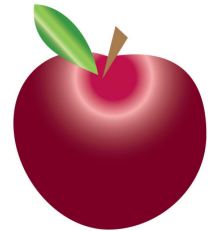


# Good Tidings



Northminster Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, FL

## The Pastor's Corner



Dear Friends,

By the time you read this article, Northminster will have chosen a Pastor Nominating Committee. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is a special committee elected by a Congregation to seek out and nominate a new Pastor for the church. It is one of the most important committees to ever serve in a particular church. The action of the PNC, in nominating a Pastor to a congregation, is critical in the life of that church for many years.

I want to say, again, although it may seem like a long time since I announced, in late March, that I would leave sometime next summer, choosing a PNC has actually happened very quickly. Your leadership has acted with diligence and speed to connect all the dots with the Presbytery, and within the church, to make this happen. You should pause and thank God that we are where we are so soon. It has been readily apparent that God has been leading this whole process and that he will continue to do so.

I am very excited by our new PNC and encourage you to pray for them often. They have a challenging (and yet wonderful) task ahead of them, as they look for a new Pastor. Your last PNC (the one that nominated me) received over one hundred applications

and I am sure this PNC will receive just as many, if not more. Northminster is an attractive church, with great people, and a new building in a great location.

How long will this process last? Typically, it lasts six months to a year (sometimes longer). However, please don't be discouraged. No one appoints a Pastor to a Presbyterian church. You get a voice, through the PNC (which you elected), about who your next Pastor will be. And that is a very good thing. Finding the person that God has chosen to be your next Pastor takes time, but it is time well spent. In the meantime, things are going well, and God is in charge.

As your Pastor, I have the great privilege to walk with you during some of your most difficult times. That can be very hard sometimes. However, because of who God is, and what he has done and will do, I get to say to you, "What you are going through feels like defeat. It is not. In fact, it will lead to great victory. God wins in the end. And because he wins, we do as well."

In His Grip,  
Pastor Chris

**SEPTEMBER SERVICES**  
Sundays at  
**10:30 AM**

**Dr. Christopher Carlson,**  
Pastor

**September 4**

*Lessons Learned  
Along the Way*

Rev. Myles MacDonald,  
Guest Pastor  
Proverbs 3:1-6;  
Philippians 4:4-7

**September 11**

**-Communion-**

*The Ten Commandments  
Part 10: Be Satisfied  
with What You Have*  
Exodus 20:17

**September 18**

*What You Believe  
Makes a Difference*

Romans 12:1-2;  
1 John 4:1-3

**September 25**

*How to Know What's True*  
Ephesians 4:14-16

## Come, Sing in the Choir!



Do you have a desire to serve the Lord? Do you wish to be part of our Worship Service? Do you find yourself smiling and humming along with the choir? **Thursday, September 1, at 6:45** the choir begins its new season.

Come sit in with us, whether or not you've ever sung in a choir, whether or not you feel that you have a singing voice. Come experience the fun and enjoyable feeling of serving the Lord through his music.

## Becoming a Contagious Church



*Bible Study with Dick Murphy starts September 18 Sundays at 9 AM and Thursdays at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall.*

Adult Sunday School will resume on **September 18** at 9:00 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. The class will be repeated on Thursday mornings at 10:00, beginning **September 22**.

**Dick Murphy** will lead a 14-week discussion on how contagious Christians can build a contagious church. To be a contagious church, congregants must first become a contagious Christian infected with the life of Christ so that it can spread to others. Being a contagious Christian is self-evaluation of how each person fits into the Kingdom of God. Being a contagious church is Christ-evaluation of who Jesus says we are and what we must do as the body of Christ, to fulfill his vision for Northminster.

Pastor Rick Warren, in his book *The Purpose Driven Life*, says that a day will come when every person will stand before a holy God and answer the question, "What did you do about my Son, Jesus Christ?" The answer lies in how we lived our individual lives

as followers of Christ, and how we responded, corporately, to Christ's commands to tell others about him.

