

Northbrook Presbyterian Church Newsletter



A Summer out West... and in Ephesus!

I am back in the saddle from a family trip out West to Badlands, Grand Tetons, and Yellowstone National Parks. For about ten years, we've been wanting to take our family on a camping adventure like this, and it finally happened! It was such a gift to spend time together as a family, and to explore the natural wonders of God's creation. I can't wait to tell you about it.

We've been working hard here at Northbrook this summer. In addition to the return of Neighborhood Nights and preparations for Camp, we had VBS for the first time in years. I was so impressed with the team of volunteers, organized by Elder Tricia Lasota, that put on such a wonderful experience. The kids loved it! And, so did their parents! Big thanks to all who helped.

After all that hard work, I was so grateful for the opportunity to step away from the routine, spend time with family, and get a new vantage point. I'm especially grateful for the mountain vistas in contrast with the flat landscape here in the Midwest!

Speaking of stepping away, I look forward to continuing our *Summer in Ephesus* sermon series in August. I'm having so much fun going through Paul's letter to the Ephesians one chapter at a time. It's a wonderful letter that reminds us of God's grand, cosmic plan of reconciliation, despite the struggles of our time. In the midst of divisions, Paul encourages unity as the Body of Christ... a message we desperately need today. And, it's not just about trusting and praying. It's about living it. One day at a time.

I adjusted the closing verses of Ephesians chapter 3 (some of my favorite verses in the whole bible) to be our Affirmation of Faith for the summer.

We pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, we may be strengthened in our inner being with power through the Holy Spirit and that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith, as we are being rooted and grounded in love. We pray that we may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

May it be so!

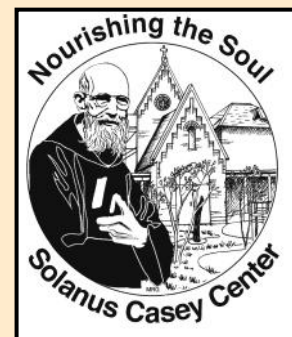
Pastor Ben

"Live the Love of Jesus Christ"

Solanus Casey Center Tour - Wednesday, August 6 at 10am

The Lifelong Learners Committee has organized a tour of the Solanus Casey Center on Mount Elliott in Detroit on Wednesday, August 6 at 10am. The Solanus Casey Center is directed by the Capuchin Brothers and strives to be a place of pilgrimage, healing, reconciliation, and peace. Solanus Casey was a priest in Detroit who died in 1957, and the Roman Catholic Church is in the process of naming him a Saint. He was beatified at Ford Field in 2017, and he is famous for helping many and is known as a healer of people.

John Callaghan has offered to be our tour guide; he is a regular docent at the center. John is the husband of Northbrook's Kerry Callaghan, director of our preschool. We are honored to have their help with making this tour possible. The tour lasts about 1 ½ hours, and a contribution of \$5 would be appreciated. The center houses a bakery, which we will visit, followed by lunch at a nearby restaurant at Eastern Market. More details will be found in our weekly bulletin. We plan to carpool from the church. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call Liz Hurbis at 248-225-5272 for more information.



Camp Sunday - Sunday, August 10

Learn from our campers and enjoy the great energy they bring after a week of camp. *We'll be in the sanctuary for this service.

Summer Backyard Fellowship - Sunday, August 10 at 5pm

Catch up with friends while enjoying the beautiful backyard gardens and hospitality at the Hough residence. Please RSVP in the office or sign up in Fellowship Hall by Monday, August 4 if you plan on attending.

Men's Connection—Resumes September 16

Our weekly Tuesday meetings resume September 16, 2025 with John Ortberg's Soul Keeping: Caring For The Most Important Part Of You. The first week we will bite off the Forward, The Prologue, and the Introduction. 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 August, we will meet on August 14 and August 28. Please invite a friend!

