

THE BOND

OCTOBER 2021

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORRIS RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

I've noted my disappointment that we've had to put our planned congregational conversations on hold for the time being. Nevertheless, the future won't wait, and I'll be working with the incoming Executive Committee to plan when we might be able to proceed. In all likelihood, our *From Here to Tomorrow* meetings will not take place until early in 2022. Nevertheless, I will continue to preach on ideas and themes I trust will inform our eventual gatherings. Stay tuned!

The arrival of fall means that the holiday season is rapidly approaching. At this time, we have planned a community Thanksgiving service for Sunday evening, November 21st at St. Francis Episcopal Church. This event provides an opportunity for all our local faith communities to worship together and express our gratitude to God for his manifold gifts and blessings. As is customary, we will receive an offering for Good Neighbors during this service.

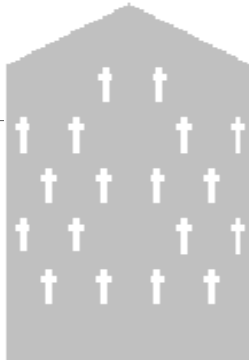
Speaking of Good Neighbors, plans for our annual effort to provide food and gifts for needy families are already underway. The appropriate dates have been marked on the calendar, and we are already marshaling our resources in support. Let me remind you that we gladly accept your financial gifts to underwrite this endeavor. Information on Angel Tree gifts will be forthcoming.

We have just completed our study of Psalms for our Wednesday evening Bible study, and our time together was rich and fruitful. For our next topic, we've elected to work through the letters of 1, 2, and 3 John. We'll kick that off on Wednesday, October 6th at 7:00 p.m. There's room for you! Please join us!

I will be away the weekend of October 16-17. One of my former students has accepted the call to become the pastor of the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He has graciously invited me and Ginny to participate in his installation service.

Grace and peace,

Bill



*"In things agreed upon unity,
In other things liberty,
In all things the will to be one."*

NORRIS RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP

23 Dogwood Road, P. O. Box 267
Norris, TN 37828
Tel. # 494-7131

Dr. Bill Ireland
Pastor
Bireland.nrf@gmail.com

MORNING WORSHIP
11:00 a.m.

Tracy Crouch Hubbs
Pianist

Ashley Goins
Administrative Assistant

Dave Hughes
Custodian

OFFICE E-MAIL
norrisrf
@comcast.net

WEBSITE
www.norrisrf.org

WATCH ONLINE
www.youtube.com/norrisrf

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday & Thursday
9-3

MEMBER of the
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF
COMMUNITY CHURCHES

IF YOU, OR A FAMILY YOU KNOW, NEED HELP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AND RESIDE IN THE NORRIS MIDDLE SCHOOL ZONE, ATTEND THE:

Good Neighbors Christmas Food and Children's Gifts Sign-up

Saturday, October 23, 9 to 11 am

**St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 3425 Andersonville Highway
(Highway 61)**

This Registration is Only for Qualified Families Who Have Not Already Registered by Mail.

(This is a Drive-Up Registration; Please Remain in Your Vehicle)

Please bring proof of qualifications and the following pre-written information:

- A. Proof, such as a utility bill, showing you reside within the Norris Middle School zone.
- B. Proof of household income or other evidence you qualify to receive some form of public assistance.
- C. Written on a piece of paper: 1) Your Name, 2) Address where you live, 3) Address where you get your mail, 3), Names and ages of all persons in the household, and 4) Your phone number or some way to contact you.
- D. PLUS, to request children's gifts (toys and clothes): For each child 18 years of age and younger, residing in your home, and in school if old enough, also on a written sheet, provide the following information:
 - Complete Name, --Gender, --Date of Birth, --Age, --School (if school aged), --Shirt, Pant, and Shoe Sizes, and --Christmas Gift Requests (be aware that Good Neighbors may not be financially able to fulfill all gift requests).

