# **Good Tidings**



Northminster Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, FL

### **NOVEMBER SERVICES**

Sundays at 10:30 AM

Dr. Christopher Carlson, **Pastor** 



#### November 6

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart Deuteronomy 26:1-12; Philippians 4:4-7

#### November 13

Christ Calls Us! Christ Sends Us! 1 Corinthians 9:19-23; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

#### November 20

Guest Speaker: Rev. Kathleen Dain. **Executive Director of Beth-El Ministries** 

#### November 27

When Is It OK to Point? John 1:6-8, 19-32, 3:22-27 The Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalm 100:4

On this Thanksgiving Day, we Americans are encouraged to pause and give thanks to God. his **Thanksgiving** Proclamation of 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these which bounties. are SO constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the everwatchful providence of Almighty God."

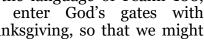
President Lincoln wrote these words in a very dark time of our history. In 1863, the war was not going well. Yet, in the midst of challenging such a President Lincoln called upon Americans to remember the richness of God's blessings, and to be thankful. And so it should

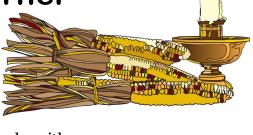
be with us.

The last several years have been especially difficult for nation and this after almost a decade and one half of being at war. Many in our nation are hurting economically and, as a church, we have had many challenges. So, we need to hear the encouragement of Abraham Lincoln again. In spite of our challenges and setbacks, we have been richly blessed by God in this country, in our church, and in our lives. Thanks-giving is due just as much today as it was in 1863, and perhaps, much more.

When we give thanks, we bring to mind God's gifts to us. This, in turn, reminds us of God's grace. We think, not just of what God has done, but also of who God is. Though there is no rule saying that thanksgiving must come before praise, it is a helpful practice. Thanksgiving is a point of entry to praise.

In the language of Psalm 100, we enter God's gates with thanksgiving, so that we might





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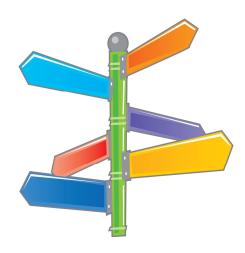
Pastor's Corner-continued

go into his courts with praise. something Paul savs similar when he encourages us prav "with thanksgiving," (Philippians 4:6), thanking our Lord, even before we get our answer, because we know that our God looks after us and works for our good, no matter what. This in turn helps us to continue "rejoicing in the Lord always." Thus, thanksgiving is a great attitude adjustment. We can never be joyful or happy unless we are thankful.

So, may we enter God's gates with thanksgiving in the coming weeks, so that we might celebrate in his courts with praise! May God give you a rich and blessed Thanksgiving Day!

In His Grip, Pastor Chris

# On the Road to Finding a New Pastor: The Pastor Nominating Committee



Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been very busy and productive. Our first order of business was to complete the Minister Information Form (MIF). The MIF is basically a very detailed job description. This task was completed with particular attention given to carefully composing the narrative questions.

The MIF was approved by our session and then went to the Presbytery, where it was reviewed and approved by the Committee on Ministry. Subsequently, Northminster Presbyterian Church was assigned an ID number which allowed us to post the job listing on the church's internet network.

Incredibly, within 24 hours, our church received 24 applicants. (There will be many more to come.)

The PNC is currently in the process of preparing a comprehensive list of questions which will be used when interviewing candidates. The questions are designed to ensure that our new pastor will be compatible with our church's doctrinal beliefs and goals. Applicants will be rated and then, narrowed down to a short list of those who will be interviewed.

The work of the PNC is challenging, exciting, extremely important, and, at the same time, rewarding. Stay tuned for further reports on our progress to find the right pastor to lead our church.

## **Fellowship Activities**

#### PRESBYTERIANS EATING OUT

Join us for great food and fellow-ship! On Tuesday, **November 8**, at 5:00, we will meet at the **Half Shell Seafood House**, 5231 University Parkway (in the Kohl's shopping center near Buffalo Wild Wings). They are known for their fresh local oysters and seafood with a New Orleans flare. The menu includes steak, chicken, and pasta items, as well. Chose from the menu and pay for your own meal. Please sign up in the Narthex, so we can make the reservations.