This study will be an active discussion on how well we, and the church, are doing. Are we reaching out or holding back? As mature Christians, God expects much from us because of our knowledge and experience. He wants us to set an example of what a mature congregation can accomplish, even as we walk in the valley of the shadow of death. At Northminster, we know how to get things done and God is leading us.

This study will explore answers to difficult questions. Why don't all retired and "empty-nest" families in our area go to church? Why do some churches explode with growth and others struggle? What would it take to get unchurched people to come to Northminster? How contagious are we? The purpose of this study is twofold: to see how blessed we are to be in God's kingdom now, and to proclaim that we are not yet finished!

## On the Road to Finding a New Pastor

The Transition Preparedness Team (TPT), led by **Tom Latimer** and **Bob Price**, is very pleased to let you know that great progress was made in August toward our goal of finding a new Pastor.

Our Northminster Church Nominating Committee, led by Jim Stoltie, proposed five church members to be the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). At the August 28th, Congregational Meeting, you formally elected them to the Pastor Nominating Committee. As you may already know, they are **James Christie, Marlys Miinch, Richard Murphy, Robert Silver and Valerie Wilde**.

Thanks to **James Stoltie, Nancy Haas, Mary Ann Colter, Bob Gubrud, Bess Mitchell, Diane Price and Rich Rhodes**, of the Church Nominating Committee, for their prayerful consideration of candidates and proposal of the new PNC members.

This PNC is the group that will, ultimately, be responsible for identifying potential pastor candidates

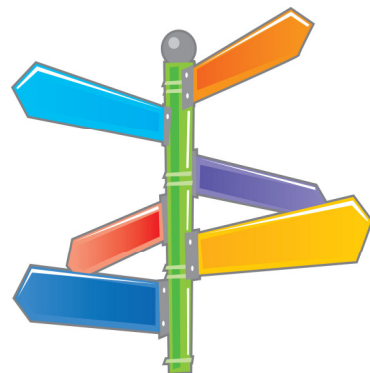
and bringing their final selection to the members of the church for approval.

The members of the PNC will work to find the new pastor, coordinating with the Presbytery liaison and the Transition Preparedness Team, as needed, for the duration of the process.

Initially, the Presbytery will conduct training for the new PNC members on how to handle committee business, what requirements must be met, and how they will work with the Presbytery. Gene George, a member of Pine Shores Presbyterian Church, is our liaison partner with the Presbytery, and he will conduct additional training to help the Committee get started.

While the PNC is busy with their work, the Transition Preparedness Team (TPT) will continue to communicate with the congregation, to prepare all of us for the arrival of our new pastor.

**Tom Latimer** and **Bob Price**, Co-Chairs of the Transition Preparedness Team



*Members of the Pastor Nominating Committee have been elected and will work with the Presbytery and the Transition Preparedness Team.*

## From the Deacons' Bench

Is your telephone kind of dusty?  
Is talking with God kind of rusty?  
Are you helpless and all alone?  
Dust off your Bible, it's God's telephone --  
-- you might have a call coming in !

*For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if only you would hear his voice.*

Psalm 95:7 (NIV)

Remember that God has called deacons to serve his flock. Call upon your Deacon, as well.



## The Presbyterian Church in Kirkuk, Iraq



*Tens of thousands of Christians fled – by car, by bus, on foot – seeking shelter wherever they could find it.*

Presbyterian Church in Kirkuk is about 100 miles from Mosul in a stable Kurdish-controlled area. The church has always been involved in a vibrant ministry to the people in the area. But in 2014, everything changed. In the streets around town, entire families stood dazed and bewildered, clutching small parcels of their personal belongings.

ISIS had taken Mosul and had pressed on into the nearby Nineveh Plain. Ahead of them fled tens of thousands of Christians – by car, by bus, on foot – seeking shelter wherever they could find it. More than 70 of them ended up living in the Presbyterian Church in Kirkuk, where every classroom and office became a small apartment. They are all still there and, with the help of other Christians all over the world, the church continues to help them, as best they can.

Although the tragic events in Iraq from the summer of 2014 have mostly faded from our daily news cycles, the past is very much present for Rev. Haitham Jazrawi and his congregation at the Presbyterian Church in Kirkuk.

