

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Love Looks like Learning

It feels like we blinked our eyes and “May-cember” is already over. I always look forward to the slower pace of the summer, but especially this year. I’m realizing I need a little more margins - a little more breathing room - in my schedule. I’ve been running from one event to the next and, sometimes frantically, checking things off my task list. I need a little more space to think deeply and learn some new patterns and ways of doing things.

At a recent gathering of the Presbyterian Church Growth Network, I realized that there are so many things we can be doing to grow as a congregation, both in spiritual depth and in size. But, that will require us to break out of some of our patterns that are keeping us where we are. I need to make sure I’m taking time to tweak my own habits and learn how to lead us into new patterns.



I’m also going to need time to learn how to live with our eldest - Lily - off to college at Michigan State in the fall. When she was born, our whole lives were changed. We are so excited for this next phase of life for her... and our family will definitely need to adjust emotionally with her not at home with us. Maybe you can relate?

I’ve also been learning a lot as our Wednesday book study has been working through *Out of Focus: My Story of Sexuality, Shame, and Toxic Evangelicalism*, by Amber Cantorna-Wylde. What has struck me most was how much emotional pain she has endured as she embraced the fullness of her lesbian identity. I hope to continue to learn and strengthen my empathy muscles at Northbrook’s first Pride Sunday on June 8, which is also Pentecost Sunday. Pastor Danny Cox will be there to preach and invite us to grow in our love for all God’s children.

Of course, I will make time for sailing this summer. It’s always the way for me to renew my spirit and attune myself to the wind of the Holy Spirit. I am grateful for this prayer from Brendan the Voyager, the ancient Irish monk who became the patron saint of sailors everywhere:

Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown.
Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with You.
Christ of the mysteries, I trust You to be stronger than each storm within me.
I will trust in the darkness and know that my times, even now, are in Your hand.
Tune my spirit to the music of heaven, and somehow, make my obedience count for You.
Amen.

Summer blessings!

~ Pastor Ben

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”



Pride Sunday - Sunday, June 8

Invite your friends to join us as we celebrate the gift of grace of our LGBTQ+ sisters and brothers. Danny Cox will be preaching on "Exclusion and Embrace."



Graduation Sunday - Sunday, June 15

We will celebrate our graduates on Sunday, June 15. *If you have a graduate in your family, please let the church office know by Tuesday, June 10th so that they can be recognized in the bulletin.*

The New Brady Bunch - Tuesday, June 3 at 5:30pm

Please join us Tuesday, June 3 at 5:30pm at Buddy's Pizza (located at 31646 Northwestern Highway in Farmington Hills) for some good food and fellowship. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, call Barb Voight at 248-302-3033. **Note the new location this month.*

Men's Connection Wrap-Up Breakfast—Tuesday, June 17 at 9am
Through June 10, we will discuss topics of interest, culminating with breakfast out at The Gallery Restaurant (6638 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills) on Tuesday, June 17 at 9am. We will then break for the summer until we return in mid-September. Look for the new year start-up information in the August edition of *Northbrook Notes*.

There is a Zoom connection at both 8am and 10am and in-person at the library at 10:00am. Contact Walter Young at (248) 877-5411 to be included on Zoom.

Returning members are keen to welcome men new to our fellowship circle.

Senior Soup Lunch - 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the Month at 1pm

Please join us in the Library at 1pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month for a delicious soup lunch and plentiful conversation. In June, we will meet on June 12 and June 26. In July, we will meet on July 10 and July 24. Feel free to invite a friend!

Lifelong Learners Lunch & Learn on Dementia - Thursday, June 12 at Noon

We will host Deborah Seelhoff on Thursday, June 12, at noon followed by Senior Soup Lunch, which is optional. Deborah is a Certified Dementia Practitioner who will help us identify and work on adjusting our relationship with a dementia patient. For more information, visit [Dementia Forward](#). All are welcome.

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center Tour – June 20 at 10:30am

The Northbrook Lifelong Learners Committee has organized a trip to [MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center](#) in Novi on Friday, June 20 at 10:30am. This is a beloved destination for families, students, and animal lovers. School will be out, and we welcome the church youth to join us. Please take a look at the amazing website and all it has to offer. The cost will be about \$10, depending on how many attend. Lunch will be at Ford's Garage for those interested. Sign up in Fellowship Hall and contact Liz Hurbis for more information.

