

# GOOD TIDINGS

Northminster Presbyterian Church  
Sarasota, FL

June 2016

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

God is at work at Northminster! Faith grows most by looking to the past. When we are going through a challenge in the present, our vision narrows. If we are going through pain, we become focused on that pain and look for relief. If we are facing a difficult situation, we become anxious and wonder what the solution will be to fix the problem. In the midst of that, we wonder what God is up to, especially if the pain is great or the situation very difficult.

That is why we must look to the past to help us. We can read the Bible, which is a history of God's actions in the past, and see how God has been faithful. In our own lives, we can look back at times when God was clearly at work, times when events "just happened" to work out. When we look at the past, our perspective on challenges of the present becomes more clear. We can say with faith, "God helped us in the past. He will certainly do so in the future, as well."

I believe Northminster's past has a great story of faith to tell. For example, when Tom Atkins came to Northminster, in January 2004, it was only because the chosen Interim Pastor left to take a permanent position. Tom "just happened" to be available, and the Presbytery recommended him. He was a tremendous blessing to the church as he helped

Northminster form its vision for the future and started it on the path to building the new Sanctuary.

Paul Eckel arrived in 2009 and inspired the church through great preaching. His organizational ability enabled the work necessary to remodel the Fellowship Hall and prepare for the new Sanctuary.

When I came in 2011, all the preparatory work had been done, you voted to build the Sanctuary, and off we went. Three years later, God led us into a campaign toward paying off the mortgage. What a success that has been. You have paid off over half of the mortgage in just over a year!

What can we learn from this history of Pastors? In each case, God brought the right person at the right time for Northminster. And we can be confident he will do so again. Pastoral leadership is only one area in which we can see God at work. The important thing to remember is that God is in charge, God is faithful, and God is at work at Northminster. What we all need to do is trust him and look with anticipation to what and who he will bring to the church in coming months.

In His Grip,

Pastor Chris



### JUNE SERVICES

Sundays at  
10:30 AM

Dr. Christopher Carlson,  
Pastor

#### June 5

*The Ten Commandments  
Part 1: Accept No Substitutes*

Exodus 20:1-6;  
Colossians 3:1-17

#### June 12

*The Ten Commandments  
Part 2: What's In a Name*

Exodus 20:7;  
Philippians 2: 6-11

#### June 19

Rev. Ray Davies  
Guest Minister

#### June 26

Rev. Ray Davies  
Guest Minister

## FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

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### SUNDAY SUNDAES



Everyone is invited to a make-your-own-sundae ice cream social, on Sunday, **June 5**, immediately after the worship service. Bring your appetite and a friend over to the Fellowship Hall and create your own ice cream dream piled high with your favorite toppings. It's all free – so, see you there!

### HOT DIGGITY DOG

Load up a hot dog with your favorite condiments! A free hot dog lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall, after church, on Sunday, **July 3**.

### PRESBYTERIANS EATING OUT

On Monday, **June 13**, we'll meet at 5:00 at the Rusty Bucket, 257 N. Cattleman Rd., across from University Town Center and directly in front of Best Buy.



The Rusty Bucket boasts “comfort food at its best,” with a commitment to fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Come join us as we dine together at one of Sarasota’s newest restaurants. Please sign up in the Narthex.

## FROM THE DEACONS' BENCH

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In 1 Corinthians Chapters 12 and 13 are some verses that support working together as one in Christ. With love, we serve in a most excellent way:

*"The body is a unit, though all its parts are many. So it is with Christ. For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. (12:12-13) Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you a part of it. (12:27)*

*And now, I will show you a more excellent way. If I have faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love never fails! (12:31b & 13:2b 3,8)*

To have experienced all of this, here at Northminster, was truly inspirational. The event was the April 28th meeting of the Peace River Presbytery, which was hosted by Northminster Presbyterian Church. As I left the

Fellowship Hall that afternoon, I was able to sense the amount of time and effort by those involved in making this Presbytery gathering happen.

The various talents, some large and some small, were combined in a well-organized manner. We are all blessed to serve our Lord in some way. When we combined our efforts to host the PRP meeting, the result was truly outstanding. We certainly did not trip over this relatively small bump in the road.

It is truly humbling to be of service in this giving and caring Church.

