

January 2019



News & Views

A newsletter of Northminster Presbyterian Church

Annual Meeting of the
Congregation
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Proverbs 24:3

Pastoral Ponderings

Happy New Year!

While our church liturgical year actually begins with the first Sunday of Advent, and the church program year begins in August, we all tend to think of January as the beginning of something new and fresh. We make resolutions and set goals and plan for the coming 12 months. I'd like to suggest a few possibilities for your planning.

January 27th is the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

Our theme this year is Home Improvement. It has been a year of building improvements, staffing improvements, program improvements and more. We will reflect on those and look ahead to the congregation's resolutions for the new year.

The Adult Education Committee has been working hard to offer

some consistency and variety in adult classes on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. We do book studies, Bible studies, topical studies, and look at current events. We get frequent requests for adult classes and this is an attempt to answer those requests. Try an adult class in 2019. Sign up for Sunday morning at 10:00 or come on Wednesday evening at 6:00 (with dinner at 5:30). Not only are the classes interesting, the other people are fun and you will make some new friends.

John Wright is back with us this month after his sabbatical. Let him know he was missed. Doug and Carol did excellent work in John's absence, but we want him to know we are glad to have him back.

A new year is a good time for a

new experience. Find a new way to participate in the church. Maybe you would like to stuff newsletters once a month or teach preschool. Do you have an interest or a skill you would like to share with others? Is it possible you enjoy data entry, cleaning closets, event planning, doing laundry, or smiling and shaking hands? We have something for everyone and would love to help you find your place.

Christ came to make all things new. So, this year let's all develop those new parts of ourselves and try some new things.

New Year Blessings.
Teri

Worship in January

Sunday, January 6th, we celebrate the story of Epiphany found in Matthew 2. It is a story of angels, and children, and families, and stars. How does God's message come to us? We will celebrate communion.

Sunday, January 13th, we remember the baptism of Jesus. We also ordain and install church officers.

Sunday, January 20th is the second Sunday of Epiphany. Matthew 4 tells the story of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness.

Sunday, January 27th we will explore the Beatitudes from Matthew 5. Are you salt? Light? Blessed?

Annual Meeting lunch

begins at noon on January 27th,
downstairs in Calvin Hall.

Make reservations in the Gathering Place
on Sundays or online:

<http://bit.ly/2019AnnualMeetingLUNCH>

Abundant Joy Update - by Teri Thomas

As we begin the third year of pay-off for our Abundant Joy capital campaign, we want to give an update on the funds you are giving so faithfully.

The funds that have been pledged to debt reduction are already at work paying down the building loan.

The funds for the organ are being deposited in a special "Organ Fund". This money is being invested by the Foundation Board while the Session looks at options all from a smaller organ to another fund drive.

The Mission Fund money is also being invested by the Founda-



tion. Each year the Mission Team will consider possible projects to receive a special grant from that fund. The Mission Team may use up to 5% of accumulated assets each year. To spend more than that amount would require permission of the Session.

If you have questions about your pledge to the capital campaign, please call Lori Schlabach in the church office. If you are interested in one or more of the projects, you may contact Pastor Teri Thomas.

We thank you for your generosity in giving to these special projects and being part of Northminster's Abundant Joy.

New Members

Please welcome our newest members received by the session in November. Their pictures can be found on the bulletin board off of the Gathering Place.

Joan and Tom Branson come to us by letter of transfer from another Presbyterian church. They are retired and interested in becoming active with the Northstars.

Carol Euliss comes to us by reaffirmation from a Lutheran church. She is a nurse and childbirth educator with Community Health Network and is already active in our Chancel choir.

Tristin Rose, Danessa Euliss, and Eridyn Euliss are Carol's grandchildren and students in the Warren Central school district. They too come to us by reaffirmation from a Lutheran church.

Christine Hansen comes to us by letter of transfer from a Presbyterian Church in Delaware. She is an attorney at Ice Miller. She is the mother of two and her daughter Emily comes to worship with her mom.

Sherri Pankratz comes to us by reaffirmation of faith. She is a retired teacher and the mother of two children.

Thank You

Thanks to those who sent Facebook messages, sent cards or included mom, Mary Clark, and me in their prayers during her declining health and ultimate death. Those in my caregiver support group have been understanding and supportive during this journey. Teri's visit and prayer with mom days prior to her death meant a lot to me and I know mom felt God's presence.

The love and support from my church family gives me comfort and support as I grieve my loss. - JoEllen Clark

Rebekah Ryan comes to us by reaffirmation of faith from a Lutheran church. She is Collections Manager at the Eiteljorg Museum and is already active in the Chancel Choir.

