Northbrook Notes

June/July 2024



Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Summer Fun at Northbrook

Summer is here! Time to relax and shift into the summer rhythm. As always, I'm looking forward to a slower pace as well as time away with my family for some rest and renewal (it's gonna be camping on Lake Michigan this year). And, I know lots of folks do the same.

If you haven't seen them yet, pics of our mini Jesus figures have been popping up on Northbrook's Facebook and Instagram pages from some wonderful places. When you travel this summer, be sure to take a pic of your mini Jesus and either post on social media -#northbrooktravelwithjesus - or email a pic and we'll post it for you. We know that, wherever we go, Jesus is there. And this is a fun reminder for all of us as we stay connected - with God and each other - over the summer.



Another way to stay connected this summer is our Summer Book Gatherings (see inside). We have a timely book for this summer - *Inspired*, by Rachel Held Evans - that will help us address some of the big questions we had after finishing *The Story*. Like past summers, we'll be rotating to different members' homes. But, this summer we are going to try to gather at 5pm on Sundays in July and August. That way, you can still have time for your dinner plans, or maybe even make plans with folks at the gatherings.

Speaking of gatherings, we are so excited about the upcoming Neighborhood Nights @ Northbrook this summer featuring live music, food trucks and games for all ages. The three evening events will be held on the second Wednesday of each month – June 12, July 10 and August 14 – from 5pm – 8pm in the church parking lot (see flyer inside). Local bands will be featured at each event for all to enjoy. Food will be available for purchase from a local food truck with the menu changing each month (tacos, soul food, etc.). Games will include a bounce house, basketball, pickleball, cornhole and more. We hope it will be an excellent way to connect with our neighbors. We hope you'll consider volunteering to help and that you'll be thinking about the friends you'd like to invite to join us!

Here's wishing you and yours a restful summer!

Blessings, Pastor Ben

"Live the Love of Jesus Christ



June 2 - Confirmation Sunday You won't want to miss the inspiring faith statements from this year's class of confirmands. They will celebrate their first communion as members of Northbrook, and this will be the last Family Sunday of the season.

*This will be the last service in the sanctuary before we shift outdoors to the back patio and move the time to 9:30.

• June 9 - Graduation Sunday: 9:30 on the Patio Enjoy the great outdoors as we celebrate the graduates of Northbrook. We will also have an opportunity to hear reflections from Kai'Yah King who is graduating from West Bloomfield High School.

*If there is a graduate in your family that you would like us to celebrate, please reach out to the office ASAP with the details.

• June 16 - Guest Preacher: Danny Cox Danny spent nearly 22 years as a pastor in one of the largest evangelical churches in the country. While at Fuller Seminary, God developed a passion in Danny for people of diverse backgrounds and faiths as well as a heart for communities that have been marginalized. In March of 2022, Danny stepped away from the conservative evangelical church to explore what it could look like to participate in a Jesus-centered community that would truly welcome all people to the table of Christ, without strings attached. In January of 2023, The Open Table Collective began curating fully inclusive and affirming Jesus -centered spaces for all people to not only be welcomed but able to fully

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participate in the holistic expression of the faith community. Danny and his wife Amy have been married for 28 years and they have 5 grown children and 4 grandchildren.

- June 23 Hymn Sing Come ready to sing your favorite hymn from the hymnal or your favorite song from the camp songbook...one of Northbrook's favorite summer traditions!
- June 30 Loving the Bible Again Pastor Ben will kick off his summer sermon series to help us understand and reconnect with the Bible on a heart level. The journey through *The Story* was a challenge that brought a number of questions. This summer, we'll explore some of Pastor Ben's favorite scriptures and how they open our hearts to help us be the people God created us to be. *This series will run through Labor Day weekend.
- July 21 Guest Preacher: Liz Ngare Liz is a lifelong Presbyterian from Kenya and is currently an elder at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Detroit. She has been deemed eligible to serve a congregation in the Presbytery of Detroit as a Commissioned Lay Pastor. She brings a deep faith and a fresh perspective to her preaching.











