

November 2016 Innovator

News

9:15 Traditional Worship

9:15 Sunday School

10:10 Refreshments and Fellowship in the Hall

10:45 Christ Connection Praise Worship



Remember to turn your clocks back an hour on November 6

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION!

On Sunday, November 6th, Life Commission will host a breakfast to honor our military Veterans. This breakfast is open to everyone. Please help us honor those who have served in the military, eat a wonderful breakfast, and enjoy a short program. The breakfast starts at 7:45am and is free for veterans and \$9 for non-veterans.



NOVEMBER 13TH UNIQUE WORSHIP

We are honored to be selected to host Twin Cities Area Cameroonian Sunday. There will be two unique services with the same sermon. Our Cameroonian friends hope everyone will join them at the 10:45am service followed by a free lunch.

9:15am Sanctuary: a traditional North service that will be peaceful, brief, and reflective.

10:45am Sanctuary: a festive service with several choirs, an abundance of worshippers, and a longer time of glorifying God. Arrive early if you want to park in the parking lot and be seated in the pew. All are invited!

The Presbyterian Church in Cameroon became a body apart from the Basel Mission in November 13, 1967. This became a symbolic day for Cameroonian Presbyterians. The Cameroonian in the Twin Cities join the church in Cameroon and elsewhere in the world to celebrate.





November 27: First Sunday in Advent

9:15am – Traditional worship in the sanctuary.

10:45am – Praise service in the Hall.

December 4: Second Sunday in Advent

9:15am – Traditional worship in the sanctuary.

10:45am – Our Youth will present an Advent Drama, “Scooby Doo and the Creepy Christmas Caper!”

Celebration of Holy Communion at 9:15am worship.

December 11: Third Sunday in Advent

9:15am – Traditional worship with special music by the Northern Bells.

10:45am – Praise service in the Hall.

December 18: Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:00am – Traditional worship with carols by the Sanctuary Choir.

10:00am – Children’s Christmas Celebration

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

5:00pm ~ Celebration of the Christmas Story, Candlelight Worship, the Sacrament of Holy Communion and special music by the Sanctuary Choir.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10:00am ~ Celebrate the birth of Christ at one service in the Sanctuary.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Kick-off the Holiday Season with your church family at the Hanging of the Greens on Wednesday, November 30th! Bring the whole family! We’ll begin with a meal at 5:30pm followed by crafts for children and the Hanging of the Greens at 6:00pm.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

You are invited to the Christmas Luncheon to be held on Saturday, December 10th at 11:30am. Join us for fellowship, lunch, and singing Christmas music! The cost is \$13 per person. Please sign-up in the Gathering Space or call the church office at 651-777-4044 by December 4th.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD MISSION PROJECT

On November 20th, the congregation will be packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Through this program, children throughout the world receive shoe boxes filled with Christmas presents to remind them that they are loved.

We need inexpensive donations of gifts for boys and girls ages 2 - 14 that are small enough to fit into shoe boxes. Donation will be accepted until November 20th and can be placed in boxes located in the Gathering Space. Some gift ideas are listed below.

TOYS

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

OTHER

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

If you are a parent of a child under the age of 5, we invite you to enjoy a Parents' Night Out on November 2. 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 the first Wednesday of each month in Room 21.



If you would like to be a member of our prayer chain, please contact the church office at 651-777-4044 or north@northchurch-mn.org by November 20th.

Seniors you are invited to bring your lunch and fellowship with Pastor James on Wednesday, November 16th, from Noon to 1:30 in Meisenheimer Hall. You bring the topic. It could be discussing a recent sermon, scripture selection, hopes for the church, current events, God's activity in our life or something else. Pastor James is eager to enjoy fellowship with you.



Presbyterian Women (*and men*) packed and delivered 356 pounds of clothing and bedding to the Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church in St. Paul where people can select what they need at no cost. Thank you to all the people who bought clothes for packing.

Houses For Haiti is hosting its 9th Annual Bowling Tournament and Silent Auction/Raffle at Mattie's Bowl ([365 Concord St., South St. Paul](#)) on Sunday, November 13th. Registration is at 12:00pm, bowling starts at 12:30pm. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 18, which includes 3 games of bowling, shoes, and a chance to win fabulous prizes. We are raising money to build houses for homeless people in Cite Soleil, Haiti, the poorest slum in the Western Hemisphere. If you have any questions, you may contact Diane Albright at (651) 983-7501 or at Dalbright@housesforhaiti.org.



