

## Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

### Moving Into the Next Season



#### Gathering in God's Creation

It's such a gift to be able to worship outside this summer and be more relaxed together in the beauty - and safety - of the great outdoors. With the delta variant making fall planning increasingly more challenging, we have decided to make the most of our special outdoor worship space. As we move into the fall, we will continue to worship outdoors as long as weather allows. But, **we will shift our worship time to 10am on Sunday, September 12th.** When we decide to shift our

worship indoors for the fall/winter season, we'll be sure to let you know.

#### Being Together

The summer gave us so many wonderful chances to be together. I'm still delighting in the Northbrook camp experience with our family. I'm so grateful for the window into such a vibrant ministry! And, the severe weather couldn't put a damper on the fun at our First Annual Northbrook Family Reunion. Even the memorial services we've shared have - in the midst of our grief - been powerful ways to connect as a community. It has been so good to be together!

#### Meaningful Connections

Each of these gave me opportunities to connect with the Northbrook family in meaningful ways. It was a special joy to gather in your backyards this summer. I've been moved by our *Getting Reacquainted Gatherings*, and how each - in their own way - has offered insights to both our community and how God has been working among us. And, our *Backyard, Bibles & Beverages* conversations have been so meaningful. I'm impressed with the wisdom, honesty, and vulnerability that you share with each other so freely.

#### Getting Out Into the Neighborhood

And, it was great to get a sampling of some of the neighborhoods of Northbrook. I've just started a continuing education course: *The Neighborhood Project*, taught by Alan Roxburgh. He emphasizes the "great unravelling" all over society, but especially in the church. While it makes sense that we may lament the loss of what the church used to be, he makes the compelling case that this "unravelling" may actually be the work of the Spirit that is inviting us to something new.

Quite simply, God is up to something. So much of our church energy has been about what we do. Alan invites us to pay attention to what God is doing. In his book, *Joining God, Remaking Church, Changing the World: The New Shape of the Church in Our Time*, Alan writes: "The church's primary work is to listen for what God is already up to. Its life should be marked by listening, watching, entering, and participating in the life of the neighborhoods where God's people live in the ordinary, everyday, rather as Jesus did."

(continued on next page)

"Live the Love of Jesus Christ"



## Moving with God

I don't know about you, but I always feel like I could use a little help in strengthening my "Spirit-sensors." It can be hard to listen for what God is doing and discern how we can join in with God. To help us grow in this area as a congregation, we're going to take some time with the Exodus story during worship this fall. The Hebrew people were freed from slavery and promised a land of their own. But, they needed a season in the wilderness to learn to *trust and follow the God who liberated them*.

As we explore some highlights of their journey, we are going to focus on God's action. Primarily, we are going to focus on: a) *what* God is doing, b) *where* is God doing it, and c) *how* is God doing it. My hope is that, as we journey with God's people into a new land, we might find some insight into our own lives in this season. And, we might just learn something about how to be God's people in a new way.

## What about the *Who*?

We can't help but encounter Moses - God's chosen leader for the people - as we go on the Exodus journey. He struggles and screws up repeatedly. Yet, God uses him in amazing ways. He is a prime example of the adage: "God doesn't call the equipped. God equips the called."

Part of our task this fall is to nominate and elect leaders for the next season in the life of Northbrook. We don't need experts. We need people who are open to paying attention to what God is doing and discerning how we are called to respond. Might you - or someone you know - be ready to help lead and support Northbrook as we enter into this new season? If so, fill out the nominating form on the next page in this newsletter. Who knows how God might use us when we step out on faith?

Blessings,  
Pastor Ben

## Who... Who... Who's Hootie?

We hope you'll get a chance to meet our new Meeting Owl Pro, lovingly named "Hootie." With Hootie's help, Northbrook can now make the hybrid meeting experience much more meaningful. Now, you can more fully participate in meetings, studies, or other small gatherings, whether you are in-person or online via Zoom. Hootie's sensors allow her to follow the sound and motions in the room to seamlessly follow whomever may be speaking around the table. Like us humans, Hootie does have a hard time focusing when people interrupt or engage in cross talk, so she'll give us a good opportunity to keep working on ways of speaking and sharing that allow all to participate fully.