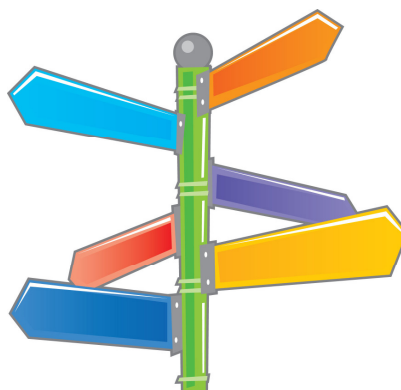
**Helen Healy**, Deacon  
(with thanks to **Dick Murphy** for the scripture selection.)



# WORKING WITH THE PRESBYTERY TO FIND A NEW PASTOR

## Transition Preparedness Team Report

Soon after Pastor Chris informed us that he wanted to leave Northminster, in a year or so, the Session met with leadership of the Presbytery to learn about our options for finding and installing a new pastor. We established a new committee, called the **Transition Preparedness Team (TPT)**, to look at the available alternatives.



So, what's new? The presbytery is now working to find opportunities to adapt alternatives for some parts of the process of finding a new pastor.

When the TPT met with the Presbytery Committee on Ministry on Tuesday, May 10, we requested to use a new adaptive approach for finding a new pastor. This approach would be based on Chris remaining

as our pastor until a new pastor is found. We believe that making only one pastoral change will be less disruptive for the congregation and will allow us to find and call a new pastor faster than other alternatives.

The TPT members are **Bob Price** and **Tom Latimer** as co-leaders, **Mary Ann Colter**, **Sally Kirby**, **Barry Ladd**, and **Mary Stoltie**. Bruce Wismer, a minister at Pine Shores Presbyterian Church and member of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry (which governs the process for finding and calling a new pastor) has worked to support the Team.

The Presbytery Committee agreed with our approach and identified several items for the TPT and Session to work on, to better define some parts of the plan. When this is completed satisfactorily, the Presbytery Committee on Ministry will approve the creation of our Pastor Nominating Committee and we can start the work of finding our next pastor.

Historically, when a pastor decided to go somewhere else, the pastor left and a committee from the church, with the help of the Presbytery, found an Interim Pastor. If you were here before Pastor Chris was called, you experienced an Interim Ministry.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through April our Operating Fund is in the black. Your attention to your pledges has helped, and a one-time gift of \$9,000 has put us in the black for the month and year-to-date.

April Operating Fund Results:

	<u>Apr 2016</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$35,015	\$115,551
Expense	\$25,805	\$111,498
Net Income	\$ +9,210	\$ +4,053

Our Mortgage Balance as of April 30, 2016 \$619,370

**Harry Wilde**, Treasurer  
**Bob Silver**, Co-Treasurer  
**Jack Tibbets**, Business and Finance Manager





## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

### PLANS FOR FALL WOMEN'S PROGRAMS

The PW Coordinating Team will meet on Monday, **June 6**, at 10:30 in the Library. We will continue planning our programs for the upcoming program year (September through May).

There are still two positions to be filled on the Coordinating Team. The Team is looking for new members and fresh ideas. If you think you might be able to help us, please talk to **Evelyn Gale, Barbara Clark, Val Wilde, Jane Clark, Joan Melnick, or Debbie Latimer** for more details.

### WOMEN'S CIRCLES

The Women's Circles have finished their Bible study for this year and will take the summer off. Meetings resume, with a new Bible study, in September. Women wishing to join a Circle, may contact any of the circle leaders listed below.

**Esther Circle:** First Thursdays  
Leader—**Joan Melnick**

**Ruth Circle:** Third Mondays  
Leader—**Valerie Wilde**

**Mary Circle:** Last Wednesday of the month  
Leader—**Debbie Latimer**



## WHO YA GONNA CALL?



Have you ever had a question about something at Northminster and didn't know who to ask? The following Committee Chairs and volunteers will be happy to help you with concerns in their area(s).