Youth in grades 8-12 are invited to the **Deep Freeze Retreat** held at The Windy Hill Farm House near Fredric, Wisconsin on Martin Luther King Jr.'s Weekend. We will depart from church Friday, January 13 at 5:45 pm return Sunday, January 15 at 1:30 pm. The cost is \$40 which includes five meals, lodging, fun activities, and a devotion book. The retreat will be action packed with crazy games, winter fun, fellowship, worship and Biblical insights. We will be exploring God's amazing grace. Pastor James at pastorjames@northchurch-mn.org or in person. Each youth is welcome to bring one friend. The cost for a friend is \$55.

FAITH COMMISSION - MISSION MATTERS

By Pat McKisson

GRACE AND GRATITUDE

GIVING THANKS - SHARING WITH OTHERS - LOVING OTHERS

Now that the holiday season is almost upon us, our thoughts turn to trying to find that perfect gift. What can I get Uncle John who was a hydrologist and has everything he wants or Great Grandmother Elsa who grew up and lived her life on the farm and knows what an impact even a small patch of vegetables can have on feeding people? Oh what a struggle it is!

As Presbyterians, we are a people rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ. It is our gratitude for God's grace that moves us to join in God's mission in the world, with ministries of love and justice, reconciliation and peace. Through the PCUSA Mission Agency, your gifts can help purchase and distribute animals, the building of wells to provide life-giving clean water to entire communities, and ministries to youth and young adults and so much more here in the U.S. and around the globe.

Have you ever looked at the Presbyterian Giving Catalog? Take a look at it now. It is displayed on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. See what an impact your donations can make: a piglet for \$40; a family of chickens for \$25; a bag of seeds for \$30; farming tools for \$10, rain water catchment system for \$75; winter heating fuel for Syrian refugees for \$60; and so much more. You will be surprised what a gift of \$10, \$20, \$30, \$40, \$50 or more can do in our world. Why not give a gift of hope and honor a special person in your life?

By now you have been able to enjoy our new hymnal, *Glory to God*. In addition, we now have a projection edition that is used for worship services in the Hall. Please consider making a donation to the hymnal fund to support this as well. We have raised about 54% of the funds needed to pay for these new hymnals. We invite members and friends to contribute funds to purchase a hymnal to be designated as:

- In Honor of,
- In Memory of, or
- Presented to North Presbyterian Church

Hymnals are \$20 each. Please look for order forms in the Gathering Space or office.



The Faith Commission would like to form a Banner Committee, to help with the changing displays and maintenance of our worship banners, as well as to bring ideas for any new banners. If you're interested in participating, please contact Kathy Carlson, Inez Kalle, or Garrett Colton.



Christmas is less than two months away. For choirs and other musicians it means preparations begin now! Music makes Christmas even more special for performers and listeners. Singers high-school age and older and instrumentalists with at least 2 years experience on their instrument are invited to join the Sanctuary Choir as we prepare for Advent and Christmas. There is no obligation to continue into the new year.

Singers can join us at rehearsals 7 - 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, November 9 through December 21, with an extra rehearsal on Saturday morning, December 17. The enhanced choir will sing for Advent on November 27, December 4 and December 18 (choral service) plus Christmas Eve.

Instrumentalists, depending on what types of instruments people play, we'll try to put together an ensemble to play either at the Sunday, December 18 choral service or on Christmas Eve. Singers and instrumentalists should contact Mary Livingston at or mary.livingstonmusic@gmail.com or [651-331-1089](tel:651-331-1089) so we can have music ready for you.

North Church is happy to announce the launch of a new out-reach ministry. On October 30, the Therapeutic Music Ministry was introduced to the congregation during each service. Therapeutic music can create a calming, soothing, healing environment for people with long-term or short-term health issues. Some examples of when/where therapeutic music can be beneficial are:



- during recovery from injury or surgery
- for people dealing with pain and/or anxiety
- for people living with chronic illness
- for people with dementia
- during palliative care and hospice
- during dialysis or infusion, and much more

Mary Livingston, North Church's choir director, is also a Certified Music Practitioner. She has been trained and certified through the Music for Healing and Transition Program (MHTP.org). During a one-on-one music session, she will use keyboard, accordion or harp - depending on the individual's needs - to create a healing environment as an enhancement to medical treatment.

