

Good Tidings



Northminster Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, FL

JANUARY SERVICES

Sundays at
10:30 AM

Rev. Wally Johnson

January 6

We Three Kings...
Matthew 2:12

January 13

*You Are My
Beloved Child*
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20

*What is the Spirit
Doing?*
1 Corinthians 12:1-11

January 27

The Body of Christ
1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Pastor's Corner

January – a fresh start to a new year. But, what does the year hold for us? I think a far more important question is: What we will give ourselves to this year?

I am reminded that time is a relative thing. Two weeks of vacation flies by and two weeks on a diet seems like an eternity.

But, every year, at this time, the words of Psalm 90 come to my mind. In that Psalm, the song writer is contemplating the eternity of God (talk about a weighty conversation). He reflects on the reality that, 1,000 years, to a God of eternity, is like a watch in the night. Against the backdrop of the eternity of God, the songwriter contemplates the reality that we are creatures of space and time whose days are like a vapor of air - gone before we know it.

Now, I do not share that to depress you, but to urge us to redeem the days and opportunities God gives each of us and to encourage us to live each moment for the Glory of our God. It is good for us to remember that, in the words of the Heidelberg Catechism, in life and death we belong, not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

I want to encourage you this year to think deeply, live generously and love passionately.



On January 20th, we will celebrate our 60th birthday as a church! We were actually formed in 1958, but we could not find an appropriate Sunday to celebrate. Join us on this date as we celebrate the goodness of God to his congregation and honor our two Charter Members, Bess Mitchell and Charlie Mae Gocio! What changes they have seen over the years!

But, this is also a great time to dream and plan as we look forward to the future as a church together! Sarasota is a growing community and I believe our church should reflect that trend.

Let's commit to praying that God would continue to add to our number and let's put feet to our prayers as each of us covenants to bring one new family to church in 2019. I pray God uses Northminster as a place to establish a beachhead of the Kingdom of God in North Sarasota for many years to come. Thanks be to God!

In His Service,
Pastor Wally



Bible Studies

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Dick Murphy will lead a study on *“The Parables of Jesus,”* beginning Sunday, **January 6** at 9 a.m. and Thursday, **January 10** at 10 a.m., in Fellowship Hall.

Jesus revealed to us 32 parables in the Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. These parables are fictional stories in real-life settings that Jesus used to teach us about himself and the Kingdom of God. It is Jesus, the God of all Creation, the God of heaven and earth, speaking to us! He tells us, through the parables, who he is, what he expects from us as his followers, and the blessings and rewards awaiting us in the kingdom of heaven. He shows us that the Kingdom of God is here, now, already in our presence, but not yet in its fullness.

These messages from Jesus are for all the ages. They are as valid today as they were 2,000 years ago when he gave them. Jesus

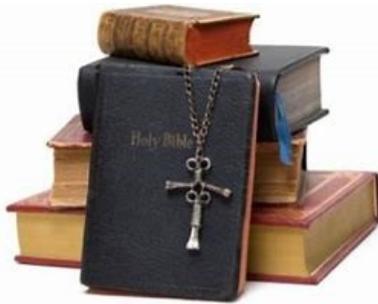
says those who believe in him will hear and understand the parables; but, for those who do not believe, the parables will be a mystery. Thus, the parables are a secret unveiling of God’s truth for Christian living for all those who love him and want to follow in his path.

*“My people, hear my teaching,
listen to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth with a
parable; I will utter hidden
things—things from old.”*
(Psalm 78:1-2).

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR WALLY

Pastor Wally’s Bible Study of 2 Corinthians resumes on Tuesday, **January 8, at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall.

During Lent, the series will be interrupted by a short study entitled “Embracing Forgiveness.”



*Happy Anniversary
Northminster!*

A Celebration of Northminster’s 60th Anniversary will be held on Sunday, January 20, in the Fellowship Hall, following the worship service.

Although our church was established in 1958, we just couldn’t let a little thing like an extra month hold us back for celebrating.

We will honor our two charter members, Charlie Mae Gocio and Bess Mitchell. Let’s share memories, eat cake, and be thankful for our continued ministry together.

