

Worship in Advent

Sunday Worship Services are at 9:15am & 10:45am

December 4 Theme: Restore us God - Hope Born Anew Light the candle of Love Celebration of Holy Communion at both services.

December 11 Theme: Restore us God - Joy of Recovering our Identity Light the candle of Joy 9:15am - Traditional Worship with special music by The Northern Bells 10:45am - Christmas Pageant.

December 18 Theme: Restore us God - Eternal Inner Peace Light the candle of Hope 9:15am and 10:45am - Lessons and Carols by the Sanctuary Choir (both services in the sanctuary) 10:15am - Our Youth present an Advent Drama (inspired by "A Charlie Brown Christmas").

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24

5pm - Celebration of the Christmas Story, Candlelight Worship, the Sacrament of Holy Communion and special music.

9pm - Celebration of the Christmas Story, Candlelight Worship, the Sacrament of Holy Communion and special music by the Sanctuary Choir.

Alternative Giving

Remember Niger

The Outreach Commission is promoting Alternative Gifts through "Remember Niger". Your gift could provide education resources, scholarships or school lunches. Donations can be made in the name of someone you love. You will receive a nice card to give to that person. For more information, contact Pat McKisson at mckissonpm@usfamily.net or 651-773-5107.

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 may 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.

Christmas Joy Offering

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

**Christmas Day Worship One Service
at 10am**

**New Years Day Worship One Service
at 10am**

**The Office will be closed
December 26 through January 2.**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children of North invite everyone to join them on December 11 during the Christ Connection Service for their Christmas program entitled *Sleepover at the Stable*. It's bedtime at the stable and a barnyard menagerie is snoozing soundly. Suddenly, two humans crash the scene! The animals' repartee gives a play-by-play of the birth of baby Jesus in this charming performance. We will be having a full rehearsal on December 4 during Sunday school and on December 7 beginning at 6:00. If you have any questions or are able to help with the program, please email Renee Kristensen at renee@northchurch-mn.org.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Does the hustle and bustle of the holidays cause you to forget about the true meaning of Christmas? Do you feel exhausted just thinking about everything you have to do during the holidays? Well, we have the perfect solution to get you into the Christmas spirit. All families are invited to join us on December 14 from 6:00 - 7:00 for our Children's Christmas Celebration. We'll begin the evening with a light meal followed by games and crafts. Please bring a plate of Christmas goodies to share. We truly hope that everyone can join us to celebrate the season of Christ!

Northern Lights Cookie Exchange

Join the fun as we exchange cookies in preparation for the holiday festivities!

Wednesday, December 14
6:00-7:00 p.m.
North Church's Fireside Room

Wow your holiday guests with the variety of treats you'll serve them from participating in this exchange! You're welcome to invite a friend to join too! A sampling of cookies and some beverages will be served during the exchange - so bring your tastebuds. RSVPs are necessary so we can calculate the number of dozens of goodies you'll need to bring. (If we have more than 10 participants, we will break the number into half dozens to keep the total number reasonable.)

Please RSVP by December 2 to Shelley Ross at 651-653-9774 or shell.ross@comcast.net.

Northern Lights is a fellowship group formed of younger adults, couples and families. We offer a variety of fun opportunities throughout the year. Typically the adults in this group range from mid-20s to mid-50s (with or without families), but we welcome all interested in joining our activities.

Christmas Flower Program

We invite you to participate in the Christmas Flower Program. Your gift will provide plants and flowers, which will be delivered to North members and friends who are sick or home-bound. There are forms available for you to fill out in the Gathering Space. An offering of \$15.00 is suggested. Any proceeds beyond cost of the flowers will be added to our Christmas Joy Offering. The flowers you order and donate will be done so In Memory or Honor of a friend or loved one of yours.

The Deadline for turning your forms in will be December 11.

Names will appear in the bulletin on Sunday, December 18.

*"Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?"
asked Charlie Brown.*

Be sure to join North Church Youth for an Advent Drama that will remind you of what Christmas is all about!

Youth Advent Drama Sunday, December 18 10:15 am (between services in the Hall)

If you're coming to 1st service,
stick around for donuts and drama.

If you're coming to 2nd service, don't forget to come early,
so you don't miss the fun.

