

April 2017 Innovator

News

9:15 Traditional Worship

9:15 Sunday School

10:10 Refreshments and Fellowship in the Hall

10:45 Christ Connection Praise Worship



Sunday, April 16 ~ Easter

9:15am Traditional Service & 10:45am Contemporary Service



Sunday, April 9 ~ Palm Sunday

9:15am Traditional Service & 10:45am Contemporary Service

Thursday, April 14 ~ Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae Service with Communion

6:00pm Supper & 6:45pm Worship



Easter Party
April 9th
9:15am—10:15am

All children up through the 7th grade are invited to our Annual Easter Party. Join us for games, crafts, and surprises! Everyone is invited!

WORK CAMP
GERTENS SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER

Help support our youth who are attending workcamp this summer by purchasing your spring plants from us. You can choose between hanging baskets, patio containers, annuals, vines, and grasses as well as flats of sunny and shady plants. If you're looking for a plant that is not listed on our order form, you can buy a plant card that will give us 15% on every plant card purchase at the Inver Grove Heights Store. The last day to place orders is **April 9th**. Delivery will be May 21st.



If you are a parent of a child under the age of 5, we invite you to enjoy a Parents' Night Out on April 5th. You can feel comfortable knowing that your children are being watched by your church family as you enjoy an evening of adult time. Parents' Night Out will be held from 5:30pm – 7:00pm in Room 21. This will be last Parents' Night Out until the fall.



Do you remember the campfires, skits, games, fun and adventures of camp? Why not share your love of camp with the campers of today by sending a child, grandchild, or neighbor to camp? For more information please visit www.clearwaterforest.org or call 218-678-2325.

Financial Assistance for Clearwater

The endowment committee and/ or a few members of our congregation are eager to offer financial assistance to any member in need so they can attend camp. They are glad to invest in the blessings that abound from the camp experience. Talk to Pastor James or Cathy Hickman of the Endowment Committee if your child wants to attend camp but you are short on the funds for the camp



Each month we will be featuring the Statements of Faith of our confirmands.

By Zach Carlson

I believe that God was behind creation of the universe. There is no evidence of how the universe was created, but I believe the Big Bang Theory. Some say God contradicts science, but I believe God made the Big Bang happen. The bible talks about creating things in his own image, which is why Earth's features are so amazing.

I believe that Jesus Christ was the son of God and who was fully human and fully God. He had traits of both, like how he could heal people yet he still cried in time of sorrow. He was a cross between God and God's people. This way, he could reach the people of the world.

I believe a sin is basically a bad deed you do. I also believe some sins are worse than others. To kill someone is much worse than to take something from a store. Even though we sin so much, God forgives us as long as we try to not do it again and become a better person. As long as you try to be better going forward. I sin and make mistakes, but I always try to be better.

Jesus was God's gift to us, who showed us the right way to live and who forgives our sins. No matter how hard I try I will always make mistakes, but Jesus will forgive me as long as I try to be a better person. He shows us grace every time we sin. Knowing this, I am inspired to be a better person every day.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is the sustainer. The Holy Spirit has touched everyone's life. It acts as a bridge between God and people. Sometimes when you just feel like you're surrounded by love, that's the Holy Spirit bringing God's love down to you. Without the Holy Spirit, you may feel disconnected from God or that God doesn't exist, but the Holy Spirit will connect you with God.

I believe the church is a group of saints who celebrate God's love. The church's mission is to bring people together to do this. The church is about more than worshipping God. The saints of the church do great things for each other and the world.

I believe that baptism is a rebirth when you become a Christian. To be baptized, you just have to accept God, you don't need a ceremony. Babies who die shortly after birth still get to go to heaven. Also, I believe the Lord's Supper is very important. After all, Jesus sacrificed himself for us. That's why the two sacraments are so important to me and the church.

To live life as a disciple of Christ, I will spread God's love throughout the world and apply my knowledge of God to problems I encounter. I can spread God's love by loving others and being kind to all people. Living this way is ideal. Though I will try, I will fall short, but God will lead me to be better and make better choices. That's what being a Christian is all about.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Endowment Funds for North Presbyterian Church continue to grow, while providing funds each year for important missions and aspects of church life beyond what would usually be covered by the operating budget.

