

Good Tidings

Northminster Presbyterian Church † Sarasota, FL February 2020

FEBRUARY SERVICES

Sundays at
10:30 AM

Rev. Wally Johnson

February 2

Are You Happy?

Micah 6:1-8

Matthew 5:1-2

February 9

God at Work

Matthew 5:13-20

February 16

*You Have Heard
it Said*

Matthew 5:21-27

February 23

*Heaven in the Real
World*

Matthew 17:1-9

Pastor's Corner

Season is in full swing and life is busy at Northminster. I have written, elsewhere in this newsletter, on our adopting an Earth-honoring faith initiative and about Stewardship. I want to use my space this month to breathe a bit with you.

I have as one of my goals to make sure that I make use of the Spiritual Disciplines and spend time in quiet with my Lord. I think this is especially important in this chaotic world of ours. I hope you will join me in this.

With the beginning of 2020, I am reminded of our goal to pay off our mortgage by the end of this year. We are very close and now it is time to finish the job. Prayerfully consider how you might give to this endeavor. If we are able to pay off the mortgage, we will free dollars for mission and ministry. What a great prospect! Can you imagine what we might be able to do in Mission with an additional \$20,000 each year? Now, that is exciting!

We would like to celebrate with a ceremonial burning of the note in February. Stay tuned for this exciting news.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be February 26th in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we begin Lent together. During Lent I will NOT have my normal 10:00 Bible Study, instead we will have a Tuesday Lent Soup Lunch Study, at noon. We are going to use a video series entitled "Surprised by Hope" by N.T. Wright. I know you will enjoy this study. May God continue to use Northminster to spread glory to His name!

In His Service,
Pastor Wally



Joyful Generosity – Our Journey Continues

Each year, in January, the Finance Committee leads a Stewardship Campaign to fund our church operating budget for the new year. We finished 2019 with a small deficit for the year. We are thankful that the deficit was far less than we had planned. We also made substantial progress in reducing our mortgage. Stay tuned for great news on that front! Mission giving was up for the second straight year. Thanks be to God.

This year we are building our budget, and we are endeavoring to live within our means. We are holding the line in most areas, with small increases in salaries for staff. Our goal is that we come to the end of the year with no shortfall. The only way that is possible is to build a budget based on Pledge Cards and realistic expectations. Your extravagant generosity is needed for us to plan the budget for 2020.

One idea that permeates Scripture is the idea that God’s people, in response to God’s love and grace, are to give joyfully and cheerfully. We have been on a journey as a church for sixty years. We are planning and anticipating our next steps.

If, as a church, we take in money and stockpile it, we are much like the Dead Sea – stagnant and lifeless. However, if we receive the Joyful Generosity of

your time, talent, and money and give that to our community, we are faithful stewards of the blessings we have from God.



Stewardship is about the joyous discipline of thanking God for the way we can live our lives and spend and share our money. It should be part of everything we do throughout all seasons of our ministries. It is not a program that helps us to put together a budget for the coming year. Stewardship is a spiritual discipline and a way of living that helps us to manage what God has entrusted to us and teach others the true joy of giving, as a response to God’s generosity.

We are all called to be good stewards of all that we have: stewards of time, gifts, relationships, ministry, of the people in our community of faith, and the mysteries of God.

The Psalmist reminds us that “*The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*” Let us give ourselves to Joyful Generosity in everything we do!

If you have questions after you receive your stewardship brochure, someone from the stewardship team will be there to answer your questions.

February 9th – Commitment Sunday
February 23 – Annual Congregational Meeting

2019 End-of-Year Financial Report

Operating Fund

	Dec. 2019	Year-to-date
Income	\$ 34,599.27	\$ 329,889.33
Expenses	<u>\$ 36,207.32</u>	<u>\$ 340,134.78</u>
Net Income	\$ -1,608.05	\$ -10,245.45

Operating Fund Balance

Iberia Bank	\$ 63,762.82
PILP Money Market	<u>\$ 22,950.44</u>
	\$ 86,713.26

Capital Campaign Fund Balance

Ameritrade	\$ 100.20
PILP Money Market	<u>\$ 58,668.44</u>
	\$ 58,768.64

Cornerstone Fund

Charles Schwab \$ 57,404.80

Mortgage Balance as of December 2019

	\$140,465.68
Required Monthly Payment	\$ 1,183.50
Breakdown: Principal	\$ 718.56
Interest	\$ 464.94
Interest Rate:	3.9720

Bob Silver, Treasurer

Earth-Honoring Faith

At our recent Leadership Retreat, we discussed many things and adopted some new goals for the year. One of them is the Goal of adopting an Earth-Honoring Faith. What do we mean by that?

