

July 2016 Innovator

News



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 5.



Our Support to the Hill Family

In June, Kathryn Hill was diagnosed with a rare form of lung cancer and will be receiving treatment at the Mayo Clinic. During this difficult time, the Hill family can use our support in many different ways.

If you would like to provide a meal to the Hill family, please sign-up at www.foodtidings.com. You will need to create an account, then click on “find a schedule” and type in Hill Family Meals. You can select a day that you would like to provide a meal. You can also call the church office, and Renee will sign you up.

If you would like to help Aaron with shopping, yard work, errands, driving, or childcare, please sign-up at <https://my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/kathryn-hill>. You will need to register and request to join the group. It will then ask you what jobs you are interested in doing. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Leslie York at 4TheYorks@gmail.com or (651) 773-6502.

Another way you can help is by donating a gift card (Cub, Target, Visa, etc.) that can be used by those helping with the shopping. Please drop them off at the church office.



Get ready to dive deep to discover God is with us wherever we go! At *Deep Sea Discovery*, kids dive into God's Word to see how God has been with God's people every step of the way. Hands-on service projects and sea science will help kids experience a VBS adventure like no other! So mark July 10-14 from 6 – 8pm on your calendars! The adventure will start this summer at the bottom of the sea, but you can register anytime! Registration forms can be found on the VBS bulletin board in the entryway or in the Narthex. The cost is \$10 per child or \$20 per family.

VBS Volunteers Needed

Please read the following job descriptions and prayerfully consider whether you can volunteer at least one evening during July 10-14. If you have any questions, please contact Renee Kristensen at 651-777-4044 or north@northchurch-mn.org.

Celebration Reef Music and Skit Leader: Co-lead the opening and finale each day through music, laughter, and learning with upbeat worship music, engaging skits, fun large-group challenges, and meaningful mission videos!

E.C.H.O. Sea Sub Game Leader: Lead children in a service project that challenges them to be God's hands and feet in their own community and around the world!

Pelican Pier Snack and Game Leader: Help prepare sea-inspired, tasty, low-prep snacks, and then dive right into super-fun, indoor, outdoor, and science-based activities.

Curiosity Cavern Leader: Explore the mysteries of sea science! Lead children through science experiments and crafts that relate to the daily Bible verse.

S.S. Discovery Bible Story Leader: Lead children as they dive into God's Word to search for Scripture treasures! Hands-on Bible activities and small-group discussions help kids explore God's presence!

Crew Leaders: Participate in fun activities while shepherding a group of 3-5 children.

Tide Pool Playland Director: Lead or co-lead Bible lessons, crafts, snacks, and games with preschool children.

VBS Wish List

Our *Deep Sea Discovery* VBS Wish List is posted in the Narthex/Gathering Space. This board lists supplies that are needed for a successful VBS. If you are able to make a donation, please remove the post-it note and drop off the item in Room 11 by July 3. Please label all perishable items with "VBS" and place them in the refrigerator or freezer. These gifts are greatly appreciated and help offset our costs. Thank you to everyone for your support!

TRIENNium 2016

All youth planning on attending Triennium are asked to participate in Pre-Event Gatherings. Attendance at these events are required; however, they realize that there may be some scheduling conflicts that prevent you from attending every event. Since we have a large number of youth attending, we will make arrangements to share transportation to these events. Please mark the following dates on your calendars.



- Tuesday, July 12 ~ Commissioning of PYT participants followed by a lock-in at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church: 4pm
- Monday, July 18 ~ Depart for Purdue University at 10:00pm.

SHOW BOAT IS A'COMIN' *and it will be the last year to enjoy it!*



August 13th at 2:00pm
"Under the Gaslight"
Tickets are \$18

Thanks to those who have already signed up and paid. Final date for signing up is July 10th, and that's the final date to get your money to either Susanne Meyer or Ed Jones. Please remember if you need to cancel – for a full refund I need to know by August 1st. Please make checks payable to "North Presbyterian Mariners". They can be sent to either Ed or Susanne, or we will be at church July 10th. For those wishing to go to Joseph's for lunch before the play we will be carpooling from church at 11:45am or meeting at Joseph's at 12:30pm. We will be ordering off the menu.

We need volunteers to weed our new flowerbeds. It's a time commitment of every two weeks throughout the remainder of the summer and into the early fall. If we have enough volunteers, each person can have her/his own flowerbed and set his/her own schedule for weeding. If you can help with either of these projects, please contact Billie Novy by phone (651-739-4476) or e-mail (bpnovy@yahoo.com). Thank you for helping us make the outside of our church inviting to all who enter our church.



