

October 2018



News & Views

A newsletter of Northminster Presbyterian Church

Blessed to be a Blessing

- page 2



VISIT US ON SUNDAYS AT 9:00 OR 11:00 AM

WWW.NORTHMINSTER-INDY.ORG

Blessed to be a Blessing - by Mason King

The easiest time for me to pray is in the morning when I'm driving downtown to work. I turn off the radio and open up a channel to God. I talk about how I'm feeling and think aloud about what I'll need to face the day. And then I'll start free-associating about the things for which I'm grateful. Usually I focus on a different category every day—family, health, treasure, talent, safety—because I could go on for hours but the trip to work is only 20 minutes.

For the last five minutes of the drive (which I know by passing 12th Street on the way to Washington Street), I think about what I can do during the day to be helpful to others. Some days I'm inspired by a particular situation, and some days I'm at a bit of a loss. So thank goodness for the Boy Scout Law. I had to memorize it back in sixth grade as a member of Boy Scout

Troop #174, and in my adult life it has become extremely handy as a quick reminder for responsible behavior.

Here's how it goes: "A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent." Most problematic situations can be addressed with at least one of those adjectives. Lately I've been focusing on "kind," because of my tendency to become annoyed with co-workers as my work piles up over the course of the day. It's fascinating to me how focusing on that word for a few minutes in the morning helps me catch myself in the afternoon when I feel myself getting cross.

When I learned that our stewardship theme this fall was "Blessed to Be a Blessing," I thought of my morning routine. It's not a perfect



interpretation of the phrase (although I invite you to look up Genesis 12:2 in several different biblical translations and see how much variance there is in the wording), but I certainly spend time counting my blessings and then focusing on how I can be a blessing. Perhaps I will add an addendum to the Scout Law over the next couple of months: "A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, reverent and a blessing."

How can YOU be a blessing today?

October Worship

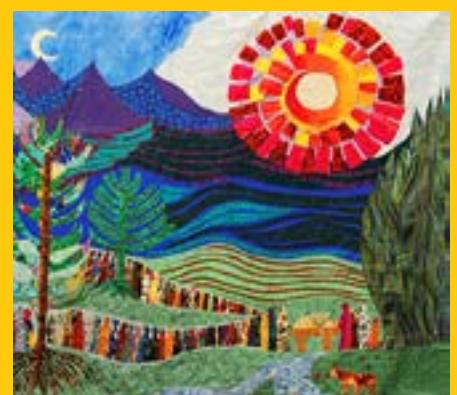
This month our Gospel lessons are all from the 10th chapter of Mark. Jesus is still trying to get the disciples to understand what he is saying about the Kingdom of God. Life in the Kingdom is different. Sometimes it turns our expectations and assumptions upside down.

Our Epistle lessons will be from the Book of Hebrews. We will also be exploring the Stewardship Theme - *Blessed to be a Blessing* - all month.

Sunday, October 7th is World Communion Sunday. Some of the passages in Mark are difficult to hear. Is that how Jesus intended them? How do we respond?

Sunday, October 14th we will explore the haunting question- Do I really deserve this? Do I deserve what God has done for me? Do others deserve more, or less?

Sunday, October 21st we look at the least and the greatest as well as power and perks.



Sunday, October 28th is Commitment Sunday and Reformation Sunday. We will receive 2019 pledges during worship.

Pastoral Ponderings

I knew it was going to be a long Sunday when I left the house at 7:00 am and headed for church. The sky was gray and gloomy. The drivers on 465 were all asleep or just rude. There was a long line at the Starbuck's drive through. When I finally got to the ordering microphone a voice sang out, "Well, good morning. We are so glad you came by to see us this morning on this wonderful day. Let us know what we can do for you."

I was smiling and had a chuckle in my voice as I ordered. The same cheerful voice greeted me at the window. My personal aversion to morning led me to ask, "How is it you can be so cheerful at this hour on a gloomy day?"

"I got a new puppy yesterday. She kept me up all night. I had so

much fun playing and cuddling and chasing her. I am truly blessed. I want you to feel as wonderful as I do today."

She was blessed to be a blessing. Maya Angelou said, "The thing to do, it seems to me, is to prepare yourself so you can be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud. Somebody who may not look like you. May not call God the same name you call God - if they call God at all. I may not dance your dances or speak your language. But be a blessing to somebody. That's what I think."

