

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Reaffirming

As I write this, I'm basking in the afterglow of our Confirmation Dinner. It's so inspiring to see young people stand before the community and share the experience of God in their lives, how they articulate the Christian faith, and their desire to become members of the Body of Christ here at Northbrook. It's also a joy to see the parents gathered to support them, and the Northbrook elders connecting and encouraging them. And, BIG THANKS goes out to Camille Cheairs and friends for preparing and serving such a delicious dinner!

I'm excited to celebrate when they officially become members during worship, and I appreciate that our Presbyterian tradition calls this moment the **reaffirmation of the baptismal vows**. Their parents made the vows on their behalf at their baptisms, when they were too young to make them on their own. I love that we invite confirmands to stand before the congregation and reaffirm the baptismal vows for themselves, embracing the faith journey as their own.

Just as it has been an honor to journey with the confirmands, I've appreciated working with the session as they plan the next steps of Northbrook's journey. We've been talking about it for a while, and we now have a working document - a "two page plan" - that the Session will be finalizing in June. We look forward to presenting it to you and pondering together how we all might support the plan and reaffirm our commitment to Christ's ministry here.

I can't divulge too much of the plan before it is finalized, but there are two exciting things in the works that I want to share:

Northbrook Neighborhood Hangouts - We want to be an anchor in the neighborhood, and we're hoping for some easy - and fun - ways to get to know our neighbors better. Often in nice weather, folks in the community - kids learning to ride bikes, people walking their dogs, moms with strollers, etc. - pass through our parking lot at times when there is no Northbrook activity happening. On Wednesday evenings in June, we're going to put out some chairs, refreshments, and activities (pickleball, anyone?), so that we can relax and enjoy the time together. We're hoping you'll want to spend the evening with us as we connect with our neighbors.

Finding Our Stories in God's Story - Humans are hard-wired for stories. Stories absorb our imaginations and shape meaning in deep ways. Though many of us have our favorite bible stories, we may not really have a sense of the over-arching storyline of God that runs through the bible. In the fall, we'll be starting through a weekly exploration of an abridged bible that reads like a novel called *The Story*. It's not a paraphrase or a re-telling. It's actual portions of the bible, but it removes parts that can bog us down (genealogies or levitical laws, for example) - as well as chapter and verse markers - so we can focus on reading it as a story. I'll be preaching from a chapter each week on Sunday starting in September, and I'm hoping you will consider joining the adventure and finding your story in God's story.

In the One who is always reaffirming,
Pastor Ben



"Live the Love of Jesus Christ"



Northbrook

Summer Worship Schedule & Time Change

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. from June 18—September 3

Summertime means a change to our worship time. Beginning June 18th and going thru September 3, we will shift our Sunday worship time to the outdoor patio at 9:30am. Those who prefer the outdoors will be able to sit outside, and those who prefer indoors will be able to sit inside! In case of inclement weather, the 9:30am service will move inside.



Friday Fun Zoom—Friday, June 2, 7-8:30 p.m. via ZOOM

Join our next round of sharing memories and laughs as we chat about TV shows of our past. Do you have favorites, memories of specific episodes, theme songs, actors, etc.? What TV habits did you have while growing up? To receive the ZOOM link, please see Winnie Davies-Hancock in church or contact her via email or phone/text: winsomeann@aol.com – 248-931-0821. Please put NORTHBROOK in the subject line of an email. Thank you.

ALL Men's Breakfast—Tuesday, June 6 at 8am

Our group closes out the season on June 6 at 8:00 AM (only) with an ALL-Northbrook Men breakfast at the church. So, come on out all you Northbrook men and have an enjoyable breakfast with some brotherhood tossed in. There is no charge. If you can't join in-person, a Zoom option will be available. So that we can judge how much food to prepare, please call or text Bill Travis at 248-917-1481 by June 3 if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

Graduation Sunday - June 11

It's that time of year when we honor our graduates as they trade caps and gowns for the next adventure in their lives. So that we may remember each graduate from high school, college or an advanced degree program, please let us know if you, your child or spouse is completing a degree. Please let Becky in the office at (248)642-0200 or becky@northbrookpc.org know by **Monday, June 5** the names of your graduate(s) and their degree(s) so that they may be honored at the worship service on Sunday, June 11th.