What can we do to help? Though we cannot be there in person, our gifts go a long way to help this church and, through them, the people to whom they minister. It is on the front lines of God's work in that area and is doing magnificent work there responding to the needs of Christians and Muslims who fled their homes when ISIS invaded.

In addition to supporting refugees, the church runs a full-time school, which is attended by Christian and Muslim children, and is a great witness for Christ to the Muslims in the whole area.

## Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center



*During the past year, SPARCC provided 6,503 shelter days to a total of 187 adults and 117 children.*

Instances of sexual violence have been among the top news stories recently. We have heard the grim statistics that one in four women will be touched by domestic violence in her lifetime. SPARCC is the only state-certified center for domestic violence and sexual assault services for Sarasota and DeSoto Counties. They provide a 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelter, and multiple services for survivors of abuse. In addition, SPARCC is actively engaged in addressing and changing social norms that support violence against women. Last year they expanded their male engagement program which seeks to

educate and empower men and boys to be part of the solution in preventing all forms of violence and discrimination against women.

All of SPARCC's programs and services are provided free of charge. These programs cannot exist without the support of the community. This month SPARCC is featured as NPC's local mission emphasis. Please make your contributions by using the mission envelope found in your bulletin, checking "local mission" on your offering envelope, or writing SPARCC on the memo line of your check.



## All Faiths Food Bank

All Faiths Food Bank is the hub of hunger relief in Sarasota and DeSoto Counties. They pick up donated food, sort it, fill partner agency orders, deliver to 184 agencies and programs that distribute the food, and host mobile pantries that give food directly to clients in need. AFFB provides food for 51,000 residents every year; families with children, the elderly, the unemployed, and the low-income earners.

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

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



*68% of food bank clients regularly choose between food and medicine; 57% choose between food and paying for shelter.*

## Other Mission Collections

### TOILETRIES FOR RESURRECTION HOUSE

Resurrection House provides clients with laundry services, meals, private showers, and restrooms. Save your hotel **soaps and shampoos** and other toiletry items for this ministry. (If you have clothing to donate, please take it directly to Goodwill or the Salvation Army.)

### PULL TABS FOR SHRINERS HOSPITAL

We collect pull tabs from soda and food cans in a jar on the shelf in the Narthex. Money from recycling the tabs is used by the Shriners for their Wheel Chair Repair Fund at the Tampa Shriners Hospital for Children.

### BOX TOPS FOR THORNWELL HOME FOR CHILDREN

For many years, Northminster collected Campbell's soup labels to help raise money for Thornwell Home for Children. Although that program has ended, we will continue to collect Box Tops for Education.

Each Box Top coupon is worth \$.10 and they are available on a wide variety of products. Look for them on General Mills cereals, Betty Crocker baking mixes, Pillsbury refrigerated biscuits, Ziploc storage bags, and more. Pick up a complete list at the Welcome Desk or the Church office.

Located in Clinton, SC, Thornwell Home began as an orphanage for children of the Civil War. Today, they provide residential care and community-based family programs throughout the states of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Thornwell is an independent, non-profit ministry, in a covenant relationship with the PC(USA).



*Kindergarteners at Thornwell Home for Children, Clinton, SC*

## Fellowship Activities

### PRESBYTERIANS EATING OUT



We will be dining at Gecko's Grill & Pub on **Wed-nesday, September 14**, at 5:00. Gecko's is locally owned and operated, with six locations in the area. We'll be visiting their restaurant at 351 Cattleman Road, just north of Fruitville Road. Gecko's uses locally grown produce to bring the freshest and tastiest veggies to the table and to support the local economy. Enjoy their gour-met pub fare and nightly chef's specials. Sign up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please call **Susie Smith** or **Ron Handwork**.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT I-75 AND UNIVERSITY?

Are you as confused as I am? Do you want to understand what's going on with the construction? Well then, you are in luck! Our September Fellowship Breakfast will feature Mr. Robin Stublen, Project Communications Specialist, with the Florida Department of Transportation, who will explain it all for us. Come to the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, **September 24**, at 9:00, where, for a donation of only \$5.00, you can enjoy a pancake breakfast and learn the answers to the Suncoast's biggest riddle. Please sign up in the Narthex so we'll know how many to expect.