Nick and Kristi Walden come to us by reaffirmation of faith. Kristi grew up at Northminster and she and Nick were married at NPC. Kristi works in the family jewelry business (Kirles) and Nick is a construction contractor. They are the parents of Johnny, who was baptized at Northminster a few months ago.

January Education and Discipleship Opportunities

Book of the Month at Northminster

Are you a reader? Do you need someone to read the book and tell you about it? Either way ... join us at 12:15 p.m. in Calvin Hall for pizza and conversation led by Parish Associate Carol McDonald.

Sunday, January 20 – *Everything Happens for a Reason* by Kate Bowler

Bowler is a professor at Duke Divinity School with a modest Christian upbringing, who specializes in studying the prosperity gospel, a creed that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of God's disapproval. At 35, everything in her life points toward 'blessing.' Then she is diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer. *Everything Happens for a Reason* tells her story, offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations on dying and the ways it has taught her to live.

Sunday, February 24 – *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

A masterful novel from the author of *Rules of Civility*, Towles immerses us in the life of Count Alexander Rostov. "When in 1922, the 30 year-old Count is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, he is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. This singular novel relates the Count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose."

Sunday, March 17 – *Not Just Black and White* by Anni K. Reinking, Ph.D.

In Anni Reinking's world, even the smallest occurrence of everyday life raises new questions and reflections, involving sociology, anthropology, religion, and psychology. This is Anni's emotionally and intellectually moving memoir of her life as a white mother raising a black son in multiracial America – but it is much more than that. It's about an extraordinary journey towards awareness and learning. Anni shares her family's story and is open about her own stumbling as a mother through cross-racial experiences in which she has discovered how much she has yet to learn. This book will be released on January 8, 2019, and will be available in hardcover and in paperback. It should also be available at your closest neighborhood library.

Christian Doctrine

Ever wondered about what Presbyterians believe – or not? This six week series, Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm, beginning January 23, 2019, explores this from both the official position of Christianity and the encouragement the Reformers provided to think for oneself. Using the book *Christian Doctrine* by Dr. Shirley Guthrie (\$10 through the church office), participants will briefly discuss the tenets of the faith and then spend significant time in discussion of how they apply to daily life. Topics include:

Session One - "Am I a theologian? What is a doctrine and why do we need them?"

Session Two – "Eureka! I found God – or has God found me? The Doctrine of Revelation"

Session Three – "Did Jesus have to die for ME? The Doctrine of Atonement"

Session Four - "The Devil made me do it! The Doctrine of Predestination"

Session Five- "Why is there evil? The Doctrine of Providence and the Problem of Evil"

Session Six – "Is this all there is? God's power over death and the Doctrine of the Resurrection"

The class will be facilitated by the Rev. Jill Hudson, retired Presbyterian pastor and former Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

Bill Dynes: Exploring "*Cycle Plays*", January 6th and February 3rd at 10:00 am.

Mark Moore: "*The Bible and the New York Times*," January 13th and February 10th at 10:00 am.

Jennifer Dzwonar and Marcia Young: "*Coffee with Krista Tippet*," January 27th at 10:00 am.



NorthStars – Camino de Compostella

Plan to come for bagels and coffee on Friday, January 25th, at 10:00 am in the warmth of Calvin Hall. Carol Frohlich is going to share her Camino de Compostella adventure story. She promises a few pictures, too!

Please make a reservation with Marty Brooks (317-848-6995 or email at n9kyc@yahoo.com) by Wednesday, January 23rd so we can plan on food.

Italian Night in February

Save the Date: Italian Night is Saturday February 23rd 6:00 – 8:30 pm in Calvin Hall. Join us for an

evening of food, faith and fellowship to support the Youth Ministries.

January Youth Group

1/6 Youth Group 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Northminster.

1/27 Youth Group 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Northminster.

Children and Family Ministries

Nursery care, Preschool and Church School classes are available for children during both the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services on

Sunday mornings. On the first Sunday of the month, children grades K-5th remain in worship to participate in Communion.

Questions?

Contact Maureen Wilson, Director of Education and Youth Ministries:

mwilson@northminster-indy.org or 317-251-9489 ext. 18.

What's in a Worship Bag?

Some things are for drawing or writing, some for twisting and bending, some for trying to figure out, and one for watching bubbles fall! Who knew there was so much to do in those red bags? We hope kiddos enjoy them and that everything keeps their hands busy while their ears are open to hear what's going on. Also, be sure to pick up a children's SPARK Bible from the pew rack and read the message to parents. Thanks to Carol Frohlich for the colorful bags!



Confirmation

Confirmation will be offered for students currently in 7th and 8th grades. Confirmation is an opportunity to learn more about faith, to explore what we believe and how to live out those beliefs in the world. With the support of pastoral staff and church mentors, each student will create their own faith statement and, at the conclusion of the class, may choose for themselves if they would like to join the church. Confirmation classes begin January 6th. Those who choose to join the church will be confirmed on April 28th in Worship.