Summer Camp - Registrations Due June 15

Northbrook will host its annual youth summer camp August 6-12th at Camp Timbers. Summer camp is open to anyone who has finished 1st grade thru 12th grade. The cost is \$500 for the first child, \$450 for each additional child. If there is a financial need that would prevent you from coming to camp, please contact Youth Director, Ken Stetson. Registration and payment are due June 15th. Click [HERE](#) to download the camp brochure, and click [HERE](#) to register online. For more information, contact

Ken Stetson at stetson.kenny@gmail.com.

Senior Soup Lunch—2nd and 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. Invite a friend! We'll meet on June 8, June 22, July 13 and July 27. Invite a friend!

Summer Office Hours

The Northbrook church office will be closed on Fridays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Get ready to place your bid, starting at 11am on June 4!

We're excited to share that we have more than 40 different items to bid on from more than 30 Northbrook friends. Big thanks for the impressive gifts, services, and experiences you have made available to both the Northbrook congregation and broader community. There are some amazing opportunities waiting for your bids!

There will be **two, separate lists** of auction items available to allow two, different ways of bidding. We encourage you to explore both auction lists as **they contain different items**. You are welcome to bid on BOTH lists... we hope you do!

The **Northbrook In-Person** auction items will be available for bidding in Fellowship Hall after worship for three Sundays: **June 4, 11, and 18**.

- ◆ These will be on hardcopy pages that folks will need to be physically present at Northbrook to place bids.
- ◆ The bidding sheets will be available in the office during office hours if you want to stop by and make a bid between Sundays.
- ◆ Payments for the winning bids will be made directly to Northbrook.
- ◆ If you are unable to come in person, please call during office hours if you would like to place a bid.

The **Shareable Online** auction items will be available **online only**. Please share this with friends and neighbors, via social media, etc. to maximize the income for Northbrook! The online items will be available 11am on June 4th—11am on June 18th.

- ◆ The link to this website will be available on the Northbrook website and distributed via email and social media.
- ◆ We will also have a convenient QR Code available at church to direct you to the site on your smartphone.
- ◆ Payments for the winning bids will be made through the website which will transfer the total amount of bids from this list to Northbrook.
- ◆ *If you do not have access to the internet and would like to peruse/bid on the shareable online auction items, we will have a volunteer with the church laptop available following worship on June 4, 11, and 18 to help you. (You are also welcome to stop by during office hours for assistance in placing an online bid.)

Note: because of technical challenges, we were unable to put items on both lists. If you checked the "share with both the Northbrook community and online..." your item will be on the **Shareable Online** auction list.

Both auctions will close at 11am on Sunday, June 18.

And, don't forget: Northbrook has been offered a **matching bid of up to \$10,000 from an anonymous donor**. Get ready to have some fun, place your bids, and raise some money for Christ's ministry here at Northbrook!



Northbrook Neighborhood Hangouts

Wednesdays in June
7-9pm

Stop on by and get to know your neighbors! Activities for all ages: pickleball, cornhole, and basketball. Try a game or just relax and enjoy some easy conversation and refreshments.



Invite Your Friends

Questions? 248-642-0200 info@northbrookpc.org
22055 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI



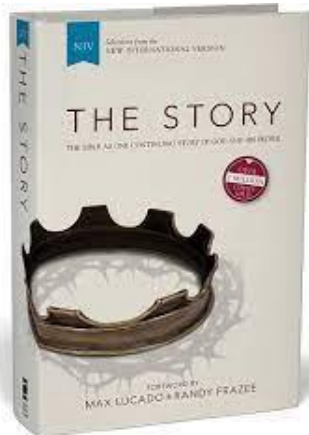
Confirmation 2023

Pictured left to right: Ken Stetson, Kyle Sublette, Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Hunter Tengler, Griffin Taylor, Cooper Sowle, Graham Walgren, Ethan Jorrey, Karen Vander Weide, Steve Taylor (Not Pictured: Jack Drinkert)

Coming this fall: Find Your Story in God's Story

Wish you knew the story of the Bible better? Have you tried to read but got bogged down in Leviticus? ***The Story*** - an abridged Bible that reads like a novel - is a great way to broaden your understanding of God's story in scripture...

... and, you don't have to do it alone. Starting in September, Pastor Ben will be preaching from ***The Story*** - a chapter a week - and we invite you to read along between Sundays. Several of our established groups have already decided to use it as their focus, and we hope some other small groups might emerge of people who want to share the journey with others. Stay tuned for more info about how you can get a copy and join the adventure!