TIME IN THE SUN

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 July 24 and August 28. We'll rehearse starting at 8:30am on those Sundays. Please join us! For more information, contact Mary Livingston at mary.livingstonmusic@gmail.com or 651-331-1089.



Summertime Singers



Prayer Labyrinth

We invite you to walk our Prayer Labyrinth. It is located on the east lawn of the church, behind the sanctuary. On your journey to the center of the labyrinth, let go. Once in the center, center with God. On your journey out of the labyrinth, allow yourself to feel how to lovingly serve.

BAKE SALE!

Are you a Baker Extraordinaire?

NO, *well don't worry, we still want you.*

We are looking for people who love to bake and share their talents with others.

The Faith Commission and P.W. are having a fundraiser for the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf on August 14, 2016. 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 Area on July 17 for the August 14 date. More information will be available at that time.



Bake Sale



El Shadai is reaching out to the community by providing food for those in need on the last Saturday of each month from 8:00 - 10:45 am. Individuals will be met in the parking lot by an El Shadai host, ushered through the front door to receive fruit, vegetables, cereal, grain, rice and sometimes meat, and then back to their vehicles through the side entrance. El Shadai will pick up the food from a food bank and return the undistributed portions at the end of the morning. No food will be stored at the church. On average, 140 families participate in the program. Anyone from North Church who is in need is invited to participate in the program.

Life Commission has been working on a way to communicate what is happening at North. We are excited to announce that we now have **The City!** The City is a social network designed to help our church stay connected throughout the week. You'll know who to pray for, how to serve, and much more. It's a way to stay plugged in to everything happening in our church groups and ministry teams. Please ask Jeff Sandager, Jim Holle, Anneliese Miller, or Lonnie Rangel for an invite.



We will continually hold training sessions so all those who have questions will get answers. If you can receive email you can use The City. For those that do not use email, we will continue to send out paper versions of the Innovator, bulletin, and any other items that we are able to print.



Gail Zoya has stepped down from her role as Pastoral Caregiver. We thank Gail for her compassionate service to our congregation through homebound visits with communion, her work with the Deacons, her sermons and her service to us during the sabbatical. We wish the best for Gail in future endeavors. Moving forward, Pastor James will assume Gail's responsibilities but we will also rely on our Deacons as well as our congregation to give care and blessings to our church family. The Personnel Committee will re-assess this position later on in the year with the goal of meeting all our congregation's needs. If this is still a position, we want to refill then we will make provisions at that time.

~Jim Holle, Personnel Committee Chair

FAITH COMMISSION - MISSION MATTERS

by Pat McKisson

'IMMIGRATION'

July 3 Immigration Sunday, Lift up ministry and advocacy for new immigrants among us.

Who is an immigrant? According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary: a person who comes to a country to live there. According to U.S. law: an immigrant is an alien who has been granted the right by the USCIS to reside permanently in the United States and to work without restrictions.

When a person enters the U.S. without an entry or immigrant visa (a person who crosses the border by avoiding inspection or who overstays the period of time allowed as a visitor, tourist, or business person) they are considered an illegal alien.

Why do people choose to become illegal aliens? The reasons are varied. Some are trying to escape persecution, some to escape the realities of war and death, some just to find a better life for themselves and their families.

The PC(USA) has been working on the issues of illegal immigrants for many years. In 2001, a resolution team was approved by the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy to draft a resolution responding to a referral from the 213th General Assembly calling for the "full legalization of immigrants in the USA". Here are excerpts from that resolution:

"Persons who are living and working in the U.S. without legal authorization are often referred to as "illegal aliens". Instead, General Assemblies have consistently adopted the term "undocumented workers". This change in working is crucial. These immigrants are persons bearing the image of God, and the vast majorities have come to the U.S. to work. Our language needs to reflect the Christian belief "in the intrinsic worth of each human as a person made in the image of God".

These undocumented workers are responding both to internal conditions in their home countries and to the need in the U.S. for low-wage labor. Immigration experts often call this the push-and-pull factor. It is important to recognize in this analysis that undocumented workers are not "forcing themselves" on a reluctant host society. Their labor is needed and desired by employers and by consumers.