#### LAUGH, LAUGH!

On Wednesday, **November 16**, we will go to McCurdy's Comedy Club to see stand-up comedian, Andrew Norelli. Tickets cost \$8.50, plus *you must buy 2 items (food or drink)* in the theatre. The deadline for payment has been extended until November 6, so sign up in the Narthex, make your checks payable to NPC, and give them to **Robin Sutcliffe or Mark Goslin** by Sunday, November 6. Prepare to laugh your socks off!

# BREAK OUT YOUR DANCING SHOES!

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

# WHAT WAS THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM?

Was it a comet, a supernova, or something else entirely? Join us at the Bishop Planetarium, on Wednesday, December 21, at 5:00 as we explore that question with Howard Hochhalter, one of South Florida Museum's staff astronomers. Using the Planetarium's ability to travel back through time and space, he will lead us on a journey to Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago to see the same night skies that the magi Our reduced price tickets are only \$8, and they are limited, so sign up in the Narthex today to reserve yours.



#### PINOCHLE ANYONE?

Are you interested in playing Pinochle with a group of casual players? We meet on the **second and fourth Wednesdays** of the month, at 1:00, in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us! Beginners to experienced players welcome.

# Do You Have the Gift of Hospitality?

Fellowship coffee volunteers are desperately needed to serve coffee and snacks in front of the church, after Sunday service. It's a great way to meet and greet people. For more information, contact Gene Colter or Mark Goslin.



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### **Resurrection House**



Founded by six local churches, Resurrection House is now supported by more than 30 religious entities.

Resurrection House is a forward thinking, faith-based resource center committed to transitioning at-risk individuals to a path of self-sufficiency. A 501(c)(3) non-profit, faith-based organization, it serves as a day resource center to the homeless of Sarasota County, Florida. Their serinclude showers, vices strooms, laundry, counseling, medical treatment, food, clothing, veteran's assistance, post office, phone, and more

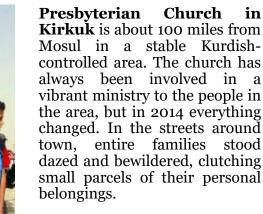
Since it was founded in 1989, Resurrection House has seen over 30,000 individual clients.

Resurrection House, is the designated recipient for our Local Mission gifts for the last quarter of 2016. To make your donation, please check the Local Mission box on your offering envelope or use the special Mission Envelope in your Sunday Bulletin.

In addition to this quarterly mission offering, Northminster collects "hotel size" toiletries to donate to this mission. These can be left in the bin outside the church offices or, on Sundays, in the Narthex.

# The Presbyterian Church in Kirkuk, Iraq

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ISIS had taken Mosul and had pressed on into the nearby Nineveh Plain. Ahead of them tens of thousands 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 small office became a 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, 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.

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



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

### **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



Providing healthy solutions to end hunger in our community.

# **Special Mission Presentations this Month**

Again, this year, the Mission Ministry will be spotlighting the local missions that we support with our time and talent, and financially, with the small Mission envelopes placed each week in your bulletin.

On Sunday, November 13, spokespersons from Bible Mission USA, SPARCC, and Resurrection House will speak about the goals of their organizations and what each is doing to help our community.

On the following Sunday, November 20, we will hear about our fourth local mission, Beth-El Farmworker Ministry. Reverend Kathy Dain, who is its executive director, will talk to us about all they are accomplishing for the migrant workers in our area.

The Mission Ministry Team is very excited to have our entire local mission representatives explain the great work they are doing.



### **Other Mission Collections**

# PULL TABS FOR SHRINERS HOSPITAL

We collect pull tabs from soda and food cans. Money from recycling the tabs is used by the Shriners for their Wheel Chair Repair Fund at the Tampa Shriners Hospital for Children. Leave your tabs at the Welcome Desk or the church office.

#### **CELL PHONES FOR SPARCC**

Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center collects used cell phones to help survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. They are refurbished and programmed to serve as 911 phones to help those in crisis. Phones do not have to be in working order. If possible, please include chargers and clear phones of personal information.