Northbrook Book Club—Monday, July 10 at 7 pm via In-Person or Zoom

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *The Keeper of Lost Things* by Ruth Hogan on July 10 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Please let Pastor Ben or Barb Voight know if you would like a Zoom invitation for that night.

Book Summary: *A charming, clever, and quietly moving debut novel of endless possibilities and joyful discoveries that explores the promises we make and break, losing and finding ourselves, the objects that hold magic and meaning for our lives, and the surprising connections that bind us.*

Please mark your calendars with these upcoming book club dates:

- ♦ August 21 Call Me Athena: Girl from Detroit by Colby Cedar Smith, (Kim hosts)
- ♦ October 2 Not All Who Wander (Spiritually) Are Lost: A Story of Church by Traci Rhoades (Ben hosts)
- ♦ November 13 (book tbd, Yvonne hosts)





Northbrook



On May 28, we welcomed mission co-workers Rev. Mark Adams and his wife, Miriam Maldonado Escobar, from Frontera de Cristo, a border ministry supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Located in the sister cities of Agua Prieta, Sonora and Douglas, Arizona, Frontera de Cristo works with churches, presbyteries, and secular organizations on both sides of the border. Pastor Mark preached for us and shared his experiences at the border. Later Sunday afternoon, Miriam led a cooking demonstration followed by a delicious dinner.



Northbrook Preschool

We are finishing up our wonderful school year!! We are enjoying our new picnic tables and pretend gas station that we were able to get with our grant money. We are looking forward to a new play structure and fence for the playground!!



Crop Hunger Walk Volunteer Coordinator – Could that be YOU?

If you would be interested in coordinating Northbrook's participation in our local community's Crop Walk scheduled for September 24, please let Winnie Davies-Hancock (winsomeann@aol.com, in church, or at 248-931-0821) or Becky in the church office know. For many years, Northbrook participated in this Church World Service national day of walking and raising funds to support hunger programs around the world. To learn more about the program, visit the website crophungerwalk.org.



Calendar

June 1	11am	Midland Dow Home Tour (meet at the church at 9am if going in church van)
June 2	7pm	Friday Fun Zoom
June 4	10am 11am 11:15am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~ Family Sunday & Communion ~ Silent Auction Begins Session Meeting
June 6	8am	All Men's Breakfast (in-person and via Zoom)
June 7	7pm	Neighborhood Hangout at Northbrook
June 8	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
June 11	10am 11am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~ Graduation Sunday ~ Silent Auction Continues
June 14	7pm	Neighborhood Hangout at Northbrook
June 15		Camp Registration Due
June 18	9:30am 11am	MOVE TO OUTDOOR WORSHIP In-Person & Livestream Worship Silent Auction Bidding Ends ~ Happy Father's Day! ~
June 21	7pm	Neighborhood Hangout at Northbrook
June 22	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
June 25	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
June 28		Neighborhood Hangout at Northbrook
July 2	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
July 4		OFFICE CLOSED—Happy 4th of July!
July 5-7		Youth Mission Trip to Camp Timbers
July 9	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
July 10	7pm	Northbrook Book Club Meeting
July 13	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
July 16	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
July 23	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
July 20	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
July 30	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship



Pastor Ben, Pastor Mark Adams, and Phil & Judy Owen Making Paper Airplanes for the Memorial Day Parade

June/July Birthdays

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

June/July Anniversaries

Bill & Vicki Back—54 years on June 1
 Kim Bowden-Adair & Bryan Adair—40 years on June 11
 Robert & Lori Sandercock—30 years on June 12
 Ron & Susan Riggan—45 years on June 17
 Steve & Megan Taylor—21 years on June 22
 Michael & Cheryl Clemens—44 years on June 23
 David & Bonnie Hough—41 years on June 26
 Roy & Bonnie Annett—34 years on July 8
 Ann & Jason Daniels—23 years on July 8
 Will & Cassie Clemens—2 years on July 11
 Tim & Susan Boese—48 years on July 12
 Jim & MaryBeth Parks—45 years on July 15
 Stephen & Jennifer Sicora—51 years on July 15
 Amy & Bruce Annett—38 years on July 20
 David & Annie Burnham—18 years on July 23
 Cayce & Cindy Sowle—27 years on July 27



The church office will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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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

June 4th & 11th: Sundays at 10am in the sanctuary

June 18—Sept. 3: Sundays at 9:30am on the patio (or inside if the weather is bad)

The Sunday service is also found:

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

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday: Closed Memorial Day to Labor Day

Staff Contact Information

The Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Pastor	ext. 17
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