

# September 2018 Innovator



~Beginning September 9~  
9:15 Traditional Worship  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:45 Christ Connection Praise Worship

***Refreshments and Fellowship begins at 10:10 in the Hall.***

Office Hours are 9:00am – 2:30pm Monday thru Thursday.

*The Wednesday Discipleship Program resumes October 3.*



Seniors you are invited to bring your lunch and fellowship with Pastor James on Monday, September 18, from Noon to 1:30pm in the Fireside Room. 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.

Sunday school classes will begin on September 9. Classes begin at 9:15 and end at 10:05 at which time teachers will shepherd the children to the Sanctuary where they will join the congregation for a children's sermon and the final hymn. We hope that parents and children will then join us for a time of "Celebration" in the Hall. The children will meet in the following rooms.

Preschool – 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Room 23
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 26
5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 28





## STEWARDSHIP

*“Accept God’s love-complete with God’s power to accomplish more than you expect.”  
(Condensed from Ephesians 3:17-20)*

What is stewardship? One definition of stewardship is: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care. It’s about our stewardship of the church and one another. By using the resources given to us by God, and our talents, we can be faithful stewards.

It’s not the amount of resources or time we have, but how we use them most efficiently that’s important. If it’s our belief that God has given us all we have, family, our planet, our life, health and skills, then we must be good stewards of them all.

Stewardship takes many forms:

- Teaching Sunday School
- Sharing musical talents
- Helping with Worship
- Doing mission work
- Being good stewards of God’s creation
- Contributing financially

The opportunities to serve God here at North are abundant. Use your talents to find an area that will help North, and help you in your spiritual growth through stewardship. Please help support North with your financial resources. In the Bible often is mentioned that we offer to God our “first fruits”.

Because of God's creative power and ownership of all, the Bible instructs believers to give God the best of the animal sacrifices (see Lev. 1-5). The land is also viewed as a gift from God and the best of it, its "firstfruits," is to be given to him. Crops ( Exodus 23:16 Exodus 23:19 ), the wheat harvest ( Exod 34:22 ; Lev 2:14 ; 23:20 ), olive oil ( Num 18:12 ; Deut 18:4 ), the finest new wine ( Num 18:12 ; Deut 18:4 ), honey ( 2 Chron 31:5 ), sheep wool ( Deut 18:4 ), and fruit ( Neh 10:35 ). The Old Testament makes it clear that everything that God's people have is to be viewed as from God and gained through his providence ( Psalm 50:10 ).

Our offering to God should be the first portion we set aside as good stewards. We all have been very blessed. Let our pledges be a testament to our stewardship, love, and gratitude for all God has given us.



## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS**

Session has been prayerfully reflecting upon and discussing our congregational meetings. We will continue to have two Congregational Meetings a year. One in January to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call and one in May to discuss the annual report and elect officers.

### **Sunday, January 6, 2019**

10:00 One Worship Service

- Liturgy of celebration of 2018 ministries
- Liturgy of hopes to bless others in 2019

11:00 Refreshments and Fellowship

11:15 Discussion followed by Congregational Meeting

- Present 2018 Financials (Complete copies printed and available)
- Present 2019 Budget (Complete copies printed and available)

*After everyone has completed sharing we will call the Congregational Meeting to order*

Congregational Meeting

- Handout Pastor's Terms of Call
- Discuss Pastor's Terms of Call
- Vote on Pastor's Terms of Call
- Prayer

Enjoy a Soup Luncheon together (All donations will support our youth ministries.)

### **Sunday, May 19, 2019**

9:15 One Worship Service

10:15 Refreshments and Fellowship

10:30 Annual Meeting of the Congregation (Annual report available on May 12)

- Prayer
- Election of officers
- Discuss Annual Report
- Open floor for sharing
- Thank retiring officers
- Honor Saints who entered Life Triumphant in 2018
- Prayer

Serve together through a Hands-On Mission

Enjoy lunch together



Back-to-school means back-to-work for the Sanctuary Choir! Haven't sung in a choir since high school? No problem! Can't make it every week? Come anyway! The choir welcomes folks of all abilities and availabilities. We are particularly excited to welcome high school students and young adult church members. The choir sings at the 9:15 a.m. service most Sundays, September through May, meeting at 8:30 a.m. for warm-up; we have one Sunday off each month. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Choir Loft, beginning September 5. No auditions—stop in and try us out! We are also looking for instrumentalists to augment our choral music - brass, strings, woodwinds and percussion. Sometimes we need just one instrument for a particular anthem, but we would also like the option to have a multi-instrument combo to accompany the choir or play a piece on their own. If you have at least 2 years experience playing an instrument, please consider volunteering your musicianship. Contact Mary with questions at 651-331-1089 or [mary.livingstonmusic@gmail.com](mailto:mary.livingstonmusic@gmail.com).

Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders will be commissioned during the "Celebration Time" on September 9. We encourage everyone working with our children, youth, and adults to attend this blessing.



