Live the Love of Jesus Christ

Northbrook Notes



Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Order of the Kingfisher

Last month, I attended a gathering of the Eugene Peterson Center for Christian Imagination, "...a community of pastors who embody a way of being that is faithful, contemplative, joyful, holy, and deeply human." This community of pastors is called the Order of the Kingfisher, based on one of Peterson's favorite poems: As Kingfishers Catch Fire, by Gerard Manley Hopkins. I was so moved by that renewing time on the shores of Lake Michigan that I decided to join the other members in committing to the Order of the Kingfisher. I wanted to share these vows with you so you might know my commitment... and offer a little support if I stray.

Hearing God's initiating Word and responding as an act of prayer, we commit to our Common Pastoral Rule, and with courage and humility, we make these vows together, by the power of the Holy Spirit:

Will you be a pastor who has fixed your heart and mind on God as your defining center, the energizing flame for all your hopes, prayers, and work; and will you surrender to the way of Jesus, the truth of God, through the life-giving Spirit — as faithfully handed to us in the Nicene creed? **By God's mercy, I will.**

Confessing Jesus, as Lord, will you resist every idolatrous temptation to use the people under your care for ego or power, and will you resist the idolatrous enticements to bend your knee to the religious, political, and philosophical powers of this age? **By God's mercy, I will.**

Will you love the ways Jesus appears to us in his body, the church? By God's mercy, I will.

Will you use your voice to live and tell the Story boldly, even when your words seem weak – and in an age of lies and manipulation, will you tell the truth? *By God's mercy, I will.*

Will you release control of your ministry, your reputation, and your success – and will you rest in the liberating truth that God, not you, saves the world? **By God's mercy, I will.**

Will you rebuff the pull to isolation, image, and aloofness – and will you practice that essential art: friendship? *By God's mercy, I will.*

Will you refuse cynicism and hold fast to faith, hope, and love? By God's mercy, I will.

Will you give yourself to those most essential angles of pastoral work: scripture, prayer, and spiritual direction? *By God's mercy, I will.*

Will you join the ancients who have gone before us by submitting your body (vow of chastity), your resources (vow of poverty), your power (vow of obedience), and your aspirations (vow of stability) to Jesus Christ? **By God, mercy, I will.**

Will you Shepherd God's flock under your care, watching over God's beloved people – not because you must, but because you are willing, not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not loading it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock so that when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away (1 Peter 5)? **By God, mercy, I will.**

In this season of Thanksgiving, I'm grateful for the wild and wondrous calling to serve as your pastor at Northbrook. And, I'm grateful for communities like the Order of the Kingfisher that remind me of the depth and breadth of Christ's Church that we are all a part of.

In Christ, Pastor Ben

THE MAIN EVENT NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AUCTION Saturday, November 8, 2025

The inaugural Main Event is about to happen! Now that's exciting!! Don't miss out!! Program booklets listing the items that are for sale at the auction have been distributed. If you haven't seen it yet, check your email or pop in to the church. They are on the hallway tables. Booklets will also be distributed at the Main Event on November 8. Hopefully these Q's & A's are helpful.

Do I need a dinner reservation? How do I make a reservation? What is the deadline?

- Yes. If you are planning to attend the dinner, a reservation MUST be made. Reserve now and PAY LATER.
- Reservations are being taken in Fellowship Hall after worship on November 2 and by phone call to Becky in the church office at 248-642-0200.
- ♦ Deadline is Monday, November 3.

What time does the Main Event start, and what do I need to bring?

- Check-in begins at 5:00 and dinner is served at 5:30.
- Bring your calendar- many items have specific dates listed
- Bring your checkbook preferably (or credit card) if you pay by check, Northbrook does not pay credit card fees.
- Bring up to \$20 in cash (for TenTimes game)
- Wear your DETROIT LIONS gear and bring your willingness to have fun!!

Can I just come to the Auction portion?

◆ Yes, the Auction portion of the Main Event starts at 6:15. Arrive earlier to check in.