This month we will explore what it means to be blessed and what it means to be a blessing. Each week I am sending you questions and ideas to ponder as you prayerfully



prepare for Commitment Sunday on October 28th. If you have received blessings or been a blessing and would like to share your story, please let me know.

Blessings to all – *Teri*

Discipleship Small Group Opportunities

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Wednesdays at 7:30 am throughout the year. Prayers are offered for the congregation. Bible study is a video presentation by a scholar in the field.

Parents with a Passion

6:15 pm on Wednesdays. This group discusses topical parenting issues and faith. For parents of all ages. Led by church staff and the group.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

11:00 am, in the Conference Room (admin wing). Study and discussion about the lectionary scriptures, plus prayer and support for each other. Led by Ruth Moore.

American Village Bible Study
1:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Lectionary scriptures are studied and discussed. All are invited to join us – not just those who live at American Village! Led by Ruth Moore.

Wednesday Night Study Group
6:00 – 7:15 pm. This will be an

8-week study of The Great Spiritual Migration by Brian McLaren. McLaren will discuss how the world's largest religion is seeking a better way to be Christian. Join us as we reflect on and explore who we are and who we can become. Parish Associate Carol McDonald will facilitate our discussions.

Copies of the book will be available in the church office (\$12) or you may order from amazon.com.

(Continued, page 4)

Discipleship Small Group Opportunities (Continued from page 3)

You will need your Bible ... the Common English translation if you have access to it.

Please sign up for this study by calling the church office (317-251-9489) or at <http://bit.ly/MigrationSignUp> so we will know how many to expect.

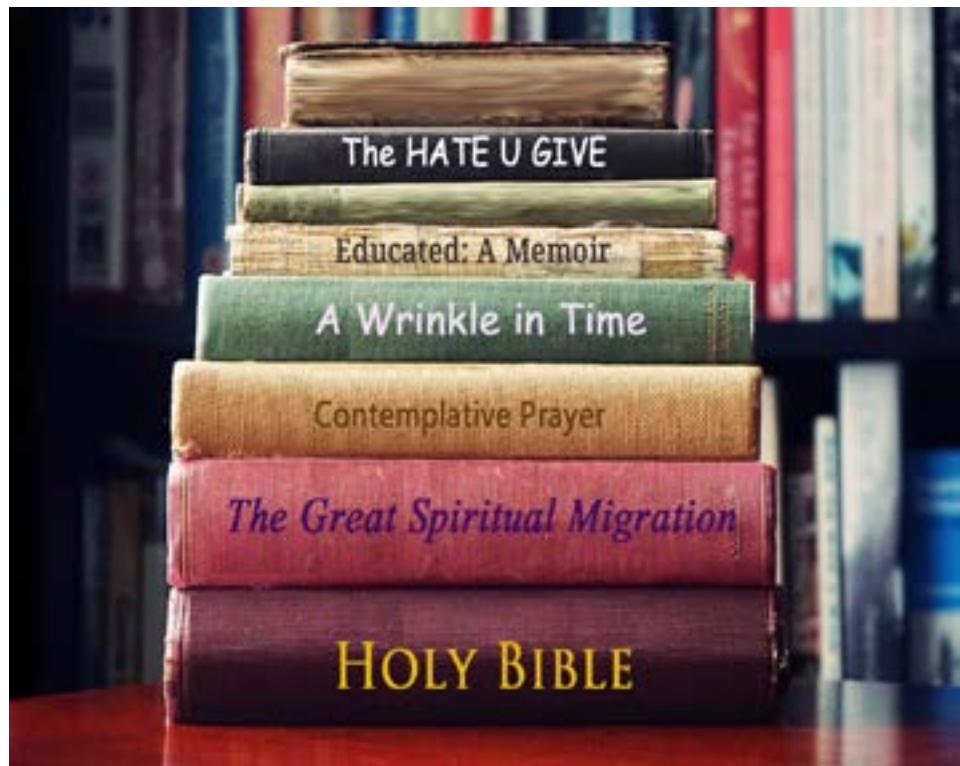
Discipleship in October and November – 10 am in the Board Room

1st Sunday of the Month (Oct. 7 and Nov. 4): Science Fiction Book Discussion. Discussion of *A Wrinkle In Time* by Madeleine L'Engle. Led by Bill Dynes.

