

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

What Are We Doing Here?

What are we doing here? I find myself asking this question about the meaning of life often. On my good days, I can remember the wisdom of our Protestant ancestors in the Westminster Shorter Catechism: "Humanity's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy God forever." Gratitude and joy. That about sums it up. But, here's where the rubber hits the road: how do we cultivate gratitude and joy in the midst of a culture of entitlement and despair?

Whether or not we are aware, we are doing it each Sunday during worship. In September, we learned that worship is all about presence and practice: we are present to God and each other, and we practice our faith so we can live it in our daily lives. In October, our exploration of the parts of worship - and how they form faithfulness in our daily lives - continues:

10/2 - Make a Joyful Noise All the Earth (Music) - Psalm 66:1-4

The Bible is saturated with songs of praise to God. Followers of Jesus took the gospel to different lands, and each culture developed their own unique expressions of praise. On this World Communion Sunday, we'll get a deeper understanding of the depth and breadth of worship music by exploring songs from around the world.

10/9 - Dive In (Baptism) - Matthew 3:13-17

Like everything he does, Jesus takes baptism to a whole new level when he is dunked in the water. Each week, we have a reminder of our new life in Christ, and - on this Sunday - we'll have a special reminder as we baptize two of God's children, sharing the promise of Christ with them and welcoming them to the family of faith.

10/16 - Opening the Door (Prayer) - Luke 11:1-13

As we struggle through life - and witness others struggling - something inside us yearns to cry out to God... for help, for healing, for hope. Even when we don't get the answers we want, we find our hearts drawn to God and to the world. At its core, prayer is about opening up to God's presence... and God's guidance for our lives.

10/23 - The Holy Spirit - Clyde Pritchard, Guest Preacher

Our brother, Clyde, will share a powerful word about the presence of the Holy Spirit in his life, especially in his season of grief. Not only is the Spirit our Advocate and our Comforter in suffering, the Spirit draws to newness of life in the valley of the shadow of death.

10/30 - Giving Our Hearts (Affirmation of Faith) - Philippians 2:1-11

From the beginning, Christians have felt the call to stand and proclaim what they believe about Jesus Christ. Our Protestant ancestors have labored to proclaim confessions of faith in the midst of changing circumstances. But, there's much more to creeds than "belief." Ultimately, our affirmations are commitments to which we give our hearts.

Looking forward to learning and growing together,
Pastor Ben



“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”



Fall Clean Up Day—Saturday, October 15 at 9am

Join us on Saturday, October 15 at 9am as we prepare the grounds for the coming winter. Donuts will get our morning started! Please bring your lawn tools if you have them. If you have any questions, contact Todd Dolan.



Men's Connection—Tuesdays at 8am and 10am

Men's Connection meets on Tuesdays at 8am (via Zoom) and at 10am (in the library and via Zoom). Please contact Walt Young at walt2701@earthlink.net for more information and to receive the Zoom link.

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

Ever wanted to have a better understanding of scripture? Eager to connect with others on a similar learning journey? Join us in the library or via a Zoom link on Wednesdays in the morning or evening for our weekly dive into scripture. Take what you learn on Sunday to the next level!

LOGOS—Wednesdays from 5-7pm

LOGOS meets on Wednesdays 5-7pm and will run until April for all K-12 students. The LOGOS program is a fun-filled 2 hours that includes lessons, discussion, music, games, and dinner. For more information and to register, please contact Ken Stetson at 248-302-2177 or stetson.kenny@gmail.com.

Youth Group

On Sundays each week, we hold a group meeting for our middle and high school secondary students. This is a time to give students space to discuss what is on their minds, engage with spiritual lessons, and participate in fun games and team building together. A monthly schedule is posted on our youth ministry Google doc. For more information and access, contact Ken Stetson at (248)302-2177 or stetson.kenny@gmail.com.

Senior Soup Lunch - October 13th and 27th

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!