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# **Presbyterian Women**



# NOVEMBER PW MEETINGS All meetings in the Library

**PWCT:** Monday, Nov. 7, 10:30

Esther Circle: Thursday, November 3, 12:00 Leaders—Joan Melnick and Jane Clark

Ruth Circle: Monday, November 21, 10:00 Leader—Valerie Wilde

Mary Circle: Wednesday, November 30, 10:00 Leader—Debbie Latimer

#### **BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS**

The Presbyterian Women's "Birthday Party for Jesus" will be held on **December 12**, at 11:30. We are looking forward to having Jerry Landis entertain us with Christmas carols to prepare us for the holidays. Ruth Circle will provide our lunch.

During this meeting, envelopes will be available for the Birthday Offering. The national Presbyterian Women organization has chosen four projects to receive portions of the money collected by all the PW groups across the country.

The national goal for 2016 is \$500,000. Projects selected to receive these funds are:

- a school for girls in South Sudan
- a core values and life skills training program for at-risk youth in Overland Park, KS
- Habitat for Humanity's repair of manufactured homes in the East Bay and Silicon Valley, CA
- Closing Off the School-to-Prison Pipeline Program in Mid-Kentucky, Scioto Valley, The James, Charleston, and Greater Atlanta presbyteries.

#### Women's Circles

Circles started meeting in September, but it is never too late to join. This year, our Bible study books are entitled "Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes." If you want a study book, ask one of the Circle leaders for your 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 listed in the box on the left. No special invitation is necessary.

#### PW COORDINATING TEAM

The next meeting of the PW Coordinating Team will be on Monday, **November 5**, at 10:30, in the Library. Any interested woman of our church, whether a member of a Circle or not, is welcome.



Copies of the November-December *Upper Room* are now available in the Narthex, including a limited number of LARGE PRINT copies.

Please take one home and experience the positive effect this daily devotion can have on your life.

The Upper Room is provided without charge, but contributions are welcome, if you wish to assist in paying for the subscription.

## **Giving to Northminster**

#### 13<sup>th</sup> Month Offering

As of the end of September 2016, the church is running \$12,647 behind our 2016 budget. We had two unexpected major expenses, totaling \$18,700, that were not included in the budget. They were a new pump for the lift station and a new roof for the manse.

The Finance Committee has suggested that a fair way for each of us to share this cost would be to add a "13th month" this year. The Session has agreed to support and participate in this effort.

You can help us end 2016 "in the black" by contributing an extra month's offering. October 30 and November 6 have been designated as our "13th month." Please note "13th month" on your check or donation envelope.

#### **2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Boxes of offering envelopes will be available for pick up after Sunday services during the month of December. Using the numbered offering envelopes is a great help to our volunteer counters and facilitates the keeping of accurate records of your contributions.

Northminster has envelopes for both monthly and weekly contributors. You will receive monthly or weekly envelopes depending on your previous giving pattern. If you would prefer to have a specific type, or if you weren't assigned envelopes in 2016 and would like to begin using them, please contact **Isabel** this month in the church office.



## **Financial Update**

September, as usual, shows a significant difference in income vs. expenses both for the month and year-to-date. Please review the information, above, about the "13<sup>th</sup> MONTH" and help us wind up the year in the black.

September Operating Fund Results

 Sept. 2016
 Year to Date

 Income
 \$22,823
 \$235,405

 Expense
 \$28,484
 \$248,052

 Net Income
 \$ -5,661
 \$ -12,647

Mortgage Balance a/o 10/31/2016 is \$506,862/2016

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



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The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Psalm 34:7-8

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Our God has set a banquet of blessings before us and says, "Come and dine." This is a heavenly feast prepared for us all, paid for by our Lord Jesus. It is a buffet where second portions are freely available.

God has appointed Deacons as servers, so if you need help in finding what you need, please call upon your Deacon.

# Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Christmas Activities!

#### **DECK THE HALLS**

Remember when Thanksgiving weekend was the start of the Christmas season? This year the Worship Committee invites you to help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas on **Saturday**, **November 26.** Take a break from your Thanksgiving weekend shopping and join them. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more details.