We will move to outdoor worship on the back patio on Sunday, June 29th. Watch the weekly emails and bulletins for the time of the outdoor Sunday service.



Food Truck • Music • Fun for all ages

June 18 • July 16 • August 20

5 - 8pm

- Music from local bands and DJs
- Food for purchase from a different food truck each month
- A bounce house, cornhole, basketball, and more

Northbrook Church Parking Lot - rain or shine
22055 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills (corner of 14 Mile & Lahser Rd.)
www.northbrookpc.org 248.642.0200



Now that you've heard about THE MAIN EVENT, it's time to take it a few yards longer. Have you put the date – Saturday, November 8 on your calendar yet (kick-off at 5:00PM and 9:30PM end)?? If not, we invite you to do so! THE MAIN EVENT is an Auction Fundraiser with a new and fun format....and we will be serving a plated dinner along with beer and wine. The Auction Team is wanting all church members to attend, invite some friends, and have an enjoyable evening. In the fall, we'll tell you more about what the night will look like.

Right now, we are asking for you to think about how you can donate an item or an experience that will raise funds. Maybe you love to play cards or games, cook food, enjoy watching or playing sports, have a unique hobby or skill that can be shared, or have an interest that can be made into a "field trip". Can you host a gathering at your home or the church for many people to enjoy? Maybe you have tickets to an event or a period of time at your vacation property that you want to donate. The possibilities are endless. Feel free to share your ideas with an Auction Fundraiser Team member and we can work together to develop a fun experience or a desirable item. To inspire your creativity, another church's previous auction booklet is available for review. The booklet is located on the hallway table and contains many unique ideas!!

As soon as you can, please complete a Google donation form by scanning the QR code in this article or using the link on our church website. If you would rather use a paper form, a stack of the Auction Donation Form for Individuals is on each of the hallway tables. Additionally, if you know of a business that can donate to the Auction, please contact one of us to provide you with the approved Business Solicitation Letter.



Also, If you have an interest in helping the team with planning for this incredible event, please let us know. We can sure use your time and talents.

Thank you so much. We are so excited!

The Northbrook Auction Fundraising Team: Barb Voight, Liz Hurbis, Kim Bowden-Adair, and Nancy Best