**Mark your calendars: Sunday Worship time changes to 10am on Sunday, September 12th.**

## Nominations for Church Officers

Due: Sunday, September 19

Are you - or is someone you know - called to serve as a leader at Northbrook? Our Nominating Committee is looking for people to serve as Elders, Deacons, and congregational representatives to the Nominating Committee starting in January of 2022.

Officer snapshots from the *PC(USA) Book of Order*:

- ◆ **Elders** - Elders exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline. Elders are responsible for governing the congregation and guiding its witness to the sovereign activity of God in the world so that the congregation may be a community of faith, hope, love, and witness.
- ◆ **Deacons** - The ministry of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress.
- ◆ **Nominating Committee** - The Nominating Committee is tasked with nominating the upcoming class of Elders, Deacons, and congregational representatives to the Nominating Committee for election. Their nominations shall express the rich diversity of the congregation's membership and shall guarantee participation and inclusiveness.

Important attributes of all offices include:

- \*Christian faith in daily living
- \*Participation in the life of Northbrook
- \*Attendance at worship
- \*Cooperative
- \*Willing to learn
- \*Open to new ideas
- \*Maturity of judgment
- \*Ability to follow through on assignments

Complete information in the form below for each nominee and return to the Church Office or email your nominations to [becky@northbrookpc.org](mailto:becky@northbrookpc.org). (Note: Self-nominations are encouraged.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Penny Willey (Elder), Ann Daniels (Elder), Kathy Bauhof (Deacon), Jan Sansom (Congregational Rep. - class of 2021), Stephanie Wicker (Congregational Rep. - class of 2021), Kim Bowden-Adair (Congregational Rep. - class of 2022), Bill Jordan (Congregational Rep. - class of 2022), Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink and Sherrill Heinrichs (ex-officio).

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## Nomination Form

I suggest the name of \_\_\_\_\_ for the office of (please circle below):

**Elder      Deacon      Congregational Representative to the Nominating Committee**

I believe this person is qualified because: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

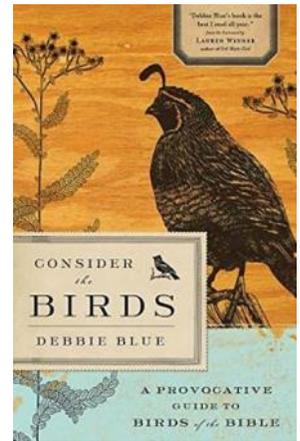
\_\_\_\_\_

## Pastor's Bible Study Returns: Considering the Birds Wednesdays at 10am and 7pm

Ready for a fresh window into scripture? In the gospels, Jesus invites us to *consider the birds* as a reminder of how God provides for us. In fact, birds are found throughout the bible, and you'll be amazed at the unique perspective they give us on life and God.

Our guide for this 10-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***. She writes:

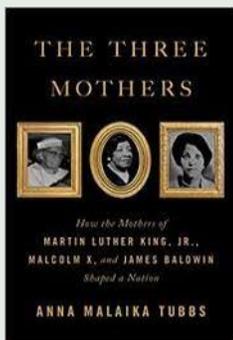
*Once you start looking for birds, you will find them everywhere - in your bushes, of course, but they are in alleys and mines and caves... I believe it is the same way with the grace of God - when you start paying attention, you'll discover it in places you hadn't noticed before... My hope in writing this book was to get myself and readers deeply paying attention—to what flits by us on any given day, to the layers of meaning in sacred text.*



Please note, we will be meeting on **Wednesdays, beginning on September 15**. Our morning classes will be at 10am and our evening classes will be at 7pm (following LOGOS).

