# December 2023 Innovator



# One Worship Service at 10am in the Sanctuary

# Fellowship & Food at 11am in Room 24

# Seasons Interactive Worship at 6pm in the Hall

Worship services will begin at 10:00am and will also be livestreamed on Youtube.

You can find the links via our webpage <a href="http://northchurch-mn.org/">http://northchurch-mn.org/</a>. 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

# **Sunday Morning Worship**

9:45am	Child Care for children 5 years of age and younger
10:00am	Sunday School for Children preschool thru 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade

10:00am Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00am Refreshments and Fellowship in Room 24

#### Seasons Worship Service

6:00pm Seasons Interactive Worship in the Hall

7:00pm Hands-On Mission, Games, Open Mic or Lord's Supper

Office Hours are 9:00am – 1:00pm Monday thru Wednesday & Friday.

# Christmas EVE

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**5:00pm** – Celebration of the Christmas Story, Candlelight Worship, the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and special music by the Sanctuary Choir. *No Morning Worship Service.* 

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

# **DECEMBER 31st WORSHIP**

10:00am ~ Celebrate the upcoming new year with Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary. There will **not** be Sunday school on this Sunday.







# December 3: First Sunday in Advent Celebration of Holy Communion

10:00am - Traditional Worship

10:00am - Sunday school for children

11:00am - Food and Fellowship

11:00am – Hanging of the Greens

6:00pm - Seasons Interactive Worship

#### **December 10: Second Sunday in Advent**

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

10:00am - Sunday School for children

11:00am - Food and Fellowship

**6:00pm** – Seasons Interactive Worship

#### **December 17: Third Sunday in Advent**

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

10:00am – Sunday School for children

11:00am - Food and Fellowship

**6:00pm** – Seasons Interactive Worship



Kick-off the Holiday Season with your church family at the Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, **December 3**! Join us after worship to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season!



#### ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

This devotional is designed to help you practice joy in a weary world. Each week offers art, reflections, poetry, and hymns. Beginning with the start of Advent and concluding with Baptism of the Lord Sunday, journey through these pages at your own pace. May each week offer you rhythms for rejoicing—through acknowledging your weariness, finding joy in connection, allowing yourself to be amazed, singing stories of hope, making room, returning to ritual, and remembering your belovedness. Beginning December 1, you can also practice daily acts of joy by using the Advent calendars—made for both children and adults. Devotionals and Advent Calendars can be picked up in the Narthex.



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.



#### **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 service during Advent.* 

The Remember Niger 2023 Gift Catalog is available online at <a href="www.rememberniger.org">www.rememberniger.org</a> 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!





# January 12 ~ 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 1/10/24 or \$25 after that date.

# YOUTH SNOW CAMP RETREAT January 12-14, 2024

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 <a href="mailto:pastorjames@northchurch-mn.org">pastorjames@northchurch-mn.org</a> or cell 651-230-8816 for more information and to register.





Thank you for your incredible generosity toward the students, staff, and volunteers of Hopewell Music. It is because of supporters like you that Hopewell continues to offer a brilliant musical future for North Minneapolis students! You are making a lasting difference in the lives of our students. ~ James Haas, Hopewell Music Cooperative North

Thank you for your donation of \$500 to assist Remember Niger Coalition in expanding quality educational opportunities in the least developed country in the world. Your gift will have an enormous impact in the lives of children in Niger as they attend quality schools with caring teachers. ~ Kara VanderKamp, Remember Niger Coalition

Our next *Change for Haiti* Sunday is **December 3**, so please save your extra change to put in the jars on this Sunday.





#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held **January 28, 2024**. The schedule for this Sunday will be the following:

10:00am Traditional Worship11:00am Food & Fellowship11:00am Congregational Meeting

#### DONATIONS AND OFFERINGS

Our dedicated counters will be counting your donations and offerings on **December 11 & 29.** If you want your end of the year contribution to be credited to 2023, you need to be sure that it is in the church office no later than **December 28**.

Overall Total (Deficit)



# **STATEMENT 2023**

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

(-\$28,232)

Total Income \$249,258
Total Expenses \$277,490

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Roy Ginn	December 3	Sharon Nowak	December 13
Shelly Willar	December 3	Susanne Meyer	December 14
Abdel Yari	December 4	Charles Brabender	December 15
Vicki Carvelli	December 4	Betty Achterling	December 16
Juanita Etter	December 5	Tom Clark	December 17
Graham Mauer	December 6	Scott Zoya	December 18
Bryant Abanei	December 6	Chuck Williams	December 19
Mark Tiffany	December 7	Beth Haukom	December 23
Bruce Beck	December 11	Eleanor Hurt	December 23
Laura Hurt	December 12	Allison Etter	December 31
George Smith	December 13		

#### **CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

Church Office Hours (Monday-Wednesday & Friday 9:00am-1:00pm) 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)



Friday, December 1

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 2 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 3 9:45am Childcare

10:00am Sunday School for Children

10:00am Worship11:00am Fellowship

11:00am Hanging of the Greens

1:00pm El Shadai

4:20pm Praise Band Practice 6:00pm Seasons Worship Service

**Tuesday, December 5** 6:30pm CMA

6:30pm Northern Bells 7:00pm Deacons 7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 6
7:00pm Choir Practice

**Thursday, December 7**8:00am FCHE
6:00pm El Shadai

6:00pm Life Commission 6:30pm Faith Commission 7:00pm Stewardship Commission

7:15pm Nurture Commission

Friday, December 8

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

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

10:00am Sunday School for Children 10:00am Worship with Northern Bells

11:00am Fellowship 1:00pm El Shadai

4:20pm Praise Band Practice 6:00pm Seasons Worship Service

Monday, December 11
7:00pm Personnel
Tuesday, December 12
6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting Wednesday, December 13

6:00pm Wednesday Women 7:00pm Choir Practice 8:00am FCHE 6:00pm El Shadai

Thursday, December 14

Friday, December 15

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 16 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 17 9:45am Childcare

10:00am Sunday School for Children

10:00am Choral Worship 11:00am Fellowship 1:00pm El Shadai

2:00pm Youth Christmas Party @

New Life

4:20pm Praise Band Practice 6:00pm Seasons Worship Service

Monday, December 18 Innovator Articles Due Tuesday, December 19 6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting Wednesday, December 20 7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 21
6:00pm El Shadai
7:00pm Session
Friday, December 22

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 23 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 24 1:00pm El Shadai

5:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Monday, December 25 Tuesday, December 26

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Thursday, December 28 6:00pm El Shadai Friday, December 29

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 30 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 31 9:45am Childcare 10:00am Worship 1:00pm El Shadai

7:00pm El Shadai New Year's Worship