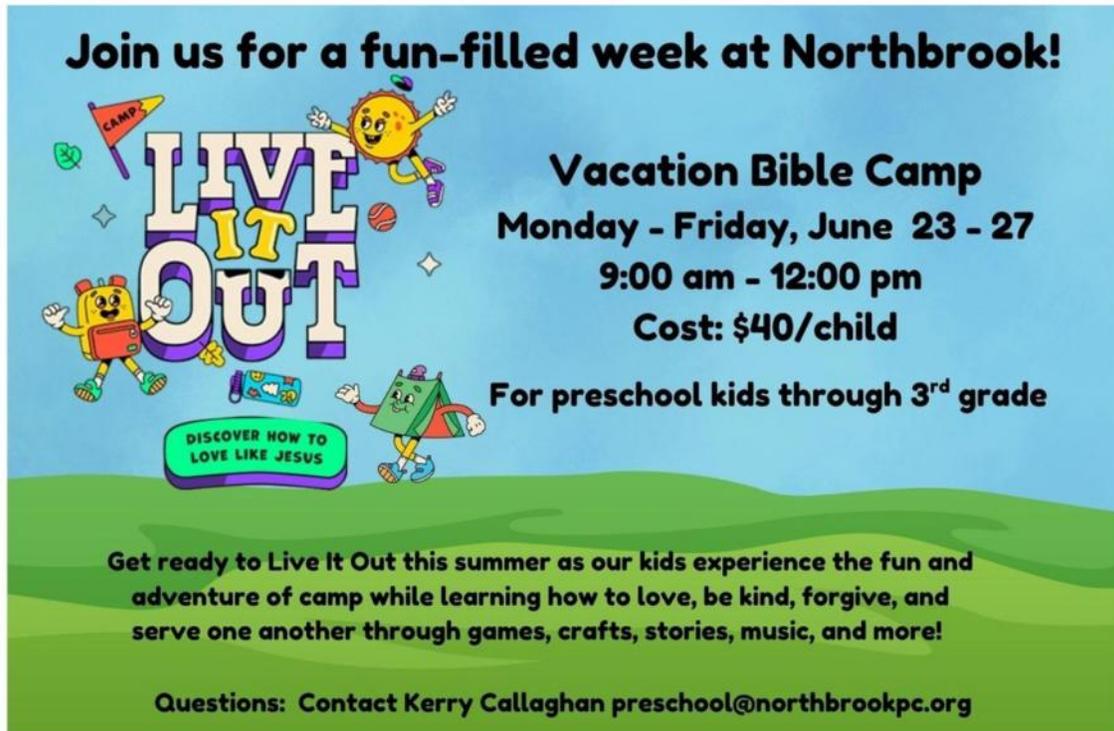
Pentecost Special Offering

The PCUSA Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By contributing to the Pentecost Offering, you

are nurturing the faith of children, youth, and young adults and supporting initiatives that help support young people whose well-being and futures are at risk. Northbrook will be able to designate how we wish to use 40% of our collection to support work with at-risk children, youth, and young adults in our area. Whether you give by check or online, please designate that your contribution is for the Pentecost Offering. We will collect this offering through Monday, June 9.

Live It Out Vacation Bible Camp June 23-27, 9 am – Noon

Get ready to *Live It Out* this summer while learning how to love, be kind, forgive, and serve one another! Help is needed for one of Northbrook's biggest community outreach opportunities. We need adult and youth volunteers to help with planning, decorating, providing hospitality, leading crafts, activities and games, telling stories, singing songs, preparing and serving snacks, or serving as a buddy and sharing God's love with the many children attending our Vacation Bible Camp. Our only requirement is that volunteers be ready for a week of fun, faith, and friendship! If you are interested in being part of this important outreach in any way, sign up in Fellowship Hall or email Tricia LaSota at tlasota@aol.com.



Join us for a fun-filled week at Northbrook!

LIVE IT OUT

Vacation Bible Camp
Monday - Friday, June 23 - 27
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Cost: \$40/child

For preschool kids through 3rd grade

DISCOVER HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

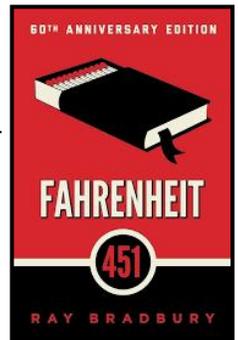
Get ready to Live It Out this summer as our kids experience the fun and adventure of camp while learning how to love, be kind, forgive, and serve one another through games, crafts, stories, music, and more!

Questions: Contact Kerry Callaghan preschool@northbrookpc.org

Northbrook Book Club: A Night with a Banned Book—June 30 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury on Monday, May 19 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Jan S. is hosting this discussion. Please let Pastor Ben or Nancy Best know if you would like a Zoom invitation.

Book Summary: *Fahrenheit 451* is a 1953 dystopian novel that presents a future American society where books have been outlawed and "firemen" burn any that are found. The novel follows in the viewpoint of Guy Montag, a fireman who becomes disillusioned with his role of censoring literature and destroying knowledge, eventually quitting his job and committing himself to the preservation of literary and cultural writings. Seventy-two years after its original publication, its message has grown more relevant than ever before.



Please mark your calendar with these upcoming book club dates:

- ◆ August 11, 2025 - *Bloomsbury Girls* by Natalie Jenner (Yvonne hosts)
- ◆ September 22, 2025 - *Wayward: A Novel* by Dana Spiotta (Barb hosts)
- ◆ November 3, 2025 - *The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers* by Bridgett Davis (Kim hosts)
- ◆ January 12, 2026 - *Fellowship Point* by Alice Elliott Dark (Winnie hosts)



Northbrook Summer Camp

Camp registration is now open. Please complete this [registration form](#). **Camp dates are August 3rd-9th.** The cost for camp this year will be \$515 per person. The full amount or a \$100 deposit can be made by check or online [here](#). Scholarship funding is available.