#### **NPC CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Put on your festive holiday clothes, make your favorite potluck dish, and come Wednesday night, **December 7, at 5:30.** Folk singers, the Dunn Deal, will sing fun Christmas songs for us in the Sanctuary and then we move to the Fellowship Hall for good food and festivities! Make your plans now to attend this annual party.

#### **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

As part of our Sunday morning service on **December 11**, the Northminster choir, with guest orchestra, will perform a special Christmas musical presentation. Plan to attend this seasonal service with a friend to hear the wonderful message of the real meaning of Christ's birth!

### **Thank You Volunteers!**

At this season of Thanksgiving, we recognize and thank those who tirelessly perform the many "unseen" tasks around the church. Thanks to all these volunteers and also to those who remain anonymous, with apologies to anyone we missed:

Office Angels: Barbara Clark, Gene Colter, Jackie Conner, Evelyn Gale, Jan Gubrud, Richard & Helen Healy, Mary Lou Lefferson, Bill Marvin, Joan Melnick, Betty Miller, Shirley Samson, and Valerie Wilde

Bulletin Collators: Ethel Boyce, Rita Dralus, Helen and Richard Healy, Sandy Heslin, Sally and Jack Kirby, Debbie Latimer, Bill Marvin, Joan Melnick, JoAnn Nilsen, Mary Stoltie, Valerie and Harry Wilde

Good Tidings Collators: Mary Ann Colter and Debbie Latimer (Coordinators), Rita Dralus, J.B. Donaldson, Jack Kirby, Betty Miller, Bill and Jan Post, Bob and Diane Price, Harry and Valerie Wilde

**Website Team:** Sally Kirby and Bill Post

**Computer, Tech and A/V:** Richard Dahlem, Tom Latimer Dave Messinger, and Dave Stoltie

**Finance Team:** Jim Christie, Barry Ladd, Tom Latimer (chair), Carl Rowe, Bob Price, Bob Silver, and Jack Tibbets

Offering Counters: Carl Rowe (Coordinator) Donna Bagnall, Bob and Jan Gubrud, Dottie Herndon, Sandy Heslin, Jack Kirby, Bob Silver and Claude Thomas **Sunday Flower Coordinator:** Donna Bagnall

Flowers Distribution: Cyndi Carlson, Mary Stoltie, and Betty Miller, JoAnn Nilsen, Diane Price, Mary Stoltie and Robin Sutcliffe.

**Ushers:** Marlys Miinch (recruiter) and Ron Myers (head usher)

**Communion Preparation:** Cyndi Carlson,
Mark Goslin, and Diane and
Bob Price

Communion Servers Coordinator: Trudy Gremp

**Sanctuary Care:** Richard and Helen Healy

Memorial Receptions: Betty Miller (coordinator) Cyndi Carlson, Rita Dralus, Helen and Richard Healy, Debbie Latimer, Bill Marvin, Joan Melnick, Martie Myers, Caroline Pinson, Ellen Roth, Mary Stoltie, Robin Sutcliffe, and Valerie Wilde

**Memorial Book:** Barbara Clark

**Prayer Chain:** Carol Tibbets

Librarian: Aleta Blachly

**Property Maintenance and Repair:** Jim Christie and Larry Brown

Front Sign: Dave Messinger

**Transition Preparedness Team:** Tom Latimer and Bob Price (leaders), Mary Ann Colter, Sally Kirby, Barry Ladd, and Mary Stoltie.



**Pastor Nominating Team:** Jim Christie, Dottie Herndon, Dick Murphy, Bob Silver, and Valerie Wilde

**Picture** Directory Volunteers: Cyndi Carlson, Sally Kirby, and Jeanne Peterson (coordinators); Barbara Clark, Rose Coblentz, Arianne Dahlem, JB Donaldson, Sue and Jim Fewell, Sandy Heslin, Sally Hough, Eileen McKenzie, Audrey Schmidt, Carol Tibbets, and Vicky Urban

Fellowship Events: Wayne Cain, Gene and Mary Ann Colter, JB Donaldson, Mark Goslin, Bob Gubrud, Nancy Haas, Bill Marvin, Dave Messinger, Bill and Marty Manning, Ellen and Gerry Roth, and Robin Sutcliffe

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### **Office Notes**



# WELCOME BACK WINTER FRIENDS!

Please update your address with the office when you return to Florida. Call, e-mail, or look for the address-change clipboard in the Narthex.

