



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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OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Col. 2:6-7)

"Continue to live in him, rooted and built up, strengthened in the faith as you were taught"

Each year, as part of my benefits package, I am given two weeks of study leave. This isn't two extra weeks of vacation; it's an intentional time for pastors to do exactly what Paul says in this verse, to be 'rooted and built up [in Christ], strengthened in the faith.' Just as we need exercise to keep our bodies healthy, we also need to be intentional in strengthening our faith. That is what study leave is meant to provide. I spent the time reading several books about pastoring in our current cultural reality, meeting with a spiritual director for my own spiritual growth and well-being, and sketching out a sermon plan for next year. Thank you for letting me have the time away, and I look forward to sharing with you what God has been sharing with me!

"Overflowing with Thankfulness"

Thank you, also, for the wonderful cards and expressions of appreciation you all shared this past weekend. What an unexpected surprise to receive upon my return from study leave! One of my greatest joys is being able to tell others about what a blessing you all are to my family and me and how thankful we are to get to serve alongside you. So many pastors serve places that are hard and challenging, but serving Northminster is a joy and delight. We truly are "overflowing with thankfulness" for each one of you.



For what are you "overflowing with thankfulness"? In the midst of the craziness of the holiday season, it can be easy to forget to reflect on that question. I encourage you to be intentional in taking time to reflect on the things for which you are thankful. Yes, expressing gratitude in the moment when we've received a gift is somewhat easy, but to "overflow with thankfulness" requires intentional thought and perhaps even prayer. How different might our thanksgiving celebrations be if we take as much time to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for as we do cleaning, cooking and preparing for those celebrations?

Blessings, *Pastor David Garrison*

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 1 Linda Sieviewright
- 3 Janet Vandall
- 5 Lorraine Ledden
- 9 Christy Sechler
- 15 Colin Scruggs
- 15 Anne Wilkins
- 21 Joel Carnefix
- 22 Sandy Stafford
- 30 Meg Garrison



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 20 Ed & Vera Campbell 1965
- 25 Joel & Virginia Carnefix 1964



NOVEMBER ATTENDANTS:

- 3 George & Mickie Brine
- 10 Sharon & Gerald Bryant
- 17 Maggie Brockman, Anne Wilkins
- 24 Sandy Stafford, Vonnie Rucker



SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
November 3

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



WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB
will not meet during
November-December.

Watch for an update in the December newsletter and the bulletins.



I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears.
Psalm 34:4 NIV



Prayer Requests:

Virginia Carnefix has returned home after physical therapy at Westminster-Canterbury.

Margie Seal recently fell and broke her collar bone.

Monyeene Wood was recently hospitalized but has recovered.

Leah Gordon, a former member of David’s youth group in NC and a senior at NC State, has been diagnosed with cancer.

Linda Lange’s brother-in-law is being treated for an infection resulting from another treatment.

Mary Wilhelm’s son, Stan, continues treatments for an immune deficiency. He is showing some improvement.

Sue Burnett’s recent scan showed that her cancer has not spread.

Bobbie Garrett has numerous health problems. Also pray for Albert as Bobbie’s main caretaker.

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, Betty Reed.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Morning Circle:

The morning circle will meet Tuesday, November 12 at 10 am, rather than their usual first Tuesday. Their new Bible Study is “Busyness—Finding God in the Whirlwind.” Pick up the study materials from June Hedrick.

Evening Circle:

The evening circle will meet on the first Tuesday, November 5 at 7 p.m. Their Bible study is the book of John with Margaret Feinberg’s DVD presentation, *Pursuing God*.

WINTER ITEMS NEEDED
For Local Schools

There will be a box in the foyer from **November 3 - December 15** for your gifts. It is that time of year to start thinking about winter coats, sweaters, hats, and gloves. The Mission-Outreach-Evangelism committee will be collecting new and gently used clean, warm, winter clothes to be given out to area schools and the Salvation Army in Lynchburg. Warm sox are another item needed.