Classes will take place in the library. We will also offer a Zoom link to those who would like to join us online. Be sure to read about “Hootie” our Meeting Owl Pro (see page 2), who will help make our hybrid (in-person & online at the same time) meetings a better experience for all.

## Northbrook Book Club—Monday, September 13 at 7pm



Our next Book Club discussion will be held on Monday, September 13 at 7p.m. either outside on the church patio or in Fellowship Hall\*. We will be discussing [The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcom X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation](#) by Anna Malaika Tubbs. The mothers of these three famous men who were born within about six years of each other were also born within about 6 years of each other under different circumstances. While we may *know* so much about the men, the women who birthed and raised them had a very significant impact on the men's characters and perspectives. In this extensively researched book by Tubbs, a Cambridge PhD candidate, we read stories that weren't really brought into the public literary sphere. For those of us who are mothers and those who think about their mothers' influence on them, there may be opportunities to connect with these mothers and sons in the book. Winnie Davies-Hancock will be the guide for this book discussion.

\* We will meet in person, based on Northbrook's current safety guidelines. Fellowship Hall allows us the space to distance ourselves. If you would prefer to FaceTime or Zoom into the discussion, please let Nancy Best or Winnie Davies-Hancock know by noon on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. If community standards of protocol change, we will adapt.

### Upcoming Books and Discussion Dates:

- ◆ October 25: ***City of Girls*** by Elizabeth Gilbert, (historical fiction, 482 pages), reader obtains the book
- ◆ 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

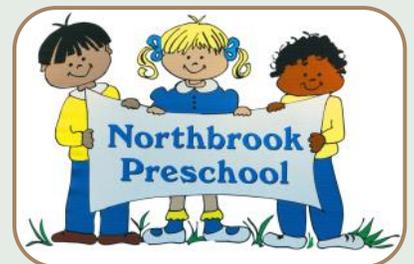
## Northbrook Family Reunion

Northbrook family and friends gathered for the 1st annual Family Reunion on August 11th, enjoying food, reminiscing, having some fun, and even sitting around the campfire.



## Back to School!

September 13 is the first day of school at Northbrook Preschool. We are excited to welcome our returning students as well as many new children and their families. Teachers have been busy setting up our classrooms and preparing materials. Once again, we are following the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) guidelines to mitigate COVID risks and create safe spaces for our students and teachers. We look forward to a safe and fun year playing and learning with our preschoolers!



**Do you have friends and family with birthdays or special celebrations this fall? Maybe you know of a college student who could use a fun surprise package. Have you heard the recent United Nations' Climate Change report? Would you like to shop in a Covid-free environment? Well, shopping for Fair Trade items via Northbrook's own website link via SERRV.org (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](mailto: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!*

# Church Camp 2021



# Northbrook



Northbrook Nation was excited to return to overnight summer camp in 2021 after the many changes and adjustments over the last year. 2021 marks the 38th year of Camp Mahn-go and it continued the tradition of providing life-changing experiences for youth of all ages. Thank you to everyone that gave their time, energy, and made financial contributions. We are excited to build off of this experience as we enter into the 2021-22 school year.

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

Men's Connection will start up again this fall on **Tuesday, September 7 at 10am**. Phil Owen will lead us through Chapter 6 of *How Happiness Happens* by Max Lucado. We will be both 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](mailto:walt2701@earthlink.net) for ZOOM instructions if you were not attending meetings before the summer break. 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.

## **LOGOS—Wednesdays from 5-7pm**

LOGOS (aka Wednesday Mahn-Go) will return on **Wednesday, September 15 from 5-7pm** for all K-12th grade students and will run each Wednesday until 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 will be \$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](mailto:stetson.kenny@gmail.com).

## **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](mailto: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.