Food Truck * Live Music * Fun for all ages

Join us this summer for three lively events for the whole family

June 12 * July 10 * August 14 5 - 8pm

- Live music from local bands
- Food for purchase from a different food truck each month
- A bounce house, pickleball, basketball, cornhole, and more Everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

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 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 3**:

Care & Share Collection: Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries Program's 9th Annual Cereal for Summer Drive

- 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

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 <u>winsomeann@aol.com</u>.

Summer Book Gatherings Loving the Bible Again

Sundays at 5pm in July & August

So, maybe the journey through *The Story* wasn't what you thought it would be. Maybe you have some nagging questions. Or, maybe you didn't make it past the second chapter. Regardless of your experience with *The Story*, it helps to remember that many folks have struggled to understand, let alone love, the Bible.

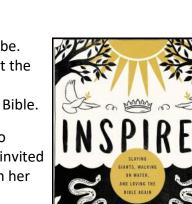
Before her untimely death in 2019, Rachel Held Evans set out on a journey to better understand what the Bible is and how it's meant to be read. You are invited to join the journey with her - and friends at Northbrook - as we read through her book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again.*

We'll meet on Sunday evenings at 5pm each Sunday of July & August to read through her book together and learn to love the Bible again.

July Meetings will take place at the following addresses:

- July 7—Larson-Wolbrink Family: 2400 Oakshire Ave, Berkley 48072
- July 14—Hough Family: 32907 Bingham Lane, Bingham Farms 48025
- July 21—Willey Family: 29725 Bristol Lane, Bingham Farms 48025
- July 28—Bauhof Family: 4138 Washington Crescent, Troy 48085
- Aug 4—Open
- Aug 11—Dailey Dolan Family:29650 Bristol Lane, Bingham Farms 48025
- Aug 18—Open
- Aug 25—LaSota Family: 22022 Camelot Court, Beverly Hills 48025

*We are still looking for hosts on August 4 & 18.



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Pentecost Offering—Collecting Through Monday, June 3

June 3rd will be our last day of collecting for the PCUSA Pentecost Offering benefitting programs and ministries serving children, youth, and young adults. 40% of our collection will go to support summer programs at Baldwin Center in Pontiac. Whether by check or credit card, please identify your payment as one for the Pentecost Offering.



Men's Connection will wind up the season, after having enjoyed an interesting and thought provoking year of bible studies, on Tuesday, June 4 at <u>9am</u> with a combined session for breakfast at The Gallery restaurant (6638 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills). We will return from the summer off on Tuesday, September 17 with a yet-to-be-decided book to again challenge or confirm our once rock-hard held beliefs. Be with us as we start up in the fall.

Franklin Garden Walk - Wednesday, June 19

Join the Life Long Learners Committee on the Franklin Garden Walk on Wednesday, June 19. Meet in the parking lot at 9:45am to carpool. This is an outstanding tour! Order your ticket ahead of time for \$12 by calling or texting Liz Hurbis at 248-225-5272.

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Senior Soup Lunch

Please join us in the Library at 1pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month for a delicious soup lunch and friendly conversation. In June, we will meet on June 13 and June 27. During July, we will meet on July 11 and July 25.

Youth Mission Trip

This year, Youth Mission Trip will be June 30th to July 2nd and we will be headed up to Camp Timbers to do some service projects for them. At this time, sign-up will be open to all completed 8th graders and older. The cost would be \$50 per person. Please email me if you are interested!

Summer Camp 2024

Our Summer Camp dates are set for *August 4th-10th*. Camp is open to any completed first graders and above. If you know anyone who is interested in attending camp this summer, contact Ken Stetson at <u>stetson.kenny@gmail.com</u>. **Registration/payment due June 15.**

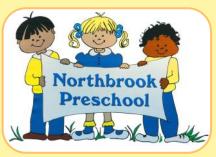


My birthday party at Northbrook was very special! Sherrill's introduction, Bill's tasty buffet, the kitchen crew's service, Lauri's beautiful flowers, cards from and conversations with members meant so much to me. John and I made an excellent choice when we joined Northbrook over sixty years ago. ~ Marilyn Thomas

Northbrook Preschool is Out for the Summer!

