December 2024 Innovator



Sunday 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 http://northchurch-mn.org/. 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

9:50am	Child Care for children 5 years of age and younger
10:00am	Sunday School for children 6 years of age to Grade 5

10:00am Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00am Refreshments and Fellowship in Room 24

Office Hours are 8:00am – 2:00pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday.



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 1: First Sunday in Advent ~ Hope 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

December 8: Second Sunday in Advent ~ Peace

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

10:00am - Sunday School for children

11:00am - Food and Fellowship

December 15: Third Sunday in Advent ~ Joy

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

10:00am – Sunday School for children

11:00am - Food and Fellowship

December 22: Fourth Sunday in Advent ~ Love

10:00am - Traditional Worship

10:00am – Sunday school for children

11:00am – Food and Fellowship

December 24: Christmas Eve Celebration of Holy Communion

5:00pm – Family Candlelight Worship Service

December 29

10:00am – Traditional Worship

(Sunday School and Food & Fellowship will resume January 5.)



Kick-off the Holiday Season with your church family at the Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, **December 1**! Join us after worship to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season!



ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

This devotional is filled with blessings, with the scriptures and reminders we need to hear again and again as we begin a new season. These reminders root us in the fundamental truths of our faith. Many of them are life lessons we teach to children—lessons that adults continue to learn and relearn. They may resemble the blessings we impart to loved ones during special ceremonies like weddings, graduations, or baptisms. You are invited to move through this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead. As you journey through this season, may you find words for belovedness and hope. May you find words for beginning again. For no matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, love is your beginning.

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 worship services during Advent and on Christmas Eve.*

The Remember Niger 2024 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!



Our next *Change for Haiti* Sunday is **December 1**, so please save your extra change to put in the jars on this Sunday.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held **January 12, 2025**. The schedule for this Sunday will be the following:

10:00am Traditional Worship11:00am Congregational Meeting

DONATIONS AND OFFERINGS

Our dedicated counters will be counting your donations and offerings on **December 9 & 31.** 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 27**.



STATEMENT 2024

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

 Total Income
 \$242,770

 Total Expenses
 \$247,103

 Overall Total (Deficit)
 (-\$4,333)



Roy Ginn	December 3	Laura Hurt	December 12
Shelly Willar	December 3	George Smith	December 13
Abdel Yari	December 4	Sharon Nowak	December 13
Vicki Carvelli	December 4	Susanne Meyer	December 14
Juanita Etter	December 5	Charles Brabender	December 15
Graham Mauer	December 6	Scott Zoya	December 18
Bryant Abanei	December 6	Chuck Williams	December 19
Bruce Beck	December 11	Eleanor Hurt	December 23



Sunday, December 1 ~ Hope

9:50am Childcare

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Worship

11:00am Food & Fellowship11:00am Hanging of the Greens

1:00pm El Shadai **Tuesday, December 3** 6:30pm CMA

6:30pm Northern Bells 7:00pm Deacons

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 4
7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 5 6:00pm El Shadai

6:30pm Faith Commission

7:00pm Stewardship Commission 7:00pm Nurture Commission

Friday, December 6

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 7

8:30am Choir Rehearsal 3:00pm El Shadai **Sunday, December 8 ~ Peace**

9:50am Childcare
10:00am Sunday School
10:00am Choral Worship
11:00am Food & Fellowship

1:00pm El Shadai **Tuesday, December 10**

6:00pm Wednesday Women

6:30pm CMA

6:30pm Northern Bells
7:00pm Personnel
7:00pm 12-Step Meeting
Wednesday, December 11

7:00pm Choir Practice
Thursday, December 12
6:00pm El Shadai
Friday, December 13

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 14 3:00pm El Shadai Sunday, December 15 ~ Joy

9:50am Childcare 10:00am Sunday School

10:00am Worship with Northern Bells

11:00am Food & Fellowship

1:00pm El Shadai Monday, December 16 Innovator Articles Due Tuesday, December 17

1:30pm Senior Ministry

6:30pm CMA

7:00pm 12-Step Meeting

Wednesday, December 18 7:00pm Choir Practice Thursday, December 19

6:00pm El Shadai 7:00pm Session Friday, December 20

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 21 3:00pm El Shadai

Sunday, December 22 ~ Love

9:50am Childcare 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship

11:00am Food & Fellowship

1:00pm El Shadai **Tuesday, December 24** 4:45pm Childcare

5:00pm Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Thursday, December 26 6:00pm El Shadai Friday, December 27

7:00pm El Shadai Youth Fellowship

Saturday, December 28
3:00pm El Shadai
Sunday, December 29
10:00am Worship
1:00pm El Shadai
Tuesday, December 31

7:00pm El Shadai New Year's Worship

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Hours
(Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00am-2:00pm)
north@northchurch-mn.org
651-777-4044
(Voicemail is checked Monday, Wednesday & Friday)

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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 Lisa Sellie, 651-770-5943.

Emergency Building Contacts

Thor Sellie (Home: 651-770-5943 or Cell: 612-840-0144) Mike Gerhardson (Cell: 651-808-0307)