

## Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

### Worship for a Purpose

We have a few more important parts of worship to explore as we wrap up Northbrook's fall sermon series: *What Are We Doing Here?* Our last three Sundays are all about the ways we respond to God's grace: we are fed to feed others, we go out to serve, and we offer ourselves.

#### 11/6 - What Love Tastes Like (Eucharist)

Something happens when we break bread together: we taste love. Jesus chose to share a meal with his friends one last time before his death. After his resurrection, the disciples recognized him in the breaking of the bread. Since then, Christians have been breaking bread together: to remember Christ, to proclaim his coming, and so much more... \*As a part of All Saints Sunday, we'll remember those who have died and celebrate their presence among us during communion.



#### 11/13 - More Than Just Sunday (Blessing & Sending)

We are blessed to be a blessing to others. Our worship and service does not end on Sundays around 11am. Having been inspired by the Word and energized by our connection with God and each other, we are sent out: to love and serve God - and our neighbors - in our daily lives. In doing so, God uses us as agents for the building of the kin-dom of heaven here on earth.

#### 11/20 - Offering Our Selves

Giving is essential to living. Rev. Jeff Weenik will bring our sermon series - and our fall stewardship campaign - to a close. As those who have been liberated by Christ's grace, we respond with gratitude. Our offerings - of our resources and our selves - support the ministries of the church, provide for the needs of the poor, and show our care for one another and creation.

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### While We Are Waiting, Come

There is something about waiting that seems to make things take longer. Other times, things happen when we've barely begun to wait. Advent is the season of waiting. And, it always arrives before I expect it. Our theme for this Advent - ***While We Are Waiting, Come*** - is based on a song we'll sing in Advent. Christ often comes when we least expect it. Get ready!

#### 11/27 - You Don't Want to Miss This

Pay attention! Keep alert! It's amazing how much we miss God's presence in our lives because we aren't paying attention. Our first Sunday in Advent gives us an admonishment to be ready for however - and whenever - the Son of Man might come to us.

Grateful for the journey with you,  
Pastor Ben



“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

## **Chili Cook-Off/Cornhole Tournament** **Sunday, November 6 following worship**

Join us on Sunday, November 6th following worship for our Chili Cook-Off & Cornhole Tournament, a fall fundraiser for our youth ministry programs. We need volunteers to make chili! Please contact Ken Stetson at [stetson.kenny@gmail.com](mailto:stetson.kenny@gmail.com) for more information and to let him know if you would like to participate! The cost is \$10 per person or \$25 per family.



## **Pastor's Bible Study - Wednesdays at 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 evening for our weekly dive into scripture. Take what you learn on Sunday to the next level!

## **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](mailto:walt2701@earthlink.net) for more information and to receive the Zoom link. We continue to read and discuss Adam Dressler's book, *This is how we pray...Discovering a Life of Intimate Friendship with God*. All men are welcome. \*Note: We will not meet on Tuesday November 22th on account of Thanksgiving.



## **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](mailto: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](mailto:stetson.kenny@gmail.com).

## **Senior Soup Lunch - November 10th**

Join us for Senior Soup Lunch on Thursday, November 10th at 1pm in the Library. 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! *\*Please note that Soup Lunch will not meet on November 24th.*

## **Friday Fun Zooms are Back - Friday, November 11, 7-8:30pm**

Our topic for informal conversation will center around family Thanksgiving traditions and anything new you might be trying out this year. Of course, anyone who has participated in past screen gatherings knows we often wander off-topic. To receive the Zoom link, join the fellowship, and share the sure-to-be laughter, contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at (248) 593-8035 or at [winsomeann@aol.com](mailto:winsomeann@aol.com) (please put NORTHBROOK in the subject line), or see her in church.