Tour of Bev Dinsmore's House - Tuesday, August 26 at 11am

The Lifelong Learner's Committee has organized a tour of Bev Dinsmore's house on Tuesday, August 26 at 11am. Bev, a member of the committee, has lived her life as an artist, teaching art in the Birmingham School District for 34 years. Her focus has always been on animals, both wild and domestic. She has traveled the world seeking inspiration with her camera and sketchbook, even illustrating a book. Her three-story house is located in Milford. We will possibly carpool or use the church van. Lunch will follow at Baker's in Milford. Sign up in Fellowship Hall, and contact Liz Hurbis at 248-225-5272 for more information.



Food Truck • Music • Fun for all ages

August 20 • 5 - 8pm

- Music - Open Mic Night with Steve Taylor
- Food for purchase from Nom Nom Ninja Food Truck
- 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



Sunday, July 13 through Monday, August 11

For the Mission Connection Committee's Back-to-School Supplies Drive, we will be collecting the following school supplies for students served by Kids Empowered on the Move:

Pencils	Colored Pencils
Erasers	Highlighters
Glue Sticks	Staplers with some staples
Spiral Bound Paper (wide & college ruled)	Binder paper (wide & college ruled)



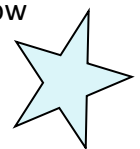
YOUR STAR WORD JOURNEY...



Here we are in August already. You know paper stars are not a big deal by themselves, as it is the faith we bring to these stars that is the big deal. It is how we use our Star Word to listen and connect with God that makes it a Star GIFT!

1. How do you think you could keep growing with your Star Word? Look up poems, stories, art, lyrics to songs, or write/draw your own that include your Star Word, and you will experience your word in new ways.
2. What still might bug you about your word? What do you still struggle with? There is probably something to learn through your struggle. Think about and look for new ways to think about your Star Word and new roads of discovery to travel down.
3. Imagine you have looked at your word through a magnifying glass. How does your Star Word help you to better see the world around you from a new perspective? Now, think about how what your word brings to mind when you think about it from God's perspective.

Happy searching and discerning....
Sherrill Heinrichs



Micah 6 Block Blitz

Saturday, September 6: 9am-3pm

We'll join our friends at the Micah 6 for a high-energy, community-driven event where volunteers come together to beautify, repair, and uplift the neighborhood! Projects may include: yard cleanups, painting, trash removal, landscaping, community building & more. All ages welcome! Please RSVP in Fellowship Hall or to the church office by Tuesday, September 2. In the meantime, you can learn more about Micah 6 here: <https://www.micah6community.com/>.



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



Please Welcome Northbrook's Newest Confirmands

Grace Daniels has been coming to Northbrook since she was two years old after her family moved to Michigan from Washington D.C. She currently lives in Royal Oak with her mom, dad, sister Lila, and cats Sam and Smokey. She just finished 8th grade at Royal Oak Middle School. She played lacrosse for the Woodward Bears this spring and is looking forward to playing at Royal Oak High School next year. Grace has been doing karate for several years, and this year she had the opportunity to help teach some of the younger students. She is also interested in music and plays the tenor saxophone; she especially enjoys Jazz Band. Grace has been involved in many activities at Northbrook, with her favorites being LOGOS and church camp.



Charlie Drinkert just finished 8th grade at Berkshire Middle School. He loves sports and has played on several teams. He plays soccer for Liverpool and was on the track and cross-country teams at Berkshire. He was also on the swim team at Berkshire and swims in the summer at BHAC; he especially enjoys competing in the 50m breaststroke and any relay event. Next year, he hopes to play varsity water polo at Groves High School and would like to make it to the state swim meet. Charlie has been coming to church camp with Northbrook since 2019 and also enjoys LOGOS and the fall retreat. He also loves food, especially bananas and Wheat Thins.

Lucy Drinkert started coming to Northbrook's summer camp in 2019. She had a great time and came back as soon as she could, and then started coming to LOGOS. She lives in Beverly Hills with her parents, sister, two brothers, and two dogs. Lucy just finished 8th grade at Berkshire Middle School and is looking forward to attending Groves High School in the fall. Lucy enjoys competing in swimming (the 400 I.M. is her favorite event) and cross country. She also played violin in the honors orchestra. She likes doing arts and crafts, especially painting.

