

December 2018 Innovator

News



December 2: First Sunday in Advent

9:15am – Traditional worship in the Sanctuary

10:10am – Refreshments and Fellowship

10:45am – Praise service in the Hall

Celebration of Holy Communion at both services

December 9: Second Sunday in Advent

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

10:10am – Refreshments and Fellowship

10:45am – The Christmas Story, Carols, and Memories
presented by the youth

December 16: Third Sunday in Advent

10:00am – Traditional worship with music from the Sanctuary Choir

10:00am – Children's Christmas Celebration

11:00am – Refreshments and Fellowship

11:15am – Hands-On Mission

December 23: Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:00am – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00am – Refreshments and Fellowship





CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

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

DECEMBER 30th SERVICE

10:00am ~ Celebrate the approaching new year at one service in the Hall.

~No refreshments will be served this Sunday~

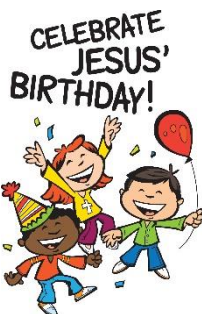


HANGING OF THE GREENS

Kick-off the Holiday Season with your church family at the Hanging of the Greens on Wednesday, **November 28th**!

Bring the whole family! We'll begin with a meal at 5:30pm followed by the Hanging of the Greens at 6:00pm.

The Mitten Tree will be in the Narthex/Gathering Space during December. Please help fill the tree with mittens, gloves, scarves and hats for the Union Gospel Mission and North Metro Flex Academy. All donations will be packed up and delivered before Christmas.



Children are invited to a Christmas Celebration on Sunday, **December 16th**, at 10:00am. Please join us for a morning of crafts, games, singing, goodies as we celebrate Jesus' Birthday!

BAKE SALE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 9am-NOON

Wednesday Women are sponsoring a freewill offering bake sale to support Solid Ground's Christmas Season. Solid Ground is located near Century College. Their mission is to move families from homeless to homed and hopeful. There will be many treats but baked goods contributions for this mission opportunity will be greatly appreciated. Thank you, congregation for your help and support!



While we may never achieve perfect peace on this side of heaven, the *Peace on Earth Family Devotional* can work to bring the peace of Jesus to our broken world, beginning with our own families. Guide your family through a peace-filled Advent, fostering love for one another and encouraging peace in the world. This Advent let us look to Jesus in the manger and open our hearts to receive the peace that only he can provide.

Children will love the *2018 Advent Calendar* filled with Scripture verses, activities, thought starters and Advent images for every day of Advent. Each mini-meditation helps children focus on the coming Savior.

Devotionals for adults and children can be picked up in the Gathering Space.

**TELL US WHAT
YOU THINK**

Session is re-imagining our Sundays. We are exploring adding spiritual formation, education, fellowship, discussion, festivals, and creating time to do Hands-On Mission together. Our hope is to create a worship service that offers everyone a praise music or traditional hymn option. Session would like to start piloting some of these transformations on Sunday, April 28. Session is hosting small group listening sessions. Please attend and share your insights: **December 2** at 10:15am in the Fireside Room and **December 9** after the 10:45am Christmas drama in Meisenheimer Hall. Session will also meet with the following groups: Choir, Youth Fellowship, Kerygma, Praise Band, Wednesday Women, and Bells. Please pray for wisdom and discernment. Please seek to identify and share where the energy, love, joy, peace and grace of the Holy Spirit is leading us and future members.



ALTERNATIVE GIVING

Presbyterian Giving Catalog

Please give a gift of hope: from a mule to a well; from seeds to scholarships; from ending slavery to bunk beds, your gift will make a life-changing difference.

Remember Niger

Your gift could provide education resources, scholarships or school lunches. Donations can be made in the name of someone you love.

Houses for Haiti

All gifts are used to build houses for homeless people in Cite Soleil, Haiti, the poorest slum in the Western Hemisphere.

North St. Paul Food Shelf

Bring food items for the grocery cart in the Gathering Space or make a monetary donation through the church. Your donations satisfy the hungry that may live just down your street.

Mitten Tree

Help fill a tree with mittens, gloves, scarves and hats for the Union Gospel Mission and North Metro Flex Academy.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering is distributed equally providing racial-ethnic, educational opportunities and support for church workers.

Christmas Flower Program

To honor or remember a loved one or friend and to celebrate Christ's birth, plants have been purchased to first decorate the church, adding special meaning to our celebration of Christ's birth, and second to brighten your home after Christmas! You may pick up your plant or flower after the Christmas Eve Service. Any plants or flowers not picked up will be delivered to North members and friends who are sick or homebound.





Do you have Christmas shopping you need to do? If you are a parent of a child under the age of 6, we invite you to enjoy a Parents' Night Out on **December 5th**. You can feel comfortable knowing that your children are being watched by your church family as you enjoy an evening of adult time. You can drop your children off anytime between 5:30pm – 7:00pm in Room 21.

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS FOR DONUTS

Starting **December 2nd**, the suggested donation for a donut will increase from 50 cents to \$1. The reason for the increase is due to the cost increase that is charged to the church from the bakery. The suggested price of a donut has been 50 cents since the inception of the Christ Connection Café over 10 years ago. Coffee and other items will continue to be offered at the same suggested donation price.



LET'S END THE FISCAL YEAR IN THE BLACK!