Applications are due by June 15. Please contact Youth Director, Ken Stetson, for more details.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our annual Spring Clean-Up!



Care & Share Collection: Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries Program's 10th Annual Cereal for Summer Drive

JUNE Care & Share Collection

Many children who receive subsidized breakfasts and lunches through their schools deal with family food shortages during the summer months. This initiative helps to fill in the gap.

We will collect the following items near the manger in the main hallway through Monday, June 30:

- ◆ Kid-friendly cereals (still avoid artificially colored)
- ◆ Healthy cereals
- ◆ Juice and milk boxes (individual servings) that don't require refrigeration until after opening
- ◆ Breakfast and granola bars
- ◆ Individual serving size fruits that don't require refrigeration

On behalf of children who may not have enough to eat, thank you! It's a joy to help others.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the drive or if you have any questions, please contact Winnie Davies-Hancock at 248-931-0821 or winsomeann@aol.com.



Northbrook Mission Tithes Dollars at Work as We Share the Love of Jesus Christ

In June, we sent out the following support to nonprofits based on Northbrook's mission tithes of contributions from January through May:

- ◆ \$3,666 Baldwin Center
- ◆ \$478 Calvin East Presbyterian Church Word Literacy Program
- ◆ \$797 Freedom House Detroit
- ◆ \$1,913 Fort Street Open Door
- ◆ \$797 Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries Program
- ◆ \$956.50 Frontera De Cristo (Border Ministries)
- ◆ \$1,913 South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless (S.O.C.H.) – Welcome Inn
- ◆ \$319 Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center (SWIRC)

We also sent out our One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering collection of \$1105 to the Presbyterian Mission Agency of PCUSA.

Northbrook, thank you for continuing to give generously so we can address our mission of working to Live the Love of Jesus Christ out into the world.



Welcome to the Northbrook Team

Please welcome our new Custodian, Andre Hill. Andre works late nights to keep Northbrook clean for our programs and our guests using the space. One day a week - typically Wednesdays - he works during the day so he can check in with the office staff. Occasionally, he is joined by his wife, Mona. If you see them around, be sure to give them a warm Northbrook welcome!

BINGO DE MAYO



The annual Bingo de Mayo fundraiser took a different twist this year as it occurred on May 4th. Thank you to everyone who participated in raising funds for our youth programs. A special thanks goes out to Ginny Thackaberry for the fun t-shirts!



Applewood Mansion - Thursday, July 17

The Lifelong Learners are currently making plans to tour Applewood Mansion in Flint. Applewood is the former home of Charles Mott with 16 acres of gardens. Tours of the gardens are available on Thursdays at 1pm so we are planning our visit for Thursday, July 17, with a rain date on Thursday, July 31. We plan to arrive early in Flint for lunch at the farmers market. We are tentatively planning to travel by church van - watch for more information.



Sunday, July 13 through Monday, August 11

For the Mission Connection Committee Back-to-School Supplies Drive, we will be collecting school supplies for students served by our mission partners. Stay tuned for specific wish list items to appear in church emails and Sunday bulletins. Keep your eye out for those back-to-school sales this summer!



YOUR STAR WORD JOURNEY...



We are entering the sixth month as we pause once again to focus on our STAR words. Have you been thinking about your STAR word these past months? Do you remember what it is? Our STAR words are important as they remind us to focus on how our faith is important in our lives.

This month, as you go about your day-to-day life, visualize your word being printed on the front of your shirt. How does that change the way you interact with the world and people around you? By really thinking about your word throughout the month, you may receive fresh insight into why the word you chose is important for your life.

The birthstone for June is a pearl. Pearls are often used in Scripture and other places to represent something very precious. Think about your STAR word being a pearl, a precious word from God, to be treasured in your heart.

Pentecost is June 8th, the celebration of the Holy Spirit coming to guide us. Let the Spirit use your word to guide your days this month.

Blessings on your "star" journey,
Sherrill Heinrichs



Memorial Day Parade



We had another great showing at the Beverly Hills Memorial Day Parade. We played music and promoted our Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook summer events. The preschool also marched with their families. Thank you to everyone who participated in the wonderful community parade.



