

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter



NORTHBROOK

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Who Can You Invite?

Even though fall is officially here, I want to take one last look at the summer. I especially want to share some of what I observed and learned about Northbrook during our Getting Acquainted Gatherings. Big thanks to our hosts - Bonnie & David Hough, Penny & Dan Willey, Sue & Tim Boese, and Tricia & Frank LaSota - who offered welcoming spaces to share. And, thanks to the 36 folks who came out to listen and share deeply (6 of whom came for more than one session).

Our gathering were framed around three questions:

What does your soul need in this season of reopening?

Participants desire to connect with God and tend to their souls. People are seeking peace of mind and recognize the challenges to maintaining mental health in times of increasing conflict in society. Many are yearning for more ways to connect with each other as a congregation. Fellowship (and sistership) are important to Northbrook. The desire to learn about prayer - and incorporate it into daily life - came up in several conversations.

Testimony: “My soul needs rest and to grieve.” - At one of the gatherings, we listened to a member who is a front line worker in emergency response. In addition to the emotional toll, there is the ongoing weariness of serving others while staff dwindles.

How did you experience God while we were apart?

The lockdown forced the church to respond rapidly to new technologies and try new ways to do things. Many participants were grateful to stay connected through pre-recorded videos and livestreaming. For some, it was a stop-gap, preferring to be present for in-person worship. For others, worship at home brought a new depth to the experience.

Several participants were grateful for how the lockdown offered more time together as a family that fostered a closeness they likely wouldn't have had. People were inspired by the Care & Share donation drives and other ways that people tried to care for neighbors (visitation, Christmas caroling, Advent boxes, etc.) despite the lockdown.

People found their personal faith life more active with more time to reflect. Many turned to God in the times of fear and lament. Several recognized the invitation to “let go” when confronted with so many things out of their control.

Testimony: “They prayed for me.” One member shared that he lost his wife right before lockdown. In the midst of his grief and isolation, many people from Northbrook reached out to him offering prayer and genuine care that helped him get through the double-struggle.

Who is God calling us to be in this next season for Northbrook?

There is a strong desire to help form the faith of the next generation. (There is also a sense of grief about a high percentage of adults who grew up at Northbrook and no longer have an

(continued on next page)

Please Mark Your Calendars
We will return to worship in the Sanctuary on
Sunday, October 10th for our 10am service.

(continued from page 1)

active faith life here.) Opportunities for young people to participate in the worship life and mission at Northbrook will be key.

There is a strong desire for relational connection beyond the walls of the church. Northbrook has a sense of care for the community and a desire to be a people of solidarity and encouragement with our neighbors. We sense an opportunity to be agents of reconciliation in the midst of the anger and divisiveness of these times.

Testimony: "I can't help it. I just wanna help people." One member talked about how deeply they feel a call to help others - even if it's only one person - as an expression of their faith in Jesus Christ. Their passion - and calling - was an inspiration to those gathered.

Thoughts from Pastor Ben

I was so impressed with the honesty, vulnerability, and wisdom offered as people shared in these conversations. And, the deep listening. I also appreciated an openness to experimenting and that "muddling through" is a part of navigating these challenging times.

On more than one occasion, we talked about the power of an invitation. There were key moments in many of our lives when someone invited us to participate in a way that opened a whole new journey for us.

I'm honored to be the pastor of Northbrook, where these types of honest, vulnerable conversations happen. And, I couldn't help but wonder: who else could use this kind of deep, safe space? Who else needs to be a part of this caring community that shares with such honesty?

Who do you know that could use an invitation?

**Northbrook Congregational Meeting
Sunday, October 24**

Please join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 24 at 11am for a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons and members of the Nominating Committee. Online options for participation will be available. More details to come.

Flu & Pneumonia Shots

are coming to Northbrook on
**Sunday, October 3 from 9am-10am and
after the worship service.**

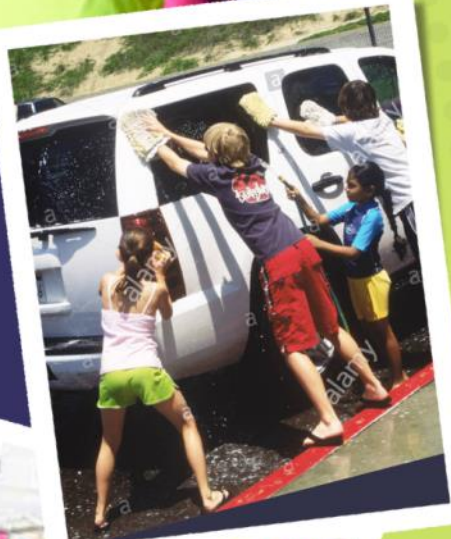
For more information and to sign-up, please contact Kathy Bauhof at (248)515-5307 or kathybauhof@gmail.com.