If necessary for additional information, contact the Norris Religious Fellowship, 865-494-7131

[Good Neighbors is an association comprised essentially of representatives from Norris area churches and others, which has been providing assistance to families in need from the Norris area since 1934. Funds for food and gifts come from donations by churches, organizations, and individuals. If you would like to donate please contact the Norris Religious Fellowship. Anyone interested in adopting an Angel to provide gifts for deserving children is asked to leave a message at 865-494-0372; your call will be returned.]

INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2021 GOOD NEIGHBORS FOOD AND CHILDREN'S GIFTS PROJECT

From Bob Gregory, Good Neighbors Food Coordinator

- There will be the annual Good Neighbors Christmas Food Basket and Children's Toys and Gifts (Angel Tree) Project again this year as we have had for many decades past.
- As was done last year, we plan to minimize contact and participant's exposure:
 - We will contact previous clients by mail. And we will handle as much registration of new clients as possible by mail, email, phone, and a drive-through registration.
 - The distribution of food and children's gifts will be via drive through.
 - The school food drive will be held as usual subject to the schools' participation.
 - Activities such as collecting food, sorting, and packing will be done following mask and vaccination guidelines.
- Ashley Goins, NRF Administrative Assistant, has a very important role in this year's project as the central point for collecting information, fielding phone calls, answering questions, and handling requests.

Schedule:

- a. Saturday, October 23 Drive up registration from 9 to 11 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
- b. *Starting November 19 put out Angel Trees (Judy Curtin and Linda Rauch, Coordinators).*
- c. November 30 start School Food Drive involving four local schools.
- d. Thursday, December 9 from about 10 am onward: unload, and store food from Second Harvest in NRF, Fellowship Hall (FH).
- e. Friday, December 10, from about 10 am onward: collect, unload, and store food from Archers in NRF, FH.
- f. Friday, December 10 about 1 pm onward: collect, unload, and store food drive crates in NRF, FH, and prep for sorting.
- g. Saturday, December 11 from about 7 am onward (should be over by 1 pm): Sort donated food, NRF, FH.
- h. Sunday, December 12 from about 3 pm until 8: Prep for filling boxes, NRF, FH. *Angel Tree gifts must be returned to the church no later than noon today.*
- i. Monday, December 13 from about 7 am onward (should be over by 1 pm): Fill food boxes, NRF, FH.
- j. Tuesday, December 14 from about 7 am onward (should be over by 3 pm): Distribute food boxes in drive through fashion, NRF. (Toys and gifts will be distributed at St. Joseph's.)

Help is needed from Fellowship members for tasks d. through k. Also, a volunteer is needed to assist the food coordinator. If interested, tell Bob Gregory or call 865-548-1705 and leave a message.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawl ministry will meet on Thursday, October 28 at 2 pm in the fellowship hall. Please note the change of time through the winter months.

Bible Study

Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays at 7pm in the fellowship hall.

Study Group

Women's study group will meet Tuesday, October 19 at 2 pm in the library. Please note change of date and time. We will meet in the afternoons through the winter months. We will discuss Abigail (1 Samuel 25:1-39).

Supper Club

Supper Club will gather on Tuesday, October 12 at 6:30 pm at Deans Restaurant on Jackson Square in Oak Ridge. Let Susan Miller know if you would like to go so a reservation can be made. There are some who like to be part of this group who no longer drive at night. If you are driving and have room in your car please offer offer a ride.

Breakfast Club

“Join the informal men's and women's breakfast at 9 am at the Golden Girls Restaurant the first Sunday of each month. We order from the menu. There is no agenda; we just meet to enjoy each other's company. The next breakfast is Sunday, November 7th.

The Norris Religious Fellowship is kicking off our
Soup-Supper season with a fabulous

Low Country Shrimp Boil



With potatoes, corn on the cob and savory beef
kielbasa.

Sides are lemon poppy-seed slaw, bread, and
desert.