Calendar

June 1	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~ Family Worship & Communion ~
June 3	8am 10am 5:30pm	Men's Connection (via Zoom) Men's Connection (Zoom & In-Person) The New Brady's Bunch at Buddy's Pizza
June 4	10am 7pm	Pastor's Book Study Pastor's Book Study
June 8	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Pride Sunday, Pentecost Sunday~
June 9		Worship & Music Committee Meeting
June 10	8am 9:30am 10am	Men's Connection (via Zoom) Finance Committee Meeting Men's Connection (Zoom & In-Person)
June 12	12pm 1pm	Dementia Program Senior Soup Lunch
June 15	10am 11:15am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Graduation Sunday~ Session Meeting ~Happy Father's Day~
June 17	9am	Men's Connection Wrap Up Breakfast at The Gallery Restaurant
June 18	5-8pm	Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook
June 20	10:30am TBD	MSU Tollgate Farm Tour Confirmation Dinner
June 22	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~ Confirmation Sunday ~
June 23	9am	Vacation Bible Camp
June 24	9am	Vacation Bible Camp
June 25	9am	Vacation Bible Camp
June 26	9am 1pm	Vacation Bible Camp Senior Soup Lunch
June 27	9am	Vacation Bible Camp
June 29	TBD	MOVE TO OUTDOOR WORSHIP
June 30	7pm	Northbrook Book Club Meeting
July 6	TBD	Outdoor Worship & Communion Youth Service Trip (7/6-7/9)
July 10	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
July 13	TBD	Outdoor Worship Deacons' Meeting

July 16	5-8pm	Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook
July 17		Applewood Mansion Tour
July 20	TBD	Outdoor Worship
July 24	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
July 27	TBD	Outdoor Worship

June & July Birthdays

06/02	James Johnston	07/03	Peggie DiFalco
06/02	MaryBeth Parks	07/05	Camille Higley
06/04	Cheryl Clemens	07/05	Judie Murdock
06/06	Carl von Ende	07/09	Aayla Ault
06/08	Pam Grim	07/10	Leah Guindi
06/08	Bill Hancock	07/11	Ann Daniels
06/15	James Francis	07/12	Grace Burnham
06/15	Julie Huddlestun	07/12	Michael Wicker
06/18	Bev Dinsmore	07/22	Kathy Bauhof
06/18	Meredith Riggan Maurer	07/23	David Hough
06/19	Larry Guindi	07/25	Diane Vanasupa
06/20	Claire Higley	07/26	Dave Grim
06/24	Gayle Travis	07/26	Grace Nji
06/27	Lila Daniels	07/30	Joyce Vander Weide
06/29	Lily Larson-Wolbrink		
06/30	Nathan Larson-Wolbrink		
07/01	Gary Voight		

June & July Anniversaries

William & Vicki Back—56 years on June 1
 Bryan Adair & Kim Bowden-Adair—42 years on June 11
 Robert & Laurie Sandercock—32 years on June 12
 Ron & Susan Riggan—47 years on June 17
 Steve & Megan Taylor—23 years on June 22
 Michael & Cheryl Clemens—46 years on June 23
 David & Bonnie Hough—43 years on June 26
 Roy & Bonnie Annett—36 years on July 8
 Ann & Jason Daniels—25 years on July 8
 Will & Cassie Clemens—4 years on July 11
 Tim & Susan Boese—50 years on July 12
 Jim & MaryBeth Parks—47 years on July 15
 Stephen & Jennifer Sicora—53 years on July 15
 Amy & Bruce Annett—40 years on July 20
 David & Annie Burnham—20 years on July 23
 Cayce & Cindy Sowle—29 years on July 27

**Yoga with Ana at
 Northbrook
 in Fellowship Hall**



For more information, call 248-979-3577.

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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Northbrook Notes is a monthly publication of
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Mother's Day 2025
Photo Credit: Lois Kurta



Photo Credit: Frank LaSota

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Mike Krug, Finance Administrator

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Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director

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Worship with Us: 10am Sundays thru June 22

On June 29, we will move the service outside to the back patio and Fellowship Hall. Check the website or call the office for the time of the Summer Service.

The Sunday service is also found:

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

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday: Closed in June, July & August

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248-642-0200 www.northbrookpc.org