2nd Sunday of the Month (Oct. 14 and Nov. 11): *The New York Times and the Bible*. Led by Mark Moore. 4th Sunday of the Month (Oct. 28 and Nov. 25): *Coffee with Krista Tippet*. Led by Jennifer Dzwonar and Marcia Young.

Contemplative Prayer and Meditation

This five-week program will engage you in different contemplative prayer practices designed to help you explore ways to spend time with God. We'll explore 5 types of



prayers. Mary Beth Riner will lead us on Sundays from 5:30-6:30 pm, **October 7 through November 4**, downstairs in the Board Room. Materials for all five sessions is \$10. Register no later than October 1st on our church website. Questions? Contact Mary Beth (mary.riner@gmail.com).

Book Club

Sundays at 12:00 noon. *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas on the

October 21, and *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover on November 18. Led by Carol McDonald and Ruth Moore.

Advent Study

A look at the lectionary scriptures for Advent. 6 pm on Wednesday nights (November 28 – December 19) and 10 am on Sunday mornings, (December 2 – 23). Led by pastoral staff.

What Do Deacons Do?

The Deacons will be bringing communion to home bound members on Sunday, October 7th, which is World Communion Sunday. If you or someone you know would like to have communion

brought to your home, please contact Associate Pastor Ruth Moore at 317-251-9489 or ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org.



New Members

Please welcome these new members who were approved by the Session on September 18.

Emi (Emily) Johnson by reaffirmation of faith. Emi has recently moved here from California to be closer to family – especially her grandchildren. She is a retired educator and was very active as an elder and deacon at her former church in San Leandro, California.

Peggy Brandes by reaffirmation of faith. Peggy is coming to us from a Lutheran congregation. She is a former music teacher and church

choir director. Her daughters, Elizabeth Brandes and Andrea Newsom, joined NPC before her and all three are singing in our Chancel Choir.

Nunda Lutumika and his wife **Salima Binwa Simbi** by reaffirmation of faith. Helene Lutumika by profession of faith and Francois Lutumika by profession of faith and baptism. The Lutumika family has been worshipping with us since they came to Indianapolis through Exodus Refugee Resettlement. Our mission team and a special refugee group have been working with the

Lutumikas to get them settled in an apartment, obtain employment, learn English and to acclimate to living in the United States. They have been faithful attenders and



Deacons – Butter Braids Fundraiser

Butter Braids are coming back to NPC...don't miss out! The Deacons are bringing back the popular and delicious Butter Braids pastries & cookie dough as their fall fundraiser. You may sample (YUM!) the different flavors and place your order in the Gathering Place on the following Sundays during the 10AM fellowship hour: October 7, 14 & 21.

The frozen pastries will be ready for pick-up at NPC on Wednesday, November 7th from 5-8PM, in plenty of time for the holidays!

Look for an order form in this issue of News & Views. Forms can also be found on the information table outside the church office.



This fundraiser is one of two annual events that capitalizes the Deacons' Fund. In turn, this fund supports many programs, such as Communion service & flower delivery to NPC's homebound members, Clothe-a-Child, and

Washington Township Schools "Back to School Extravaganza".

If you have questions, please contact Donna Schmahl: dlschmahl@gmail.com or 317-691-0721.

Clothing Donation for Kids

Oops! Sometimes accidents happen, even at church. Learning and growing sometimes requires a change of clothes.

We are in need of clean 3-T and 4-T sized pants and shorts for when some of our littlest church goers, on the go - accidentally "go". Potty training can be a challenging and let's face it, messy time for families. Whether it's on Sundays during Worship or on Wednesday nights at Child Watch sometimes we need to provide a clean set of clothes for kids to get home.

The clothes should then be laundered and returned to the church until they are needed again. If you



have any new or gently used 3-T or 4-T clothing, especially pants, available to donate to keep our little learners happy, clean and dry, please contact Maureen Wilson or bring them to the Church Office.