Health Support Group

A new Health Support group has formed with the goal of growing into a circle of friends that provides encouragement to those who are fighting or coping with cancer or any chronic illness. We would like to be a support to the newly diagnosed as well. We don't pretend to have all the answers but feel we can provide some comfort and support through the sharing of our own experiences.

Our next gathering will be on **Monday, January 14, 2019 at 7:00 pm** in the Knox Room. If you would like to participate but cannot make it to the January 14th gathering, please contact either Jim Mann (317-753-3163, jmann@saintlawrence.net) or Terri Hubbard (317-627-2521, tandchloe@icloud.com).

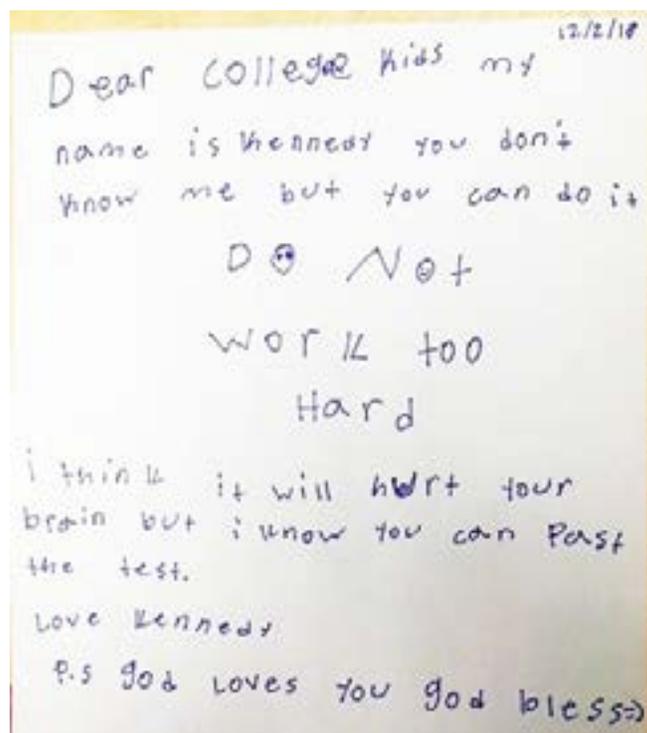


IHN / Family Promise

Once again, Northminster members volunteered over 200 hours during the December stay by 4 families from Family Promise. We extend our sincerest thanks to the following who helped prepare and serve food, drove the van, played with the children, spent the night, set-up and cleaned up, did the laundry:

Gail & Rob Rothrock
 Scott Cavins
 Doug & Teresa Sherow
 Mary Calkins
 Youth Group & Maureen Wilson
 Janet Ingram
 Becky Peterson
 Carrie Savage-Zimmerman
 Jean & John Smith
 Jim & Norma Arend
 Tony & Jennifer Dzwonar
 Bo Walker
 Nan Diehl
 Barb Angotti
 Susie Koriath
 Jackie & Jessie Gritton
 Lori Schlabach
 Josh Hill

Elle & Mick Keppler
 Betty & Bob Bowers
 Loui Lord Nelson
 Corinne Imboden
 Deb Ronco
 Rob Day
 Don Craft
 Ashleigh Rexford
 Karalea Jasiak
 Christie Call
 Melissa Hopkins
 Nancy Flamme
 Julie Shannon
 Mark Moore
 Cheryl Plunkett
 Ricchuito Family
 Rod Mail
 Sandy Corbitto



In 2019, we will be hosting the weeks beginning 3/10/19, 8/11/19, and 11/17/19. We hope you will consider helping this important hospitality outreach when we seek volunteers during those weeks.

- Nancy Jarrell, Dolly Craft, Gabe & Kathryn Goncalves, Coordinators

(Above: This letter was written by a child staying at Northminster during IHN Family Promise week, to be included in a recent college care package.)