SERRV.org

Christmas will be here before you know it. Start your shopping early via Northbrook's own SERRV International website link: <http://serrv.org/?a=Northbrook> featuring over 1000 wonderful items! Help the planet and people of the world who need your support of their Fair Trade enterprises. A portion of all sales via our unique link comes back to Northbrook's mission fund.

Northbrook Preschool

We are back in school and having a great time! The Pre-K class has been studying all about senses. 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! The preschool has received a grant and we are looking to fix up the playground!!



Congregational Meeting—Sunday, October 30

Please join us on Sunday, October 30 following worship for a Congregational Meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers and deacons for the coming year.

2022 Summer Wish List Wrap Up

Northbrook, we asked... and you delivered! We are excited to share that your contributions were above and beyond our expectations for our summer wish list campaign. Here's a breakdown of your gifts and how they impact Christ's ministry here:

Budget Offsets - \$2,900

Your generosity helped us cover some ongoing expenses in our budget, freeing up resources to help cover the deficit in other areas. Gifts will help cover worship essentials (communion supplies and flowers) and support our LOGOS program. Donations will also help cover water and phone utility costs, as well as a generous contribution to cover a year of internet service, which is crucial for streaming our online services. Finally, a contribution was made to help support the Pastor Benevolence Fund so that people in crisis can be supported in their time of need.

New Items - \$3,200

Thanks to your gifts, Northbrook can make its grounds - and its worship - more welcoming. Several gifts were made for park benches and a picnic table. We're excited to install them around campus and welcome folks to linger here. Speaking of campus, a gift was made to add more flowers around our grounds, adding to the beauty. Finally, a sponsorship was made for a new microphone for worship, helping the service be easier to hear, both in person and online.

Camperships - \$8,645

The 2022 summer camp ministry was another success, with several young people increasing their involvement with the church, and some choosing to participate in confirmation in the fall. As registrations came in, we learned that several families would need campership support. After initial gifts were made, a special appeal encouraged even more generosity. Your gifts covered the cost of 20 participants to help them grow deeper in faith in the beauty of God's creation.

Northbrook Park Structure - \$12,758

Thanks to a matching grant challenge by one of our members, we were able to exceed our goal for a structure for the proposed Northbrook Park on the south side of the building. Your gifts - and a significant grant received by Northbrook Preschool - have helped us expand our original ideas for the space. Stay tuned for details to come about our plan for the park and the structure, and how they will serve both Northbrook and its neighbors.

Total Summer Giving - \$27,503

The Finance Team is very encouraged by your generosity in response to this new endeavor to help support Christ's ministry at Northbrook. Thanks for your support, and we are excited to explore other ways to nurture giving here at Northbrook in the future.

In Christ,

Northbrook Finance Team: Mark Best, Tim Boese, Dan Gross, and Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink

Spotlight
on

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Hello!

Hello from your Children's Ministry Committee! Our committee supports the youth programming in our church for our children from birth through 5th grade. We are responsible for LOGOS, Sunday School, Trunk or Treat, ADVENTure, Bunny Brunch, and nursery care.

Our committee

Our committee is comprised of Camille Cheairs, Ann Daniels, Terri Hurbis, Cindy Sowle (Chair) and Karen Vander Weide.

Our kids

We feel that our kids are a vital part of our church. Our goal is to provide children an opportunity to be active participants in the life of Northbrook, learning through participation and what that means to be part of a community of faith.

To note

You will soon see a name change for our committee as we look to merge with the PYCT committee to be all-encompassing to our youth. Stay tuned for more!

Peace & Global Witness Offering September 4 – October 3

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

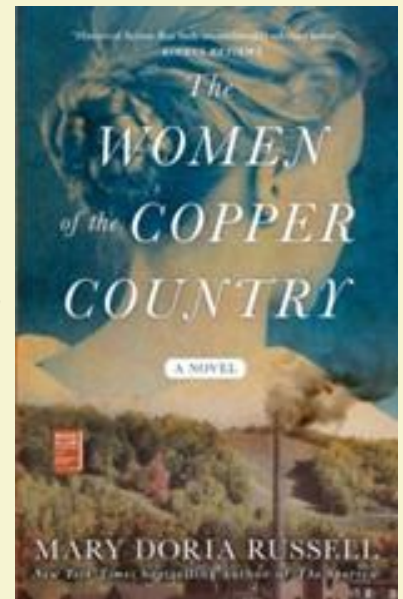


able to retain 25% of our total collection for use in mission efforts that support the sharing of the peace that God and Jesus intend for all of God's children. You may use the envelope included in your church envelope packet or make a contribution by cash, check, or credit card (online). However you make your contribution, please indicate that your gift is for the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Thank you.