Scripture is clear that God created this earth and gave humankind the job of caring for His creation. Whatever you may think about Climate change, we cannot escape the reality that we are to be stewards of this earth and all that is in it.

We asked ourselves this question: If this earth reflects the glory of God and has been put in our care as stewards, how can we honor this stewardship more faithfully at Northminster?

In answer, you will see some changes coming soon. We will place more clearly marked receptacles for recyclable goods. We are contacting our

trash service to have recycle bins placed in our dumpster area.

We will also be moving away from Styrofoam cups and plates. Styrofoam does not break down and winds up in our landfills and water supply. We will be moving to compostable materials as we deplete our current supplies. These efforts will cost more money but allows us to live into our stewardship of this earth. Stay tuned for more changes!



Mission Ministry

CHRISTMAS EVE MISSION OFFERING

Our Christmas Eve offering totaled over \$2,100 for Missions. Thank you for your generous giving! In addition, at the end of the year, we had about \$3,000 of undesignated Mission Giving to allocate from our general mission fund. We have dispersed all the monies as follows:

Beth-El - \$1,000
Resurrection House - \$1,000
SPAARC - \$1,000
Bible Mission USA - \$1,000
Salvation Army - \$750
Joy Offering - \$535

MEAL PACKAGING EVENT

On March 1, following our morning worship, we will have our third meal packaging event for Kids Against Hunger. We hope to package at least 6,000 meals. This time the meals will be used by Beth-El, so our time and effort will benefit a ministry that is already on our hearts.

This is an event that anyone can do – it is great fun as well. You can sit and be involved. It will take about an hour after church. We will have our fellowship snacks in the fellowship hall that day so you can have a bit to snack on. Mark it down and join us for this event. I know you will thoroughly enjoy the time and effort!



Welcome New Members



DICK AND MARIAN "MO" AUBRY: Dick had enjoyed the unusual (if not unique) experience of being the only white player on an all-black baseball team in the 1970's. He then published a book about his experience. He is a college professor who earned his Ph.D. in philosophy in education and specialized in early childhood education. He has a passion for horses and riding his Harley Davidson. Mo is still working as an art appraiser. She confesses that she would like to learn to play the piano. Both the Aubreys enjoy tennis. They are delighted to find Northminster so active and look forward to becoming involved.

KAREN GORSUCH and her late husband raised, trained, and showed quarter horses. She was an executive with assisted living companies and, in her last church, was involved in women's groups, the food bank, soup kitchen, and Bible studies. Karen comes from Somerset, PA, where her son, Rick, and his wife, Renee, still live.



AUDREY SCHMITT was born in Pittsburgh, PA and moved to Cleveland during the Second World War. There, she volunteered at the Shriner Hospital for Crippled Children and helped retarded children. She also worked in the credit department for two firms. Audrey and her late husband were married for 62 years.



&



FOOD, FUN, & PRIZES!!

Wednesday, Feb. 12 @ 5:30

in the Fellowship Hall

sign up in advance & pay \$10 at the door

February 8 is LifeTouch Portrait Day!

The LifeTouch photographers will be here on **Saturday, February 8**, to take pictures for our new directory. We are happy that so many will be represented in our directory.

Remember to keep your appointment. LifeTouch will be at Northminster for one day only.

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**, and have the opportunity to purchase other poses and sizes.