How can I participate if I can't attend the event?

- We will assign you a bidder number. Everybody who wants to buy something will need a bidder number. This includes your friends, too!
- If a non-attendee wants to buy a competitive bid item, please tell your church member friend to bid for you at the auction using your paddle number. If you are the winner, we will bill you later.
- Non-attendees can purchase raffle chances (\$5 each chance) for committee baskets and SET PRICE items. Items that qualify for non-attendee advance purchases are:
 - Committee Raffle baskets: A27, A28, A29, A30, A31, B27, B28, B29, B30, & B31
 - Set Price Items: A4, A15, A25, B19, & B24
- For advance purchases, the buyer needs to write a check dated November 8, 2025 to Northbrook Presbyterian Church for the amount of their purchase. The check and list of items they are purchasing must be received no later than November 6. NO EXCEPTIONS! If received on time, the purchaser's information with their assigned bidder number will then be entered into the Main Event database. Important: you should also email nancyibest@gmail.com to let her know about these advance purchases. Handing the check and list of items directly to a MAIN EVENT committee member would be very wise!
- A non-attendee could be a church member, a friend, or a family member who can't come but still wants to purchase a great item!

Additional questions or clarification needed? Please ask one of us: Liz, Barb, Kim, or Nancy.



Chili Cook-Off—New Date: Sunday, November 23

Join us on Sunday, November 23rd following worship for our rescheduled annual Chili Cook-Off, a fall fundraiser for our youth ministry programs. Please contact Ken Stetson at stetson.kenny@gmail.com for more information and to let him know if you would like to participate! The cost is \$15 per person or \$30 per family.

The New Brady Bunch - Tuesday, November 11 at 5:30pm

Join us on Tuesday, November 11 at 5:30pm at the Honeytree Grille in the Village Knoll Shopping Center at 3633 W. Maple Rd. Sign up in Fellowship Hall, or give Barb Voight a call at 248-302-3033.

Senior Lunch - Thursday, November 13 at 1pm in the Library

Join us for Senior Lunch on Thursday, November 13 at 1pm in the library. We will only meet once in November due to Thanksgiving. If you'd like to volunteer to help cook a meal, please see the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

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

Men's Connection meets weekly on Tuesday mornings at 8am via Zoom and at 10am in-person and via Zoom. We will continue discussing John Ortberg's *Soul Keeping: Caring For The Most Important Part of You* through November 18. Beginning November 25, we will start studying the book by C. S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*. This book is acclaimed as the most engaging account of temptation, and triumph over it, ever written. We are sure to enjoy! Please contact Walter Young at (248) 877-5411 to be included on Zoom. New men are always welcome to this fellowship circle.

LOGOS - Wednesdays, 5-7pm

LOGOS, our weekly gathering for kids of all ages with games, songs, devotions, crafts, and dinner, meets weekly on Wednesdays from 5-7pm. Contact Youth Director, Ken Stetson, at stetson.kenny@gmail.com for more information.

Yoga - Wednesdays at 11am

Join us for Yoga with Lis on Wednesdays at 11am. All are welcome to attend. Bring a mat and yoga supplies if you have them. No fee required, but donations are accepted.

Coffee Hour Volunteers

Everyone loves the treats after worship on Sundays, and in order to have them out on the tables, we need volunteers! You can provide your own food or use food from the freezer in the kitchen. If you could do just one or two, our calendar would be full. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



Kids' Connection, our Sunday ministry for young children at Northbrook, is for children in preschool through 5th grade. Children may begin worshiping with their families in the sanctuary and will be dismissed for Kids' Connection after Pastor Ben's children's message. Each Sunday, the children will learn about connecting with God and others by hearing the stories of the Bible in fun and meaningful ways. *We hope to see your kids on Sundays!*

Northbrook Book Club—November 3 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers* by Bridgett Davis on Monday, November 3 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Kim B-A is hosting this discussion. Please let Nancy Best know if you would like a Zoom invitation.