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon—Thurs: 9:00 - 3:30 Fri: 9:00-2:00 The office will be closed November 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving.

#### **DEADLINES**

- Announcements for the Sunday Bulletin are due in the office by noon every Wednesday.
- Good Tidings: The deadline for the November issue of the Good Tidings is Tuesday, November 15. submit your articles and announcements to office@npcsarasota.org.
- Session Committee
   Reports are due in the office
   by Wednesday,
   November 9, for the
   November 16 meeting.





# **November Birthdays**

3	Don Bagnall	
	Jim Fewell	
6	Caroline Pinson	
7	Joan Melnick	
	Dianne Gleeson	
9	Jackie Mitchell	
10	Jimmie Hart	
11	Leslie Gillis	

13 George Burgess
17 Bob Silver
19 Penny Mulak
25 Jim Harman
Sally Kirby
28 Earl Fleck
29 Richard Healy



# Northminster Presbyterian Church 🕆 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Locations EB=Education Bldg. FH= Fellowship Hall L= Library PS = Pastor's Study S= Sanctuary		I 9 Med Ombuds 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 12 Worship 2 Transition PT-L 4 Bible Study-FH 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH	2 10:30 Artists-EB 1 Bridge-FH 4 PNC-L	3 9:30 SC Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 12 Esther Cir-L 1:30 Finance-L 6:45 Choir-S	4 2 Line Dance-FH	5
9 Sunday School -FH 9:45 Choir-S 10:30 Worship/ Communion 3 Suncoast Band 7 Iglesia*	7 10:30 PWCT-L 1 Tech Help-FH 5:30 Fellowship -L 7 Boy Scouts	8 9 Med Ombuds 9:30 Jazz Band 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 2 Deacons 4 Bible Study-FH 5 PEO 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH	9 10:30 Artists-EB 10:30 Mission-L 1 Pinochle-FH 4 PNC-L  Session Committee Reports Due	10 -Presbytery Mtg. at Bonita Springs- 9:30 SC Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 1 AIM-L 6:45 Choir-S	11 10:30 Bible Study at Desoto Palms 2 Line Dance-FH	12
9 Sunday School -FH 9:30 Connections 9:45 Choir-S 10:00 Session 10:30 Worship ? New Member Reception 7 Iglesia*	9:30 SCBand-S 1 Tech Help-FH 1:30 Discipleship Square-L 7 Boy Scouts	15 9 Med Om. 9:30 Jazz Band 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 4 Bible Study-FH 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH 7 Iglesia-L Good Tidings	16 10:30 Artists-EB 12:30 Daytimers Square-L 4 PNC-L ? Trip to McCurdy's 7 Session-L	9:30 SC Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 6:45 Choir-S	18 10:30 Bible Study at Discovery Vlg 2 Line Dance-FH	19
20 9 Sun School-FH 10:30 Worship 3 Suncoast Band 7 Iglesia*	21 9:30 SCBand-S 10 Ruth Cir-L 1 Tech Help-FH 7 Boy Scouts	22 9 Med Om. 9:30 Jazz Band 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH 7 Iglesia-L	23 10:30 Artists-EB 1 Pinochle-FH 4 PNC-L 6:45 Choir-S	Thanksgiving	25	26 Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas
				Office Closed		
27Advent-1st 9 Sunday School -EB 9:45 Choir-S 10:30 Worship 11:30 Ice Cream Social-FH 7 Iglesia*	28 9:30 SCBand-S 1 Tech Help-FH 7 Boy Scouts	29 9 Med Om. 9:30 Jazz Band 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 4 Bible Study-FH 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH 7 Iglesia-L	30 10 Mary Cir-L 10:30 Artists-EB 4 PNC-L	* The Spanish speaking congregation of Iglesia del Redentor, meets Sunday evenings, in the Fellowship Hall & Tuesdays in the Library.		



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 **WEBSITE:** 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.