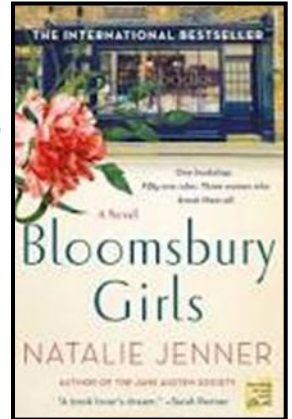


Northbrook members and friends toured the Applewood Mansion in Flint in July. This outing was organized by the Lifelong Learners Committee.

Northbrook Book Club—August 11 at 7pm

Everybody is welcome to attend the Northbrook Book Club discussion of *Bloomsbury Girls* by Natalie Jenner on Monday, August 11 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. Yvonne C. is hosting this discussion. Please let Pastor Ben or Nancy Best know if you would like a Zoom invitation.

Goodreads Book Summary: *Bloomsbury Girls* is a compelling and heartwarming story of post-war London, a century-old bookstore, and three women determined to find their way in a fast-changing world. Bloomsbury Books is an old-fashioned new and rare book store that has persisted and resisted change for a hundred years, run by men and guided by the general manager's unbreakable fifty-one rules. But in 1950, the world is changing, especially the world of books and publishing, and at Bloomsbury Books, the girls in the shop have plans. As they interact with various literary figures of the time – Daphne Du Maurier, Ellen Doubleday, Sonia Blair (widow of George Orwell), Samuel Beckett, Peggy Guggenheim, and others – these three women with their complex web of relationships, goals and dreams are all working to plot out a future that is richer and more rewarding than anything society will allow.



Please mark your calendar with these upcoming book club dates:

- ♦ 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)

Finance Matters—Per Capita Update

Each year, every church within the Presbyterian denomination is assessed an annual fee per member, known as Per Capita, to support our shared participation in the Presbyterian Church/(USA). Interestingly, the first-known mention of Per Capita within the Presbyterian Church dates back to 1734 in a letter to ministers! The Per Capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's Presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets and membership for the coming year.

In 2025, Northbrook's Per Capita assessment is \$7,600. This amounts to \$37.09 per member, and is subdivided as follows: \$22.85 (Presbytery of Detroit) + \$10.84 (General Assembly) + \$3.40 (Synod of the Covenant). Generally speaking, it is the responsibility of each church member to pay their own Per Capita portion each year in addition to other tithes and offerings.

As a whole, Northbrook must pay its full Per Capita assessment each year. And, though we always try to collect our church's entire annual assessment, we understand this doesn't always happen. Unfortunately, any Per Capita amount Northbrook owes and does not receive from the congregation must be subsidized by the church, and puts pressure on other areas of Northbrook's annual budget.

We ask that you help defray this unavoidable annual expense by making a voluntary gift of \$37.09 for each Northbrook member in your household over the age of 13. This amounts to roughly \$0.71 cents per week per member. If you have already done this for the year, thank you! If not, you may consider paying your portion by mail or via online giving. Thank you for supporting Northbrook's annual budget and the work of our Presbyterian denomination.

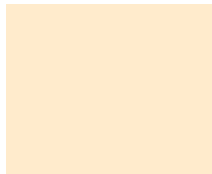
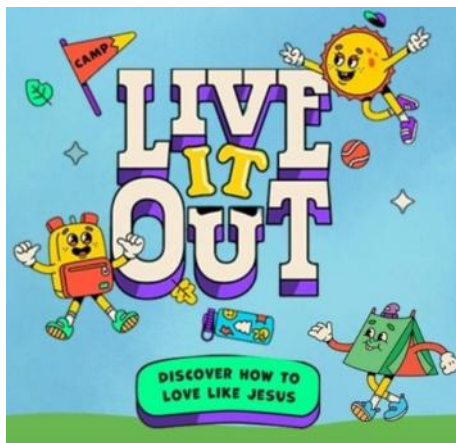
In Faithful Service,

Dan Gross on behalf of your Finance Committee: Tim Boese, Tom MacFarlane, Mark Best, Ryan Stottlemeyer, Mike Krug (Financial Secretary), Dan Gross (Chair), and Pastor Ben Larson-Wolbrink



Live It Out Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School returned to Northbrook this summer, and it was a smashing success. Led by Northbrook Preschool staff and many Northbrook volunteers, local children discovered how to love like Jesus through a variety of fun activities and crafts. Thank you to everyone who made this such a wonderful community program!