CARE *and* SHARE

Northbrook Presbyterian Church

SERVICE SATURDAY

Saturday, October 2



PANCAKES ON THE PATIO

9-10AM Fill up with coffee, pancakes, and conversation to get the energy you need to serve. Email bbkstetson@comcast.net to RSVP so we have enough pancakes for all.

CARE & SHARE DONATION DRIVE

10AM-NOON Help the Mission Connection Committee. Drop off new coats and new clothes for toddlers, children and teens of the Second Mile Center in Detroit

CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

10AM-NOON Help the youth of Northbrook spray & scrub as they raise money for youth programs. Donations will be shared between the youth of Northbrook & Second Mile Center. Suggested donation of \$5. A donation to the Care & Share will work too!

CHURCH CLEAN UP

10AM-NOON Roll up your sleeves and work with the Building & Grounds Comm. to get the church ready for winter.

(The donation drive is rain or shine. The car wash & church clean-up will be canceled in case of rain.)

Whether you can help the whole morning or can simply swing by to drop off donations or get your car washed, we hope to see you! Don't forget to tell your friends.

Peace & Global Witness Offering: September 5 – October 4

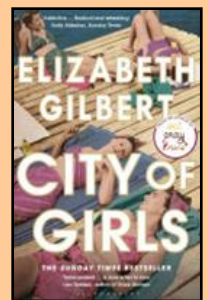


Through work, assistance and financial support, we can help allay fellow world citizens’ feelings of hopelessness, anxiety and fear, and serve as peacemakers in areas of discord, whether near or far. This annual offering of The Presbyterian Church, U.S.A (PCUSA) allows us to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice around the world. Northbrook will be able to retain 25% of our total collection for use in mission efforts that support the sharing of the peace that God and Jesus intend for all of God’s children. **The twenty-five percent of our total collection that Northbrook can designate for a specific cause will be given to International House Ann Arbor (IHAA) in memory of Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard. IHAA, formerly the Ecumenical Center and International Residence (U of M), was a beloved organization to Seglinda, a Northbrook member who served on the Mission Connection Committee for many years.**

You may use the envelope included in your church envelope packet or make a contribution by cash, check, or credit card (online). Be sure to indicate that your gift is for the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Thank you.

Northbrook Book Club—Monday, October 25 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to the Northbrook book club discussion of City of Girls, by Elizabeth Gilbert on Monday, October 25 at 7pm. The discussion will be led by Peggie S. and will take place in Fellowship Hall or via Zoom. If you would prefer to Zoom into the discussion, please email nancyjbest@gmail.com by noon on Sunday, October 24th. If community standards of protocol change, we will adapt.



Written with a powerful wisdom about human desire and connection, City of Girls is a love story like no other. Beloved author Elizabeth Gilbert returns to fiction with a unique story set in the New York City theater world during the 1940s. Told from the perspective of an older woman as she looks back on her youth with both pleasure and regret (but mostly pleasure), City of Girls explores themes of female sexuality and promiscuity, as well as the idiosyncrasies of true love.

Upcoming Books and Discussion Dates:

- ◆ December 6: ***The Giver of Stars*** by JoJo Moyes, (historical fiction, 402 pages), reader obtains the book
- ◆ January 10: ***Hamnet*** by Maggie O’Farrell, (historical fiction, 322 pages), reader obtains the book
- ◆ Feb 21: Book TBD

FINANCE MATTERS

“All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.”

– Deuteronomy 16:17 (NRSV) –

Our stewardship season is almost here, and we are so excited about the opportunities that lie ahead of us for the 2022 calendar year! The theme of our stewardship campaign this year is *Gather, Grow, Give*. As our campaign approaches, we ask that you prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Northbrook for the 2022 calendar year.

Our prayer for 2022 is that we will be able to fulfill our calling to:

- ◆ Expand outreach into our surrounding community.
- ◆ Strengthen our mission partnerships.
- ◆ Grow more fully in our Matthew 25 vision.