Currently, the total of all the endowment funds is \$553,832.59. The General Fund (unrestricted) holds \$417,019.35, and the total in restricted funds is \$136,813.24. These funds include The Corwin Music Fund (\$39,219.41), The Leisman Mission fund (\$9,494.34), and The Hoklas Estate fund (\$88,099.49).

In the past year, proceeds from these funds have provided camper-ships to Clearwater Forest, music for the choir, hymnbooks, have helped pay costs for our large Youth Triennium delegation, and covered the cost of the new projector system in Meisenheimer Hall.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund help ensure financial support for the mission of our church long into the future. While most gifts are from bequests and memorials, donations directly to the Endowment Fund are appropriate and welcome anytime. Please consider a gift to the Endowment Fund as a way to honor someone at a special time such as a birthday, anniversary or graduation.



ALUMNI CHOIR SUNDAY

If you have ever sung in a choir - at North Church, at another church, in high school or college or in a community choir - you are invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir for Alumni Choir Sunday.

On Wednesday evening, April 26, we will meet for rehearsal from 7 – 8:30 p.m. On Sunday, April 30 we will meet at 8:30 a.m. to warm up and prepare for the 9:15 a.m. service. At both the rehearsal and the Sunday service, we will sing from the front pews of the Sanctuary. So, no need to climb stairs, wear robes or move to the chancel steps. We'll just stand and turn around to face the congregation from our pews/seats. For those who find standing difficult, we will have chairs available to sit in the center aisle when it comes time to sing the anthem.

If you have questions or to RSVP, please contact Mary Livingston at 651-331-1089 or livingstonmusic@q.com.



NORTH CHURCH IS HIRING A MISSION COORDINATOR

This position is 40 hours per month
(The 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays and 1st Thursday of each
month are required, other hours are flexible.)

****Applicant cannot be a member of North Church****

Some of the responsibilities include:

- Promotes, Coordinates, & Celebrates “Hands-On Mission” Sundays
- Considers with the Faith Commission mission grant requests from members
- Communicate via newsletter, email blast, Facebook, The City, worship bulletin and worship slides about Hands-On Mission
- Explore Hands-On Mission with other churches and El Shadai New Hope Ministries. (A Latino church who worships at North Church)
- Coordinate a variety of missions to fuel excitement and appeal to all ages.
- Help us reach our goal of 10% growth in participants at 6 months and 20% at 12 months
- Reviews mission grant requests from members, presents them to the Faith Commission and discusses whether to approve or not and the dollar amount.

Please contact the church office with any questions or to get a full ministry description. We will only be considering applicants who are not members of North Presbyterian Church. If you know of someone interested in the position, please have them email their resume to the church office at north@northchurch-mn.org. The position will be filled as soon as we get a qualified applicant.



PW CLOTHING DRIVE

P.W. SPRING/SUMMER 2017 DRIVE March 26th – April 2nd

Bring in your clean, gently-used spring and summer clothing as well as newer, gently-used bedding and towels. Items will be packed up on April 3rd and taken to Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church Clothing Center in St. Paul. The Clothing Center was started over 30 years ago and has served the community well. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Nowak at 651-756-7887.



P.W. NEWS

by Pat McKisson, P.W. Moderator

As the Chairperson of the Justice & Peace Committee for the P.W. of our Presbytery, I try to find the issues that are important to promoting justice and peace through the work of women. The following are J&P issues which have been targeted for 2017 to:

'WORK FOR JUSTICE'

READ TO CHILDREN, LEARN TO BE AN ALLY, LEARN TO BE AN ADVOCATE.