## **Stewardship 2023—Taking the Next Step: Deeply Rooted & Building Up**

*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

~ Colossians 2:6-7

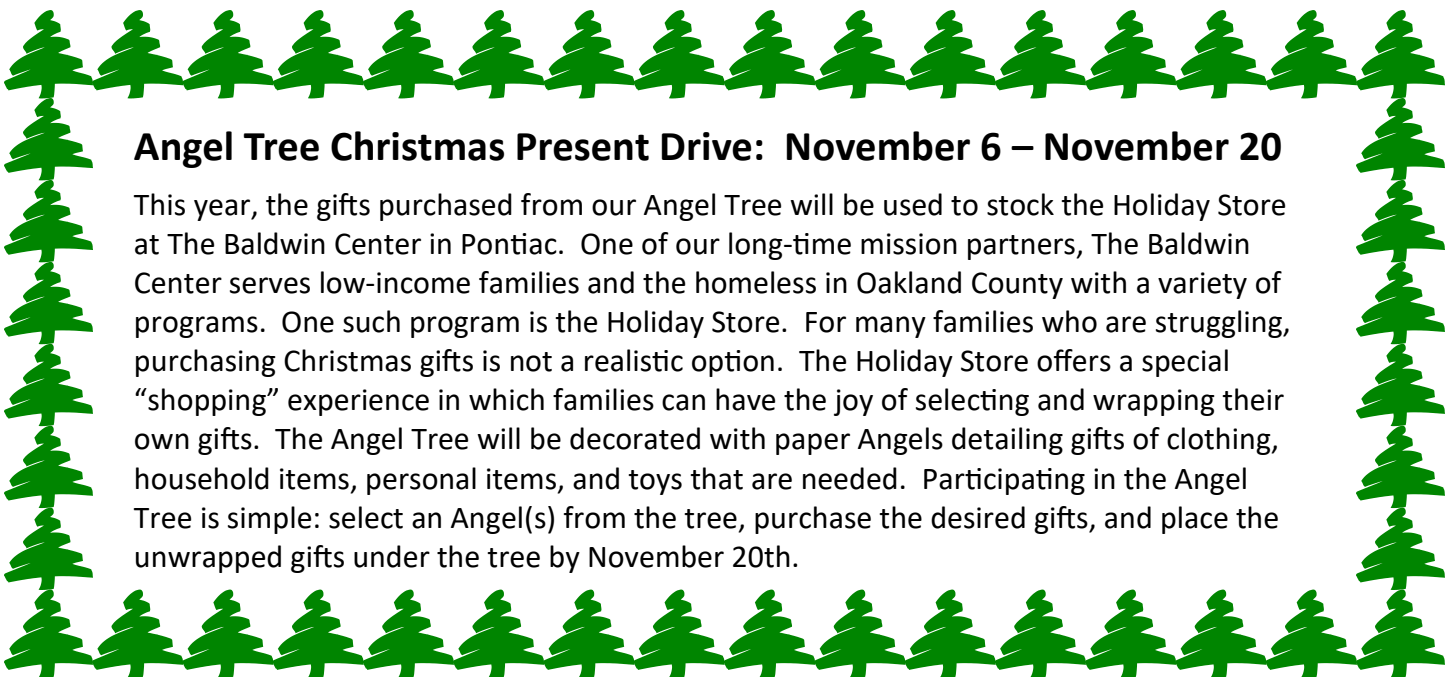
In the challenging times we face, we continue to be blessed with the generosity of our Congregation as we embark on our annual Fall Stewardship Campaign. As we emerge from the midst of a pandemic, we are all aware of economic uncertainties we now face as a faith community living the love of Jesus Christ. During the year, we have been blessed with dedicated members who serve in many ways. We highlighted in our initial stewardship campaign letter the many focal points of the Northbrook faithful. Included of course is the strength of our children and youth ministries, and we are excited to celebrate the recent addition of eight participants into our confirmation class this fall! Activities keeping many of us connected such as Bible Study, Men’s Connection, Senior Soup Lunch, and Book Club are just a few of the Northbrook programs important to our congregation.

While our overall financial condition remains sound, we face increased operating costs in several areas including utilities and technology upgrades. We will also need to dedicate funds for structural reinforcement of the northwest side of our building which will exceed earlier estimates. Please prayerfully consider your pledge of financial support for 2023 so that we can meet our goals and objectives for the coming year.

We hope to receive your pledge card by **Friday, November 18th**. Until that time, as you consider your commitment, we will be including Sunday reflections from key committee members on goals and needs to be met by our pledges. As always, feel free to visit our website: <https://northbrookpc.org/give> and don’t hesitate to send any questions you may have to [info@northbrookpc.org](mailto:info@northbrookpc.org).