In order to do so, we have set the following goals for 2022:

- ◆ **90 Pledges** – an increase of 6 new pledgers from our church family compared to 2021 (7%)
- ◆ **\$325,000 Pledged** – an increase of \$22,000 compared to 2021 (7%)

We hope you will take the challenge and help us reach these goals! As you put thought into how you might participate, consider:

- ◆ If you have not previously given, we invite you to fit the church into your budget next year and make a regular offering.
- ◆ If you have contributed in the past without pledging, we ask you to make a pledge commitment to contribute routinely in 2022.
- ◆ If you pledge and give on a regular basis, we challenge you to increase your pledge and help us faithfully fulfill our ministry goals.

We will kick off our fall stewardship season on Sunday, October 17th. Pledge commitments are due by Friday, November 12th. We look forward to celebrating our pledges and dedicating them for the 2022 ministry year on Sunday, November 14th.

However much you are able to contribute, we are so very thankful for your generosity. Your pledges during the stewardship campaign help the Finance Committee compose the annual budget for 2022, and the contributions of the congregation play a major role in facilitating Northbrook's ability to offer its programs, maintain our building, and participate in our missions. We are all God's people, and everything we have is given to us by Him. We commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, and to share our time, our talent, and our material gifts as an outward sign of the treasure we hold in Jesus. Here's to a successful stewardship campaign for 2022!

With endless gratitude for the ways you show that *Finance Matters*,

Dan Gross on behalf of your Finance Committee,
Amy Annett, Mark Best, Dan Gross (Chair) and Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink

TRUNK OR TREAT!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SPOOKY FUN!
(WE WILL ALSO NEED PEOPLE TO HAND
OUT TREATS FROM THEIR TRUNKS.)



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
6:30-7:30 PM IN THE NORTHBROOK
PARKING LOT
22055 W. 14 MILE ROAD
TO SIGN UP FOR A TRUNK, PLEASE EMAIL
TERRI.HURBIS@GMAIL.COM

LOGOS—Wednesdays from 5-7pm

LOGOS (aka Wednesday Mahn-Go) takes place on Wednesdays from 5-7pm for all K-12th grade students through May. LOGOS is often described as being a lot like a mini version of Camp Mahn-Go during the week, including evening devotions, music, dinner and group games. The cost is \$70 per semester to cover dinner and supplies. For more information and to register, please email Youth Director, Ken Stetson at stetson.kenny@gmail.com.

LOGOS Kitchen Help Needed

Hello Northbrook Members! We are looking for volunteers to help cook in our kitchen on Wednesday evenings for our LOGOS group! Please see the Sign Up Genius and contact Terri Hurbis if you have any questions! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044badaf2aa4f58-logos>.

Men's Connection—Tuesday Mornings at 10 a.m.

Men's Connection meetings continue on Tuesdays at 10:00am. Join in the conversation as, typically, we wind our way through a thought provoking book with one of us as the leader. We will both be LIVE in the church library and on ZOOM. Instructions for ZOOM will be sent ahead of the meeting. Please contact Walt Young at walt2701@earthlink.net for ZOOM instructions. No masks are required if you have been vaccinated. No food is allowed, but you can bring your own coffee to the library. We look forward to greeting returning members and welcoming all new men who would like to join up with this thoughtful and sincere group of Northbrook men.

Northbrook Youth Group

Our mid and seniors highs meet on Sundays from 4-6pm. For more information, please contact Youth Director, Ken Stetson, at stetson.kenny@gmail.com.



Knit Wits

The Knit Wits will resume their monthly meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1-3pm in the Library. For more information, please contact Mary Hendrien.

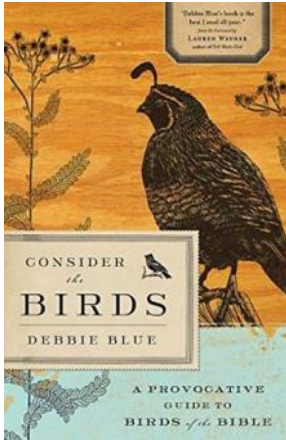
Trunk or Treat

On Wednesday, October 27th from 6:30-7:30 p.m., the Children's Ministry committee will host a *Trunk or Treat* for Halloween. For those not familiar with the concept, Trunk or Treat is a safe, small environment where kids can trick or treat by walking in the Northbrook parking lot from car to car, "trick or treating"!

To make this event a huge success, we are in need of volunteers who would be willing to decorate their car trunks and hand out candy from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in our parking lot. This is a fun, family friendly all ages event. If you are interested in participating, feel free to email Terri Hurbis at terri.hurbis@gmail.com or text her at (248) 534-7205. Please plan to arrive by 6:15 p.m. so we can arrange the cars in the parking lot. For planning purposes, we suggest planning candy for 40-50 kids.