The 2018 fiscal year will end in less than a month. Summer is over and programs are ramping up, and cold weather and snow have arrived. As a result, expenses for heating, lighting and snow removal, to name a few, have increased. The Stewardship Commission needs your help to end the fiscal year in the black. Many of us have been absent from church during the summer and autumn and may have fallen behind on our giving. We would like to encourage you to bring your pledge payments and other contributions up to date so that we can maintain the positive financial health of North Church. Thank you for supporting our wonderful faith community at North.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held **January 6th** to approve Pastor James' Terms of Call. The schedule for this Sunday will be the following:

9:30am	Refreshments
10:00am	Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
10:00am	Sunday School for all ages
11:00am	Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary
12:00pm	Lunch in the Hall

Thank you for all of your donations and packing work for Operation Christmas Child. This year, North packed 58 boxes and we also had 40 donated boxes from the Girl Scouts. All 98 boxes were delivered to KTIS on November 18, along with a \$250 donation to help with shipping. Continue to pray for these boxes as they are sent out to the children who will receive them.



HANDS-ON MISSION



Please plan on joining us after worship on December 16, to help spread the joy of Christmas. We will be writing care cards to church members and making candy treats for the children at North Metro Flex Academy.



I would like to extend our sincerest thank you for your cash donation of \$250 and for the volunteers that came to Arlington House Shelter in October. Their time and talents were greatly appreciated. We cannot thank you enough for your generous contributions and your continued support to at risk children in our community. ~ Tiffany Allbee, Arlington House Shelter



Roy Ginn	December 3		Sharon Nowak	December 13
Shelly Willar	December 3		Susanne Meyer	December 14
Vicki Carvelli	December 4		Charles Brabender	December 15
Juanita Etter	December 5		Betty Achtering	December 16
Lorraine Riebe	December 6		Tom Clark	December 17
Mark Tiffany	December 7		Scott Zoya	December 18
Marion Owens	December 10		Chuck Williams	December 19
Bruce Beck	December 11		Chase Burkhart	December 20
Clark Kristensen	December 12		Beth Haukom	December 23
Laura Hurt	December 12		Allison Etter	December 31
George Smith	December 13		Amelia Hanna	December 31



Saturday, December 1

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 2

9:15am Sunday School

9:15am Traditional Worship

10:10am Refreshments

10:15am Re-imagining Sundays

10:30am Kerygma

10:45am Praise Worship

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, December 3

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 4

9:00am Comforters

7:00pm 12-Step Program

7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, December 5

5:30pm Parents' Night Out

5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship

7:00pm Choir Practice

7:00pm Youth Band

7:30pm Praise Band

Thursday, December 6

6:00pm El Shadai

6:30pm Faith Commission

6:30pm Music Sense Band

7:00pm Deacons

7:00pm Life & Stewardship

7:15pm Nurture Commission

Friday, December 7

4:00pm Carol Mathey's Christmas Party

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, December 8

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 9

9:15am Choral Bell Worship

9:15am Sunday School

10:10am Refreshments

10:30am Kerygma

10:45am Advent Drama

10:45am Re-imagining Sundays

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, December 10

8:00am ARM Breakfast

6:00pm Boy Scouts Court of Honor

Tuesday, December 11

9:00am Comforters

7:00pm 12-Step Program

7:00pm Northern Bells

Wednesday, December 12

5:30pm Great Rivers District Meeting

5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship

6:00pm Wednesday Women

7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 13

6:00pm El Shadai

6:30pm Cub Scouts

6:30pm Music Sense Band

Friday, December 14

6:00pm Boy Scouts Lock-In

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, December 15

9:00am Choir Practice

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 16

10:00am Choral Worship

10:00am Sunday School Christmas Party

11:00am Refreshments

11:15am Hands-On Mission

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, December 17

1:00pm Ruth Circle

3:00pm Guild Meeting

6:00pm Quilt Guild

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 18

9:00am Comforters

7:00pm 12-Step Program

Wednesday, December 19

5:30pm Youth Group Fellowship

7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 20

6:00pm El Shadai

6:30pm Music Sense Band

7:00pm Session

Friday, December 21

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, December 22

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 23

10:00am Traditional Worship

11:00am Refreshments

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, December 24

5:00pm Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, December 28

7:00pm El Shadai Bible Study

Saturday, December 29

3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 30

10:00am Praise Worship

1:30pm El Shadai

Monday, December 31

Innovator Articles Due

7:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

OFFICE CLOSED

**Office Hours will be limited
December 24 – 31.**

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Hours

(Monday-Thursday 8:30am-1:30pm)

north@northchurch-mn.org

651-777-4044

(Voicemail is not checked Friday or Saturday)

The fastest way to reach Pastor James after hours is to send an email to 4theyorks@gmail.com with a call back number.

Please respect Renee's family time by not calling her cell phone. For an emergency, please send an email to rlkristensen@gmail.com.

Emergency Pastoral Care

In the absence of the pastor or when contact with the session is desired, the elder on call for the month of December is Juliet Tah, 651-500-3199.

Custodian

Nelson Portillo

Nelson has limited English, therefore we contact him through his son at 651-278-1831 or Pastor Arcenio's son, Christian, at 651-428-8107 from 3pm-9pm Monday-Friday.

Emergency Building Contacts

Thor Sellie (Home: 651-770-5943 or Cell: 612-840-0144)

Mike Gerhardson (Cell: 651-808-0307)