The Therapeutic Music Ministry (TMM) will be coordinated by the Deacons. The program is starting as a three-month trial, November 2016 through January 2017, funded through the Deacon's budget. The service is available to members of the North Church congregation. During the trial period the focus will be on individuals of any age who are having health issues and/or are considered home-bound. After the initial trial period, it is anticipated that the TMM will continue with a dedicated budget approved by the Session. There was also an information table in the Narthex. Informative brochures can now be found at the "Welcome Station" near the church entrance.



NEWS

By Pat McKisson

November is the month when the Women of the Presbyterian Church celebrate their gratitude for God's blessings in their lives and the lives of the thousands of people they have touched through service. The Women's Praise Service will be held on November 20th at both services and the Thank Offering will be received.

The Thank Offering has long been a tradition of the Presbyterian Women. It has provided and continues to provide much-needed financial assistance to numerous worthwhile programs not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support. Each year, domestic and international projects are carefully and prayerfully selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee to help meet a crucial need.

The generosity of Presbyterian women and their families and congregations as demonstrated through their Thank Offering gifts help chosen recipients find real solutions for projects related to health, education, economic development, and needs of women and children everywhere.

As I thought about the Praise Service, it came to me that I should daily thank God for all the blessings I have received. At the same time, I remembered a bookmark a member of our church had given me. It described Harriet Tubman and who she was. She is one of many women who have made a difference in our lives.

Harriet Tubman was born in C 1820 as a slave and was sent to work as a nursemaid in 1825. She was only 5 years old! While reviewing her life history, I couldn't think of a better way to celebrate the role women have played in history than to share her story. This is who she was during her 93 years of living: Revolutionary, Scout, Riflewoman, Army "General", Nurse, Civic Reformer, Homeowner, Singer, Wife, Activist, Ashanti Tribeswoman, Storyteller, Liberator, Railsplitter, Orator, Maid, Organizer, Raider, Fieldhand, Strategist, Spy, Woman Suffragist. ~ *"May the stories of our namesake inspire you to create the next chapter in your story". (Information from the Tubman Organization)*

FALL GATHERING UPDATE:

Twenty-four knitted baby hats and 29 hygiene kits were taken to the Gathering on Oct. 15. I would personally like to thank all the women who shopped for the hygiene kit items and helped put them together and Mary Seyforth for her dedication to babies everywhere. You are all an inspiration!

SUNSHINE BAG COLLECTION

Have you been saving your change in your Sunshine Bags? The collection of your 'Sunny Day' contributions will be taken on November 20. Look for the special collection jar in the Gathering Area. If you belong to one of the women's groups you can bring your Sunshine Bags to your meeting in November and have your treasurer receive it and give it to Beryle Zimanski. This special 'offering' goes to benefit the Department of Indian Works at Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul. Your 'change' will go a long way in helping our Native American brothers and sisters who call the Twin Cities home.

Presbyterians have a long history of building great communities through excellent education. There is a fact sheet on school district 622 levy request in the Gathering Space. Please cast an informed, prayerful vote.



Thanks for all the prayers, cards, meals, and kind words during my kidney surgery and recovery. I feel blessed to be a part of the North Church family. ~ Leslie York

Thank you to all the volunteers who donated food and helped with Helen Brink's memorial service. Your help was invaluable! ~ Joan Ruppel

Thank you for your contribution of \$500 and your help in supporting the safe school programming of local schools. You are helping children develop positive skills like empathy, respect, cooperation, and how to resolve conflicts peacefully. Bullying is being stopped and you are helping to create a more peaceful, less violent, world. ~ Dan McNeil, PeaceMaker Minnesota

Thank you for your donation of 64 pounds of food items and \$1000 in September to the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf. We really appreciate donations this time of the year as food items collected during our main drives have really dwindled down. Thank you again and may God bless you. ~ Linda and Dave Zick, North St. Paul Area Food Shelf

Thank you for your support of those most in need in our community. Your gift of school supplies given to Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul is received with gratitude and appreciation. Together we will continue to help families and single women reclaim stability in their lives and move forward toward their goals. ~ Lucy Zanders, Executive Director, Theresa Living Center

Thank you for your generous donation of school supplies to St. Paul Public Schools, Project REACH. We have been partnering with the Interfaith Action School Tools Drive for a number of years and have always been thankful for the assistance. Our families and students who are experiencing homelessness are very appreciative of your support. With much gratitude ~ Project REACH

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of November is Garrett Colton, 651-492-3674.