Finally, invite your family, friends and neighbors! Any questions, don't hesitate to reach out! We are looking forward to a GREAT event!





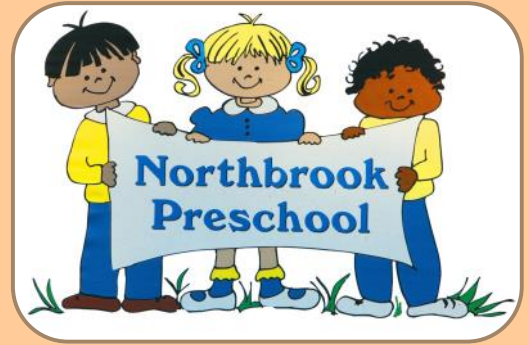
Consider the Birds: Pastors Bible Study **Wednesdays, 10am & 7pm**

Ready for a fresh window into scripture? Our guide for this ten week journey will be the Rev. Debbie Blue as we read her humorous and insightful book: Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to Birds of the Bible. Books are available at your Amazon or through your favorite book store. Classes take place in the library and via Zoom, so be sure to check the weekly email update or contact the office for the link. This class runs weekly through November 17th.



Northbrook Preschool

We are back in school and having a great time! The Pre-K class has been studying all about bugs. The three year olds have been learning to recognize their names, shapes, and most importantly, to share and wait their turn...a very difficult task!



For 70 years, SERRV International has made it a priority to ensure that artisans and farmers living in poverty are treated with respect and dignity, and are paid fairly for their work. With your help, we're connecting families and strengthening communities worldwide.

Do you have gifts to give in the fall? How about getting some new autumn or Halloween décor for your home or garden? Shopping for Fair Trade items via Northbrook's own website link at SERRV International gives you a way to help the planet and people of the world who need your support of their Fair Trade enterprises.

Please visit the SERRV website featuring over 1000 wonderful items. Purchases made by anyone including friends and relatives via Northbrook's custom link will allow Northbrook's Mission Fund to earn 20% of the total sales. This means you will be bringing joy to your gift recipient, providing economic support, relief and empowerment to those in need in the U.S. and around the world and contributing to the mission work done by our congregation. **Here is our link: <http://serrv.org/?a=Northbrook>.** Sign in as a guest or create your own log-in. For assistance with questions or ordering, please contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at winsomeann@aol.com or (248)593-8035. **Give a gift that shows your love and blesses others!**

Thank you to those of you who have made online purchases. You have added to the funds that the Mission Connection Committee is able to distribute to organizations that do important work in the world!

Here are some other websites for Fair Trade organizations in need of our support:

- ◆ **EqualExchange.coop/pcusa**: coffees – including organic, teas, chocolates, cooking ingredients, food and gifts
- ◆ **Mayanhands.org**: fashion, household and gift items
- ◆ **Mayaworks.org**: fashion, household, and gift items
- ◆ **UPAVIMcrafts.org**: fashion, household, and gift items

Northbrook's Mission Tithes Dollars 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. Based on Northbrook's offering collections of June, July, and August and the corresponding tithe for mission, we sent out the following mission support in September:

- ◆ \$2000 for the purchase of winter wear for Fort Street Open Door
- ◆ \$1650 for Fort Street Open Door general operations
- ◆ \$1225 for Baldwin Center in Pontiac
- ◆ \$1325 for South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless (S.O.C.H.)
- ◆ \$2000 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to be split equally in response to the earthquake in Haiti and Hurricane Ida in the U.S.
- ◆ We also contributed \$100 of mission funds to the Open Book Theatre Company for their wonderful patio performance of *You Talk White* on September 17.

Deacons' Corner At Home Communion

There are some in our congregation who, because of Covid or, perhaps, some other reason, are not attending worship services in person. If you are one of those and you are missing the service of communion, there is a solution for you. Pastor Ben, Sherrill Heinrichs and your Deacon will come to your home to serve you. This is a wonderful opportunity. It is not only a spiritual event, but it is also a very social time to visit with those who come. I, personally, chose to do this, and it was a wonderful and uplifting experience.

I sincerely urge anyone interested to pursue this opportunity.