October Birthdays

Jerry Gray	10/1	Iona M Smith	10/12
James Mann	10/1	Barbara Stayton	10/12
James Moehring	10/1	James Aelick	10/13
Marilyn Beattey	10/2	Barbara Berting	10/13
Nancy Hill	10/2	Chad Kincaid	10/13
Jennifer Moehring	10/2	Gayle-Sue Murphy	10/13
Bill Dynes	10/3	Charlotte Swenson	10/13
Mary Buchanan	10/4	Courtney May Fisher	10/14
Heather Banks	10/5	Lori Schlabach	10/14
John Coleman	10/5	Megan Klinginsmith	10/15
Jennifer Fisher	10/6	Patricia Kilbury	10/18
Nancy Gradolff	10/6	Rebecca Merkel	10/18
Cullen James Hooper	10/6	Anne Nation	10/18
J. Scott Hawks	10/8	Deborah Everett	10/19
Melissa Ann Hopkins	10/8	Dorothy Moos	10/19
Marjorie Ashby	10/10	Robert A Rogers	10/19
Adam Newsom	10/10	William Diehl	10/20
Josephine Wright	10/10	Mary Kay Henry	10/20
Dawn Boys-Sibley	10/11	Amy M Johnson	10/20
Pennie Lumley	10/11	Elizabeth Spradlin	10/20
Dwight Moritz	10/12	Elizabeth Neterval	10/21
Cheryl Plunkett	10/12	Frank Sauer	10/21
		Michael V Boris	10/22
		Jan Drac	10/22
		Benjamin Johnson	10/24
		Frank Learned	10/24
		Judith Nelson	10/24
		Evan Steger	10/24
		Abigail Hunter	10/25
		Marci Robinson	10/25
		Barbara Angotti	10/26
		Sarah Hittle	10/26
		Charles Cornett	10/27
		Allison Gritton	10/28
		Mae Leech	10/28
		John Brooks	10/29
		Charisse Acklin	10/30
		Anita Day	10/31
		Doris Harmon	10/31
		Jeffrey Kinney	10/31

Youth Group

10/5 – 10/7 PYOCA Fall Conference. Open to middle school and high school students, grades 6-12. (Contact Mo Wilson: mwilson@northminster-indy.org with questions.)

10/7 Youth Group 5:30 - 7:30 pm at Northminster.

10/21 Indy Crop Walk with Northminster congregation.

10/28 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 9:00 and 11:00 am services on Sundays. On the first Sunday of the month, children K - 5th grade remain in worship to participate in Communion.

Clothe-a-Child

Clothe-a-Child this year will be on Thursday, December 6, from 9 am to 1 pm at Target - Glendale Mall (in Broad Ripple). Clothing purchased will benefit the children from IPS / Butler Lab School #55. We are hoping to make this a more community event. We are still working out details, but are planning to use the Gathering Place (at Northminster) this year for our Pizza and Craft time with the kids. We are looking for about 80 volunteers to shop, sort bags, help with bag checking, and to be generous spirits to interact with the children from public school #55.

This important event would not be possible without so many volunteers and generous donations from



you! Each year it takes around \$10,000 and 60-80 people to be successful. Check your offering envelope box and the pew racks for our special Clothe-a-Child

envelopes. You'll be able to sign up soon in the Gathering Place. Questions? Contact Mike Shannon: michaeldeanshannon@gmail.com

It Takes a Village

During our recent IHN/Family Promise hosting week, over 40 volunteers helped with transportation, food preparation, activities, and overnight stays, contributing close to 200 hours. The IHN/Family Promise Coordinators can't thank you enough, as we're sure the 3 families who stayed at Northminster would agree.

Your next opportunity is December 2-9. We will think of Mary & Joseph being turned away from the inn as we open our facilities to 4 homeless families.

Look for sign-ups during November.

Pet Blessing

Celebrate the Animals in your Life at 1:00 pm on **Sunday, October 14th**. All types of animals are welcome if accompanied by a well-behaved human!

The animals will participate in a short group service, receive individual blessings and a certificate. Bring your friends and their pets for this heart-warming service!



Senior Ministry Events

Caregiver Support Group

All caregivers are welcome! You don't have to be a member of NPC to attend. Monday, Oct. 1st at 6:00 pm & Wednesday, Oct. 3rd at 1:00 pm in the Conference room next to Ruth's Office.

Medicare Presentation

Stephanie Balusik-Fultz, Community Outreach Options Counselor, CICOA will present this program:

- Irvington – September 27 at 10am
- Faith – September 27 at 1pm
- Northminster – October 9 at 10am

The Medicare enrollment period is approaching, and you can never have enough information on the all the changes which occur from year to year. This will be a good time to get your questions answered.