## **Finance Matters**

Financial results through July show an operating fund which has been supported by contributions that have exceeded our year-to-date budget. This is truly a blessing given reduced rents as tenants have not been renting space at pre-pandemic levels. Also, extra expenditures have been needed to cover enhancements in equipment to broadcast services beyond the confines of our church. A key event helping to bridge the gap caused by the pandemic has been formal forgiveness of our \$60k PPP loan. This has allowed us to recognize those proceeds as other income.

As we prepare for the rest of 2021, please prayerfully consider continuing to support our Northbrook family. Our annual Stewardship campaign will commence late September. There are some fun and exciting events being planned to coincide with this important annual event. Please watch for details coming soon regarding our upcoming Annual Stewardship Campaign and consider giving generously to continue our mission.

### **Northbrook's Mission Tithe 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. We sent out the following mission support in June:

- ◆ \$4400 to complete our contribution to Presbytery of Detroit Shared Mission
- ◆ \$250 to Baby Basics Ministry of Troy (housed at Northminster Presbyterian Church)

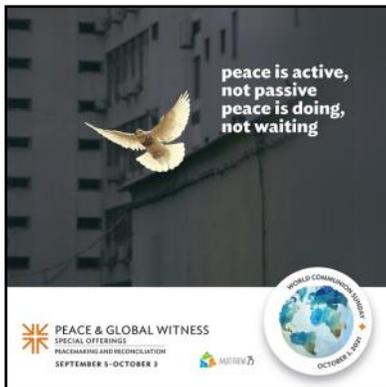
Our next distribution of funds will be in September and reported in the October Newsletter.

***Cans for Communion: Back-to-School Style***  
**Sunday, August 29—Sunday, September 12**

Beginning Sunday, August 29 and continuing through Sunday, September 12, we will be collecting lunch box items and school supplies for students served by the Pontiac schools and our mission partners. This includes: individual portions of milk and juice boxes, fruit, pudding, granola/food bars, snacks, and general school supplies such as: glue sticks, pencils, pens, paper, spiral bound notebooks and tape. If you will be dropping off items at church during the week, please call ahead to make sure the church will be open when you arrive. Items can be placed in and next to the manger in the main hallway near the nametag table. Please contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at (248)931-0821 or [winsomeann@aol.com](mailto:winsomeann@aol.com) with questions.

Would you like to participate in a mission project once monthly for about 3 hours? If you would like to **volunteer** to help with future *Saturday Care & Share Donation Drives*, contact Winnie Davies-Hancock.

**THANKS go out to everyone who contributed to our July and August *Cans for Communion* collections that were passed along to the food and supply bank at Pontiac First Presbyterian Church.**



**Peace & Global Witness Offering**  
**September 5 – 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). Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Thank you.

 **In Memoriam**

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*Mary Lou Harrison*  
November 30, 1927—July 26, 2021



*Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard*  
January 2, 1941—July 6, 2021



THE SECOND MILE CENTER OF DETROIT  
invites YOU to the

# 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY SCRAMBLE GOLF OUTING

Hit the GREEN to raise some GREEN \$\$

**Cocktails,  
Dinner, Raffles,  
50/50, Auction  
& Awards  
Ceremony**



**Sunday, September 26, 2021**  
**Shot Gun Start - 1:00 PM**  
**Dinner & Ceremony - 6:30 PM**

**Glen Oaks Golf Course**  
30500 W 13 Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

**Register / Donate / Sponsor**  
*online at:* [www.secondmilecenter.org](http://www.secondmilecenter.org)  
*or call Kathy: 248.515.5307*

**GOLF, LIGHT LUNCH & DINNER**  
**\$150.00**

**DINNER only**  
**\$70.00**

**Deadline for Reservations: September 20, 2021**

The Second Mile Center of Detroit is a non-profit 501(c)3.  
18391 Morang Ave, Detroit, MI 48205  
Email: [TheSecondMileCenter@gmail.com](mailto:TheSecondMileCenter@gmail.com)

Established in 2007, supported solely by donations "The Center" is a safe environment for children, individuals and families providing prepared meals, groceries, clothing and other essential services to the community. As always, we continue to maintain a strong program of sharing faith, hope, and love and are a positive influence in one of the most challenged areas of Detroit.