Book Summary: This true story of an unforgettable mother, her devoted daughter, and their life in the Detroit numbers of the 1960s and 1970s highlights "the outstanding humanity of black America" (James McBride). A daughter's moving homage to an extraordinary parent, The World According to Fannie Davis is also the suspenseful, unforgettable story about the lengths to which a mother will go to "make a way out of no way" and provide a prosperous life for her family — and how those sacrifices resonate over time.

Please mark your calendar with these upcoming book club dates:

January 12, 2026 - Fellowship Point by Alice Elliott Dark (Winnie hosts)



Enjoy A Fun, Funny, and Tasty Night Out
Thursday, November 6, 6 – 11 PM
(including a catered dinner & silent auction)
Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
310 S. Troy St. in Royal Oak

In Support of South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless and Welcome Inn

Keith Alberstadt is a very funny comedian who has both written for and appeared on the major nighttime TV comedy shows. To order tickets, go to https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/spread-the-laughs. To learn more about SOCH/Welcome Inn, go to https://www.sochwi.org/. To learn more about Keith, go to https://www.sochwi.org/.

Giving Thanks for our Star Words

Our Star Words have been a continual source of guidance, understanding, and discovery throughout this past year. I have had so many people mention how, by keeping their star word close throughout the months, they have found new insight into themselves and fresh perspectives on their faith. Some have felt that their word challenged them to grow in meaningful and quite unexpected ways, and others that their word brought surprising comfort in a time they didn't know they needed it.

And, yes, there are others whose word confused them and who found it a struggle to discern what their chosen word meant to them and for them. There is no right or wrong, no exact answer the star will bring....just a simple word on a star. We trust that God uses many different ways to guide us. Star words offer a unique tool to help us seek and reflect on God's presence.

During this month of November, think about how your star word has inspired thankfulness in you this year. Has your word popped up when you least expected it, and has it been a guiding light for you?

~ Sherrill Heinrichs, Coordinator of Congregational Care



In this season of Thanksgiving, we are grateful for you! Thank you for all the ways you volunteer your time and talents to support Northbrook as we live the love of Jesus Christ here together. If you have already submitted your 2025 pledge, thank you! If you haven't done so yet, we invite you to consider making a pledge to support the ministries here in the new year. Pledges can also be submitted electronically on the church website or by picking up a Pledge Card in the main hallway.

We hope we can count on you to make a pledge and return it by Sunday, November 9th.



Angel Tree Drive November 16—December 7

Help provide sustenance and spread joy this holiday season as we collect food basket items for Baldwin Center and gift items for Kids Empowered on the Move and the North/Strong families (think Easter Basket initiative) beginning on Sunday, November 16.

The Angel Tree, decorated with paper angel tags, will be in the narthex. Tags will give details on specific gifts of clothing, household items, and toys for family members. You may also pick up tags for food basket items for Baldwin Center. Participating in the Angel Tree is simple: select Angel tags from the tree, purchase the desired gifts and/or food, attach the angel tags to the items purchased, and place the **unwrapped** items under the tree by **Sunday, December 7**. Stay tuned for more information about volunteering to wrap and/or deliver gifts for the specific family members.

If you have any questions and/or would like to volunteer to assist with any part of the Angel Tree program, please see or contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at 248-931-0821/C or winsomeann@aol.com. Thank you so much for your support of our efforts to brighten the holidays of others as we live out the love of Jesus Christ!

Coffee & Donut Drive Thru Success

We had a very successful Coffee & Donut Drive Thru on October 15th. Thanks to all of our volunteer Baristas, who reported for work bright and early, and handed out 168 donuts and poured countless cups of steaming coffee. We received many thank yous and expressions of gratitude from our new friends of Northbrook. Our MVP (Most Valuable Pastor) literally waded out into the traffic on 14 Mile to not only distribute the snack but, in some cases, even delivered a thoughtful prayer.

Thank you again, Team Northbrook, for a job well done.