RSVP to Denise: dharrington@northminster-indy.org or 317-251-9489 ext. 26.

Medicaid Waiver Presentations

The Indiana Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Waiver program, presented by Stephanie Balusik-Fultz, provides individualized supports to assist people, of all ages, to live successfully in home and community settings. The details of this program are often unknown to people. This is an opportunity to learn more about this underused and vital program. RSVP: dharrington@northminster-indy.org or 317-251-9489 ext. 26.

Dates and locations:

Irvington – October 23 at 10 am.
Northminster – October 25 at 10 am.

Faith – October 30 at 10 am

3B Exercise

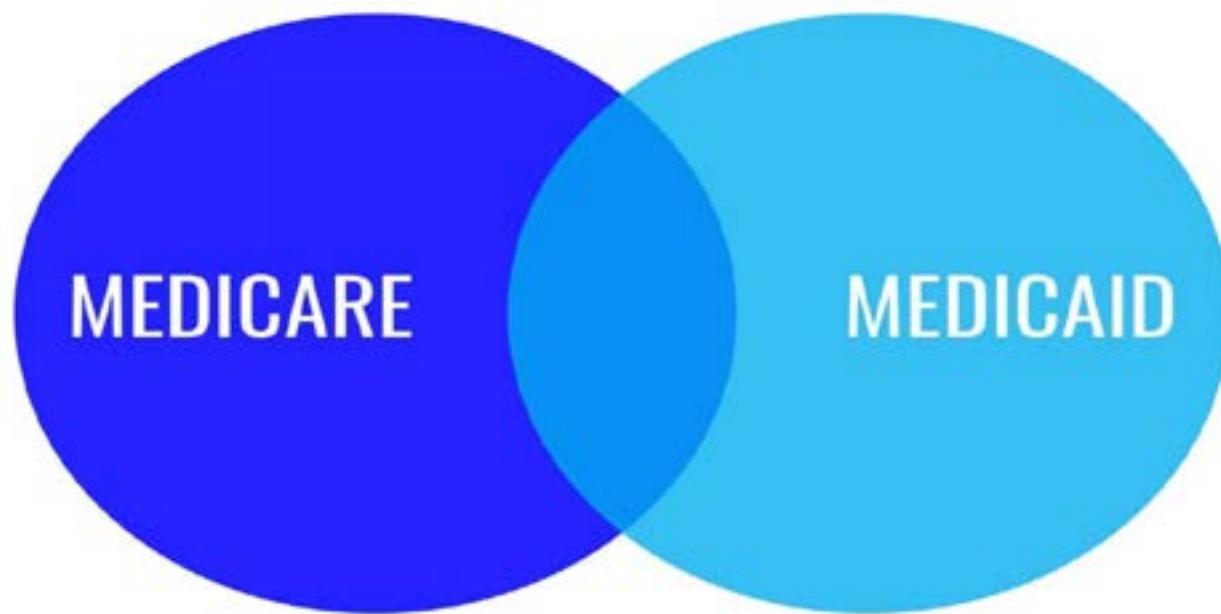
3B is in Calvin Hall, every Monday at 1:30 pm (only until the 1st of November). Thursday class

resumes on November 1st at 1:30 pm. 3B (Body, Brain and Belief) is an exercise class for ages 55 and older focusing on building flexibility, strength and balance; challenges to increase memory and problem-solving skills as new brain cells grow; and time to recall beloved scriptures with devotionals and "scripture in motion." Exercise improves circulation and keeps the brain and body healthy. Therefore, we do 3B!

Contact Denise

If you have questions about Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Caregiving, Rehabilitation Therapy, Estate Planning, Grief, Probate & Guardianship or need a referral for Elder Law, check out the bulletin board outside of Denise's office for updated information.

Denise Harrington can be reached at 317-509-7085 or dharrington@northminster-indy.org. She is at the church on the 3rd Sunday.



