



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Church

*Experiencing and sharing God's love to transform our homes, community and world.*

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## SERMON SERIES: NOW I SEE

Throughout his Gospel, John is constantly bringing forward a contrast between light and darkness, belief and unbelief, and sight and blindness. Usually John talks about these themes individually (such as John 1:5). Sometimes, these three contrasts are brought together (take, for example, John 3:16-21). In John 9, he weaves these contrasting themes together into one of the most compelling stories in in his Gospel and in Scripture.

Over the course of the season of Easter (which runs from Easter Sunday through Pentecost), we'll be exploring the richness of the story of the man born blind. In this story, John contrasts a man who was born physically blind yet could see better than anyone else who could physically see but were actually blind. Along the way, we'll explore why bad things happen, how to find healing in Jesus, the power of a changed life, the importance of the Sabbath, family matters, how to defend your faith, and what it really means to believe and see.

The story is only one chapter in John's Gospel, yet could almost be a book unto itself. We invite you to join us as we discover that, because of Jesus, *we once were blind, but now we see*. We look forward to seeing you in worship, Sundays at 11am.

Blessings,  
Pastor David Garrison



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Pat Callahan
- 4 Madison Newsome (age 1)
- 5 Michael Babcock
- 7 Grady Mann
- 10 Jeremy Vandevander
- 13 Debbie Moore
- 16 John Lange
- 19 Jay Vandevander Jr.
- 23 Julie Lerner
- 25 Rudy Burnett  
Tim Mills
- 27 Emerson Bryant
- 29 Michael Sechler  
Luke Sechler



**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Rudy & Sue Burnett, 1982



**MAY NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

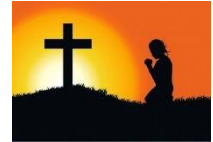
- 5 Ron Reyburn & Sandy Stafford
- 12 Barbara & Ernie Baker
- 19 Linda Lange & Judy Reyburn
- 26 Debbie Irvine & Vonnie Rucker



More nursery attendants are needed. If you can volunteer once every 2 months to serve our children in this important ministry, please contact Sharon Bryant ([sharonc.bryant5@gmail.com](mailto:sharonc.bryant5@gmail.com) or 929-0610)

*I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears.*

*Psalm 34:4 NIV*



**Prayer requests:**

**Marge Mills** thankfully receive the news that her cancer had not spread. She will soon begin a series of radiation treatments.

**Sandy Stafford's mother, Bessie Gillie**, is waiting to find out if she will need radiation treatments.

**Sue Burnett** continues treatments for lung cancer.

**Bobbie Garrett** is receiving rehab at Liberty Ridge.

Please keep her and Albert in your prayers.

**Will Thomasson** is in school in Lima, Ohio to become a mechanic. He is looking for work.

**Lauren Higgins** is teaching in China for a year.

**Laura Hoffman's brother, Rick Ricketts**, is receiving therapy at Fairmont Crossing. Also pray for Laura as she is responsible for the care of Rick and her cousins, John and Dick Collins.

**Dick Collins** recently moved to a facility in Lynchburg where he can get more extensive care. His new address is: The Carrington, 2406 Atherholt Rd., Lynchburg, 24502.

**All active servicemen and women.**

**Law enforcement personnel, first responders.**

*Remember others who cannot be with us in church:*

**John and Dick Collins, Dot Stinnett, Leonard Rowe, Margaret Watts, Dot Rucker, Doris Eden, Monyeene Wood, Bob & Marie France.**



**Sunday, May 19**

The Fellowship committee will sponsor our next covered-dish luncheon on Sunday, May 19, following worship. Everyone is encouraged to bring a favorite dish to share, i.e. entrée, salad, side or dessert.



**COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**May 5**

We observe the Sacrament of communion on the first Sunday of each month.