### BREAK OUT YOUR DANCING SHOES!

Join us on **October 7** at 2:00, in the Fellowship Hall, for Line Dancing! No experience needed. All are welcome for the social, fun, and exercise benefits.



## Financial Update

Again, in July, our expenses exceeded our income. This is normal for the summer and the good news is that we are still in the black for the year-to-date. Please make sure your pledge giving and planned giving is up to date. Thank you for your continuing support of the Ministry of Northminster Church.

### July Operating Fund Results

	<u>July 2016</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$24,949	\$194,211
Expense	<u>\$26,547</u>	<u>\$192,759</u>
Net Income	\$ -3,389	\$ +1,452

The mortgage balance, as of July 31, 2016, was \$541,357

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

## Presbyterian Women

### GOT ANTIQUES?

The first Presbyterian Women's program of the year will be on Monday, **September 12**, at 11:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Ken Davidson from Antiques & Chatchkes on Fruitville Road will be our guest speaker. You are encouraged to bring one or two of your antiques for Ken to talk about and evaluate for free. Lunch will be provided by the members of Mary Circle. Please sign up in the Narthex.

### COORDINATING TEAM

Thank you to these ladies for filling positions on the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team: **Evelyn Gale** and **Rita Dralus** are Co-Moderators, **Linda Bennett** is Secretary, **Debbie Latimer** is Treasurer, **Jane Clark** is Missions Liaison, **Val Wilde** is

Search Chairperson, and **Barbara Clark** is Membership and Historian.

Because our usual meeting day falls on Labor Day, the PWCT will meet instead on Tuesday, **September 6**, at 10:30, in the Education Building.

### CIRCLE MEETINGS RESUME

Women's Circles will be starting again in September. Our Bible study book is entitled *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*. If you want a book before your September meeting, ask your Circle leader for a copy. As usual, they cost \$9. All women are invited to join one of our three Circles to share Bible study and fellowship. Being a member of a Circle can provide friendship and support in your faith journey. You are welcome to attend any of the dates and times below. No special invitation needed!



### SEPTEMBER PW MEETINGS

All Circles meet in the Library

**PWCT:** Tuesday, Sept. 6, 10:30  
(in the Education Building)

**Esther Circle:** Thursday,  
September 1, 12:00  
Leader—**Joan Melnick**,

**Ruth Circle:** Monday,  
September 19, 10:00  
Leader—**Valerie Wilde**

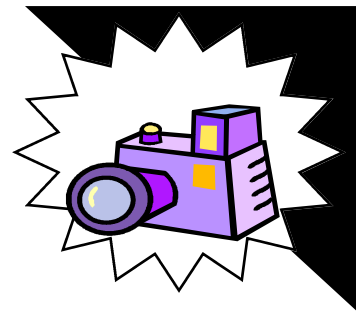
**Mary Circle:** Wednesday,  
September 28, 10:00  
Leader—**Debbie Latimer**

## 2017 Photo Directory

When Pastor Chris first came to Northminster, he found the Photo Directory an indispensable aid in learning the names and faces of the congregation. As we enter the search for a new pastor, it is time to plan a photo directory to welcome him/her to the NPC family.

Portraits, for our next directory, will be taken by LifeTouch professional photographers **October 18-20**. Volunteers will begin making appointments for photo sessions later this month.

There is no cost to our church, and no obligation to purchase anything. Each participating family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a copy of the directory. We will receive only enough directories to give to those who have their pictures included.



*LifeTouch photographers  
will be here  
October 18-20.*

## From the Church Office



### DEADLINES

- **Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin** are due in the office by **noon every Wednesday**.
- **Good Tidings:** The deadline for the October issue of the *Good Tidings* is **Thursday, September 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, September 14**, for the **September 21** meeting.

### OFFICE HOURS:

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

**The office will be closed on Monday, September 5, for Labor Day.**

### OFFICE ANGELS

Thank you to **Barbara Clark, Jackie Conner, Jan Gubrud, Pat Patterson** and **Val Wilde** for staffing the office in August, while I was on vacation.