Midday at Northminster

MUSIC AND HISTORY SERIES 2020
FRIDAYS AT NOON



*Midday's 5th season
of outstanding free
concerts and lectures*

**Northminster
Presbyterian Church**
3131 61st Street
Sarasota
941-355-4729
npcsarasota.com

MUSIC

SEASON OPENER ON JAN 10

THE ORFEO TRIO

Jan 24 Rollins College Choir

Feb 7 Marco Jimenez, solo piano

Feb 21 The Tijuana Taxi: Tribute to
Herb Alpert

HISTORY

Jan 17 John Behlolavek: *Andrew
Jackson: A New Perspective on Old
Hickory*

Jan 31 Justus Doenecke: *The U.S.
and World War I – A New View*

Feb 14 Bob Barylski: *What is Putin
Up To?*

Feb 28 Alfred Eckes: *Trade Wars,
Past and Present*

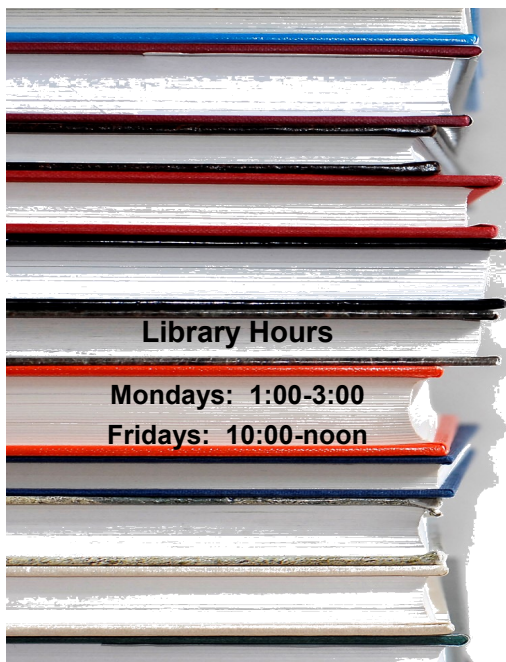
Suncoast Concert Band

Northminster is happy to host The Suncoast Concert Band in their 87th season of presenting quality music to the Sarasota Community.

Come hear the Suncoast Concert Band play in our sanctuary, on **February 9**, playing, "Music from Around the World." The Jazz Ambassadors perform "From the 40's to the 60's," featuring Barry and the Boomers on **February 16**. Both concerts are at 3:00.

Tickets cost \$5. Please call **941-907-4123** for ticket information and reservations.





In the Church Library

One of my favorite quotes is “Faith makes things possible...not easy.” It isn’t hard to “keep the faith” when things go smoothly, but when the going gets tough, our faith may falter.

Fortunately, there are a number of books on faith in the church library that might help when this occurs.

There’s Tough Minded Faith for Tender Hearted People by Robert H. Schuller; A Case for Faith by Lee Strobel; A Legacy of Faith by Ruth Graham, and Faith Commander by Korie Robertson, which also includes a DVD.

Lastly, as we celebrate President’s Day, I leave you with this quote from former President Ronald Reagan, “Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face.” So have faith!

Presbyterian Women

All women of the church (members and non-members) are invited to join one of these friendly study groups.

This year the women are studying the Ten Commandments.

Ruth Circle meets on the third Monday of the month, at 10:00. The chairperson is **Valerie Wilde.**

Mary Circle meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 10:00. The chairperson is **Debbie Latimer.**



Bible Studies

FRESH FROM THE NEWS

Karl Barth wrote, “Take your Bible and take your newspaper and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible.”

In his class, “Fresh From the News” Pastor Wally will take an item that has been in the news and the class will examine it from a Biblical Perspective. The goal is to relate current events to Scripture passages and encourage us to apply God’s Word to everyday life.

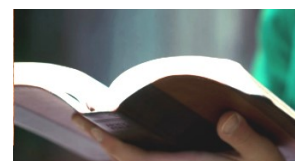
The Pastor’s Bible Study is held **every Tuesday at 10:00.**

EXODUS

Dick Murphy teaches a weekly Bible study, in the Fellowship Hall, on the Book of Exodus, **every Sunday at 9 a.m. and Thursday at 10 a.m.**

The Book of Exodus contains the two greatest periods in the history of the Jewish people. The first was when God rescued his chosen people out of the land of Egypt. The second was when God gave them the Ten Commandments.

This study will be presented from both Christian and Jewish perspectives.



Office Notes



OFFICE HOURS:

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

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.

DEADLINES

- Announcements for all Sunday Bulletins are due in the office by noon on the Wednesday before.
- **Session Reports** are due in the office by **Wednesday, February 12**, for the meeting on **February 19**.
- **Good Tidings deadline:** Please submit all articles, reports, and announcements for the March newsletter by **Sunday, February 16**.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Pick up a copy of Northminster's Annual Report, in the Narthex, this month. It offers a summary of activities, events, and committee endeavors from the past year, providing a detailed picture of the vitality of this Christian community. It may also serve to inspire you to join a committee or study group, or to get involved in church life in other ways.

