

August 2017 Innovator



9:30am Worship in the Air-Conditioned Hall

Summer Office Hours will be 9am – 12pm on Mondays and 9am – 2:30pm Tuesday through Thursday until September 4.

~Beginning September 10~

9:15 Traditional Worship & Sunday School

10:15 Refreshments and Fellowship in the Hall

10:45 Christ Connection Praise Worship

The Wednesday Discipleship Program resumes October 4.



HANDS-ON MISSION SUNDAYS

In July, we were able to make around 250 birthday cards for caseworkers to hand out to their clients at Our Savior's. This ministry provides temporary housing while helping people get permanent housing and the caseworkers stay with the clients, visiting them on their birthdays and other times throughout a year. They help 500 people a year, and you helped to make them cards to celebrate their lives. Thank you for your participation!

In August, our offsite project will be with The Dwelling Place. This is a Christian ministry that provides housing and help to victims of domestic violence for 12-18 months. We are looking to have no more than 20 participants, and the minimum age to participate is 15 years old. You must sign up to participate. We will be doing landscaping work (weather permitting) and remodeling on their property. Volunteers should plan to bring shovels, work gloves, and gardening tools. We will carpool to the properties located in Fridley. Lunch will be provided. We hope that you will plan to participate in this amazing opportunity.

Our onsite work will be with The Sandwich Project. We will be making 300 sandwiches for them! We need your help!

If you have any questions or suggestions about Hands-On Mission Sundays, please contact our Missions Coordinator, Lisa Diez at [651-808-4226](tel:651-808-4226) or diezlisa@gmail.com.

Our Sunday school classes for children (preschool – 7th Grade) will begin on September 10th, and we need teachers! We hope to have at least two teachers for each class, so volunteers can rotate throughout the year. If you are interested in teaching a Sunday school class, please contact Renee Kristensen at north@northchurch-mn.org or sign up on the bulletin board located in the entryway.



Do you have a student who will be attending college this year?

The Deacons like to stay in touch with all the college students throughout the coming year. If you have a new student or a returning student, please give their name and address to the Church Office so we can up-date our list.

We are having a fundraiser for the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf on August 13th. It would be great if we could get a variety of bakery items to have available for the free-will offering which will benefit the Food Shelf. Will you volunteer to bake cookies, bars, mini-breads, cakes or other goodies for this cause? For each dollar donated, we will help the Food Shelf to purchase almost \$10 worth of food from Second Harvest or The Food Group. If you would like to donate a baked item or two, please sign up in the Gathering Space. All donated items should be put on paper plates or in containers that you don't want returned and covered with a clear wrap. Please be sure to label your items stating what they are, whether they contain nuts, and if they are gluten-free.



TECH BOOTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to help in the tech booth 1-2 Sundays a month. No experience necessary. Please contact our technology coordinators if you are interested at socialmedia@northchurch-mn.org.

NORTH AREA CHURCHES RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

August 9th, 1-7pm
Church of St. Peter



If you would like an appointment or wish to be on the walk-in list, contact Kathleen at 651-271-9342 or at www.redcrossblood.org. If you do not wish to schedule an appointment, you can just show up. WALK-INS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! NOTE: 16 year olds are allowed to donate but need a permission form signed by their parent or guardian. You can contact me to obtain a form. THANKS for considering this mission opportunity.



Nothin' better than a hot cup of coffee and a yummy donut while sharing some fellowship with your church friends! As a hospitality volunteer, you will work 3 hours (9-noon) on your scheduled Sunday. The more teams we have, the less often you are scheduled. Eight teams of two people means about every two months you would set up, serve and clean up – and taking the offering during the Christ Connection service is a part of this job, too. Please consider whether you and a friend or another family member could sign up to help with this important job at North Church. Please see Leslie Etter from the Life Commission on Sundays to get more information or sign-up in the entryway. You can also call Leslie at 651-271-1120 to get more information. Thank you!

SCHOOL TOOLS DRIVE

School Tools is a school supplies drive for children from low-income and homeless families. This drive is an easy way to join together with area faith communities and organizations to help children in our community who are affected by poverty. Supplies needed include: backpacks, 3-ring binders, calculators, facial tissues, spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, pencils, pens, markers, folders, school boxes, erasers, highlighters, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, rulers, glue sticks & bottles, loose-leaf paper, scissors, crayons, and USB flash drives. Items can be put in the collection box in the Narthex/Gathering Space until August 13th.