January Calendar Highlights

1/1	All Day	Building Closed
1/6	10:00 AM	Confirmation Class/Breakfast
1/8	4:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
1/8	7:00 PM	Team Meeting Night
1/14	6 & 7 PM	Stephen Ministers
1/14	7:00 PM	Health Support Group
1/15	7:00 PM	Session Meeting
1/20	1:00 PM	Peter Johnson, Jr. Celebration of Life
1/21	All Day	Building Closed
1/23	6:15 PM	Wednesday Night Study - Christian Doctrine
1/25	10:00 AM	NorthStars-Walkilng the Camino
1/25	7:00 PM	Sound & Spirit - Connla (Irish)
1/26	9:00 AM	Officer's Retreat
1/27	11:00 AM	Confirmation Class Worship and Lunch
1/27	12:00 PM	Annual Congregational Meeting
1/28	9:30 AM	Stephen Ministers Leaders
1/29	9:00 AM	Newsletter Stuffers

January Birthdays

Mary Ann Perkins	1/2	Pat Johnson	1/14
Nancy Dynes	1/3	Emily Keesling	1/14
Jack Jones	1/3	Catherine Lord	1/14
Roslynn Lancaster	1/3	John Plunkett	1/14
Russell Wareham	1/3	Ann Bruce	1/15
Linda Bell	1/4	Catherine Richardson	1/15
Susan Martin	1/4	Jacqueline Schmidt	1/16
Steven Neterval	1/4	Kate White	1/16
Susan Neville	1/4	Douglas Hooper	1/17
Emily Plunkett	1/4	Elisa Deer	1/18
Kelly Deis	1/5	Janet Ingram	1/18
Cathryn Siegrist	1/5	Erin Bristow	1/19
Vicky Smith	1/5	Alma Miller	1/19
Joseph Fulnecky	1/6	Aimee Scheuermann	1/20
Jesse Noneman	1/6	Charlie Scheuermann	1/20
Joan Wheeler	1/6	Kay Smith	1/20
Clinton Winkler	1/7	Judith Morr	1/23
Christine Hansen	1/9	Benjamin Plunkett	1/23
Victor Perkins	1/9	Isabel Ruegger	1/23
Martha Brooks	1/10	Scott Calwell	1/25
Jill Fouts	1/11	Jean Burton	1/26
Kris Phegley	1/12	Mary Baxter	1/27
Elizabeth Aelick	1/13	Connie Coleman	1/28
Daniel Ent	1/13	Ann Engel	1/29

Thank You to Chancel Care

We appreciate the "behind-the-scenes" work done by the women of the Communion and Chancel Care Guild. This dedicated group prepares the elements for communion, readies the chancel and sanctuary for worship, changes the dossal curtain, and sends cards to church members. Thank you to the following Guild members who served in 2018:

Group Leaders

Marilyn Baumgardt
 Marty Brooks
 Linda Furuness
 Mary Ann McCormick

Members

Eileen Alsop
 Betty Bowers
 Betty Sue Drake
 Sally Gray
 Sharon Gremel
 Mary Holland
 Pat Johnson
 Elle Keppler
 Nancy Leffler
 Pat McVey
 Dorothy Moos
 Lynne Tobin

Chairpersons

Barb Angotti
 Mary Ann McCormick

3B Exercise

3B is now Mondays and Thursdays at 2:30 pm. This exercise class is for all activity levels!

Sound & Spirit presents: Connla

Friday, January 25, 7 pm
in the Sanctuary

Well this is easy. Connla coming to Northminster may not bring all of you out of attic cleaning or back from the beaches in the bleak midwinter but, then again, it might. You might want to learn more about this young group of Irish musicians described as “astonishing and intoxicating” before you make your plans. *Sound & Spirit* proudly presents its first concert of 2019, Friday, January 25, 2019 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary at Northminster.

Hailing from the cities of Armagh and Derry, they are made up of Ciara McCafferty (vocals), Ciaran Carlin (Flute/Whistles) and Paul Starrett (Guitar) Emer Mallon (Harp) and Conor Mallon (Uilleann Pipes/Whistles).

Labelled as the Hottest New Group out of Northern Ireland, (Chicago Irish American News) Connla have been quickly making an impact on the folk/traditional scene. Since the release of their EP in April 2015, and album “*River Waiting*” in July 2016, they have received fantastic reviews at home and internationally. They have already gathered a big following in the UK, Ireland, Europe and the USA. Songlines magazine made Connla their “must see act” for the tour of the UK and stated “A band this young shouldn’t be this good”.



Their sensitive and innovative arrangements of traditional and modern folk songs and tunes, have helped them create a sound which is very identifiable as Connla. They have toured around Ireland, most of mainland Europe and the UK with more tours across Europe and USA organized in 2017/2018. *Irish Music Magazine* stated: “Consider this your early warning system, there is something serious on the horizon and that creative storm is Connla.” (*Irish Music Magazine*)

For more information about Connla, visit their wonderful and very hip (yes, I said “hip”) website

at connlamusic.com to get a taste of what’s coming.

From Bach to jazz to bluegrass, *Sound & Spirit* concerts celebrate regional and international artistry. These concerts are presented free of charge to the Broad Ripple Community and beyond. Funded by supporters and the audience, we accept a free-will offering to maintain standards of future events.

For more about this and all future *Sound & Spirit* concerts, go to: <http://bit.ly/SandS18-19>.