Together in Action for Children's Literacy is May 1–7, 2017. PW urges action around children's literacy during this week. Try one of these:

- Community Story Hour (host it at your church and read aloud to children of the community; may be a onetime event or ongoing).
- Roving Readers (form a group of volunteers who go to community centers, hospitals and other sites to read aloud to children).
- Community book drive (for children who don't have books at home)
- Lending library for families; emphasis on books with positive messages and empowering stories.
- Gifts to PW's Thank and Birthday Offerings, which frequently give grants to education programs.
- Volunteer at a local library (help for a day, or on a regular basis).
- Contact schools; volunteer to help children who are falling behind.
- Supply nutritious snacks at story hours, cushy chairs, warm hugs— things hungry children need.
- Donate books to hospitals, schools, community centers and more.
- Find links to resources at presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED IN A CLIMATE OF BIGOTRY, RACIALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE, FEAR AND HATEFUL RHETHORIC.

Here's what you can do:

- Attend Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C., April 21–24, 2017. The theme is "Confronting Chaos, Forging Community— Racism, Militarism, and Materialism." Find links to register for the PC(USA)'s CPJ Training Day and EAD at www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington/advocacy-training-weekend/.
- Read and discuss books and articles about racial dynamics, white privilege and dismantling racism in the U.S. (Many members of the PC(USA) staff are currently reading *Waking Up White*.)
- Learn about opportunities to do something concrete (how to speak at a city council or school board meeting, how to talk with police officers, how best to support Black Lives Matter initiatives, and so forth).
- Hold the faith community accountable to the conversations that need to happen and the work that needs to get done (because part of privilege is being able to choose to think about other things).
- Be an active bystander. Don't just stand there. Do something. Respond helpfully and nonviolently when witnessing hate speech, harassment or other injustice.

EVENTS COMING UP IN 2017:

March 26 – April 2: Clothing Drive

April 22: Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, MN. Come join the women of our Presbytery for a day of fellowship and learning. Women from all around our Presbytery, Rochester to Albert Lea, Red Wing to Long Lake, Stillwater to North Minneapolis, come together to renew old friendships, to form new ones and to learn about various missions and topics that are relevant to today. The Keynote speaker for the upcoming gathering is Carolyn Klaver, RN, Community Dementia Care Specialist from Lyngblomsten Services who will speak on the issue of a “Healthy Brain” and the Gathering run by Lyngblomsten, which is a respite program for caregivers of people with cognitive issues. North supports this organization through mission dollars and many volunteers from our congregation.

May 7: Mother’s Day Bake Sale to benefit Healthy Women/Healthy Children

May 20: P.W. Spring Brunch and Birthday Offering Celebration

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

FAITH COMMISSION

By Pat McKisson

Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church Clothing Center

“Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” Luke 3:11

www.dapc.org

This month we highlight one of our long-time missions, our clothing drives, which supports one of the ministries of the Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. Over the past years, North Church has been able to share gently used clothes and other household items to support their Clothing Center. In 2016 alone, your contributions weighed in at 601 pounds. Just think how these generous gifts helped those who couldn’t afford clothing for themselves and their families.

Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church Clothing Center was started over 30 years ago and has served the community well. Their goal is to provide quality used clothing to all who need it without restriction. Donations come from members, neighbors and churches from as far away as Farmington. The Farmington church hand sews quilts and other winter items every year.

Donations are accepted year-round during Church hours or when the Center is open.

Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church’s Clothing Center serves all people. People come from all over the city, as many as 50 families on a typical Saturday. The Center is open the first and third Saturday of the month except in the summer, from 9am to 11:45am.

A volunteer staff composed of DAPC, the neighborhood and House of Hope Presbyterian Church provide all needed services.

The congregation at Dayton Avenue has a passion for social justice and faith-based action. In addition to running the Clothing Center, they support social justice programs of all varieties and reach out to their community and those in need. They strive to nurture their faith in God, support each other spiritually, and put their gifts to work in their community. These are their missions!