~ Tim Boese



















Growing Together—*Grateful*Wednesdays at 10am and 7pm

We will continue our fall video series, *Grateful*, brought to you by *The Work of the People*. The video series explores what it means to live with gratitude. Leader, Diana Butler-Bass, not only offers us an opportunity for a personal and systemic transformation, but also welcomes us into her own personal journey with gratitude. She writes, "My hope and prayer is that these films lead you to a deeper truth in your spiritual



growth and inspire you to move outward into the world with the kind of generosity and gratitude that defies systems of scarcity and brings healing to the world."

- ♦ Nov. 5 Table Ethics
- Nov. 12 Grace, Gratitude, and Gifts
- Nov. 19 Gratitude and Abundance
- Nov. 26 Off for Thanksgiving
- ♦ Dec. 3 Table Memory

You can learn more at: https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/.

Previously known as bible study, Wednesday pastor's study, or book study, *Growing Together* is a regular gathering of folks who seek to grow in faith together. It's a time to share honestly - both deep thoughts and hard questions - within a caring community. Conversation is often grounded in scripture reading, a book, or a video series.

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 the pilgrims. We will be preparing and eating our very own Thanksgiving Brunch. We hope you enjoy your Thanksgiving with family and friends.



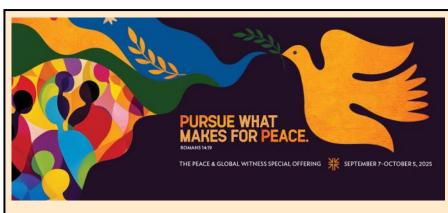


In Memoriam



Mary Pandercock
December 6, 1928

October 5, 2025



Thanks to all of you who contributed to Northbrook's collection for the PCUSA Peace & Global Witness Special Offering. We collected \$981. Seventy-five percent of this will be used by PCUSA peace and reconciliation initiatives. The other 25% will be sent to our mission partner, Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center.

Congregational Meeting

Please welcome the following individuals who were elected to leadership positions at the Congregational Meeting held on October 26 following worship.

Elders



Kathy Bauhof (Three-Year Term, Class of 2028)

Kathy Bauhof is a 40-year loyal member of Northbrook. She and her husband, Michael, are both retired and stay busy with travel, friends, family, and volunteer work. She recently moved to Farmington Hills after 35 years in Troy, and they are enjoying the community and their ranch house!

They have 3 children, raised and changed forever by Northbrook, and 4 incredible grandchildren. Kathy previously served as an elder and as a deacon. Currently, Kathy is a member of the personnel committee and loves singing in the choir. She is very

happy to be an elder again and to be able to work with Pastor Ben.

Barbara Burnham (Three-Year Term, Class of 2028)

Barbara has been a member of the Northbrook family for 41 years. She and her husband, Grant, have shared 53 wonderful years of marriage and have raised their two sons, David and Harrison, who were both married here at Northbrook.

Throughout her years, Barbara has given her time and talents to many areas of church life. She was closely involved in the renovation of the kitchen and fellowship hall, and is a member of the choir. When her children were young, Barbara was a counselor at church camp and was a member of the kitchen committee for LOGOS.

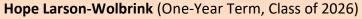


This marks the third time Barbara has been nominated to serve as an elder and is honored to have the opportunity to give back to the congregation again. Barbara and Grant live in Bloomfield Hills, where Barbara owns a Construction, Design and Consulting Business.

Youth Elders

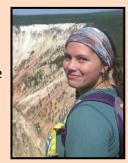
Cooper Sowle (One-Year Term, Class of 2026)

Cooper Sowle has been coming to Northbrook for his entire life and became a member in 2023 with his confirmation class. Cooper is a senior at Groves High School and plays bass in the orchestra. Cooper has been going to camp for 10 years and is active in LOGOS and other youth activities. Northbrook youth describe Cooper as welcoming, trustworthy, and looking out for everyone.