3131
NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN

Meet Our New Members

NORMAN AND MARY LOU JATHO met at their high school prom in Waterloo, IL. They have been married fifty-six years. The former Marine is retired from Union Electric Company (now Ameren). Mary Lou has been a Sunday school teacher, Scout leader, youth group leader and real estate agent.

In retirement they enjoy shuffleboard and bocce ball together, while Mary Lou is active in line dancing, power walking and water aerobics and Norman enjoys playing euchre. Their son and daughter are both married; they have several grandchildren. Son, Steven, is a pilot with Alaska Airlines.

Norm and Mary Lou learned about Northminster through the Sun-coast Band Concerts, along with Ron and Martie Myers. They have lived in five states and moved to Florida in 2015. We are delighted to welcome Norm and Mary Lou to Northminster.



HAROLD “VIC” AND BARBARA SEWELL: Now retired, Vic had a long career in the world of ———— and manufacturing. Barbara was active in medical social work for many years when they lived in Michigan, Georgia, and Florida. Vic and Barbara have been married for nearly forty-five years and can count more than ten grandchildren.

Vic has been an avid golfer (five holes in one!). On Skidaway Island in Savannah, GA, he taught reading to poor children in the area. Barbara has already joined the Handbell Choir. Vic and Barbara were active in their former churches and look forward to continuing their activities at Northminster. We are pleased to have Vic and Barbara as part of the Northminster family.



DAVID AND DIANNE GLEESON are familiar faces at Northminster. After joining as Affiliate Members in 2016, we are glad to now welcome Dave and Dianne as full members. They have sold their home in Maine and now count themselves as Florida residents (although they do plan to continue spending some time up north.) During their winters in Sarasota, Dianne was a member of the Choir and is a current member of the Handbell Choir. Dave has been a cast-member in the Living Last Supper.

Dianne is a retired RN and David served in the USAF and is retired from State Farm Insurance.



Thinking About Joining Northminster?

Whether or not your church background is Presbyterian, we welcome you to our congregation!

God calls us to worship him, to be in regular fellowship with one another, and to serve. You do not need to be a member of our church in order to do any of these - but many have found that formally uniting with a local church body is a commitment that brings to them a sense of belonging, the challenge to grow in their faith, and an opportunity to use their talents and experience in the service of God. **Simply contact Pastor Wally, Val Wilde, or the church office.** It's exciting to be a part of something so much bigger than we are!

Mission Ministry

CHRIST CALLS US, CHRIST SENDS US

The Mission Committee coordinates various mission activities throughout the year. It is in charge of distributing the funds received for the Mission Fund to our established missions and to other charities, as the need arises. The new year is a perfect time to join this committee. Lend your ideas and energy to fulfilling the second part of Northminster's mission statement, "Christ Sends Us."

The Mission Committee meets on the second Wednesday of every month, at 10:30, in the church library. Join us on January 9, or Collette Stevenson at 443-995-9121 for further information.

BETH-EL FARMWORKERS MINISTRY

Beth-El helps farm workers achieve self-sufficiency through worship, education, and the many services it provides to meet basic needs. Among its core programs are, a food pantry, meals, camps for children, and counseling. Northminster also collects clothing for the workers: specifically pants, white t-shirts, underwear, work boots, socks, and baseball caps. Other items may be donated to their resale shop.

FREE WHEELCHAIR MISSION

FWM makes and sends durable, all-terrain, wheelchairs to hundreds of thousands of disabled people in developing nations. A wheelchair brings mobility, independence, and dignity to those who would otherwise be forced to crawl, be carried, or live in isolation.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KIRKUK, IRAQ

Approximately forty Syrian refugees are still housed in the Kirkuk Presbyterian church, where classrooms and offices have become small apartments. The Kirkuk Church has managed to not only minister to these refugees, but also to refugees in churches and camps elsewhere in northern Iraq. The Church still continues its regular programs including a Kindergarten and Child Care Center.

RESURRECTION HOUSE

Resurrection House is a faith-based resource center committed to transitioning at-risk individuals to a path of self-sufficiency. It serves as a day resource center to the homeless with services that include showers, restrooms, laundry, counseling, medical treatment, food, clothing, veteran's assistance, and more. We also collect hotel-size toiletries for their use.