*"This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."*  
Luke 19b-20

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**Morning Circle:**

The Morning Circle will meet at 10 am on the second Tuesday, **May 14**, to finish their current Bible study, “*A Love Worth Giving*.” They will continue meeting in June, July and August but with a different agenda. The plan is to meet at 1 p.m. on the first Tuesday and instead of a Bible study, they will be visiting shut-ins. Anyone, not a circle member, who would like to join them in visiting the shut-ins would be most welcomed.

**Evening Circle:**

Both women’s circles will meet Tuesday, **May 7**, 6 p.m. at Maggie Brockman’s home for a light dinner and time of fellowship. The evening circle does not meet in June, July or August. They will continue their Bible study in September with Margaret Feinberg’s study of the Gospel of John.

**WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB**

**Sat, May 11, 10am - Noon**



The Women’s Book Club will meet May 11 from 10 a.m. until Noon at Vonnie Rucker’s home. The group is reading **Educated: A Memoir** by Tara Westover. Please let Vonnie know if you will be attending.

**FIRST SUNDAY  
COLLECTION OF  
NON-PERISHABLES  
FOR THE MONROE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
FOOD PANTRY**



Can’t bring your donations on the first Sunday? Leave your items any time in the basket in the Tatman Room. Monetary contributions are appreciated as well. Monroe Baptist volunteers can purchase food from the Blue Ridge Food Bank at a much lower price than at the grocery stores.

**SAVE YOUR PLASTIC  
GROCERY-STORE BAGS**

for

**NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**

The Morning Circle would like for you to bring to church each Sunday your PLASTIC GROCERY-STORE bags. Deposit them in the wicker basket found underneath the coat-rack in the Entrance Foyer of our church. The folks who shop at Neighbors Helping Neighbors have need of them to carry home their grocery selections. The bags must be dry and clean. No bags which have contained refrigerated items with moisture nor ones from produce that may have contained residue from soil such as potatoes are reusable.

Thank you for your participation. And thank you, Don Hedrick for taking these bags to NHN each week.



**A Mother's Love**

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappoints  
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith  
And a mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the angels

And sent from God above.  
--Author Unknown

### **ROADS TO RECOVERY**

As part of our commitment to Roads To Recovery, the Missions, Outreach and Evangelism Committee is focusing on gift bags for the residents. There is a desire by the staff to welcome each new resident with a bag filled with items for personal hygiene.

We will supply 2 gallon zip lock bags and will post a list of needed items. We will collect through the month of May. Watch for a collection box in the hall with a list of needed items. Thank you for your support of this mission.

*Your MOE committee*

## **SonWorld Adventure Park VBS**

**June 23-27**

**6-8PM**



A visit to a theme park is a day of choices. The clinkety-clack of a wooden coaster, or the speedy swoosh of tubular steel? The cool tartness of frozen lemonade, or the gooey richness of a giant cinnamon roll?

The choices we make in a theme park will determine the kind of day we'll have. But the big and little choices we make every day will determine what kind of lives we'll have, our relationships with those around us, and ultimately our relationship with God. And all that begins with our understanding of who is Jesus and how we will choose to respond to Him? At SonWorld Adventure Park VBS, kids will meet various people who encountered Jesus and discover how they responded to Him:

- A blind man was given sight by Jesus. Afterward, the man made the startling claim that Jesus is God's promised Savior. Will your kids also **Choose to BELIEVE?**
- Then men with leprosy were healed by Jesus. When your kids see people in need of God's love, will they **Choose to ACT?**
- When a paralyzed man was first forgiven and then healed by Jesus, witnesses questioned Jesus' right to forgive sin. Will your kids **Choose FORGIVENESS?**
- A rich young ruler met Jesus, seeking eternal life. When he learned what he needed to give up in order to obey Jesus, he walked away sadly. Will your kids **Choose to OBEY?**
- The disciple Thomas doubted his friends when they said that Jesus is alive. But when he saw Jesus, he believed. Will your kids also **Choose JESUS?**

At SonWorld Adventure Park, there's no height requirement, the lines are short and everyone gets a good view of the parade. But hold on to your hats and glasses, because it's sure to be a life-changing ride!