Hope Larson-Wolbrink has been coming to Northbrook for five years and became a member with her confirmation class in 2024. Hope is a sophomore at Berkley High School and plays rugby. Hope has been going to camp for five years and is also active in LOGOS and other youth activities. Northbrook youth describe Hope as creative, inviting, and making everyone feel included.

In addition to sharing a birthday (May 19), both Cooper and Hope look forward to being a voice for the youth in the decision-making of the church.



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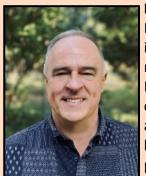
Deacons



Nancy Best (3-Year Term, Class of 2028)

Nancy joined Northbrook in 1993 and has served as a church volunteer in many capacities. She retired from the Birmingham Public School's finance department a little over two years ago and loves her daily walks and the opportunity to sleep in. She enjoys a simple condo life in West Bloomfield, connecting with friends and family, and helping others. She loves visiting her three wonderful and fun adult children (raised at Northbrook): Paul living in Manhattan, Jessica living in Detroit and Ryan (Sareeta) living in Brooklyn. Nancy has been previously ordained as an elder and deacon and is currently a leader on the Main Event Committee, the

Worship and Music Committee and Book Club.



Dave Tengler (3-Year Term, Class of 2028)

Dave joined Northbrook as a young teen and became a member in 1982. He was involved in youth programs growing up and has remained involved with youth ministry throughout his time at Northbrook, including youth choir, mission trips, LOGOS, and mid-high and senior-highs. Fun Facts: Dave was the first frisbee counselor at Summer Church Camp and holds the distinction of having his name appear on all five Mahn-Go Discs (frisbee golf champions and hole-in-ones) spanning his 4 decades on and off at camp. Dave also built the cross that stands at the church patio during his time as a Northbrook elder. Dave and Shelly have three sons: Hunter, Colin, and Grant, who are young adults involved in Northbrook's youth

ministries. Most important to Dave in church life are the connections we make with each other, with our community, and with God.

Barbara Voight (1-Year Term, Class of 2026)

Barb grew up and was confirmed at Northbrook. She has been very active in the life of the church. She was ordained as an elder in 2010, and has co-chaired the Northbrook garage sale for the last several years. She has also taken the lead on the South Oakland Shelter visits. Active in LOGOS, Barb plans the weekly crafts for the children and youth. She is also active in the Northbrook Book Club. She is also involved with the Congregational Life Committee and helps with coffee hour and their events.



Barb has two children, Emily Szukhent (Caleb) and Ken Stetson, our youth director. Barb is retired from Macy's and enjoys reading, gardening, and crafting. She is excited to continue her dedication to being a Deacon this next year.

Nominating Committee



Diane Joppie (2-Year Term)

Diane and her late husband, Doug, joined Northbrook in 2006, coming from a background in the Reformed Church of America (Dutch heritage). She served on the Board of Deacons at Northbrook for 6 years and loved developing a deeper connection to her fellow Northbrook members. She has been so grateful for the love and support from her Northbrook family during Doug's illness and passing. Diane has 3 wonderful children and their spouses, along with 5 adorable grandchildren. She enjoys caring for the local Grandboys and visiting Chicago and Colorado to see the rest of the family. In

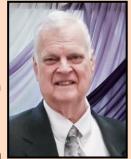
her spare time, she enjoys scrapbooking. Diane is a retired R.N., working for 42 years at Mercy Hospital in Muskegon and St. Joe's in Pontiac.

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Dave Vander Weide (2-Year Term)

Dave moved to Michigan with his wife and daughters in 1984 and joined Northbrook in 1985. At Northbrook, he has been an elder, usher, and LOGOS table parent. Dave has served on the Building and Grounds Committee for 35 years and on the Tech Team for 30 years. He has been on the Nominating Committee and was on the most recent PNC. At his previous church, he was a deacon and an elder.