100% of net proceeds  
benefit The Second Mile  
Center of Detroit

Promotional Support from:

 **metroalive**  
WHERE TO GO. WHAT TO DO.

## Calendar

Sept. 5	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship— Communion Sunday
Sept. 6		OFFICE CLOSED- <i>Happy Labor Day</i>
Sept. 7	10am	Men's Connection
Sept. 12	10am 11:15am 4pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship Deacons' Meeting Youth Group
Sept. 13	7pm	Northbrook Book Club Mtg. Preschool Begins
Sept. 14	10am	Men's Connection
Sept. 15	10am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Sept. 19	10am 11:15am 4pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship Session Meeting Youth Group Nominations are Due
Sept. 21	10am	Men's Connection
Sept. 22	10 am 1pm 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study Knit Wits LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study
Sept. 26	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Second Mile Center Golf Outing
Sept. 28	10am	Men's Connection
Sept. 29	10 am 5pm 7pm	Pastor's Bible Study LOGOS Pastor's Bible Study



The church office will be closed on Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

### September Anniversaries

Don & LeeAnne Hemberg – 42 years on September 15  
 Nicki & Gus Walgren – 22 years on September 18  
 Bill & Gayle Travis – 51 years on September 19  
 Dan & Jennifer Gross – 15 years on September 23

### September Birthdays

09/02	Barbara Voight	09/13	Keith Lee
09/04	Stephanie Wicker	09/14	Vera McBride
09/06	Ellsworth Adams	09/17	Bruce Murdock
09/07	Helen Gach	09/19	Diane Joppie
09/08	Emily Stetson	09/20	Patty Van Loo
09/09	Terri Hurbis	09/20	Jeff Wilhelmi
09/10	Abby Adair	09/21	John Eierman
09/10	Lois Kurta	09/22	Steve DeCarteret
09/10	Janelle Moulding	09/22	Bozenna Johnson
09/10	Evan Willey	09/23	Michael Huddlestun
09/11	Erik Higley	09/27	Brian Long
09/12	Roberta Campion	09/28	Jim Parks
09/12	Dan Willey	09/30	Ryan Larson



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

Stay tuned for more information about sign-ups. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Bauhof at (248)515-5307.



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](mailto: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.

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# *“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”*

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## Northbrook

### Presbyterian Church

22055 West Fourteen Mile Road

Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025

Phone (248) 642-0200

Fax (248) 642-7495

[www.northbrookpc.org](http://www.northbrookpc.org)



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### Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.      Fridays: Closed June 6-September 3

After September 3: Mon-Thurs: 9am—4pm      Friday: 9am-noon

### Worship with Us

**Sunday, June 13—September 5: 9:30am**

- ◆ In-Person outdoor
- ◆ Livestream on:
  - [NorthbrookPresCh YouTube Channel](#)
  - [Facebook](#)

**Starting Sunday, September 12: 10am**

We will continue to worship outside until the weather brings us inside. We will also continue to livestream the service on:

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

### Staff Contact Information

The Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Pastor      ext. 17  
[ben@northbrookpc.org](mailto:ben@northbrookpc.org)

Angel Gippert, Director of Music

Dan Gross, Contemporary Music Director

Sherrill Heinrichs, Congregational Care Coord.      Ext. 15  
[sherrill@northbrookpc.org](mailto:sherrill@northbrookpc.org)

Ken Stetson, Youth Director

[ken@northbrookpc.org](mailto:ken@northbrookpc.org)

Becky Bachand, Administrative Assistant      ext. 10  
[becky@northbrookpc.org](mailto:becky@northbrookpc.org)

Mike Krug, Finance Administrator      ext. 13  
[mike@northbrookpc.org](mailto:mike@northbrookpc.org)

Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director      ext. 16  
[preschool@northbrookpc.org](mailto:preschool@northbrookpc.org)