SAFE PLACE AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER

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, through community education programs, in addressing and changing social norms that support violence against women. We collect used cell phones, phone chargers, and accessories to be refurbished and programmed to serve as 911 phones for those in crisis.

Missions is
Heart
Work

Give Blood, Save Lives

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD MISSION

The Blessing Box is a neighborhood outreach, providing a simple act of kindness to anyone passing our doors. We don't know who they are, but they have passed by our church and were in need of something we left in the Blessing Box. Your donations of individually packaged, single-serve, food and drinks can be left in the red bin, in the Narthex. We have noticed that others have also left things in the Blessing Box. It's wonderful to have neighborhood involvement!

WE COLLECT FOR...

- Non-perishable food staples for **All Faiths Food Bank**.
- Hotel or sample size toiletries, towels, women's sanitary products, and men's shoes for **Resurrection House**.
- T-shirts, work pants, new underwear and socks, gently used work boots, and baseball caps for the farmworkers served by **Beth-El Ministry**. Clean clothes for men, women, children, and infants, working and whole household items, and toys their resale shop.
- Pop-tops/pull-tabs from beverage cans for **Shriners Hospitals**.
- Box Tops for Education, a fundraiser for **Duvall Children's Home**.

If you would like additional information about any of the missions supported by Northminster, please contact a member of the Mission Committee. Colette Stevenson, Mission Chair, 443-995-9121.



Blood transfusions often are needed for trauma victims (due to accidents and burns), heart surgery, organ transplants, and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer, or other diseases. And, with an aging population, advances in medical treatments, and procedures requiring blood transfusions, the demand for blood continues to increase.

You can help! The Suncoast Communities Bloodmobile will be at Northminster on Sunday, **January 20**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. The blood bank staff will conduct a thorough screening to assure that you are qualified to donate.

If you have any questions, please contact **Ron Myers**.

Thank You "Cookie Elves!"

God Bless you for providing all the delicious, colorful, and greatly appreciated Christmas cookies! With your help, the deacons and volunteers made and delivered **31 bags** of cookies / candies / Christmas treats to our homebound & ALF congregants; 5 baskets of goodies for the staff; and we had enough left over to share after the cantata. Thanks to you all for your wonderful support!



Let's Get Together



CELEBRATE WITH PASTOR WALLY AND JOYCE

You're invited to come share some Christmas cheer with the Johnsons! Pastor Wally and Joyce will be hosting a not-quite-the-twelfth-day-of-Christmas drop-in, at their home, on Saturday, **January 5, 3-6**

MIDDAY MUSIC AND HISTORY

An exciting lineup of music performances and history lectures has been scheduled for the 2019 season! Browse the events, listed below, and mark your calendars. All dates are Fridays and all events start at noon, lasting one hour. A reception, in the Fellowship Hall, follows each event.

January 11 Hein Jung, soprano, Dana Milan, piano. Soprano Hein Jung is a professor of voice at the University of Tampa. She sings and teaches internationally. Acclaimed for her "superior vocal value" (Boston Globe), soprano Hein Jung has performed in major cities throughout the US and Korea. These venues include Opera Tampa, Tanglewood Music

Festival, San Francisco Opera Merola Program, Milwaukee Symphony, Madison Opera, St. Petersburg Opera, Bel Canto Chorus, Tampa Oratorios Singer. Her program includes three versions of "Ave Maria" and songs by Rachmaninoff, Bach, and Handel.

January 18: Prof. Justus Doenecke, New College, "Reflections on Lost Peace of 1919 and the Origins of WWII"

January 25: Manasota Trombone Consort; Dan Dodds, Dave DeWitt, Greg Lecewicz, and Marty Musgrove

February 1: Prof. Robert Barylski, University of South Florida, "From Stalin to Putin: The Soviet Union/Russia in the Cold War"

February 8: Dr. Gloria Cook, Rollins College, Dr. Cynthia Lawning, Davidson College, duo piano concert

February 15: Prof. Alfred Eckes, "From Truman to Trump: The United States in the Cold War"

February 22: The Blue Heron Sextet, Harry Miedema, director



Soprano Hein Jung kicks off the 2019 Midday Programs series at noon, on January 11.