October Calendar Highlights

10/2	7:00 PM	Team Meeting Night
10/3	5:00 PM	Kenya GIP Board
10/3	6:00 PM	Great Spiritual Migration Class
10/7	10:00 AM	Wrinkle in Time - Book Discussion
10/7	2:30 PM	NorthStars - Footlight Musical
10/7	5:30 PM	Contemplative Prayer Class
10/8	6 & 7 PM	Stephen Ministers
10/9	10:00 AM	Medicare Presentation
10/9	4:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
10/10	1:00 PM	American Village Bible Study
10/14	10:00 AM	The New York Times & the Bible - class
10/14	12:00 PM	Chancel Choir lunch and rehearsal
10/14	1:00 PM	Pet Blessing
10/16	7:00 PM	Session Meeting
10/21	10:45 AM	Congregational Meeting
10/21	12:00 PM	The Hate U Give - Book Discussion
10/22	9:30 AM	Stephen Ministers Leaders
10/23	7:00 PM	Sarah Circle
10/24	1:00 PM	American Village Bible Study
10/25	10:00 AM	Medicaid Waiver Presentation
10/25	6:00 PM	Mens Prayer Group Dinner
10/28	10:00 AM	Coffee with Krista Tippitt
10/30	9:00 AM	Newsletter Stuffers

Congregational Meeting

**10:45 am
Sunday, October 21**

For the purpose of electing officers.

Please plan to attend this important meeting.

Adult Middlers Dinner Gathering

(We still need a better name for ourselves!)

Anyone one in their mid-40's to early sixties is invited to join this fun group for dinner at the home of Monica and Matt Brase (7961 Ferrell Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46260) at 6 pm on Saturday, Nov. 3rd.

The main dish will be provided and you are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert to share, as well as any adult beverages that you would like. RSVP directly to Monica at whitfieldbrase@yahoo.com.

Date Change: Middlers will meet on November 10th instead of the 3rd.



Brigadoon

Join NorthStars to see Brigadoon!

Please join us for Footlite Musical's production of Brigadoon. Lerner and Loewe's Brigadoon "is the enchanting Broadway musical that inspired the classic MGM film of the same name and countless productions around the world. It features such Great American Songbook favorites as "Almost Like Being in Love", "Come to Me, Bend to Me", and "Heather on the Hill". The mystery and beauty of the Scottish Highlands is the backdrop for this magical tale about following your heart and the power of love. Our own Clarice Stegall will be playing in the pit orchestra!

The date for this event is Sunday, October 7th, at 2:30 P.M. We are

asking that you buy your own tickets on line through Footlite Musicals. The price for adult tickets is \$25.

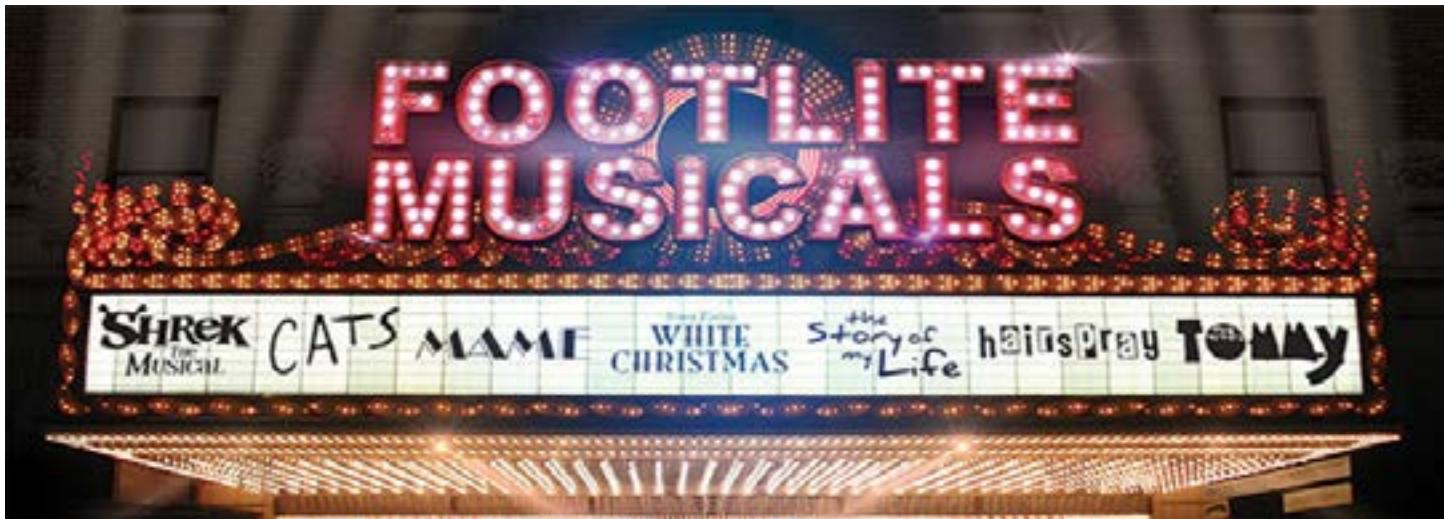
Please google Footlite Musicals, click on *2018 - 2019 Season*, click on *Brigadoon*, then *buy tickets now*, and then select *Brigadoon tickets for Sunday, October 7th at 2:30 pm*.