Do you like to sing? Join choir members and others who enjoy singing when we provide music for three services this summer. The Summertime Singers will be singing on August 27. We'll rehearse starting at 8:45am on that Sunday. Please join us! For more information, contact Mary Livingston at marylivingstonmusic@gmail.com or 651-331-1089.



RETREAT? STAND FIRM? ADVANCE?

Which are you likely to do? Why not all three? **RETREAT** to a comfortable space, **STAND FIRM** in your faith and ability to enhance worship through music and **ADVANCE** your musical skills and fellowship. All choir members, as well as others age 16+ who would like a no-commitment opportunity to sing with the choir, are invited to attend. The event will be held on Saturday, August 26th, 9 a.m. - Noon at North Church. It will include musical warm-ups, discovery of new ways to improve your singing voice, reading both familiar and new music, and a potluck brunch. In addition, we will work on the anthem that the Summertime Singers will sing at the August 27th church service. Anyone may sing with the Summertime Singers - just arrive at church on Sunday morning at 8:45 for a short rehearsal before the service begins. To RSVP or to find out more about the Retreat/Advance event on August 26th, please contact Mary Livingston at marylivingstonmusic@gmail.com or 651-331-1089.



Thank you for your donation of 27 pounds of food and personal items in June to the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf. Our donations during the summer really slow down so your gift really came at an excellent time for the families we serve. Thank you again and may God bless you. ~ Dave and Linda Zick, North St. Paul Area Food Shelf

Over fifty children enjoyed a fun-filled week at our *Maker Fun Factory* VBS. We had tremendous support from the congregation with 23 members volunteering at least one night during the week. We also received cash donations and the majority of our snack/dinner supplies from our very generous church members. These gifts are greatly appreciated and help offset our costs. Thank you to everyone for your support! ~ The Nurture Commission

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of August is Ed Jones, 651-275-3700.



PW NEWS

By Pat McKisson

Join North's Women for the **2017—2018 Horizons Bible Study** starting in September.

CLOUD OF WITNESSES: The Community of Christ in Hebrews.

By Melissa Bane Sevier

In nine lessons, Melissa Bane Sevier invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community. The community for which the letter, or homily, was written interacts, in a sense, with all communities of which we are apart, as we bring these groups with us wherever we go. This ever-present “great cloud of witnesses” (Heb. 12:1) strengthens and encourages us as we “run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith” (Heb. 12:1b-2).

Melissa Bane Sevier is a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) who, after more than 23 years as a pastor, chose to focus on her longtime ministry of writing and photography. She lives in Versailles, Kentucky, with her husband, Jerry.

Make plans to attend the ***P.W. Kick-Off Brunch*** on ***September 9.***

The event will start at 9:30am with coffee and conversation. Brunch will be served at 10:00am. The first lesson will be shared and a short worship service will end the event at noon. Please see the sign-up table in the Gathering Area. Everyone is welcome, so invite your friends.

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
Invite you to the



Fall Gathering



‘INTERFAITH OUTREACH: Understanding our Muslim Neighbors’

Saturday, October 7, 2017

9:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Registration, coffee and fellowship start at 9:00 a.m.

Will be held at the Presbyterian Church of the Apostles

701 East 130th Ave, Burnsville, MN

Keynote Speaker will be Sadia Tarannum, who is the Interfaith Outreach and Community Building Director at the Northwest Islamic Community Center in Plymouth. Registration Deadline is **September 13**. All registration forms and money must be given to Beryle Zimanski by that date.

MISSION MATTERS

By Pat McKisson



September 3 through-October 1, 2017

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.” —Ephesians 2:14-17.

The letter to the Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a peace that is universal. While the earthly ministry of Jesus was in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography. As followers of Christ, our call to witness/work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. It is a demanding call, but one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow.

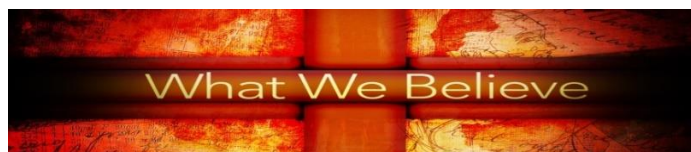
The Peace and Global Witness Offering exists to support the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church. For generations, and to the ends of the earth, Presbyterians have borne witness to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Our witness has been profound in our own communities and in places we ourselves have never been, around the corner and around the world.