We are celebrating another wonderful school year!! We had a great Mother's Day and enjoyed the warmer spring weather. We hope everyone has a great summer!

For more information about the preschool, please contact Kerry Callaghan, Director, at (248)642-0200 or email her at <u>preschool@northbrookpc.org</u>. Be sure to check us out on Facebook and remember to like us!







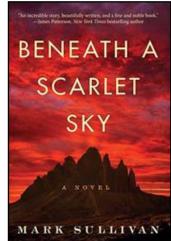
Northbrook Garage Sale is Back! - June 21st & 22nd

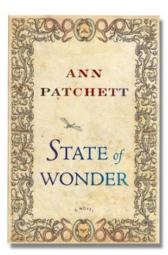
We will need lots of items to sell so keep us in mind as you do your Spring cleaning. New this year: No clothing or BIG furniture. Please see the flyer on the next page with the dates and times for dropping off your garage sale donation. We will need lots of help to make this event a success—see the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. <u>Work Shifts Available</u>: June 17 (8am-8pm) | June 18—20 (8am-4pm) | June 21 7am– 3pm | June 22 (7am-3pm). For more information, please contact Barb Voight or Judy Owen.

Northbrook Book Club—Mondays, June 10 & July 22 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club! Please join us in Fellowship Hall or via Zoom on Monday, June 10 and Monday, July 22 as we discuss *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan in June, and *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett in July. Please let Pastor Ben or Nancy Best know if you would like a Zoom invitation.

Beneath a Scarlet Sky Book Summary: Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, <u>Beneath a Scarlet Sky</u> is the triumphant, epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. Pino Lella wants nothing to do with the war or the Nazis. He's a normal Italian teenager—obsessed with music, food, and girls—but his days of innocence are numbered. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Pino joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps, and falls for Anna, a beautiful widow six years his senior. In an attempt to protect him, Pino's parents force him to enlist as a German soldier—a move they think will keep him out of combat. But after Pino is injured, he is recruited at the tender age of eighteen to become the personal driver for Adolf Hitler's left hand in Italy, General Hans Leyers, one of the Third Reich's most mysterious and powerful commanders. Now, with the opportunity to spy for the Allies inside the German High Command, Pino endures the horrors of the war and the Nazi occupation by fighting in secret, his courage bolstered by his love for Anna and for the life he dreams they will one day share. (Jan hosts.)





<u>State of Wonder</u> Book Summary: State of Wonder is a world unto itself, where unlikely beauty stands beside unimaginable loss, a tale that leads into the very heart of darkness and then shows us what lies on the other side. Dr. Marina Singh, a research scientist with a pharmaceutical company, is sent to track down her former mentor, Dr. Annick Swenson, who seems to have all but disappeared in the Amazon while working on what is destined to be an extremely valuable new drug. Nothing about the assignment is easy: not only does no one know where Dr. Swenson is, but the last person who was sent to find her, Marina's research partner Anders Eckman, died before he could complete his mission. Plagued by trepidation, Marina embarks on an odyssey into the jungle in hopes of finding Dr. Swenson as well as answers to troubling questions about her friend's death, the state of her company's future, and her own past. (Barb V. hosts.)

Please mark your calendar with these upcoming book club dates:

- September 9—<u>Remarkably Bright Creatures</u> by Shelvy Van Pelt (Mary hosts)
- October 14—<u>Being Henry: The Fonz...and Beyond</u> by Henry Winkler (Yvonne hosts)
- December 2—<u>Good Night Irene</u>, by Luis Alberto Urrea (Nancy hosts)
- January 13, 2025—<u>Heaven and Earth Grocery Store</u> by James McBride (Winnie hosts)







Please Welcome 2024 Confirmands



Grace Burnham is in 8th grade at Anderson Middle School, where she plays tennis and volleyball and is on the swim team. She also enjoys painting, math, and hanging out with friends. Grace loves being near water and spending time at the beach. Grace has been involved at Northbrook since she was very young, enjoying kid's choir, Sunday School, LOGOS, youth group, retreats, and camp.