After you have bought your tickets, please let Marty or John Brooks know. The length of the show is approximately 2 and 1/2 hours. Car pools can be arranged leaving from the church, if desired. Footlite Musicals is located at 1847 North Alabama, Indy, 46202. The phone

number is (317) 926-6630 if you care to call them. They have their own parking lot behind the facility or there is parking on the street.

We will gather for dinner and fellowship following the show at George's Neighborhood Grill located at 6935 Lake Plaza Drive (located around 71st and Binford Blvd. in a shopping center on east side of Binford Blvd. behind the Starbucks).

Contact information for Marty and John Brooks is (317) 848-6995 or email is n9kyc@yahoo.com!



Assistance Needed with Christmas Lite

The Music Ministry's annual Christmas Lite program is scheduled for **1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 2nd**. Now in its 16th year, Christmas Lite began as "Northminster's Christmas Card to the Community." The Chancel Choir took up candy canes and Santa hats, and turned in their sacred music for some decidedly secular tunes. The show involved Children's and Adult Choirs, handbell choirs, soloists, instrumentalists, an obscure act here and there, and an appearance by Santa. Behind the scenes involved recruiting singers and others, costumes, microphones, projectors, screens, props, choreography, purchasing and learning music, rehearsing, and marketing. The show's preparation took a lot of time.

About 8 years ago Director of Music John Wright asked Mike Boris if he would serve as the director of Christmas Lite. Mike has done a fabulous job with the show, pumping new life into this extravaganza, which, incidentally, is a big hit with children. Mike added elves, parody songs, hilarious commercials, the Christmas Lite Band, and included a wider range of acts from Northminster friends and members. Again, the show's preparation takes a lot of time.

So - - - we are in need of your assistance to help make this program a continued positive presence



Mike Boris and Santa!

during the holidays. Please see specific job descriptions below and contact Mike Boris if you are willing to help: MichaelVBoris@gmail.com or 317-965-0378.

Talent Scout - Recruit folks who may have an interesting act for the show.

Stage Manager - Responsible for the physical set up of the stage, including microphones, electrical connections, projector, screen, piano, risers, other props as needed.

(The Congregational Life Team will arrange lunch before this event. More details to come soon!)

THE ARTS AT NORTHMISTER



2018 - 2019 CONCERT SEASON

Marko Petricic, Bayan and Organ

4:00 pm, Sunday,**November 11, 2018**

Marko Petricic plays music of diverse styles and centuries on two instruments – bayan and pipe organ.



Connla

7:00 pm, Fri., January 25, 2019

Five outstanding young musicians play folk and traditional Irish music. Hear what the Chicago Irish American News calls the “the Hottest New Group out of Northern Ireland.” Winners of the 2018 “Concert of the Year” from LiveIreland Livvies.

The Highland Travelers

7:00 pm, Fri., February 22, 2019

Bluegrass heavyweights, the Highland Travelers, bring their energetic picking and plaintive mountain ballads to Sound & Spirit.



Mike Tracy & Hora Certa

4:00 pm, Sunday, April 7, 2019

Jazz musician Mike Tracy and Hora Certa celebrates the music of Brazilian masters and contemporary composers. The ensemble specializes in performing the varied styles and rhythms that are unique to Brazil.

Bach and Mozart

4:00 pm, Sunday, May 5, 2019

The Northminster Chancel Choir, soloists, and orchestra present works by two pillars of classical music – featuring Bach’s Ascension Oratorio and Mozart’s Coronation Mass.