Glenn Fager	November 2	Paula Hagen	November 17
Carole Javner	November 2	Sydney Tiffany	November 18
Kevin Schneider	November 4	Kathy Richardson	November 18
Heather DeVaughn	November 4	Carolyn Morrisette	November 19
Dick Zoya	November 6	Myra Hamper	November 20
Bob Pleban	November 9	LaVonne Holle	November 21
Mary Leisman	November 11	Terrie Arfi	November 22
Inez Kalle	November 13	Julie Wettie	November 22
Verna Rowe	November 15	Elaine Collins	November 24
Mary Morrisette	November 15	Bobbie Wetz	November 24
Don Schroeder	November 15	Joan Purrington	November 25
Milan Chi	November 17	Ryan Purrington	November 26
Shirley Lambert	November 17	Ryan Bearth	November 27
		Lynnette Johnson	November 29



Tuesday, November 1

9:00am Comforters
7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, November 2

10:00am Choral Bells
5:30pm Parent's Night Out
5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
6:00pm Adult Ed
6:00pm Children's Fellowship
6:30pm Youth Drama Rehearsal
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:15pm Youth Band
7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, November 3

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

Friday, November 4

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, November 5

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, November 6

7:45am Veteran's Breakfast
9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Traditional Worship
10:10am Refreshments
10:30am Kerygma
10:45am Praise Worship
12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, November 7

9:30am PW Coordinating Team

Tuesday, November 8~ General Election

9:00am Comforters

Wednesday, November 9

10:00am Choral Bells
1:00pm El Shadai/Staff Meeting
5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
6:00pm Adult Ed
6:00pm Children's Fellowship
6:00pm Wednesday Women
6:30pm Youth Drama Rehearsal
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:15pm Youth Band
7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, November 10

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting
 6:00pm El Shadai
 6:30pm Cub Scouts
 6:30pm Music Sense Garage Band

Friday, November 11

5:45pm Family Movie Night

Saturday, November 12

8:00am Remember Niger Board Meeting
 10:00am El Shadai Youth Service
 2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, November 13~ Cameroonian Sunday

9:15am Sunday School
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:30am Kerygma
 10:45am Worship
 12:00pm Lunch for Everyone
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
 1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, November 14

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

Tuesday, November 15

9:00am Comforters
 7:00pm Northern Bells
 7:00pm WOW

Wednesday, November 16

10:00am Choral Bells
 12:00pm Senior Lunch with Pastor James
 5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
 6:00pm Adult Ed
 6:00pm Children's Fellowship
 6:30pm Youth Drama Rehearsal
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:15pm Youth Band
 7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, November 17

6:00pm El Shadai
 6:30pm Music Sense Garage Band
 7:00pm Session

Friday, November 18 ~ Clearwater Retreat

5:45pm Youth Depart for Clearwater
 7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, November 19

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

Sunday, November 20 ~ PW Sunday

9:15am Sunday School
 9:15am Traditional Worship
 10:10am Refreshments
 10:15am Operation Christmas Child
 10:30am Kerygma
 10:45am Praise Worship
 12:45pm El Shadai Leadership Meeting
 1:30pm El Shadai
 1:30pm Youth Return from Clearwater

Monday, November 21

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

Tuesday, November 22

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

Wednesday, November 23

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

Thursday, November 24 ~ Thanksgiving

6:00pm El Shadai

Friday, November 25

5:45pm Family Movie Night

Saturday, November 26

2:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, November 27 ~ 1st Sunday in Advent

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

Monday, November 28**Innovator Articles Due**

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, November 29

9:00am Comforters
 7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, November 30

11:00am Choral Christmas Luncheon
 5:30pm Hanging of the Greens
 5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship
 6:00pm Children's Fellowship
 6:30pm Youth Drama Rehearsal
 7:00pm Choir Practice
 7:15pm Youth Band
 7:30pm Praise Band