Megan Gray is in 8th grade at Birmingham Covington School. She's on the volleyball, tennis, and swim teams at school. She also enjoys baking, shopping, and taking walks with friends. Megan has come to camp with Northbrook the past two summers and loves it! She has also enjoyed being part of the confirmation class this year.





Ella Jorrey is in 8th grade at Birmingham Covington School. Her favorite activity is figure skating, but she also plays volleyball and swimming. Ella's other interests include baking, shopping, and hanging out with friends. She loves coming to summer camp with Northbrook, especially all the people she's met.

Hope Larson-Wolbrink is in 8th grade at Anderson Middle School. She loves music, nature, thrifting, and connecting with other people. She's also interested in art, including pottery, sewing, drawing, and carving. Hope moved to Michigan with her family in 2020 and has enjoyed coming to LOGOS and summer camp at Northbrook.





Welcome Back to Amy North

Amy North grew up in Southfield and Beverly Hills, and her parents were charter members of Northbrook, so she has a long history here at Northbrook. Amy attended Groves High School, and MSU, where she majored in English Education, then went on to U of M for an MA in Reading Curriculum and Instruction. In 1982, Amy moved to Utah to get a job (and ski a tiny bit), where she married and had 2 daughters. Eventually, she moved with her girls to Traverse City, where they lived for 14 years. Amy taught 23 years of middle school and another 7 years at Northwestern Community College in Traverse City. In 2012,

Amy returned to this area to help her parents as they aged and needed additional support. That proved to be a long journey; her dad passed in 2015 at age 85, and in March 2020, her mother passed 2 days after her 91st birthday. Amy has remained in the area, though she spends a great deal of time at her cottage in Elk Rapids. One daughter lives nearby, and the other lives in Ann Arbor until mid-July, when they will move to Burlington, Vermont, where her husband will start a new job. Amy has a (step) granddaughter, 14, who attends Berkshire Middle School, and also a granddaughter in Ann Arbor, who is 21 months. Amy enjoys babysitting the little one, knitting, baking (especially sourdough breads), gardening, kayaking and riding her bike around Elk Rapids when it's warm. Amy is happy to be "home" again in the Northbrook community!

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

We will now be disbursing Northbrook Mission funds every 3-4 months instead of doing it monthly. There may be a few times when, due to specific needs of organizations or calls for response to national or international crises or disasters, we may send out contributions at other times. In May, we sent out the following support:

- \$2342 Baldwin Center
- \$ 306 Calvin East Presbyterian Church Word Literacy Program
- \$ 509 Freedom House Detroit
- \$1222 Fort Street Open Door
- \$ 509 Presbytery of Detroit Hunger Ministries Program
- \$1222 Presbyterian Mission Agency Mission Co-workers
- \$1222 Frontera De Cristo (Border Ministries)
- \$1222 South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless (S.O.C.H.)
- \$1528 PCUSA Shared Mission (Presbytery/Synod/General Assembly levels)
- \$ 204 Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center (SWIRC)

Northbrook, thanks for continuing to give generously so we can live out our mission of working to *Live the Love of Jesus Christ* out in the world.



We had a very successful **Spin to Win** event on May 21st, raising over \$6,000 to help Northbrook fulfill its missions and objectives. In addition, we had a lot of fun and comradery as we spun the wheel, watched Pastor Ben do the twist, and even sang the National Anthem together. Thanks to everyone who participated, and thanks to Sherrill for running a very efficient kitchen, and Becky for her wonderful administrative support. It was a good night! ~ The Finance Committee

2024 Beverly Hills Memorial Day Parade Musicians, Walkers & Banner











July 14—August 12

Beginning Sunday, July 14 and continuing through Monday, August 12, we will be collecting school supplies for students served by our mission partner WORD at Calvin East Presbyterian Church. This includes general school supplies such as: glue sticks, pencils, pens, paper, spiral-bound notebooks, folders, and backpacks. More specific items may be added to the list closer to collection time. Look for those back-to-school sales this summer!