In Christ,

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



### **Angel Tree Christmas Present Drive: November 6 – November 20**

This year, the gifts purchased from our Angel Tree will be used to stock the Holiday Store at The Baldwin Center in Pontiac. One of our long-time mission partners, The Baldwin Center serves low-income families and the homeless in Oakland County with a variety of programs. One such program is the Holiday Store. For many families who are struggling, purchasing Christmas gifts is not a realistic option. The Holiday Store offers a special “shopping” experience in which families can have the joy of selecting and wrapping their own gifts. The Angel Tree will be decorated with paper Angels detailing gifts of clothing, household items, personal items, and toys that are needed. Participating in the Angel Tree is simple: select an Angel(s) from the tree, purchase the desired gifts, and place the unwrapped gifts under the tree by November 20th.



### The Personnel Committee

The Personnel committee is a committee of Session to help guide and assist the pastor who is also the head of staff. The committee supports the head of staff for determining the staffing needs to support the strategic and day-to-day operations of Northbrook.

The committee is also a conduit to our “paid” staff members for issues they may have with their employment – like a human resources department.

Each year in collaboration with Session, we negotiate the pastor’s annual terms of call. With the pastor’s and session approval, we submit the “package” to the congregation for approval. We also prepare and publish the Personnel committee annual report.

Our committee prepares the annual budget in collaboration with the Finance committee. We make every attempt to provide fair and equitable wages to our employees.

The committee meets monthly and receives a pastor’s report on the status of what is happening with Northbrook. We address any needs the pastor may have that require personnel actions. All of our discussions are confidential.

The committee is very grateful to the non “paid” volunteers that support the mission of Northbrook. Our volunteers are vital to our success and are much appreciated even though they do not fall with our span of responsibility. They support our staff and for this support we are very grateful

Our members include: Ann Daniels (Chair), Kathy Bahouf, Bill Jordon, Frank LaSota and Pastor Ben.

### *Christmas Poinsettia Order Form—Orders Due Nov. 13*

The cost of each plant is **\$11**. Make checks payable to Northbrook Presbyterian Church with “Poinsettias” written in the memo portion of the check.



\_\_\_\_ #of Red Poinsettia Plants      \_\_\_\_ #of White Poinsettia Plants  
\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Plants Ordered      Total Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my plant(s) placed in memory of/in honor of (circle one):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please drop off or mail your order & payment to the church office: 22055 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025. Poinsettias will be available for pick up following the Christmas Eve service.**



# Northbrook

## Northbrook Preschool

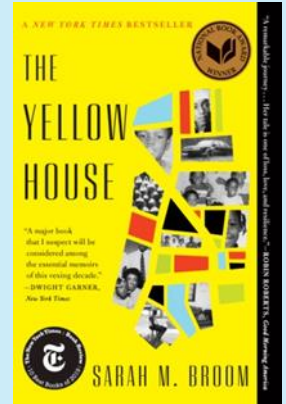
We are having a busy fall making Apple Crisp and decorating pumpkins. We are getting ready for Thanksgiving.

We have been learning about the Native Americans and pilgrims. We will be preparing and eating our very own Thanksgiving brunch. We hope you enjoy your Thanksgiving with your family and friends.



## Northbrook Book Club—Monday, December 5 at 7 p.m. via In-Person or Zoom

**Everybody is welcome to attend** the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *The Yellow House* by Sarah M. Broom on Monday, December 5 at 7pm. Please let N. Best if you would like a Zoom invitation. *The Yellow House* is a memoir and has been called a book of great ambition. It tells a hundred years of Sarah's family and their relationship to a home in a neglected area of one of America's most mythologized cities-New Orleans. This is the story of a mother's struggle against a house's entropy, and that of a prodigal daughter who left home only to reckon with the pull that home exerts, even after the Yellow House was wiped off the map from Hurricane Katrina.