**Sign up to volunteer** by calling or emailing Karey Garrison ([kareygarrison@gmail.com](mailto:kareygarrison@gmail.com), 386-8869).

**Registration for kids coming soon!**



**An excellent opportunity for Pastors and key lay people from area PCUSA and EPC Churches**

**Elon Evangelical and Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Churches Present:**

## **Good News from Hard Places**



Come learn why the Church in difficult places has much to teach us about both the cost of discipleship, as well as its fruits!

**Marilyn Borst** shares first-hand experience behind global headlines as she sheds light upon the work and witness of the Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Egypt (all of which Marilyn has visited in the past 6 months) and invites us to come alongside that work through our prayer and presence.

This is the Church which Paul describes: "we rejoice in our suffering because suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us...."

Marilyn Borst is Associate Director for Partnership Development of The Outreach Foundation, a Presbyterian mission agency which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. She works with churches around the United States to help them discern God's call to global engagement while connecting them to that work alongside the Global Church in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Middle East--a particular area of specialty for her. She travels extensively, nurturing relationships with church leaders, assessing ministry initiatives and leading short-term vision teams especially to Cuba, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Israel/Palestine. Her heart for the Church in difficult places has also brought her to Iran, Pakistan and North Korea. She is ordained as an elder and has been married to Mark Borst for 40 years. The Borsts reside in Atlanta.

**9:30 - 11:15 am**

**Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
106 Clearview Drive, Madison Heights VA 24572**

Join us at 9:30 am for coffee and pastry - the seminar begins at 9:45 am

**PLEASE RSVP TO [OFFICE@NPCMH.COM](mailto:OFFICE@NPCMH.COM)**

**PER-MEMBER ASKING FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MID-ATLANTIC SUPPORT**

The Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic of the EPC asks its churches for their financial support in the amount of \$25 per Active Member. They call this the ***EPC Per-Member Asking***. Although this is not mandatory, Northminster has pledged to financially support our denomination, realizing they have expenses just as we have. We have on several occasions reaped benefits from the Presbytery at no charge to us. Active members are asked if they can *voluntarily* give to this fund, beyond their regular tithe, once a year. If you are able to do so, please use a pew envelope or include \$25 in your offering envelope designating "EPC Per-Member Asking".

**UPDATE – PCUSA DISMISSAL DEBT**

Due to your faithful giving over the past 3 years, we feel like we can reach our goal within 1 more year. You will see below in the Financial Stewardship Report that we have accumulated \$48,667 towards the balance owed (\$60,000). Please help us reach our goal of obtaining the full amount owed within this year by continuing your giving to the PC USA Dismissal.

<b><u>PC USA DISMISSAL DEBT UPDATE</u></b>	
Nov. 2015, Original amount:	\$ 89,600
Paid:	29,600
 Held in savings as of April 27:	<u>49,676</u>
Balance needed:	10,324

<b><i>FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT</i></b>				
	<u>General Operating Fun</u>		<u>Campaign/PC USA Debt</u>	
	<u>March</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income	10,042	29,321	1,320	48,793
Expenses	<u>13,089</u>	<u>36,987</u>		
Balance	-3,047	-7,666		

Visit us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/npcmh](http://www.facebook.com/npcmh)  
 Website: [www.npcmh.com](http://www.npcmh.com)

DAVID GARRISON, *Pastor*

**ELDERS**

Ron Reyburn, *Clerk of Session*

Judy Reyburn, Michael Babcock, George Brine,

John Lange, Sharon Bryant, Anne Wilkins

Bob Mills, *Director of Music*

Liz Boothe, *Organist*

Sharon Bryant, *Superintendent  
of Sunday School*

Vonnie Rucker, *Secretary/Treas.*