Calendar

Aug. 3	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~ Family Worship & Communion ~ Summer Camp (8/3-8/9)
Aug. 6	10am	Solanus Casey Center Tour
Aug. 10	9:30am 5pm	In-Person & Livestream Worship ~Camp Sunday~ Summer Backyard Fellowship at Houghs
Aug. 11	4:30pm 7pm	Worship & Music Committee Meeting Book Club Meeting ~ School Supplies Due ~
Aug. 12	9:30am	Finance Committee Meeting
Aug. 14	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Aug. 17	9:30am 10:45am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Session Meeting
Aug. 20	5-8pm	Neighborhood Nights @Northbrook
Aug. 24	9:30am 10:45am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Deacons' Meeting
Aug. 26	11am	Bev Dinsmore House Tour
Aug. 28	1pm	Senior Soup Lunch
Aug. 31	9:30am	In-Person & Livestream Worship
Sept. 1		Office Closed ~ Happy Labor Day!

August Birthdays

08/03	Mark Best	08/16	Ken Stetson
08/04	Jennifer Lodge Livernois	08/17	Mary Hendrien
08/04	Betsy Van Loo	08/19	Kay Kizer
08/05	Clark Sowle	08/20	Susan Jenison
08/06	Tracey Parker	08/23	Cayce Sowle
08/06	Ryan Stottlemeyer	08/24	Lori Friesner
08/08	Stephen Sicora	08/25	Amy North
08/09	Gary Faigle	08/26	Nancy Best
08/09	Grant Tengler	08/27	Alex Guindi
08/10	Liz Hurbis		

August Anniversaries

Kimberly & Wes Ault—13 years on August 11
 Faith & Jay Rick—56 years on August 16
 Winnie Davies-Hancock & Bill Hancock—42 years on August 20
 Walt & Donna Young—59 years on August 20
 Michael & Kathy Bauhof—43 years on August 21
 Dave & Pam Grim—51 years on August 24
 Frank & Tricia LaSota—40 years on August 31

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

GOLFING FOR GLACIERS 18-Hole Charity Golf Tournament **Friday, September 19**

Not only are we golfing for glaciers, but for our children and grandchildren, our neighbors, all the wild creatures and for the health of the beautiful planet that sustains us!

Greenfield Presbyterian Church's Climate Action Now team is hosting a fun day of golf at the Pontiac Country Club to support the important work of Michigan Climate Action Network, and we would love for you to join us. Your cost of \$80 includes 18 holes of golf with a cart along with food, prizes and chances to win a 50/50 raffle, which last year paid \$300 to our lucky winner. It is open to golfers of all levels and genders, so encourage your friends, family and co-workers to join you for this worthwhile event. If you don't have a foursome, we will pair you with other golfers. Sponsorships are also available at a cost of \$75. Please let us know if you or your company would be interested in sponsoring a hole. Secure a spot now and show your support for climate action! If you have any questions or would like to register, please contact Deb Basierbe at 248-497-2767.



For all of you who contributed breakfast items and/or shoes for the two Mission Committee Care & Share Drives, THANK YOU!!

You've given the blessings of full tummies and healthier footsies to children who will appreciate them!

“Live the Love of Jesus Christ”

Northbrook

Presbyterian Church

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Northbrook Presbyterian Church

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Worship with Us: 9:30am outside on the patio.
We will move into Fellowship Hall in case of inclement weather.

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

22055 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025

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