Presbyterian Women

The monthly Women's Circle are using the book, *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*, for this year's study. All groups meet in the Church Library; dates and times below:

PW Coordinating Team
Monday, January 7, 10:30

Esther Circle:
will not meet in January
Leader: **Jane Clark**

Ruth Circle:
Monday, January 21, 10:00
Leader: **Valerie Wilde**

Mary Circle:
Wednesday, January 30, 10:00
Leader: **Debbie Latimer**



Matching Fund and More...

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to our Matching Fund Campaign. You helped us with our deficit this year! You also helped us establish a reserve for 2019 and to focus on paying off our mortgage.

Our Capital Campaign is slated to end in April of this year. Whatever remains on the mortgage will have to be rolled into our budget unless we

are successful in paying it off. We want to pay that off so that we can free ourselves to focus on what God has called us to do. If we are freed from the burden of the mortgage, we can more effectively listen to the direction of the Holy Spirit and reach out in new and creative mission.

Thank you for your help in achieving this goal!



Financial Update

Operating Fund Results

	<u>November 2018</u>	<u>Year To Date 2018</u>
Income	\$21,751.30	\$ 258,491.13
Expenses	\$27,000.60	\$ 287,093.08
Net Income	<\$ 5,249.30>	<\$ 28,601.95>

Cornerstone

Charles Schwab \$38,153.66

Operating Fund Balance

Iberia Bank	\$40,158.59
\$228,263.77	
PILP Money Market	\$22,766.29
	\$62,924.85

Mortgage Balance as of 11/30/18

Required Monthly Payment	\$ 2,184.74
Breakdown: Principal	\$ 1,367.16
Interest	\$ 817.58
Revised Payment Estimate	\$ 2,184.74
Interest Rate: 3.9720	

Capital Campaign Fund Balance

Scott Trade	\$ 100.13
PILP Money Market	\$24716.91
	\$24,817.04

Bob Silver, Treasurer

News From the Church Library

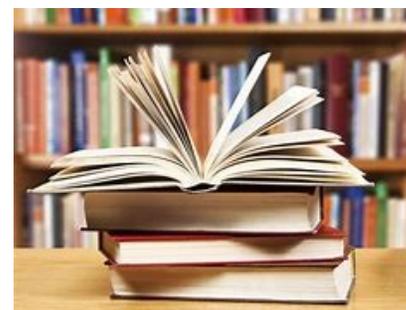
Christmas came early to NPC Library when my daughter's friend gifted us with a donation of fifteen books, including some by well-known Christian authors John Eldredge, Dr. David Jeremiah, Max Lucado, and Charles Swindoll.

One of my New Year's resolu-

tions is to get them, and the other recent donations, processed as quickly as possible so you can check them out.

I pray you'll all have a blessed 2019 with time to relax and read.

Bonnie Kiger
Librarian



Office Notes



OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 9:00 - 3:30

Fri: 9:00 - 2:00

**Office closed on January 1
for New Year's Day**

NOTE: EARLY DEADLINES

- **Announcements for the Sunday bulletin** are due in the office by noon on the Wednesday before.
- **Session Reports** are due in the office by **Wednesday, January 9**, for the meeting on **January 16**.
- **Good Tidings deadline:** Please submit all articles, reports, and announcements for the February newsletter by **Tuesday, January 15**, to office@npcsarasota.org.

PICTURE DIRECTORIES ARE STILL AVAILABLE

The updated 2018 Picture Directory is available to everyone whose picture appears in it. If you haven't received your copy yet, please contact the office at 941-355-4729 or office@npcsarasota.org.

WELCOME BACK SEASONAL FRIENDS

For those who are in Sarasota only part of the year, it can be easy to overlook filing address changes with everyone. If you follow a fairly regular schedule, *you'll only have to notify us one time!* Notify the office, just once, the dates when you usually change address and our database program will automatically update your address every year!

Please call 355-4729 or email (office@npcsarasota.org) with this information so that we can send statements, newsletters, and other correspondence to the correct address.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are still some boxes of offering envelopes to be picked up. Look for them, after Sunday services in the Narthex or drop by the church office during the week. Using the numbered offering envelopes is a great help to our volunteer counters and facilitates the keeping of accurate records of your contributions.

If you don't see a box with your name and wish to use envelopes, please contact **Isabel** in the church office, 355-4729.