NORTHMINSTER TO ASSIST
NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS
EXPANDED MINISTRY



DONATIONS FOR
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
NOV. 1-17



It's not too soon to think about Operation Christmas Child (shoeboxes)!! We are beginning to collect items for the shoeboxes now, with the

goal of packing shoeboxes November 17. Small toys, school supplies, and health supplies are all good places to start when buying to fill these boxes. Feel free to fill your own shoeboxes with help from your children and grandchildren.

We will provide a list of items that are allowed and items that are NOT allowed. Call Sharon Bryant if you have questions.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors would like to start having an evening meal (5:00-7:00) on Tuesday evenings, free to anyone. This would be open to any group, church, business that wants to cook and serve to Neighbors Helping Neighbors clients. We would bring the food already prepared and then warm it up upon arrival. Jimmy Price has opened his office space located on route 29, near Dixie Airport Road for this purpose.

We (MOE committee) invited Garry Friend to speak at Northminster and explain in detail what would be expected of an origination willing to help. Following his meeting with a group of church member we decided to try to serve one meal, on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 26. This will give us time to make a menu and shop for specials every grocery store offers at this time of year.

NHN will provide plates, napkins, cups and eating utensil. We will serve about 50 people - about the size of a church covered dish meal. Northminster has some of the best cooks in Amherst County. If you can't help serve we hope you can make a dish. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hall.

Missions, Evangelism, Outreach Committee



Christmas
Cantata **CHORAL CANTATA**
Sun., Dec. 8, 4 pm

The choir has begun to practice for this year's Christmas cantata. Much of the music being performed was written by Tim Mills. The cantata is scheduled for December 8, at 4 p.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On October 27, we were happy to welcome to the Northminster membership the following people:

Sandy Stafford has attended Northminster for a number of years. Sandy says, "I am the mother to two wonderful sons, Mason and Bryce. I enjoy cleaning, singing, sewing and being helpful where and when I can. I love the Lord and am very grateful for every day that he gives me, especially for his love and grace. Without his love and grace I would not be who I am today."

Sandy was hired as janitress in January 2019, and we are grateful for the expertise she brings to the job and the personal attention she shows to the church property.

Beth and Jeb Clarke joined Northminster by transfer of letter from their former church in Norfolk. Jeb is a Physical Therapist employed by Westminster Canterbury. Beth is Admissions Director at Sweet Briar College. Their six-year-old daughter, Addison (Addie), attends New Covenant Schools and is active here in church.

We welcome these folks who have chosen to commit themselves to the work and worship of the family at Northminster.



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE SUN., NOV. 24, 4 PM NEW BEGINNING TABERNACLE

As is tradition, several churches in our area combine for a Community Thanksgiving Service. This year it will be held at New Beginning Tabernacle on Coolwell Road. Thank you to The Rev. Gary Moore of New Beginning for hosting the service this year. The service elements are shared by the pastors of the various participating churches.

The offering taken at the service will be given to the Amherst-Monroe Ruritan Club for their Holiday Food Baskets.

Daylight Savings Time Ends Sun., Nov. 3
Remember to set your clocks BACK 1 hour.



<u>PC USA DISMISSAL DEBT UPDATE</u>	
Nov. 2015, Original amount:	\$ 89,600
Paid:	29,600
Held in savings as of Oct 31:	<u>57,824</u>
Balance needed:	\$2,176

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FOR 2020

Thank you for prayerful consideration of your pledge to the church’s operating expenses for 2020. Pledges are asked to be returned to the office November 3, or no later than November 10. The Budget Committee will meet that week and draw up a budget to be presented to the Session later in November. Above is an update on the funding of the PC USA Dismissal Debt. Because of your dedication to paying off this debt, we have no doubt we will have raised all the funds needed by the end of this year.

<i>FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT</i>				
	<u>General Operating Fund</u>		<u>Campaign/PC USA Debt</u>	
	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income	10,878	89,632	1,155	57,172
Expenses	<u>11,751</u>	<u>105,463</u>		
Balance	- 873	-15,831		

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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.*