the experience traces the rediscovery of home as a tourist with no fixed address and no planned destination. Covering 12,000 miles through 32 states, the book offers an accelerated take on the life of a new family as well as the story of a country that may have undergone a greater shift than the traveler who has returned to pay witness to its resilience and splendor. How does Nat look back on this experience now? How do you remember your family summer road trips? What does "home" mean to you?* We hope you'll join us in reading a delightful summer book and joining us for an engaging discussion. Readers will need to purchase a book on [Amazon](#).



Please mark your calendars with the upcoming book club dates:

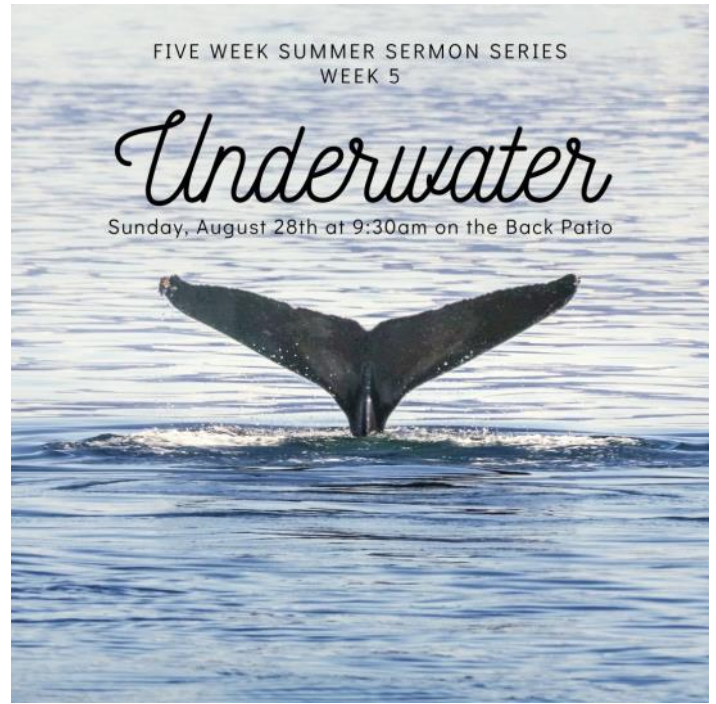
- ◆ September 19: A Place at the Table by Susan Rebecca White, fiction, 336 pages (Winnie hosts)
- ◆ October 24: The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell, historical fiction, 341 pages. Michigan Great Read Book (Barb hosts)
- ◆ December 5: The Yellow House by Sarah M. Broom, memoir, 384 pages (Paulette hosts)

Come to the Water Summer Worship Series

Be sure to join us as we finish the last two remaining Sundays
of our summer worship series:

Sunday, August 14

Sunday, August 28



Summer Backyard Book Study:

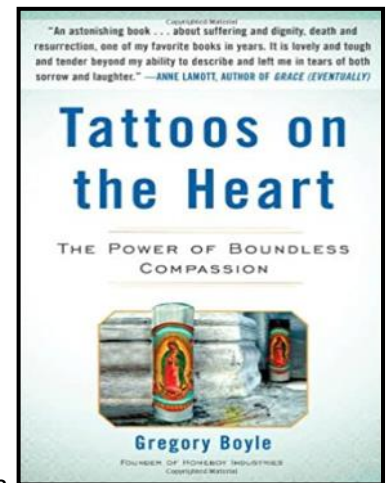
Tattoos on the Heart by Gregory Boyle

You are invited to join us as we continue to explore *Tattoos on the Heart* by Gregory Boyle. Mark your calendars with the remaining dates below. We will continue to meet in the backyards of our hosts listed below.

For thirty years, Father Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In Tattoos on the Heart, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith.

Arranged by theme and filled with sparkling humor and glowing generosity, these essays offer a stirring look at how full our lives could be if we could find the joy in loving others and in being loved unconditionally. In each chapter, we benefit from Boyle's gentle, hard-earned wisdom.

These essays about universal kinship and redemption are moving examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair. Gorgeous and uplifting, Tattoos on the Heart reminds us that no life is less valuable than another.



August 10 - Chapters 6 & 7 (Host: Amy Annett)

August 24 - Chapter 8 & 9 (Host: Kathy Bauhof)

Finance Committee—Wish List Campaign Update

We are overwhelmed, yet not surprised, by the incredible generosity of our Northbrook family. To date, the Wish List Campaign (read more about it [HERE](#) or contact the church office for details) has generated over \$24,000 of pledges and matching gifts. Wishes range from benches and picnic tables to the park shelter, funding camperships, microphones, and flowers to beautify the church and sanctuary. The campaign will continue through August. We hope others will continue to explore the opportunity to make their “wish” come true. We are so very grateful to be a part of such an extraordinary church family.

Pastor Ben & the Finance Committee

Northbrook Mission Tithes at Work as We Share the Love of Jesus Christ

Thank you for continuing to make your contributions to Northbrook so we can share our blessings with others. We sent out the following mission support over the months of May, June, July, and into August:

- ◆ \$1325 to Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries
- ◆ \$1500 to Baldwin Center in Pontiac
- ◆ \$2000 to Northbrook Preschool for scholarship assistance
- ◆ \$3000 to PCUSA/General Assembly, Synod of the Covenant, and Presbytery of Detroit Shared Missions
- ◆ \$950 to Calvin East P.C.'s Word Literacy Program
- ◆ \$1325 to South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless (S.O.C.H.)