### **Christian Education**

• Sally Kirby\* and Dick Murphy\*

**Clerk of Session** • Sally Kirby\*

**Communication** • Bob Price  
and Rich Rhodes\*

**Fellowship** • Mark Goslin\* & Nancy Haas

**Finance** • Tom Latimer

**Librarian** • Aleta Blachly\*

**Membership** • Valerie Wilde\*

**Mission Ministry** • Bob Silver  
& Gene Colter

### **Nominating Committee**

• Jim Stoltie

**Parish Life** • Betty Miller\*

**Personnel Committee** • Jan Rand

**Presbyterian Women** • Evelyn Gale\*

**Property** • Jim Christie\* & Larry Brown

**Worship** • Sanford Mullet

### **NPC Officers**

**President** • Bob Silver

**Vice President** • Tom Latimer

**Secretary** • Sally Kirby\*

**Treasurer** • Harry Wilde

\* indicates not currently on Session

### **Board of Deacons**

J.B. Donaldson —Moderator

Cyndi Carlson, Mary Ann Colter,

Arianne Dahlem, Helen Healy, Fran McGuire,

Eileen McKenzie, Martie Myers,

Jeanne Peters, and Robin Sutcliffe

## MISSION MINISTRY

### BIBLE MISSION USA A Ministry of Caring



A friend, who helps us deliver our *Gospels of John* to organizations working among the homeless, recently told about a small group of sadly sidelined souls who get together, now and then, trying hard to keep each other's spirits up.

One of them was reading her own copy of *John* and showed the others a couple of verses that had helped her. She learned that God's Spirit has been given, not only to others, but to her personally. She then claimed the promise of Jesus: *I will never abandon you like orphans. I myself will come to be with you always.* (John 14:17-18 BMV)

This is all the story I know. But it is enough to confirm that the needy among us are finding hope in our pocket-size *Gospel of John*. And it reinforced the message that the promise of Jesus' presence is absolutely vital for those who live lonely and isolated lives. This is why Christians treasure Christ's promise, "You are never alone!"

Because of your support, BIBLE MISSION USA becomes your hand, reaching out and touching the lives of the needy and lonely all around us.

**Paul T. Eckel, President**  
BIBLE MISSION USA

### FREE WHEELCHAIR MISSION

Free Wheelchair Mission (FWM) works around the world in partnership with a vast network of humanitarian, faith-based, and government organizations, sending wheelchairs to disabled people, providing the gifts of mobility, dignity, independence, and hope.

It costs \$77.88 to construct and ship the durable all-terrain wheelchair, to a disabled person in a developing nation. Please make your check out to Northminster and note "FWM" on the memo line or on your envelope.

### ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK School Ends—Hunger Begins

For 21,000 Sarasota County school children, summer is the hungriest time of the year. When school lets out, they no longer receive free lunches and breakfasts.

Please remember to bring donations of canned or boxed food staples and place them in the yellow barrel in the Narthex. *Please do not donate anything in glass containers.*

Some of the most needed items are:

rice	dried beans	canned fruit
pasta	tomato sauce	canned meat & tuna
nuts	peanut butter	canned spaghetti

Dear Friends at Northminster Presbyterian Church,

What a wonderful day Peace River Presbytery experienced at Northminster. Your lovely Sanctuary provided for worship and meetings, and we all enjoyed lunch and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

Many thanks to the choir and talented musicians, who enhanced our worship time, and to Pastor Chris for his leadership. But, most of all, thank you to the "ASK ME" people, who answered all our questions with joyful smiles. You were a blessing to all. Thanks for the Northminster family in your continued service to our community.

Blessings,  
**Lil Rea**, Peace River Presbytery Moderator, 2016





## FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

### OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 9:00 - 3:30  
Fri: 9:00 - 2:00

### DEADLINES

- **Sunday Bulletin announcements** are due in the office by **noon every Wednesday**.
- **Good Tidings:** The deadline for the July issue of the *Good Tidings* is **Wednesday, June 15**. Please make sure your articles and announcements are submitted to [office@npcsarasota.org](mailto:office@npcsarasota.org) on time.
- **Session Committee Reports** are due in the office by **Wednesday, June 8**, for the **June 15** meeting.

### JOB OPENING:

#### SUMMER BULLETIN COLLATORS

During the summer we need volunteers to fold and collate the weekly bulletins. This can be done, by a team of two, in about one hour. You pick the time between 9AM and 2PM on Fridays!

To lend a helping hand, please call **Joan Melnick** or call or email me in the office.

Thanks!