The Offering is as much about our local congregation living out a commitment to peacemaking as it is proclaiming Christ’s peace. The distribution of the Offering is:

- 25% stays in our congregation.
- 25% is retained by our mid council, enabling us the freedom to provide support where we feel it is needed the most.
- The other 50% goes to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for funding of the Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations.

The Offering sustains our witness in many forms and, as you can see, at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), but all are bound together in Christ. Together they are a living proclamation of the peace we know in Christ, who puts an end to hostility and speaks peace to all, near and far.

Please give generously to the Peace and Global Witness Offering on October 1st.



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

By Morgan Langer

I believe we are created in God's image, to love and have joy, but also have free will to do what we want with our life. I believe God created everyone for a divine purpose that only God knows. I have been given a singing voice, meant to praise God and glorify the Lord's name. I also believe God created all things good, heaven and earth. I believe God knows all that has and will happen, and controls all of it, even though God is all good I believe God is capable of creating creatures with free will, meaning they have the capacity for love or hate, natural disasters are not inherently evil just nature taking its course, God may cause a tornado or flood for a greater purpose we could not begin to imagine. I believe God loves everyone, devout Christians and atheists, all creatures on earth, anything God has created, all for a purpose.

I believe in Jesus Christ, who loves me as God does because he is fully God, he lived a fully sinless Life and died so that when I sin a may be forgiven. I believe he is also fully human, he cried, and died and lived a life as a human being with thoughts and fears, but knowing God was always on his side, as I will try to remember as well. Jesus was crucified, a brutal punishment meant to demonstrate his abundant love for everyone and his willingness to die for our eternal life. He was resurrected and ascended to heaven, proving that God is truly Almighty and rules over everything, even death.

I believe that no one is above sin except God, Jesus was the only human being to ever live a sinless life. I believe that temptations are from the devil, but in the end we have the option to betray God or glorify the Lord with our actions, words, and thoughts. In the beginning there was no sin, The Fall was the first sin and ever since humans have been making the same mistakes. God's grace keeps our hearts clean, if we ask for God's help in overcoming sin.

I believe Jesus Christ is a loving piece of our triune God able to understand our struggles as humans, and able to rule over all as a full part of God. His sacrifice on the cross fully wipes clean everyone's slate. Our hearts are made clean by his crucifixion. I believe God's grace is endless and made for all people, of any race, gender, religion or sexuality. I believe God does not discriminate when giving the abundant gift of grace. God's grace is meant to help sinners to start over and strive to serve God to their best ability, I believe this does not mean we can just sin and sin for fun, part of getting God's grace is also believing in his plan for us and following his rules, we strive to meet his high expectations and when we fall short God will pick us back up and lead us in the right direction.

I believe in the Trinity, our Lord is three heavenly bodies in one, this just makes God more relatable and easier to talk to, God has experienced being human, also a nurturing father, and the inspiration within people, their gifts and creativity, inspiring them to write God's word and tell everyone, to shout it to the mountaintops, as the holy Spirit. I believe our God is gracious, and I believe all humans are saved, it wouldn't be loving to send some people to eternal torture.

I believe it is the purpose of the church to spread God's love and to take in all willing believers. To help those in need and to bring joy and grace to a world that desperately needs it. Jesus once said that the church was his body and I believe the church should act as Jesus did with kindness and love.

I believe the sacraments are a visible sign of God's grace, meant to shout to the world that you belong to the Lord. I believe that the water is a symbol of God's ever abundant love, a renewing, bubbling shower of mercy, baptizing not only in water but also in spirit. I believe the Lord's supper is a way to give thanksgiving for God's great gift, God's only son giving his body and blood for our sins, nourishing not only our bodies, but our spirits as well.

I will live my life as a disciple of Jesus Christ, attempting to love my neighbor and my enemy, showing my love of the Lord through my actions, thoughts, attitude, words, and spirit. In donation and singing in praise band, I will assist the church with my own special God given gifts. I will live with passion and love and keep to the path the lord has created for me.

My three basic rules for life are:

- Read the Bible once a day
- Pray when I wake up and before I go to bed
- And to let God's love burn through me so brightly that others can't help but want to know him.