*Linus replied,
"Sure Charlie Brown. I can tell you what Christmas is all about ..."*

Operation Christmas Child Update

Thank you to everyone who donated items for Operation Christmas Child. We were able to pack 32 shoe boxes that have been sent to needy children throughout the world. Because of your generosity, our children were able to participate in this wonderful mission project that celebrates the true meaning of Christmas.

AND HE SHALL BE CALLED

ADVOCATE ♦ LAMB OF GOD
THE RESURRECTION & THE LIFE
SHEPHERD & BISHOP OF SOULS ♦ JUDGE
LORD OF LORDS ♦ MAN OF SORROWS
HEAD OF THE CHURCH ♦ MASTER
FAITHFUL & TRUE WITNESS ♦ ROCK
HIGH PRIEST ♦ THE DOOR ♦ LIVING WATER
BREAD OF LIFE ♦ ROSE OF SHARON
ALPHA & OMEGA ♦ TRUE VINE ♦ MESSIAH
TEACHER ♦ HOLY ONE ♦ MEDIATOR
THE BELOVED ♦ BRANCH ♦ CARPENTER
GOOD SHEPHERD ♦ LIGHT OF THE WORLD
IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD ♦ THE WORD
CHIEF CORNERSTONE ♦ SAVIOR ♦ SERVANT
AUTHOR & FINISHER OF OUR FAITH
THE ALMIGHTY ♦ EVERLASTING FATHER
SHILOH ♦ LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH
I AM ♦ KING OF KINGS ♦ PRINCE OF PEACE
BRIDEGROOM ♦ ONLY BEGOTTEN SON
WONDERFUL COUNSELOR ♦ IMMANUEL
SON OF MAN ♦ DAYSPRING ♦ THE AMEN
KING OF THE JEWS ♦ PROPHET ♦ REDEEMER
ANCHOR ♦ BRIGHT MORNING STAR
THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE

JESUS CHRIST

It has been a joy to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with you. We look forward to our ministry together in 2012. We hope to grow with you in perception of God's renewing hope, in cherishing God's soothing love, in wonder of God's abounding joy and in discovering anew the perfect peace of our Triune God. We rejoice that God comes to us to restore us. Together we journey blessed by the abundant eternal life of Christ.

**Merry Christmas
From the Staff**

MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION

North Church has a new Bulletin Board!

Do you ever wish you knew of someone in the church that was offering a service such as babysitting or car repair? Do you have any items around the house that you would like to sell? Do you have a service that you would like to offer to others here at the church? Well look no further! We now have our very own Bulletin Board. This Bulletin Board is accessible through the e-Innovator. It is not posted on our main church web site, and we are not advertising to the public. This is a place for you to look around and see what is going on in our church community. We will have a link to our [Bulletin Board](#) at the bottom of our e-Innovator. So go ahead, take a look today and let's get some ads posted!

North Presbyterian Church does not endorse, represent, or sponsor any of the items that you see here on this site. North Presbyterian Church cannot be held responsible for services rendered, items recieved or items given.

Would You like to be a part of the A.V. team?

Do you enjoy working behind the scenes? Do you enjoy the technical side of service on Sundays? If so, then we are looking for YOU! We are looking to grow our A.V. (audio visual) team here at North Church. You would have the opportunity to run the projection, lights and sound. We are looking to put a team together and have everyone on a Sunday rotation. If you are not sure if this is something you would be good at but would like to try it out, we encourage you to come and take a look! Bring a friend or two along with you and get creative! Please contact Brian Bullis for more information and to become part of our team! You can reach Brian by email at brian@northchurch-mn.org or you can call the church office at 651-777-4044.

Remember Niger Alternative Market Set for December 4th and 11th

Mark your calendars for this annual event of giving. The 'Markets' will be held from 9:00 a.m. until noon on both days. Look for us in the narthex!

This year we hope to raise \$2,500 for books, food, beds, desks and sponsorships for students. There will be various African items for sale or you can give a gift toward certain items.

Here are some examples of what your dollars can purchase:

--\$25 will purchase books for one student for one year.

--\$50 will purchase food for one student for one year.

--\$80 will purchase a desk for two students,

--\$100 will purchase a bunk bed.

--\$180 or \$360 to sponsor one student for either a half year or whole year of education.