We are looking for Sunday School teachers to help out on Sunday mornings. It would be a commitment of one Sunday every 6-8 weeks. If you are interested in volunteering, you can contact the church office at [north@northchurch-mn.org](mailto:north@northchurch-mn.org).

We will be presenting Bibles to our first graders on September 23. If you are new to our church and have a child who is entering the first grade, please stop by the church office and let us know or contact Renee at 651-777-4044 or [north@northchurch-mn.org](mailto:north@northchurch-mn.org).





## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class begins Sunday, September 16, for youth in eighth grade and older. The primary purpose is to provide instruction and discussion that will enable youth to understand and profess a personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The secondary purpose is to provide instruction and experiences that will enable youth to understand and participate in the worship and mission of the church. To register for the class, contact Pastor James.

## LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD... CONFIRMATION MENTORS!

Starting in September, approximately 13 of our finest young people will start the process of Confirmation and Commissioning. Each of those youth will need an adult mentor from the congregation to assist them in their faith journey.

Mentors would start in October and would need to commit to about one hour per week to spend with their assigned youth in reviewing lessons, making a faith banner, discussing worship, the sacraments, the church's mission, grace, sin and forgiveness, just to name a few. The youth share a meal and attend class on Sunday evenings with Pastor James; mentor times can be arranged at your convenience with your mentee.

The experience is a powerful one! It is a time for spiritual growth for all involved as both mentor and mentee explore faith and the tenets of Christianity; it is relationship building that creates a special bond between generations in the congregation.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to mentor one of our youth. You can make a difference - for youth and in your own life as well!

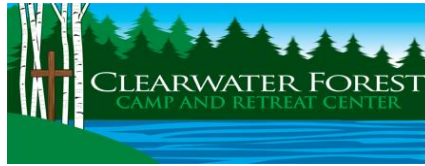
Contact Coleen Colton, Yuven Lukong, Ann Bearth, Scott Zoya, or Pastor James to sign up.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***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 update our list.





### CLEARWATER YOUTH RETREAT

Middle School Youth and Senior High Youth are invited to attend the Annual Clearwater Youth Retreat on November 2 – 4. If you attend, you will have fun, discover what God is doing in your life and make new friends with youth from throughout Minnesota. Your cost is \$95 (financial aid is available per request to Pastor James). All meals, transportation, programming, and lodging is included. We need a few adults to provide transportation and participate with our youth. Questions contact Pastor James.



### HANDS-ON MISSION

North Presbyterian is participating in the Second Annual Side-By-Side community meal-packing event where more than 1,000 people from local congregations will come together to pack 250,000 meals to stock local food shelves. **We plan to pack meals on Sunday, September 16 from 1pm-3pm at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church at 1669 Arcade Street in St. Paul as a group. You will need to sign up for this event in the Narthex or email Lisa at [diezlisha@gmail.com](mailto:diezlisha@gmail.com) to indicate your participation!** There is no onsite Hands-On Mission on this day. The sponsoring groups are *Arlington Hills Lutheran, Asalam Mosque, Christ on Capitol Hill, First Lutheran, Good Samaritan Lutheran, Grace Lutheran Church, Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran, Hope Lutheran, North Presbyterian, Our Redeemer Lutheran, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church.*

In Ramsey and Washington counties alone, 19.7% of the population is food insecure, which impacts more than 84,000 people. In fact, Minnesotans visited food shelves a record 3.4 million times in 2017! Based in Stillwater, Minnesota, Meals From The Heart is a nonprofit 501©(3) that brings people together to serve their neighbors through energized and fun meal-packing events that provide flavorful, fortified meals to local food shelves.

For more information about this Side-by-Side meal-packing event, please see the flyers in the Narthex or check out <http://stpaulsidebyside.org/> If you can't make the Sunday 1-3 time, there are other times available on Saturday and Sunday you can sign up for on the website.



### **PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING**

*"Peace at all Times and in all Ways." ~ 2 Thessalonians 3:16*

As followers of Christ, our call to work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. The Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church. At the national level, it means supporting those working to heal the divisions in violent contexts like South Sudan, strengthening the collaboration of the Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations with the peace work of global partners through World Mission.

As always, 25 percent of the Offering is retained by both your congregation and mid council, providing support where you feel is needed most. That could mean supporting an organization that seeks civility in political discourse. It might mean scholarships for students recognized as peacemakers, or refugee resettlement, or support for shelters where those who are abused may find refuge.

This Offering sustains these diverse initiatives and at every level 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.

### **SEASON OF PEACE**

In conjunction with the Peace & Global Witness Offering, Special Offerings recommends participating in 'A Season of Peace from September 2 – October 7.

Daily reflections, ideas for building peace in your community and a children's coloring sheet are all available for use during this important season at:

[www.presbyterianmission.org/seasonofpeace](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/seasonofpeace)

While there, be sure to click the link and sign up to receive the 2018 Path of Peace daily reflections.