Moreover, what is happening in the U.S. reflects a worldwide movement of huge numbers of people. Some are moving because of well-founded fears of persecution (refugees). Others are moving because they do not have the jobs and life opportunities in their home countries that provide a realistic hope for a better future for themselves and their families. Anxieties and fears have been intensified since September 11, 2001. Newcomers are regarded with greater suspicion. It is important to address these concerns. An important dimension of a Christian response is theological. That is, an obsessive concern with security can never be fully satisfied, and it can inhibit us from receiving the stranger as a neighbor whom we are called to love. Our only true security is to be found in God, not in constructing walls that separate us from others.

As Christians, we seek to respond to the challenges and opportunities of immigration from the perspective of our faith. The biblical witness will not give us specific answers to complex policy questions today but it provides us with authoritative insights about God's will for persons and communities. Here are several of those insights that are especially pertinent to the dynamics of immigration:

- 'What was I before and what am I now': Deut. 10:18-19; Eph. 2:19-20.
- 'Hospitality to the stranger': Lev. 19-34; Deut. 10-18-19; Matt. 25:44-45; Heb. 13:2.
- 'Gifts of the stranger': Acts 10 and 11:1-18; 2 Cor. 1:3-7; Matt. 25:21-28.
- 'Justice as the distribution of power and resources': Matt. 12:1-8; Micah 6:8; Lev. 25:18-19; Amos 5:24.
- 'Peace and security': Matt. 10:39; Isa. 65:17-25; Ps. 118:9.
- 'Peace and reconciliation': 1 Cor. 12; Gen. 1:26-28; Eph. 2:11-18; Acts 17:26-28; Gal. 3:28."

If anyone is interested in the 7-Part series on 'Resolution Calling for a Comprehensive Legalization Program for Immigrants Living and Working in the U.S.', contact the Faith Commission.



by Pat McKisson

BRITTANY'S PLACE UPDATE

On July 1, we will deliver the following items that you so generously donated: 8 summer tops, 4 t-shirts, 4 sweatshirts, 15 pairs of socks, 4 pairs of slippers, 6 hair brushes, 9 combs, 7 packs of hair bands, 2 bottles of shampoo, 9 bottles of body wash, 7 bottles of lotions, 7 toothbrushes, 8 tubes of toothpaste, 2 packs of razors 3 tubes lip glosses, 2 puzzles, 13 pens and 13 journals.

Thank you **everyone** who gave so generously to help these young and vulnerable girls. During the remainder of this year, we will continue to collect donations from the following list to support Brittany's Place girls:

- Notebooks (**not** spiral bound)
- Journals (**not** spiral bound)
- Bath and body products (lotion, body spray, skincare, etc.)
- Hairbrushes, combs, hair elastics, styling products
- Clothing (**NEW, for teen girls**):
- All in-season items in a variety of sizes (we tend to run out of larger sizes quickly)
- Pants (leggings, sweatpants, fleece, etc. are fine – we go through these very quickly)
- Tops (sweatshirts, t-shirts, tank tops, all are fine)
- Socks, Underwear, and Bras – particularly larger sizes

In December, we will be preparing Christmas packages for each girl at Brittany's Place. We hope to have 15 knitted or fleece scarves, 15 knitted or purchased gloves, and 15 knitted or purchased hats. If you can knit or crochet any of these items and would like to help, please let Mary Morrisette or Sharon Nowak know so we can keep track of what we have.

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired,
the elder on call for the month of July is Scott Zoya, 651-748-9784.



My sincere thanks to each of you for your prayers, cards, gifts, visits, love and concern while I was at St. John's Hospital and Boutwells Care Center in May and June. It is so helpful and comforting to feel the support as it surrounds you. The foot's sore has not completely healed, so I'd appreciate your continued prayers for complete healing although I expect to be able to be at home while that takes place. My grateful thanks to all of you. You are wonderful and appreciated. ~ Helen Brink

Thank you to the Amundsen Family, North Church Deacons, Members and Friends who provided much needed assistance during the DeWayne Amundsen memorial luncheon. The Amundsen Family provided much of the food and even root beer, but there was a need for many salads and desserts which the church membership graciously provided. It was a real feast in DeWayne's memory with extra tables needed to display all the food, drink and desserts. Thank you very much for providing the needed food, set-up, serving, and clean-up. The luncheon was a real celebration for DeWayne and I thank you all. I know the Amundsen family was very appreciative. Also a special thank you to James York and Renee Kristensen for their communications and Don Schroeder for always exceeding expectations in assisting with set-up, clean-up and even delivering the root beer. To God's Glory and Grace! For by grace we have been saved through faith! ~ Rod Collins, for the Deacons

Thank you to everyone who supported the youth and their pancake breakfast. Because of your support, we were able to successfully raise over \$850 in support of our 2016 Youth Workcamp! The youth sincerely thank you for helping make this mission trip possible!