Northbrook Book Club—Monday, October 24 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *The Women of the Copper Country* by Mary Doria Russell on Monday, October 24 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. This book is a Michigan Great Read Book sponsored by the Michigan Humanities council – join us and others across the entire state of Michigan who are reading this historical book. Please let Barb Voight know if you are in need of a Zoom invitation.

Book Summary: In July 1913, twenty-five-year-old Annie Clements has seen enough of the world to know that it's unfair. She's spent her whole life in the mining town of Calumet, Michigan, where men risk their lives for meager salaries—and have barely enough to put food on the table for their families. The women labor in the houses of the elite, and send their husbands and sons deep underground each day, dreading the fateful call of the company man telling them their loved ones aren't coming home. So, when Annie decides to stand up for the entire town of Calumet, nearly everyone believes she may have taken on more than she is prepared to handle.



Yet as Annie struggles to improve the future of her town, her husband becomes increasingly frustrated with her growing independence. She faces the threat of prison while also discovering a forbidden love. On her fierce quest for justice, Annie will see just how much she is willing to sacrifice for the families of Calumet.

From one of the most versatile writers in contemporary fiction, this novel is an authentic and moving historical portrait of the lives of the crucial men and women of the early labor movement “with an important message that will resonate with contemporary readers”

Please mark your calendars with these upcoming book club dates:

- ◆ December 5: *The Yellow House* by Sarah M. Broom, memoir, 384 pages (Paulette hosts)
- ◆ January 23, 2023: *Have You Seen Luis Velez?* by Catherine Ryan Hyde, fiction, 320 pages (Nancy hosts)

TRUNK OR TREAT!

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



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH
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

Calendar

Oct. 2	10am 11:15am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Communion/Family Sunday Deacons' Meeting
Oct. 4	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Oct. 5	10am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 9	10am 11:15 am	In-Person & Livestream Worship & ~Baptisms Choir Rehearsal
Oct. 11	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Oct. 12	10am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 13	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Oct. 15	9am	Fall Clean Up Day
Oct. 16	10am 11:15am 11:15am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Session Meeting Choir Rehearsal
Oct. 18	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Oct. 19	5pm 7pm	LOGOS Children's Ministry Comm. Mtg.
Oct. 23	10am 11:15am 5pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship Choir Rehearsal Youth Group
Oct. 24	7pm	Northbrook Book Club Meeting
Oct. 25	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Oct. 26	10am 5pm 6:30pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Trunk or Treat Pastor's Bible Study
Oct. 27	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Oct. 30	10am 11am 11:15am 5pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship Congregational Meeting Choir Rehearsal Youth Group

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	10/26 Brett Voight
10/13 Keith Larson	10/28 Sallie Dorer
10/14 Susan Koss	10/29 Faith Rick
10/16 Barbara Burnham	10/31 Edna Gadsby

October Anniversaries

Matt & Allison Broadwell—27 years on 10/06
 Susan & Hal Koss—50 years on 10/07
 Dan & Penny Willey—34 years on 10/08
 Bruce & Judie Murdock—33 years on 10/14
 Michael & Jennifer Wicker—7 years on 10/24



Congratulations to Peggie (Schiller) and Al DiFalco on their marriage at Northbrook on Saturday, September 10th!

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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Worship with Us

Sundays at 10am in the sanctuary

The Sunday service is also found:

- Livestream—[NorthbrookPresCh YouTube Channel](#)
- Livestream on [Facebook](#)—Northbrookpc

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—noon

Staff Contact Information

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