June & July Birthdays

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

June & July Anniversaries

Bill & Vicki Back—55 years on June 1 Bryan Adair & Kim Bowden-Adair-41 years on June 11 Robert & Lori Sandercock—31 years on June 12 Ron & Susan Riggan—46 years on June 17 Steve & Megan Taylor-22 years on June 22 Michael & Cheryl Clemens-45 years on June 23 David & Bonnie Hough-42 years on June 26 Roy & Bonnie Annett-35 years on July 8 Ann & Jason Daniels-24 years on July 8 Will & Cassie Clemens-3 years on July 11 Tim & Susan Boese—49 years on July 12 Jim & MaryBeth Parks—46 years on July 15 Stephen & Jennifer Sicora—52 years on July 15 Amy & Bruce Annett—39 years on July 20 David & Annie Burnham—19 years on July 23 Cayce & Cindy Sowle—28 years on July 27

"Live the Love of Jesus Christ"



Calendar

June 2	10am	In-Person & Livestream Worship & Communion—Confirmation Sunday
June 3		Last Day to Drop Off <i>Cereal for Summer</i> items & Contribute to Pentecost Offering
June 4	9am	Men's Connection at The Gallery
June 9	9:30am 10:45am 10:45am	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship Graduation Sunday ~Outdoor Worship Begins~ Deacons' Meeting Session Meeting
June 10	7pm	Book Club Meeting
June 12	5-8pm	Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook
June 13	1pm 4:30pm	Senior Soup Lunch Worship Committee Meeting
June 15		Camp Registrations Due
June 16	9:30am 11-1pm	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Happy Father's Day~ Drop Off Garage Sale Items
June 17	8am-8pm	Drop Off Garage Sale Items
June 18	8am-4pm	Drop Off Garage Sale Items
June 19	8am-4pm	Drop Off Garage Sale Items Franklin Garden Walk
June 21	9am-2pm	GARAGE SALE
June 22	9am-1pm	GARAGE SALE
June 23	9:30am	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship
June 27	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
June 30	9:30am	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship Youth Mission Trip 6/30-7/2
July 4		OFFICE CLOSED in observance of Independence Day
July 7	9:30am 5pm	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship & Communion Summer Book Gathering



The church office is closed on Fridays June—August.

The church office will also be closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

July 10	5-8pm	Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook
July 11	1pm 4:30pm	Senior Soup Lunch Worship Committee Meeting
July 14	9:30am 10:45am 5pm	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship Deacons' Meeting Summer Book Gathering
June 21	9:30am 5pm	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship Summer Book Gathering
July 22	7pm	Book Club Meeting
July 25	8am-4pm	Senior Soup Lunch
July 28	9:30am 5pm	Outdoor In-Person & Livestream Worship Summer Book Gathering

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday: Closed during the summer

Worship with Us

Sundays at 10am in the sanctuary

The Sunday service is also found:

- Livestream on YouTube—<u>Northbrookpc</u>
- Livestream on Facebook—<u>Northbrookpc</u>

Staff Contact Information

The Rev. Ben Larson-Wolbrink, Pastor	ext. 17
ben@northbrookpc.org	
Angel Gippert, Director of Traditional Music	
Dan Gross, Musician	
Pete Zajicek, Musician	
Sherrill Heinrichs, Congregational Care Coord.	Ext. 15
<u>sherrill@northbrookpc.org</u>	
Ken Stetson, Youth Director	
stetson.kenny@gmail.com	
Becky Bachand, Administrative Assistant	ext. 10
<pre>becky@northbrookpc.org</pre>	
Mike Krug, Finance Administrator	ext. 13
mike@northbrookpc.org	
Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director	ext. 16
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Northbrook Presbyterian Church