Isabel Oake,
Office Administrator



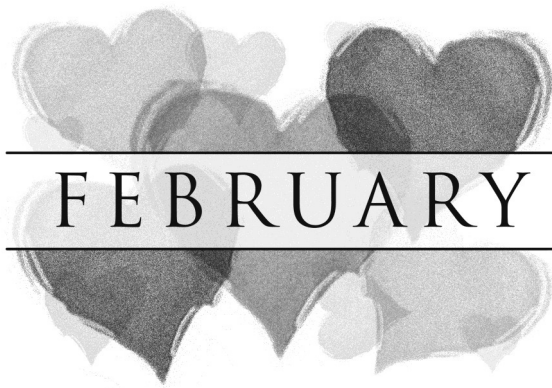
Annual Congregational Meeting

February 23,
immediately after the
Worship Service

At this meeting we will review
the annual report,
approve the
Pastor's Terms of Call,
and elect officers.
Please plan to attend.

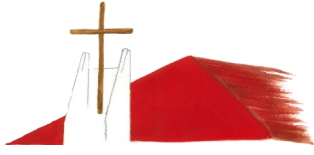


1	B.J. Dotzour
2	Bill Manning
6	Bill Marvin
	Ellen Roth
	Audrey Sagers
7	Joyce Johnson
9	David Gleeson
11	Judy Rhodes
13	Jerry Landis
21	Audrey Schmidt
23	Ron Myers
	Mary Ribeiro
27	Rich Rhodes
	Tim Underwood



Northminster Presbyterian Church † 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Locations EB=Education Bldg. FH= Fellowship Hall L= Library S= Sanctuary		The Spanish-speaking congregation of Iglesia del Redentor , meets Sunday mornings in the Education Building.				<i>1</i>
2 9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir -S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship/ Communion-S 11:45 Info mtg. for trip to Israel-L	3 9 Suncoast Band Rehearsal-S 4:00 Bells-FH 6:30 Fellowship Committee-L 6 AlAnon-EB	4 9:30 Jazz Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 12 Worship Committee-L 6 AlAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA- FH	5 10 Tai Chi 10:30 Member- ship Committee -L 1 Bridge-FH 1:30 Missions-L	6 9 Suncoast Band Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study -FH 1:30 Finance-L 6 Al-Anon(Sp)- EB	7 8:30 ROMEO & JULIET 12 Midday Program-S 1 Reception-FH 2 Line Dance-FH	8 Noon-7:00 LifeTouch Photography (FH)
9 9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir -S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship-S 3 Suncoast Concert -S	10 4:00 Bells-FH 6 AlAnon-EB	11 9:30 Jazz Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 2 Deacons-L 6 AlAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-	12 10 Tai Chi 5:30 BBQ and Bingo-FH Session Reports Due	13 9 Suncoast Band Rehearsal-S 9 Outreach & Mkting-L 6 Al-Anon(Sp)- EB	14 Valentine's Day 12 Midday Program-S 1 Reception-FH 2 Line Dance-FH	15
16 9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir -S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship-S 3 Jazz Concert-S Good Tidings Deadline	17 9 Suncoast Band Rehearsal-S 10 Ruth Cir.-L 4:00 Bells-FH 6 AlAnon-EB	18 9:30 Jazz Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 6 AlAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA- FH	19 10 Tai Chi 5 Session -L	20 10 Bible Study -FH 6 Al-Anon(Sp)- EB	21 8:30 ROMEO & JULIET 12 Midday Program-S 1 Reception-FH 2 Line Dance-FH	22
23 9 Bible Study-FH 9:45 Choir -S 10 Iglesia-EB 10:30 Worship-S 11:45 Congregation al Meeting-S	24 4:00 Bells-FH 6 AlAnon-EB	25 9:30 Jazz Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study-FH 11:15 Staff-L 6 AlAnon (EB) 7 Rose Group Women's AA-	26 Ash Wednesday 10 Tai Chi 10 Mary Cir.-L 5:30 Ash Wed- nesday Svc -FH	27 9 Suncoast Band Rehearsal-S 10 Bible Study -FH 6 Al-Anon(Sp)- EB	28 12 Midday Program-S 1 Reception-FH 2 Line Dance-FH	29



The Church with the Red Roof

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"In God we trust"

CURRENT RESIDENT

PLACE LABEL HERE

Northminster Presbyterian Church
"Called by Christ. Sent by Christ."

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Gail Ofterdinger-Ledgister, Organist

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 a.m.

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