December 2022 Innovator

News

10:00am Worship: Masks are optional, Singing is encouraged, and Physical distancing is optional

Worship services will begin at 10:00am and will also be livestreamed on Youtube. You can find the links via our webpage <u>northchurch-mn.org</u>. Click on the red YouTube icon in the upper right corner. To access North Church's YouTube Channel, follow this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFxRhCSCfSL8Ru5T3aV1Asw?view as=subscriber

Office Hours are 8:00am – 12:00pm Monday thru Wednesday.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

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

The service will also be livestreamed on Youtube. You can watch the service using the worship links listed above.

DECEMBER 25th WORSHIP

10:00am ~ Join us for online worship from the comfort of your home.

JANUARY 1st WORSHIP

10:00am ~ Celebrate the beginning of 2023 with Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary.





December 4: Second Sunday in Advent Celebration of Holy Communion

10:00am – Traditional worship with music from the Northern Bells

10:00am - Sunday School for children

11:00am – Refreshments and Fellowship

December 11: Third Sunday in Advent

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

10:00am – Sunday School for children

11:00am - Refreshments and Fellowship

December 18: Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:00am – Christmas Pageant with Adults, Youth & Children

11:00am - Refreshments and Fellowship

11:00am – Intergenerational Advent Craft



Beginning with the first Sunday in Advent, this daily devotional follows the Christmas story through Epiphany. Each day offers something new: commentary, poetry, visual art, hymns, journaling, and recipes to cook as a Sabbath practice. As you walk through these prompts and readings day by day, may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go.

On the first of December, children will begin counting down the days of Advent by coloring in a figure each day. Then, complete the daily action prompt together as a family. This does not have to be a traditional nativity set—we encourage you to get creative!

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



INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT CRAFT

Please join us after the Christmas Pageant on **December 18** to make "Blooming Wire Sculptures". Each person participating will make a wreath to give to someone of their choosing.

NORTH CHURCH POTLUCK ~ HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT

All church member and friends are invited!

Where: North Presbyterian Church in the Hall

When: Friday, December 9 at 6pm

Movies: Frozen starts at 6:30pm ~ 2nd movie TBD

(Die Hard, Home Alone or The Grinch)

RSVP by **December 8** at 7pm. Sign-up to bring an item to share. Contact Lonnie at 651-247-5038 or Nancy at 651-808-0306.





December 2 ~ 6pm - 12am

A 6-hour Crafting/Scrapbooking/Stamping event! Bring your crafting, scrapbooking, or stamping projects along with your own supplies. Call Nancy Gerhardson at 651-808-0306 or Juanita Zoya at 651-748-9784 to reserve your spot TODAY! The cost is \$20.00 by 11/30/22 or \$25 after that date.

YOUTH SNOW CAMP RETREAT January 13-15, 2023

This popular, fun, inspiring retreat is for youth in grades 6-12 at Clearwater Forest Camp. All the youth from the Presbytery of the Twin Cities are invited to attend. We have several young adults who have wonderful memories of this retreat and are willing to provide transportation and adult discipleship. Please contact Pastor James pastorjames@northchurch-mn.org or cell 651-230-8816 for more information and to register. *Please note this is an additional retreat opportunity. The spring confirmation retreat is February 17-19.*





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

You can make a monetary donation through the church to satisfy the hungry that may live just down your street.

Mitten Tree

Help fill a tree with mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for local charities.

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.





The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. *The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected at the worship services during Advent*



The Mitten Tree will be in the Narthex/Gathering Space during December. Please help decorate the tree with mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats that will be donated to a local charity. All donations will be packed up and delivered before Christmas.

The Remember Niger 2022 Gift Catalog is available online at www.rememberniger.org as well as in the church office. Consider honoring someone on your list this year by making a difference in the life of a child in Niger. You can provide desks, school meals, mosquito nets, books and supplies, and more. Your gift will help provide a quality education for children in Niger, helping them to develop their unique gifts and grow into the people God created them to be. Thank you!





DONATIONS AND OFFERINGS

Our dedicated counters will be counting your donations and offerings on **December 12 & 30.** If you want your end of the year contribution to be credited to 2022, you need to be sure that it is in the church office no later than **December 29**.

STATEMENT 2022

Year-to-Date Activity (Detailed report available in the church office)

Total Income\$246,935Total Expenses\$255,416

Overall Total (Deficit) (-\$8,481)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held **January 22nd**. The schedule for this Sunday will be the following:



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



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
Graham Mauer	December 6	Tom Clark	December 17
Bryant Abanei	December 6	Scott Zoya	December 18
Mark Tiffany	December 7	Chuck Williams	December 19
Bruce Beck	December 11	Beth Haukom	December 23
Laura Hurt	December 12	Eleanor Hurt	December 23
George Smith	December 13	Allison Etter	December 31

Many thanks to **ALL** who volunteered at the State Fair Park-n-Ride lot and the Pumpkin Patch joint fundraising efforts with New Life Presbyterian Church over the last few months. Our volunteers were friendly ambassadors to the community and were greatly appreciated in helping make these events successful for both churches!





Our next *Change for Haiti* Sunday is **December 4**, so please save your extra change to put in the jars on this Sunday.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Hours
(Monday-Thursday 9:00am-12:00pm)
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 Sean Bearth, 651-276-4527.

Custodian

Nelson Portillo

Nelson has limited English, therefore we contact him through his son at 651-443-6612 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)



Thursday, December 1

8:00am FCHE 6:00pm El Shadai

6:00pm Life Commission 6:30pm Faith Commission 7:15pm Nurture Commission

Friday, December 2

6:00pm Craft Til U Drop

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 3 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 4

9:45am Childcare 10:00am Bell Sunday

10:00am Sunday School for Children

11:00am Fellowship 1:30pm El Shadai **Tuesday, December 6** 6:30pm CMA 7:00pm Deacons

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 7 7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 88:00am FCHE
6:00pm El Shadai

6:300pm Stewardship Commission

Friday, December 9

6:00pm Holiday Potluck & Movie Night

Saturday, December 10 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 11 9:45am Childcare 10:00am Choral Worship

10:00am Sunday School for Children

11:00am Fellowship 1:30pm El Shadai **Monday, December 12**

6:00pm Century Commons Association

7:00pm Personnel **Tuesday, December 13** 6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 14

6:00pm Wednesday Women 6:30pm Praise Band Practice

7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 15
8:00am FCHE
6:00pm El Shadai
7:00pm Session
Saturday, December 17
3:00pm El Shadai
Sunday, December 18

10:00am Christmas Pageant

11:00am Fellowship

9:45am

11:00am Intergenerational Advent Craft

Childcare

1:30pm El Shadai Monday, December 19 6:00pm Quilt Guild Tuesday, December 20 6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 21
10:00am Choral Bells
7:00pm Choir Practice
Thursday, December 22
6:00pm El Shadai

Friday, December 23 4:00pm El Shadai Saturday, December 24

5:00pm Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 25

10:00am On-Line Worship

1:30pm El Shadai **Tuesday, December 27** 6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Thursday, December 29 6:00pm El Shadai Friday, December 30

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 31 3:00pm El Shadai