<p>In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of September is Glenn Wetz, 651-731-2966.</p>
--





## THERAPEUTIC MUSIC MINISTRY

The Therapeutic Music Ministry program continues to thrive! Mary Livingston, our Sanctuary Choir Director, is also a Certified Music Practitioner who provides one-on-one music sessions to create a healing environment based on each individual's needs – examples include coping with pain, recovering from illness or injury, memory loss, anxiety, loneliness, or nearing the end of life. The visits can take place at home, in a hospital, or other care facility. Mary plays keyboard, accordion, or harp depending on the needs or preferences of the individual. The response from participants has been very positive!

This program is facilitated by the Board of Deacons. Therapeutic Music Ministry sessions are a gift from the church and are therefore free to the person receiving the visit. **For more information, or to arrange a therapeutic music session, please contact any current deacon or the church office.**

**Donations, contributions, and memorials can be designated to go directly to the TMM program.** If you would like to make a donation, simply indicate Therapeutic Music Ministry, or "TMM", on the memo line of your check made out to North Presbyterian Church. **Thank you!**



Thank you so much for everything you continue to do for my mom, Lorraine Riebe. The Music Therapy provided by Mary, the visits and cards from Joan, and communion from Pastor James are all so very important. Thank you again. ~ Cindy Johnson

Thank you for your financial contribution of \$500 to The Sheridan Story. Your partnership will enable us to continue to make a positive impact in the fight against child hunger by closing the weekend food gap. ~ Rob Williams, Executive Director, The Sheridan Story

We thank God for you and your generous support for the women and children served through the ministry of The Dwelling Place. Your team rocked it out of the park volunteering and we are so incredibly grateful for your financial support as well! You are truly making lives change in Him! ~ Linda Wiza, Executive Directory, The Dwelling Place



## September Birthdays



Laura Yates	September 4	Becky Yust	September 19
Carol Havran	September 6	Alex Hill	September 19
Sheila Ferrazzo	September 9	Jason Hanna	September 19
Ila Basch	September 12	Virginia Pleban	September 19
Sandy Brogren	September 12	Derick Ngu	September 22
Mary Parrott	September 12	Ron Andrus	September 23
Diane Albright	September 12	Rod Collins	September 23
Daniella Atud	September 12	Kathy Carlson	September 23
Leslie Etter	September 15	Mike Marah	September 23
Mitch Carlson	September 15	Yao Dumenya	September 23
Kathy TeWinkel	September 16	Noah Kristensen	September 24
Gabby Boyles	September 16	Del Langer-Anderson	September 26
Abbey Tiffany	September 17	Ed Richardson	September 27
Lynn Davis	September 18	Laurel Nelson	September 27
Dave Etter	September 18	Donna Sandstrom	September 28



### Saturday, September 1

10:00am El Shadai Bible Study  
3:00pm El Shadai

### Sunday, September 2

9:30am Worship in the Hall  
1:30pm El Shadai

### Monday, September 3 ~ OFFICE CLOSED

### Tuesday, September 4

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

### Wednesday, September 5

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

### Thursday, September 6

6:00pm El Shadai  
6:30pm Faith Commission  
7:00pm Life & Stewardship  
7:15pm Nurture Commission

### Friday, September 7

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

### Saturday, September 8

10:00am El Shadai Bible Study  
3:00pm El Shadai

### Sunday, September 9

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

### Monday, September 10

8:00am ARM Breakfast  
7:00pm Personnel

**Tuesday, September 11**

9:00am Comforters  
 3:00pm El Shadai/Staff Meeting  
 7:00pm 12-Step Program  
 7:00pm Northern Bells

**Wednesday, September 12**

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

**Thursday, September 13**

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting  
 6:00pm El Shadai

**Friday, September 14**

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

**Saturday, September 15**

9:00am NMG  
 9:30am El Shadai  
 10:00am El Shadai Bible Study  
 3:00pm El Shadai Celebration

**Sunday, September 16 ~ Hands-On Mission**

9:15am Sunday School  
 9:15am Traditional Worship  
 10:10am Refreshments  
 10:45am Praise Worship  
 1:30pm El Shadai  
 5:00pm Confirmation Orientation:  
       Parents & Youth  
 5:30pm Confirmation

**Monday, September 17**

1:00pm Ruth Circle  
 3:00pm Guild Meeting  
 6:00pm Quilt Guild

**Tuesday, September 18**

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

**Wednesday, September 19**

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

**Thursday, September 20**

6:00pm El Shadai  
 7:00pm Session

**Friday, September 21**

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

**Saturday, September 22**

10:00am El Shadai Bible Study  
 3:00pm El Shadai

**Sunday, September 23**

9:15am Sunday School  
 9:15am Traditional Worship  
 10:10am Refreshments  
 10:30am First Grade Bibles  
 10:45am Praise Worship  
 1:30pm El Shadai  
 5:30pm Confirmation

**Monday, September 24****Innovator Articles Due**

7:00pm Boy Scouts

**Tuesday, September 25**

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

**Wednesday, September 26**

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

**Thursday, September 27**

6:00pm El Shadai

**Friday, September 28**

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

**Saturday, September 29**

10:00am El Shadai Bible Study  
 3:00pm El Shadai

**Sunday, September 30**

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