~Sallie Dorer

Dear Northbrook Members & Staff,

Thank you for the wonderful support you provided to me upon the passing of my Mom, Marilyn Nesbitt, back in January this year. Her service at Northbrook on July 25 could not have been more special, only because of the planning put in by Mrs. Sherrill Heinrichs. Please know how much your cards meant to me during her illness and passing last winter. I felt the love and warmth of my Mom's Northbrook family, and know that she does too in heaven now with our Lord.

With love and thanks always,

Marcy Kossak



In Memoriam



Mary Jo Johnston

OCTOBER 1, 1929—AUGUST 26, 2021

**Cans for Communion:
Back-to-School Style**



Thank you to all who donated items for the Mission Connection Committee's Back-to-School donation drive. School items and snacks have been delivered to the Pontiac Schools.



The Choir is back in action at Northbrook! For more information on joining the choir, please contact Angel Gippert at angel7296@sbcglobal.net.

Northbrook members and friends hit the links for Second Mile Center's 5th Annual Charity Golf Outing on Sunday, September 26 at Glen Oaks Golf Course.



Calendar

Oct 2	9am 10am 10am 10am	Service Saturday at Northbrook ~Pancakes on the Patio ~Care & Share Donation Drive ~Car Wash ~Grounds Clean Up
Oct. 3	9am 10am	Flu & Pneumonia Shots In-Person & Livestream Worship— Communion Sunday
Oct. 5	10am 7pm	Men's Connection Mission Connection Comm. Mtg.
Oct. 6	10am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 10	10am 11:30am 4pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Move back inside the Sanctuary~ Deacons' Meeting Youth Group
Oct. 12	10am	Men's Connection
Oct. 13	10am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 15		November newsletter articles due
Oct. 16	10am 11am	McGuineas Visitation McGuineas Memorial Service
Oct. 17	10am 11:30am 4pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Stewardship Kick-Off Session Meeting Youth Group
Oct. 19	10am	Men's Connection
Oct. 20	10 am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 24	10am 11am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Congregational Mtg to Elect Officers
Oct. 25	7pm	Northbrook Book Club Meeting
Oct. 26	10am	Men's Connection
Oct. 27	10 am 1pm 5pm 6:30pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study Knit Wits LOGOS Trunk-or-Treat Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 31	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Happy Halloween~

October Birthdays

10/01 Bob Miller	10/16 Dana DeCarteret
10/03 Henry Horltd	10/16 Brooke Sandercock
10/07 Ben Larson-Wolbrink	10/17 Dylan Gross
10/07 Walt Young	10/18 Kitty Dunbar
10/08 Lori Spiewak	10/22 Michele Buscaino
10/10 LeeAnne Hemberg	10/22 Jeffrey Lein
10/11 Amy Annett	10/23 Cassidy Sandercock
10/11 Vicki Back	10/23 Judith Swink
10/11 Lori Sandercock	10/23 Marjorie Wilhelmi
10/13 Michael Clemens	10/28 Sallie Dorer
10/13 Keith Larson	10/29 Faith Rick
10/14 Susan Koss	10/31 Edna Gadsby
10/16 Barbara Burnham	

October Anniversaries

Matt & Allison Broadwell – 26 years on October 6
 Susan & Hall Koss – 49 years on October 7
 Dan & Penny Willey – 33 years on October 8
 Bruce & Judie Murdock – 32 years on October 14
 Michael & Jennifer Wicker – 6 years on October 24



Please consider sponsoring flowers to mark a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. Please contact the church office at (248) 642-0200 or becky@northbrookpc.org

if you would like to sponsor the chancel flowers for a particular Sunday. Chancel flowers are \$45 and a pair of window flowers are \$25.



“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

22055 West Fourteen Mile Road
Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025
Phone (248) 642-0200
Fax (248) 642-7495
www.northbrookpc.org



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 10am

We will continue to worship outside until the weather brings us inside on Sunday, October 10th. We will also continue to livestream the service on:

- [NorthbrookPresCh YouTube Channel](#)
- [Facebook](#)

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
ben@northbrookpc.org	
Angel Gippert, Director of Music	
Dan Gross, Contemporary Music Director	
Sherrill Heinrichs, Congregational Care Coord.	Ext. 15
sherrill@northbrookpc.org	
Ken Stetson, Youth Director	
ken@northbrookpc.org	
Becky Bachand, Administrative Assistant	ext. 10
becky@northbrookpc.org	
Mike Krug, Finance Administrator	ext. 13
mike@northbrookpc.org	
Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director	ext. 16
preschool@northbrookpc.org	