*Isabel Oake*

Office Administrator

## September Birthdays



2	Ardis Haist	11	Donna Bagnall
4	Joan Gale	15	Jackie Conner
	Ann Lassig	16	Trudy Grempe
6	Barbara Clark	18	Jim Shirey
8	George Hagen	21	Lillian Quigley
	George Thomas	26	Bill Post
9	Jean Wadsworth	27	Carol Tibbets
			Jerry Roth

## Just for You

### FREE TECH HELP

If you wish you knew how to use your iPhone, computer, or tablet, and don't know who to ask, this individual training is for you!

Just bring your device to the Fellowship Hall **at 1:00 on Monday afternoons** and **David Stoltie** will be glad to help you.

### MEDICAL OMBUDSMAN

**Dr. Barry Ladd**, a retired family physician, is available Tuesday mornings by appointment, to see parishioners who have questions about their illnesses and treatment.

He does not diagnose or prescribe treatment. All conversations are free, private, and confidential. Please call the church office to schedule an appointment.



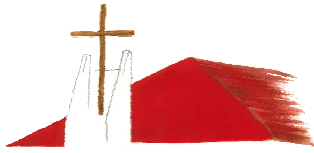




# september

## Northminster Presbyterian Church ☩ 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Locations</b>            EB=Education Bldg.            FH= Fellowship Hall            L= Library            PS = Pastor's Study            S= Sanctuary</p>		<p>* The Spanish speaking congregation of <b>Iglesia del Redentor</b>, meets Sunday &amp; Tuesday evenings.</p>		<p><i>1</i>            12 Esther Cir-L            1:30 Finance Committee-L            6:45 Choir-S</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p>
<p><i>4</i>            10:30 Worship            7 Iglesia-FH*</p>	<p><i>5</i>  <b>Labor Day</b>  <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p><i>6</i>            9 Med Ombuds            10Staff-L            10:30 PWCT-EB            11:00 Worship Committee-L            5:30 Fellowship Committee-L            7 Rose Group            Women's AA</p>	<p><i>7</i>            10:30 Artists-EB            1 Bridge-FH</p>	<p><i>8</i>            6:45 Choir-S</p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p>
<p><i>11</i>            10:30 Worship/ Communion            11:30 Congregational Meeting            7 Iglesia-FH*</p>	<p><i>12</i>            11:30 PW Program-FH            1 Tech Help-FH            1 Discipleship Square-L            7 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>13</i>            9 Med Ombuds            10Staff-L            11 Maundy Thursday Mtg-L            2 Deacons-L            7 Rose Group            Women's AA-FH            7 Iglesia -L*</p>	<p><i>14</i>            10:30 Artists-EB            10:30 Mission Committee-L            1 Pinochle-FH  <b>Session Committee Reports Due</b></p>	<p><i>15</i>            1 Membership Committee-FH            2 Liturgist-            6:45 Choir-S  <b>Good Tidings Deadline</b></p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p>
<p><i>18</i>            9 Sunday School -FH            10:30 Worship            7 Iglesia-FH*</p>	<p><i>19</i>            10 Ruth Circle-L            1 Tech Help-FH            7 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>20</i>            9 Med Ombuds            10Staff-L            7 Rose Group            Women's AA            7 Iglesia -L*</p>	<p><i>21</i>            10:30 Artists-EB            12:30 Daytimers Square-L            7 Session-L</p>	<p><i>22</i>            10 Bible Study (Murphy)-FH            6:45 Choir-S</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i>            9 Fellowship Breakfast-FH</p>
<p><i>25</i>            9 Sunday School -FH            10:30 Worship            7 Iglesia-FH*</p>	<p><i>26</i>            1 Tech Help-FH            7 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>27</i>            9 Med Ombuds            10Staff-L            7 Rose Group            Women's AA            7 Iglesia -L*</p>	<p><i>28</i>            10 Mary Circle -L            10:30 Artists-EB            1 Pinochle-FH</p>	<p><i>29</i>            10 Bible Study (Murphy)-FH            6:45 Choir-S</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	



**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.**