Please mark your calendars with these upcoming book club dates:

- ◆ January 23, 2023: *Have You Seen Luis Velez?* by Catherine Ryan Hyde, fiction, 320 pages (Nancy hosts)

## 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, we sent out the following mission support from late summer through October:

- ◆ \$2000 for the purchase of needed winter clothing to The Open Door at Fort Street Presbyterian Church
- ◆ \$400 to Howell Nature Center for the camperships/outreach programs benefitting youth in under-resourced communities
- ◆ \$1700 to Shared Mission Support of the Presbytery of Detroit, Synod of the Covenant (regional), and General Assembly (national)
- ◆ \$1500 to PCUSA Mission Agency in support of Mission Co-workers in honor of the work of Jhan Dotel-Vellenga, Ian Vellenga, Miriam Moldonado Escobar, and Mark Adams.
- ◆ \$1500 in support of Frontero de Cristo (Mark Adams is the U.S. Coordinator of this binational ministry.)
- ◆ \$1825 to Freedom House - Detroit

Also, thank you for your generous contributions to the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering of PCUSA. The 25% portion we can send to an organization we support has been sent to Freedom House – Detroit along with our mission tithe support.

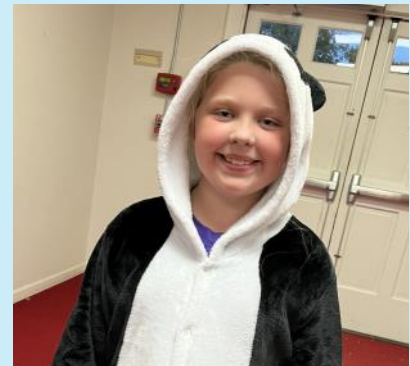


## Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 18

A children's Christmas pageant will be presented during worship on Sunday, December 18th. Parents, please sign up your children. The sign-up sheet with more information can be found in the main hallway.

# Trunk or Treat 2022



## Calendar

Nov. 1	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Nov. 2	5pm 7pm	LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Nov. 5	9am	Officer Training
Nov. 6	10am 11am 11:15 am	In-Person & Livestream Worship & ~Communion/Family Sunday Chili Cook-Off/Cornhole Tournament Deacons' Meeting
Nov. 8	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Nov. 9	12pm 5pm 7pm	Van Gogh Tour LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Nov. 10	1pm 7pm	Senior Soup Lunch Choir Rehearsal
Nov. 13	10am 11am 11:20am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Blood Pressure Screening Choir Rehearsal <b>Poinsettia Orders Due</b>
Nov. 15	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Nov. 16	5pm 7pm 7pm	LOGOS Children's Ministry Comm. Mtg. Pastor's Bible Study
Nov. 18	5pm	Stewardship Pledges Due Fall Youth Retreat (11/18-11/20)
Nov. 20	10am 11am 11:20am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Stewardship Celebration Luncheon Session Meeting Choir Rehearsal <b>Angel Tree Gifts Due</b>
Nov. 24		Happy Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed
Nov. 25		Church Office Closed
Nov. 27	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
Nov. 29	8am 10am	Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom
Nov. 30	5pm 7pm	LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study

### November Birthdays

11/01 Mary DeCarteret	11/16 Linda Voight
11/02 Michael Bauhof	11/20 William Travis
11/02 Yvonne Cousineau	11/21 Lily Stottlemeyer
11/02 Lois Kafarski	11/22 Owen Higley
11/05 Richard Keier	11/23 Dave Tengler
11/07 Tom MacFarlane	11/27 Doug Joppie
11/13 Michael Campion	11/28 Phil Owen
11/13 Dave Vander Weide	11/28 Eleanor Poster
11/14 Liz Lustenberger	11/28 Kim Yekin
11/14 Megan Taylor	11/29 Bryan Adair
11/16 Jay Rick	

### November Anniversaries

Phil & Judy Owen – 54 years on November 2  
 Mary & Horst Hendrien – 40 years on November 12  
 Keith Larson & Liz Lustenberger – 29 years on November 20  
 Bob & Kristin Miller – 24 years on November 28



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# *“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”*

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## **Northbrook**

### **Presbyterian Church**

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Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025  
Phone (248) 642-0200  
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[www.northbrookpc.org](http://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 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**

The Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Pastor	ext. 17
<a href="mailto:ben@northbrookpc.org">ben@northbrookpc.org</a>	
Angel Gippert, Director of Music	
Dan Gross, Contemporary Music Director	
Sherrill Heinrichs, Congregational Care Coord.	Ext. 15
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Ken Stetson, Youth Director	
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Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director	ext. 16
<a href="mailto:preschool@northbrookpc.org">preschool@northbrookpc.org</a>	