Wednesday, October 15 at 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Call the church office 865-494-7131 to reserve your
dinner.

The cost is only \$10.00, and will be drive-through
pick up.



Supper
Club

Asian Café

August
2021



Supper
Club

Calhouns

September
2021

FOOD PANTRY

September Food Pantry Stats

169 Families Served
169 Families received USDA food

Families: 169
People: 456
Children: 119
Seniors: 127

FOOD PANTRY

Next Food Pantry,
Thursday, 10/28
Drive-Thru Only
8am-2pm

September Donation Focus:
Liquid Dish Soap

CLOTHING CLOSET

Now open on Tuesday's
By appointment only
10am-12pm
1 person per
family can shop
Face mask is required
*Call 865-494-9407 to schedule
an appointment*

Clothing Closet Donation Focus

The Norris Area Clothing Closet has requested fall and winter clothing for men, women, and children (specifically coats and shoes, and men's jeans in size 34 waist and smaller for teen boys). Remember, they are also collecting blankets and comforters (all sizes). Due to limited space, please limit donations to only requested items.

Dollar Sunday

We will have another Dollar Sunday on October 10. This month's offering will go to the Free Medical Clinic of Oak Ridge. This organization offers free primary health services to low income and uninsured people in Anderson, Morgan and Roane Counties. It is operated primarily with volunteer professional and other services. Every \$25 donated gives \$125 in value of care. The clinic was begun in 2009 using volunteer medical and non-medical services. Now there are 3 locations- Oak Ridge, Harriman, and Briceville. Please be generous!

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes September 2, 2021

The members attending were Jocelyn Borgers : chair, Dr. Bill Ireland : minister, Emily Ott, Mary Shelton, Tracy Crouch-Hubbs : secretary, and Fellowship member Lee Borgers.

The August Minutes were approved.

- Finance Report: Susan Gawarecki turned in the treasurer books and financial data to the church office and it was delivered to our new accountant, Stacy Hauser of Hauser Accounting. Joan Hughs is the point of contact for Stacy.
- Susan Miller reported to Bill that we collected \$77.00 for The Blossom Center during the August 29 Worship Service.
- Soup Supper is planned for Wednesday September 15. On the menu is a shrimp low country boil which includes potatoes, corn on the cob, savory smoked beef kielbasa, and sides will be lemon poppy seed slaw, bread and desert. The cost will be \$15.00. Tracy and Joan are co-chairs.
- Emily will cancel the security service for the church with ADT and will look into getting fire insurance.
- Minister's
- Report: Bill is moving on with the vision for our church, From Today to Tomorrow, beginning Sunday September 26. Bob Gregory's request for Good Neighbors is on the church calendar. We are still searching for an organist.
- Other Business: Regarding having our annual events of the Bazaar and Thanksgiving Dinner in November, the EC decided to wait on making a decision because of the Covid situation.
- Louna Koeut is going to download new software, which is free for 30 days, to update the computer for live viewing of our church worship services. If the software is successful, it will be purchased thanks to money given from church members.

The next EC meeting is set for Thursday October 7, 2021 at 7pm.

Prayer Requests

*The family of Ryker Jenkins
Lisa Rains (Serious lung issues)
Charlie & Pat Duncan
Lib Morgan's
grandson Jackson
JR Johnson
Steve Johnson
Michelle Queener
Howard Helton
Leon Price
Lloyd Farrar
Doug Bean*

***Join
us in
Prayer***

Let's pray for each other.

A simple way to do this is
through our
Birthday Calendar.

October Birthdays

4 Baylan Haverkamp
7 Rachel Bakaletz
10 Jenny Beeman
10 Fern Haverkamp
14 Jane Stribling
14 Bud Blackwell
21 Sarah Petty
17 Joe Deatherage
25 Opal Haverkamp
30 Lucas Hietala

Today I pray for you
a heart free of sadness,
a mind free of worries,
a life full of gladness,
a body free of illness
& a day full of God's blessings.