The North Church Youth Group would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped to make the “Night at the Oscars” a success. Thank you to all who attended and for all who volunteered. With your help, we raised \$2043 for the Workcamp trip this summer. We look forward to seeing you all at the Oscars again next year! ~ North Church Youth Group

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our work in Niger. We are fortunate to have such good partners both in Niger and her in the United States. It is with these partnerships that we are able to transform the lives of so many children in Niger through education. On behalf of those children and their parents, teachers, and communities, thank you. ~ Kara VanderKamp, Remember Niger Coalition

Thank you for donating 20 pounds of food items to the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf. We appreciate the many wonderful donors, such as you, who support the work of our food shelf. God bless you. ~Linda and Dave Zick, North St. Paul Area Food Shelf

Thank you for your support of \$250.00, as we organize faith leaders to implement solutions to end homelessness. ~ Sue Watlov Phillips, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAH)

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of April is Kathy Carlson, 651-334-8031.



Samuel Atu-Tetuh	April 2	Matthew Marah	April 15
Katie Lewandowski	April 2	Randy Smith	April 15
Walton Yates	April 2	Leslie York	April 16
Deanna Dick	April 3	Abby Kristensen	April 19
Daniel Oji	April 6	Esther Dumenya	April 19
Kathie Johansen	April 6	Afi Dumenya	April 19
Casey Carlson	April 9	Mary Japs	April 20
Wayne Leisman	April 9	Jasmine Kalle	April 22
Courtney Colton	April 9	Charlotte Hess	April 23
Maddie Roth	April 10	Samuel Lindenfelser	April 24
Ariana Hill	April 10	Jenny Hanna	April 26
Sam Hickman	April 11	Ben Morrisette	April 27
Sydney Willar	April 11	James Nowak	April 28
Tyler Carlson	April 12	Jim Holle	April 29
Marie Goebel	April 14	Madelyn Stahnke	April 30



Saturday, April 1

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, April 2

9:15am Sunday School
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:30am Kerygma
 10:45am Praise Worship
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, April 3

9:00am Clothing Drive Pack-Up
 9:30am PW Coordinating Team
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 4

9:00am Comforters
 12:00pm RPR
 7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, April 5

10:00am Choral Bells
 5:30pm Parents' Night Out
 5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
 6:00pm Children's Fellowship
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:00pm Youth Band
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, April 6

6:00pm El Shadai
 6:30pm Faith Commission
 6:30pm Music Sense Garage Band
 7:00pm Deacons
 7:00pm Life, Stewardship & Nurture

Friday, April 7

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, April 8

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, April 9 ~ Palm Sunday

9:15am Easter Party
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:20am Nominating Committee
 10:30am Kerygma
 10:45am Praise Worship
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, April 10

8:00am ARM Breakfast
 9:30am Ruth Circle
 1:00pm Rachel Circle
 7:00pm Personnel
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 11

9:00am Comforters
 12:00pm RPR
 6:30pm Girl Scouts
 7:00pm Northern Bells
 7:00pm WOW

Wednesday, April 12

10:00am Choral Bells
 6:00pm Wednesday Women
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, April 13 ~ Maundy Thursday

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting
 6:00pm El Shadai
 6:00pm Maundy Thursday Meal
 6:30pm Cub Scouts
 6:30pm Music Sense Garage Band
 6:45pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 14 ~ Good Friday

7:30am Carol Mathey's Training
 7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, April 15

9:30am El Shadai
 2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, April 16 ~ Easter

9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:45am Praise Worship
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, April 17

3:00pm Guild Meeting
 6:00pm Quilt Guild
 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 18

9:00am Comforters
 12:00pm RPR
 7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, April 19

10:00am Choral Bells
 5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
 6:00pm Children's Fellowship
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:00pm Youth Band
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, April 20

6:00pm El Shadai

Friday, April 21

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, April 22

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, April 23

9:15am Sunday School
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:45am Praise Worship
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, April 24**Innovator Articles Due**

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, April 25

9:00am Comforters
 7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, April 26

10:00am Choral Bells
 5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
 6:00pm Children's Fellowship
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:00pm Youth Band
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, April 27

6:00pm El Shadai

7:00pm Session Meeting

Friday, April 28

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, April 29

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, April 30

9:15am Sunday School
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:20am Meditation with Mary
 10:45am Praise Worship
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership
 1:30pm El Shadai