By Mikey Gerhardson

I believe God created the earth and saw that it was all holy and good. I also believe God brought us all in this world for a reason. I feel God brought me in this world for a good purpose and I feel that purpose will be very important.

Jesus Christ, in my eyes, is the Messiah. He is the human version God sent down to earth. I believe Jesus Christ is all holy and fully God. Jesus is fully joyful and fully loving.

I believe that sin is a horrible thing. I believe we all sin. As a Christian, I know that God forgives us for our sins. In my mind, if God forgives us for our sins, I should do the same for others. On the last Deep Freeze Retreat, Pastor James said the word invigorating. At first I didn't know what it meant. So, I looked it up and it said, "making one feel strong, healthy, and full of energy." Then I realized God is invigorating. When God forgives us for our sins, he is being invigorating.

I believe that grace is God's everlasting love, freely given. No matter what I do or what anybody else does, we are forgiven. Jesus saves me from sin. Jesus died for our sin. Jesus lived a sinless life, but still he died on the cross for our sin.

I believe the holy trinity consists of the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. I feel the Holy Spirit runs through everyone. And I feel the word of God consists through the holy spirit

I believe the church is holy and good. I believe the mission of the church is to spread love through the praise of God.

I believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are two very important things of Christianity. I also believe that baptism isn't something that is given; it is something that is done to purify us and welcome us into the Christian faith.



Tuesday, August 1

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, August 2

10:00am Choral Bells
7:00pm Praise Band

Thursday, August 3

6:30pm Faith Commission
6:30pm New Deacon Orientation
7:00pm Deacons
7:00pm Life & Nurture Commissions

Friday, August 4

4:00pm El Shadai Quincearos

Saturday, August 5

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, August 6

8:00am Praise Band
9:30am Worship in the Hall
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, August 7

9:30am PW Coordinating Team

Tuesday, August 8

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm 12-Step Program
7:00pm Endowment Meeting

Wednesday, August 9

10:00am Choral Bells
7:00pm Praise Band

Thursday, August 10

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting
5:30pm Stewardship New Elder
Orientation
6:00pm El Shadai
6:00pm Carol Mathey's CPR Training
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Stewardship Meeting

Saturday, August 12

8:00am El Shadai Wedding

Sunday, August 13

8:00am Praise Band
9:00am Bake Sale
9:30am Worship in the Hall
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, August 14

8:00am ARM Breakfast
7:00pm Personnel

Tuesday, August 15

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, August 16

10:00am Choral Bells
7:00pm Praise Band

Thursday, August 17

6:00pm El Shadai
7:00pm Session

Friday, August 18

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, August 19

9:30am El Shadai
3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, August 20

8:00am Praise Band
9:30am Worship in the Hall
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, August 21

3:00pm Guild Meeting
6:00pm Quilt Guild

Tuesday, August 22

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, August 23

10:00am Choral Bells
7:00pm Praise Band

Thursday, August 24

6:00pm El Shadai

Friday, August 25

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, August 26

8:30am Choir Retreat
3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, August 27

8:00am Praise Band
9:30am Worship in the Hall
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, August 28

Innovator Articles Due

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, August 29

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm 12-Step Program
7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, August 30

10:00am Choral Bells
1:00pm El Shadai/Staff Meeting
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:00pm Praise Band

Thursday, August 31

6:00pm El Shadai



Roseanne Brabender	August 1
Andrew Schneider	August 1
Owen Fager	August 2
Thor Sellie	August 2
Nina Hicks	August 3
Dixie Hatcher	August 4
Norm Purrington	August 5
Jim Warner	August 6
Emily Gerhardson	August 6
Marty Ginn	August 7
Lorraine Whisler	August 8
Eleanor Skoog	August 9
Susan Roskos	August 15
Janet Krumrey	August 15
Catherine Satriano	August 20
Lindsey Purrington	August 20
Karl Brogren	August 21
Becky Hamilton	August 21
Christine Schneider	August 22
Lois Brenner	August 26
Joe House	August 27
Elizabeth Zoya	August 27
Jenny Rangel	August 29
Helen Patrick	August 29
Charlie Wirka	August 29
Leah Fese	August 29
Bob Zimanski	August 30
Sarah Etter	August 31