*Isabel Oake*

Office Administrator



## Congregational MEETING

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 5, immediately following the Worship Service, to elect two Ruling Elders to serve on the Session. The Nominating Committee will place the following names up for election:

**Betty Miller**, Session Elder Class of 2017-18  
**Richard McGuire**, Session Elder Class of 2018-19

- 1 Rita Dralus
- 2 Ron Conner
- 3 Wayne Cain
- 6 Harry Neal
- 7 Flo Goldner
- 8 Shelley Cushman
- 9 Joan Thomas
- 11 Dave Messinger
- Mark Goslin
- 12 Bobbi Shay



- 13 Cyndi Carlson
- Jane Clark
- 15 Karin Ciholas
- Tom Clawson
- 22 Betty Stemple
- 27 Martie Myers
- 29 Paul Ciholas
- Larry Harvell
- Lori Ladd



**Northminster Presbyterian Church ☩ 2016**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p align="center"><b>Locations</b></p> <p>EB=Education Bldg.            FH= Fellowship Hall            L= Library            PS = Pastor's Study            S= Sanctuary</p> </div>			<i>1</i> 10:30 Artists-EB	<i>2</i> 10 Bible Study -FH 1:30 Finance Committee-L	<i>3</i> 2 Line Dancing -FH	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> 10:30 Worship/ Communion 11:30 Ice Cream Social-FH 7 Iglesia*	<i>6</i> 1 Tech Help-FH 5:30 Fellowship Committee-L 7 Boy Scts	<i>7</i> 9 Med Ombuds 10 Staff-L 12 Worship Committee (L) 7 Rose Group Women's AA(FH)	<i>8</i> 10:30 Artists-EB 1 Pinochle-FH  <b>Session Committee Reports Due</b>	<i>9</i> 1 Adventures in Membership Committee-FH	<i>10</i> 2 Line Dancing -FH	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 10:30 Worship 7 Iglesia*	<i>13</i> 1 Tech Help-FH 1 Discipleship Square-L 5 Presbyterians Eating Out 7 Boy Scts	<i>14</i> 9 Med Ombuds 10 Staff-L 2 Deacons-L 7 Rose Group Women's AA(FH)	<i>15</i> 10:30 Artists-EB 7 Session-L  <b>Good Tidings Deadline</b>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 2 Line Dancing -FH	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> 10:30 Worship 7 Iglesia*	<i>20</i> 1 Tech Help-FH 7 Boy Scts	<i>21</i> 9 Med Ombuds 10 Staff-L 7 Rose Group Women's AA(FH)	<i>22</i> 10:30 Artists-EB 1 Pinochle-FH	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 2 Line Dancing -FH	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 10:30 Worship 7 Iglesia*	<i>27</i> 1 Tech Help-FH 7 Boy Scts	<i>28</i> 9 Med Ombuds 7 Rose Group Women's AA(FH)	<i>29</i> 10:30 Artists-EB	<i>30</i>	* The Spanish speaking congregation of <b>Iglesia del Redentor</b> , led by Pastor Daniel Rosales, meets on Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall.	

***GOOD TIDINGS***

**Northminster Presbyterian Church  
3131 61st Street  
Sarasota, FL 34243-2542**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #526  
Manasota, FL

“In God we trust”

**CURRENT RESIDENT**

*PLACE LABEL HERE*

**Northminster Presbyterian Church**  
*“Called by Christ. Sent by Christ.”*

**STAFF:**

**Dr. Christopher C. Carlson**, Pastor  
*pastorchris@npcsarasota.org*

**Isabel Oake**, Office Administrator  
*office@npcsarasota.org*

**Jack Tibbets**, Business & Finance Manager  
*jack@npcsarasota.org*

**Sally Kirby**, Clerk of Session  
*clerkofsession@npcsarasota.org*

**Edward L. Stiles, Jr.**, Music Director

**Jay Snyder**, Organist

**SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 a.m.**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

9:00 AM - 3:30 PM Monday—Thursday  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Friday

**PHONE:** 941-355-4729

**FAX:** 941-351-2162

**E-MAIL:** [office@npcsarasota.org](mailto:office@npcsarasota.org)

**WEBSITE:** [www.npcsarasota.com](http://www.npcsarasota.com)



**Northminster Presbyterian  
Church Sarasota Florida**

Northminster Presbyterian Church ***Good Tidings*** is published for members and friends of the church to promote its programs and the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

**Please notify the office of any address, phone, or e-mail changes.**