Please remember that donations of all sizes make a tremendous difference in the lives of children in Niger. Any size donation, from \$1 to \$360, ensures that more Nigerien children will have the opportunity to go to school.

Does your employer provide matching gifts? Remember Niger Coalition is a 501(c)(3) organization, thus it qualifies for corporate matching gift programs. This is a great way to increase your giving to Remember Niger.

May you all have a Christmas that is Blessed with Love and Peace.

The North Church Remember Niger team: Ruth and Ed Jones, Coleen Colton, Lynne Beck, Karen Pepin, Cathy Hickman and Pat McKisson.

Publicity Director Wanted

Do you have a camera? Do you like to go to exciting events? Do you enjoy sharing your talents? If you answered yes to any of these questions, there is a place for you! We are looking for an organized individual that has a desire to communicate and share our "North Church mission" with our neighbors. Our Publicity Director is an uncomplicated, volunteer position. Training and contacts will be provided. Please prayerfully consider this important position. Contact the office or Janet Schroeder @ 651-777-6145.

Deep Freeze Retreat

Who: Youth in grades 8-12. Each youth is welcome to bring a friend.

Where: The Windy Hill Farm House at The Wilderness Fellowship near Fredric Wisconsin.

When: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Weekend, depart from church Friday, January 13 at 6:00 pm return Sunday, January 15 at 1:30 pm.

Cost: \$40 which covers five meals, lodging, fun activities, a devotion book and a wonderful time with your youth group.

What: The retreat will be action packed with crazy games, winter fun, fellowship, worship and Biblical insights. We will be exploring God's Amazing Grace.

Registration: Contact Pastor James at pastorjames@northchurch-mn.org or in person.

Co-Ed Recreational Volleyball

Interested in playing indoor volleyball this winter? We are looking for a few more people interested in joining our team. Here are the details:

Friday nights - games start between 6:15p-9:00p

Adult co-ed recreational volleyball (must be at least 18 years old)

Games are in various locations in Maplewood

Season runs for 10 weeks and begins early January 2012

Cost is \$335/team (split evenly amongst team members)

No experience necessary

If interested, please contact Shelley Ross at shell.ross@comcast.net or 651-653-9774 by December 5.

Get out your Planner and write this down!

February 11, 2012!

The Life Commissions and the Endowment Committee have a fun event planned for our adult members and friends. This will be a money raising event with the proceeds going to the Endowment Committee to help with their important ministry. Watch for future information coming soon. You won't want to miss this one!

Happy 95th Birthday Anne Stegmeir!

We want to wish Anne a very Happy Birthday on December 14! Anne is loved by all here at NPC. Thank you for your love and friendship over the years. Be blessed!

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thank You so much for your kind thoughts and prayers during my recent hospital stay and recovery. Thank you also for the beautiful prayer shawl you made for me. I plan to wear it often this coming winter. I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas season.

Sincerely, Tim Knapp

Dear Friends from North Church,

I want to say thank you for the cards I received and the many words of sympathy expressed after the sudden death of my brother, Lew Rice, on September 23rd.

Beryle Zimanski

Dear Members of North Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the wonderful recognition of my service to the church and North St. Paul Emergency Food Shelf. It was unexpected and very much appreciated. Doug Pepin did a great job as the M.C., even though I corrected him a couple of times. My daughter Jan Nelson had given him the wrong information but had corrected it. Doug had not made the changes to his notes. As I said I couldn't have done my job as coordinator without the great bunch of volunteers I had to work with. Over the twenty years there were so many of them that I can't possibly remember all their names. Thank you once again volunteers, you know who you are. Thanks to my brother Richard for taking over for me.

George H. Zoya

Dear North Family,

My father, Dale S. Collins, fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. We continue to celebrate his life with us, knowing he is enjoying his new eternal life, entered into on October 13, 2011. Thank you for all your support, your prayers, your cards, and gifts in his memory these past months. He was truly blessed and we are truly blessed!

The Rod Collins Family

Dear Members of North Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your donation of 290 pounds of food items and \$1,000 in October to the North St. Paul Area Emergency Food Shelf. In October we served 342 families and distributed almost 30,000 pounds of food! Thank you and may God bless you.