Dave was born in Chicago and moved to Palo Alto, California right before entering high school. He joined the Navy in 1968 and served on a ship based at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. He met his wife Nancy at the Christian Reformed Church he attended there. After he was discharged, they settled in Buffalo, New York, and started a family. He studied business at the University of Buffalo while working full -time. A job transfer brought them to Michigan, and he is currently self-employed doing Industrial Sales. In his spare time, Dave helps his daughters with home improvement projects; he recently helped Joyce renovate her master bathroom, and he has been helping Karen and her husband, Tony, fix up their new house. Dave enjoys visiting his brothers, wine tasting, and Sunday dinners with the family.

Academy of Early Music Friday Night Concert at Northbrook November 14 at 7:30pm

Ground & Fire—On the Fly: Variations & Improvisation

The art of improvising over a structured musical framework is an ancient one. By the early Baroque, this pairing of constancy and fantasy had evolved to include rich, often spectacularly virtuosic variations, some written down and some played ex tempore. Join recorder player Anne Timberlake and bass violin expert Jeremy Ward as they explore this exciting repertoire, bringing urgency and vitality to music by Van Eyck, Corelli and more.

To purchase tickets, visit https://ci.ovationtix.com/36297/production/1251524?performanceId=11694184.

·	ecks payable to Northbrook Presbyterian Church in the memo portion of the check.
# of Red Poinsettia Plants	# of White Poinsettia Plants
Total Number of Plants Ordere	ed
Total Payment \$	
Name:	Phone:
Email:	
I would like my plant(s) placed in me	emory of/in honor of (circle one):

Orders Due Sunday, November 23







Calendar

Nov. 2 10am 11:15 In-Person & Livestream Worship with Family Sunday & Communion Confirmation Class Mtg. Nov. 3 7pm Northbrook Book Club Meeting Nov. 4 8am 10am Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Nov. 5 10am 25pm 20gether Video Series Voga 20GOS 20				
Nov. 4 8am 10am Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Yoga LOGOS Growing Together Video Series Nov. 8 5pm The Main Event Nov. 9 10am In-Person & Livestream Worship Confirmation Class Mtg. ~Pledge Cards Due ~ Nov. 10 4:30pm Worship Comm. Mtg. Nov. 11 8am 9:30am Men's Connection via Zoom Finance Comm. Mtg. Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Brady's Bunch at the HoneyTree Grille Nov. 12 10am Growing Together Video Series Yoga LOGOS Growing Together Video Series Nov. 13 1pm Senior Lunch Nov. 14 7:30pm Academy of Early Music Concert Nov. 16 10am In-Person & Livestream Worship Confirmation Class Mtg. Nov. 18 8am Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom Nov. 19 10am Growing Together Video Series Yoga LOGOS Growing Together Video Series Yoga LogoNov. 22 Leadership Summit Nov. 23 10am In-Person & Livestream Worship Chili Cook-Off Nov. 25 8am Men's Connection via Zoom Men's Connection—In-person & Zoom	Nov. 2		Family Sunday & Communion	
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	Nov. 30	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship	

Please visit our website: www.northbrookpc.org for the most current calendar of events.

November Birthdays

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

November Anniversaries

Phil & Judy Owen—57 years on November 2
Mary & Horst Hendrien—43 years on November 12
Keith Larson & Liz Lustenberger—32 years on November 20
Bob & Kristin Miller—27 years on November 28



We want to thank everyone for all prayers,

thoughts, listening ears upon the recent death of Michael's mom, Fran. We had a very healing time with family in Alabama and I know we were able to do that thanks to all your prayers and virtual thoughts and hugs. Thank you church family for loving us through it.

~ Kathy and Michael Bauhof

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 9am—Noon
22055 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025
248-642-0200 www.northbrookpc.org

Worship with Us:

10am in the sanctuary

The Sunday service is also found:

- Livestream on YouTube—Northbrookpc
- Livestream on Facebook—Northbrookpc

Northbrook Presbyterian Church

22055 West Fourteen Mile, Beverly Hills, Mi 48025 (248) 642-0200 info@northbrookpc.org Fax (248) 642-7495 www.northbrookpc.org