Mission Thank You

Northbrook members and friends, thank you for your compassionate generosity as you contributed \$1472 in support of the PCUSA Pentecost Offering to help our denomination encourage, develop, and support its young people and address the needs of at-risk children and youth. Northbrook was able to retain 40% of our collection; we used it to help fund camp scholarships.



Thank you for your contributions to our June Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries' *Cereal for Summer Care & Share Drive* (above), and the July *Cans for Communion* food drive to benefit the Waterford Open Door Program (right).



Senior Soup Lunch - August 11 and August 25

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. Bring a friend!

Knit Wits—Wednesday, August 24

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

Men's Connection

Men's Connection will resume on Tuesday, September 13th. Men's Connection meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8am via Zoom and at 10am with the option to gather in the library or attend via Zoom. Please contact Walt Young at walt2701@earthlink.net for more information.



The Muslim Unity Center Interfaith Committee

Save the Date

Annual Interfaith Dinner

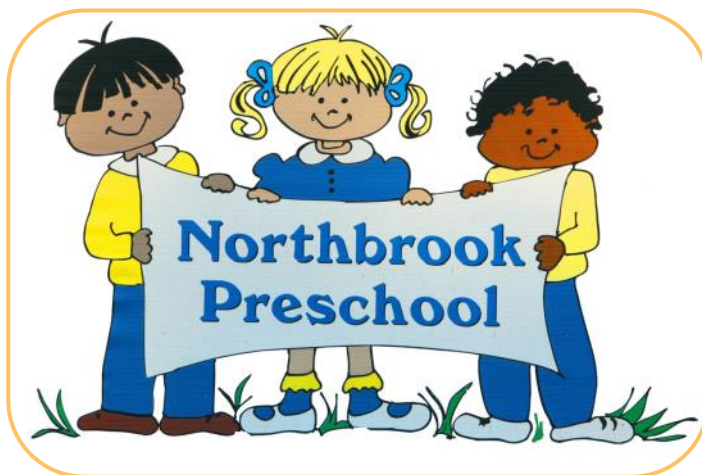
Let's reconnect & break bread together after a long awaited reunion under the sun.



OUTDOOR EVENT
MUSLIM UNITY CENTER
BACKYARD

September 15, 2022 – 7 pm
1830 W Square Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills 48302

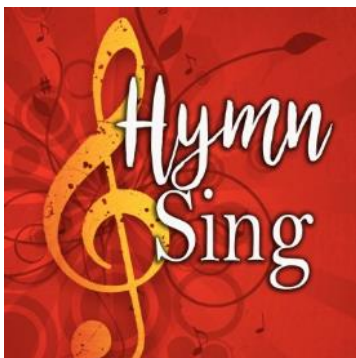
The Northbrook Adult Education Committee will be sponsoring a trip to this event. We will be taking the van, or if you prefer, we can meet you at the center. Watch for more information in the September newsletter and weekly bulletins.



The Preschool is busy getting ready for the 2022-2023 school year!!
Our 3 year old class is full and has a waitlist!!
We still have a few spots in our PreK-4's Class.

The preschool has received a Child Care Stabilization Grant. We are very excited to use it on older playground and school equipment that is in need of replacement.

Make sure to come check us out in the Fall!



Hymn Sing Sunday: September 4

Do you have a favorite hymn you'd like to sing? During our Sunday morning service on September 4th, congregation members will be able to suggest hymns to sing in place of the sermon.





Northbrook Youth Mission Trip

Northbrook held a Youth Mission Trip to YMCA Camp Timbers at the end of June. Youth Director, Ken Stetson, led a group of high school students and young adults as they worked on service projects for the camp that Northbrook travels to each summer.

Calendar

Aug. 7	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship CAMP SUNDAY
Aug. 8	7pm	Book Club Meeting
Aug. 10	7pm	Backyard Book Study
Aug. 11	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Aug. 14	9:30am 10:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship & Communion Session Meeting
Aug. 21	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
Aug. 24	1pm 7pm	Knit Wits Backyard Book Study
Aug. 25	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Aug. 28	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship

August Birthdays

08/03	Mark Best	08/10	Elizabeth Hurbis
08/04	Jennifer Lodge	08/14	Brendan Larson
	Livernois	08/16	Ken Stetson
08/04	Betsy Van Loo	08/17	Mary Hendrien
08/05	Clark Sowle	08/19	Kay Kizer
08/06	Tracey Parker	08/20	Susan Jenison
08/06	Ryan Stottlemeyer	08/23	Cayce Sowle
08/08	Stephen Sicora	08/24	Lori Friesner
08/09	Gary Faigle	08/26	Nancy Best
08/09	Grant Tengler	08/27	Alex Guindi

August Anniversaries

David & Nancy Wind – 54 years on August 10
 Kimberly & Wes Ault – 10 years on August 11
 Faith & Jay Rick – 53 years on August 16
 Winnie Davies-Hancock & Bill Hancock – 39 years on August 20
 Walt & Donna Young – 56 years on August 20
 Michael & Kathy Bauhof – 40 years on August 21
 Dave & Pam Grim - 48 years on August 24
 Frank & Tricia LaSota – 37 years on August 31



The church office will be closed Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day.

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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Northbrook Notes is a monthly publication of
Northbrook Presbyterian Church

22055 W. 14 Mile Rd. Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Periodical postage paid at the Southfield

Post Office,
Southfield, MI
(USPS 395-340)

Worship with Us

Sundays at 9:30am on the Patio (6/26—9/4)

- 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: Closed June 3 – Sept. 2

Staff Contact Information

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Dan Gross, Contemporary Music Director

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Ken Stetson, Youth Director

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