January Birthdays

1 Elinor McFarlane
10 Ethel Boyce
 J.B. Donaldson
 Diane Price
11 Valerie Wilde
14 Aleta Blachly

15 Neva Low
23 Mim Hosack
25 Manfred Siebert
26 Shirley Samson
30 Charlie Mae Gocio

Northminster Presbyterian Church † 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p style="text-align: center;">* The Spanish-speaking congregation of Iglesia del Redentor, meets Sunday mornings & Thursday evenings in the Education Building.</p>		<p><i>1</i></p> <p>New Years Day Office Closed</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>10 Tai Chi-FH 10:30 Artists-EB 1 Bridge-FH 2 LRFalls-EB</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>10 Bible Study-FH 1:30 Finance-L 2 Bible Study at the Inspired Liv. 6 AI-Anon-EB 6:45 Choir-S 7:30 Iglesia Bible Study-EB</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study at Discovery Vlg 2 Line Dance-FH</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>3-6 Holiday Drop-in at Pastor Wally & Joyce's</p>
<p><i>6</i></p> <p>9 Bible Study-FH 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship/Communion</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 LR Falls-EB 10:30 PW Coordinating Team-L 3:30 Bells-FH 5:30 Fellowship Com.-L 6 AIAnon-EB 7 Scouts-FH/EB</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>9:30 Jazz band rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 12 Worship-L 4 Bible Study-FH 6 AIAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>10 Tai Chi-FH 10:30 Artists-EB 10:30 Mission-L 2 LR Falls-EB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session Reports Due</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 10 Outreach & Mktng-L 2 Bible Study at the Windsor 6 AI-Anon-EB 6:45 Choir-S 7:30 Iglesia</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>8:30 ROMEO & JULIET 10:00 Bible Study at Discovery Village 12 Midday Music-S 2 Line Dance-FH 2 LR Falls-EB</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>
<p><i>13</i></p> <p>9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir-S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship 3Suncoast Band Concert-S</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>3:30 Bells-FH 6 AIAnon-EB 7 Scouts-FH/EB</p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>9:30 Jazz band rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 2 Deacons 4 Bible Study-FH 6 AIAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Good Tidings Deadline</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>10 Tai Chi-FH 10:30 Artists-EB 3 Seekers Sq-L 7 Session -L</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 10 LR Falls-EB 10 Bible Study at Inspired Liv. 6 AI-Anon-EB 6:45 Choir 7 Iglesia Bible Study-EB</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study at Discovery Village 12 Midday History-S 2 Line Dance-FH 2 LR Falls-EB</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>
<p><i>20</i></p> <p>9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir-S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship 3 Jazz Concert -S</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 Ruth Cir-L 2 LRFalls-EB 3:30 Bell Choir-FH 6 AIAnon-EB 7 Scouts-FH/EB</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>9:30 Jazz band rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 4 Bible Study-FH 6 AIAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>10 Tai Chi-FH 10:30 Artists-EB</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 2 Bible Study at Inspired Liv. 6 AI-Anon-EB 6:45 Choir 7 Iglesia Bible Study-EB</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>12 Midday Music-S 2 Line Dance-</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>11 Bells-S</p>
<p><i>27</i></p> <p>9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir-S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship</p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>3:30 Bell Choir-FH 6 AIAnon-EB 7 Scouts-FH/EB</p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p>9:30 Jazz band rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 4 Bible Study-FH 6 AIAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-FH</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>10 Tai Chi-FH 10 Mary Cir.-L 10:30 Artists-EB</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>9:30 Band-S 10 Bible Study-FH 6 AI-Anon-EB 6:45 Choir 7 Iglesia Bible Study-EB</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Locations</p> <p>EB=Education Bldg. FH= Fellowship Hall L= Library S= Sanctuary</p> </div>	



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:

Rev. Wally Johnson, Pastor
pastorwally@npcsarasota.org
Isabel Oake, Office Administrator
office@npcsarasota.org
Sally Kirby, Clerk of Session
clerkofsession@npcsarasota.org
Edward L. Stiles, Jr., Music Director
music@npcsarasota.org
Gail Ofterdinger-Ledgister, 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 **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.