Sincerely, Linda Zick and Dave Zick

To the Staff, Session and Congregation at North Church,

On behalf of the Advocate for Integrity in Ministry of the Presbytery, thank you! Thank you for the gracious and generous use of your facilities for our training in October. Everything worked so very well.

Grace and Peace, The Presbytery

December, 2011 at NPC

Thursday, December 1

10:30am Tai Chi
6:30pm Music Sense
Garage Band
6:30pm Faith Commission
7pm Life, Outreach and Nurture Commission
7pm Praise Band Practice

Friday, December 2

7pm Boy Scouts Overnight

Saturday, December 3

8am-4pm Northern Lights
Girl Scouts

Sunday, December 4

Communion
9:15am Traditional Worship
9:15am Children's Pageant rehearsal
10:10am Café Opens
10:25am Celebration Time
10:45am Praise Worship
10:45am Kerygma

Monday, December 5

9:15am P.W. Study Leaders
7pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, December 7

10am Choral Bells
5:15pm Dance Class
5:45pm Youth Group Supper
6pm Youth Fellowship
6pm Children's Pageant rehearsal
6:30pm Sarah Circle
7pm Youth Band
7:15pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, December 8

10:30am Tai Chi
6:30pm Music Sense
Garage Band
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7pm Praise Band Practice

Friday, December 9

6pm Treasure Tykes Christmas Program in Hall

Saturday, December 10

1pm Wedding

Sunday, December 11

9:15am Traditional Worship with Anthems by
Northern Bells
9:15am Children's Pageant rehearsal
10:10am Café Opens
10:25am Celebration Time
10:45am Children's Christmas Program
10:45am Kerygma

Monday, December 12

9:30am Ruth Circle
7pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 13

1pm Staff Meeting
7pm W.O.W.

Wednesday, December 14

10am Choral Bells
5:30pm Dance Class
5:45pm Youth Group Supper
6pm Sarah Circle
6pm Youth Fellowship
6pm Children's Christmas Party
7:15pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, December 15

10:30am Tai Chi
6pm Youth Drama rehearsal
6:30pm Music Sense
Garage Band
7pm Praise Band Practice
7pm Session

Sunday, December 18

9:15am Lessons and Carols with Sanctuary
Choir in Sanctuary
10:10am Café Opens
10:25am Youth Drama in Hall
10:45am Lessons and Carols with Sanctuary
Choir in Sanctuary
6pm Boy Scouts
Sunday School Activities in recess
Sunday School Resumes January 8

Monday, December 19

6pm Quilters Guild
7pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 20

1pm Staff Meeting
7pm Girl Scouts/Daisies

Wednesday, December 21

Wed. Activities in recess
Holiday break Dec 21-Jan 4
Wed. Ministries Resumes January 11

Thursday, December 22

6pm Girl Scouts
6:30pm Boy Scouts

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve
5pm Worship
9pm Worship

Sunday, December 25

Merry Christmas!
10am Worship in Sanctuary

Monday, December 26

Office Closed
9:30am Coordinating Team
9:30am P.W. Board Meeting
Innovator Articles Due

Tuesday, December 27

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 28

Office Closed

Thursday, December 29

Office Closed
10:30am Tai Chi
6:30pm Music Sense
Garage Band
7pm Praise Band Practice

Friday, December 30

Office Closed

Saturday, December 31

New Years Eve

Birthday Time

Roy Ginn 12/3
Shelly Willar 12/3
Vicki Carvelli 12/4
Nicole Kaschmitter 12/4
Juanita Etter 12/5
Katie Noren 12/5
Lorraine Riebe 12/6
Mark Tiffany 12/7
Laura Kaschmitter 12/8
Marion Owens 12/10
Bruce Beck 12/11
Mia Rose Ruiz-Lennertson 12/11
Clark Kristensen 12/12
Laura Etter 12/12
George Smith 12/13
Anne Stegmeir 12/14

Susanne Meyer 12/14
Chuck Brabender 12/15
Betty Archterling 12/16
Tom Clark 12/17
Scott Zoya 12/18
Jennie Lear 12/19
Chuck Williams 12/19
Jason Wirka 12/19
Anna Yust 12/21
Beth Haukom 12/23
Keira Knapp 12/23
Jeff Gillman 12/26
John Blair 12/31
Susan Patel 12/31
Allison Etter 12/31