Thank you for donating 19 pounds of food items in May to the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf. Right now we are preparing for summer by filling treat bags to distribute to families with children. We want to provide something extra since these children will not be participating in the free lunch program as they do during the school year. Thank you again for your gift and God bless you. ~ Linda and Dave Zick, North St. Paul Area Food Shelf.

The Remember Niger Coalition and its partners would like to thank you for donating Pastor James' time, allowing him to take a sabbatical trip to Niger! Your church's support of RNG is incredible, and we can never thank you enough! ~ Catherine Parler, Sponsorship Coordinator
Remember Niger Coalition



Friday, July 1

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, July 2

9:00am El Shadai Chaplaincy Program

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, July 3

9:30am Worship in the Hall

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, July 4 ~ OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, July 5

9:00am Comforters

12:00pm RPR

Wednesday, July 6

10:00am Choral Bells

Thursday, July 7

6:00pm El Shadai

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Group

7:00pm Life & Stewardship

Friday, July 8

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, July 9

9:00am El Shadai Chaplaincy Program

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, July 10

9:30am Worship in the Hall

1:30pm El Shadai

5:00pm VBS Dinner

6:00pm VBS - Deep Sea Discovery

Monday, July 11

8:00am ARM Breakfast

6-8pm VBS - Deep Sea Discovery

Tuesday, July 12

9:00am Comforters

12:00pm RPR

4:00pm Triennium Commissioning

6-8pm VBS - Deep Sea Discovery

Wednesday, July 13

10:00am Choral Bells

6-8pm VBS - Deep Sea Discovery

Thursday, July 14

6-8pm VBS - Deep Sea Discovery

6:30pm Cub Scouts

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Group

7:00pm Endowment Meeting

Friday, July 15

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, July 16

9:00am El Shadai Chaplaincy Program

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, July 17

9:30am VBS Worship in the Hall

11:30am Picnic with El Shadai

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, July 18

3:00pm Guild Meeting

6:00pm Quilt Guild

7:00pm Personnel

10:00pm Triennium Departure

Tuesday, July 19

9:00am Comforters

12:00pm RPR

Wednesday, July 20

10:00am Choral Bells

Thursday, July 21

6:00pm El Shadai

6:30pm Faith Commission

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Group

Friday, July 22

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, July 23

9:00am El Shadai Chaplaincy Program

2:00pm El Shadai

11:55pm Triennium Return

Sunday, July 24 ~ Communion

9:30am Worship in the Hall

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, July 25

Innovator Articles Due

Tuesday, July 26

9:00am Comforters

12:00pm RPR

Wednesday, July 27

10:00am Choral Bells

5:30pm Workcamp Pack-Up

Thursday, July 28

6:00am Workcamp Departure

6:00pm El Shadai

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Group

Friday, July 29

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, July 30

8:00am El Shadai Food Program

9:00am El Shadai Chaplaincy Program

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, July 31 ~ Pastor Mick Dobbins

9:30am Worship in the Hall

1:30pm El Shadai



JULY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Roderick Oji	July 2
Bill Paddock	July 3
Cassie Javner	July 3
Marlene Ramey	July 4
Sue Holweger	July 4
Jean Peters	July 5
Dick Ferrazzo	July 8
Bruce Matteson	July 8
Beryle Zimanski	July 9
Nick Hicks	July 10
LuJean Swanlund	July 12
Garrett Colton	July 12
Derick Ngu	July 13
Mike Etter	July 14
Rachael Marah	July 15
Paul Hansen	July 17
Ivy Smith	July 17
Lavina Zimmerman	July 18
Mike Gerhardson	July 18
Abigail York	July 19
Juanita Zoya	July 20
Coleen Colton	July 21
Leah Holle	July 21
Karen Lewandowski	July 23
Stephanie Olson	July 23
Sophie Glaser	July 23
J.J. Roth	July 24
Evie Hill	July 24
Joan Ruppel	July 25
Brady Ross	July 25
Ivan Skoog	July 26
Loveline Ndelle	July 28
Darrell Brink	July 29
Paul Nelson	July 29
Christian Sellie	July 29
Mary Livingston	July 29
Oliver Smith	July 30
Zach Carlson	July 31