



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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SEPTEMBER 2019

Volume 38, Issue 9



For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:10)

My parents raised me to believe that there are three things you don't talk about in polite company: religion, politics and money. We can't (and probably shouldn't) avoid talking about that first one in church, and while this usually hasn't kept me from talking about the other two, but every time I do, I hesitate...particularly when it comes to talking about money. *Especially* when it comes to *preaching* about money. Not only do I not like preaching about money, I've never met a church member who likes or wants to hear sermons on money. As someone once told Bob Mills after a sermon, "Now you've gone from preaching to meddling."



However, there are two truths about money that I think ensures it's worthy of our time and attention on a Sunday morning. First, the reality is that everyone is always talking or thinking about money. As Carey Nieuwhof writes, "People talk about it, argue about it, and try to make their plans around it. Almost everyone in your church and community thinks about money daily and talks about it daily. They may even struggle with it daily. It's just that few people step up to help them with it" (underlined reference links can be found in the online version of this article). If it gets that much of our mental energy and time, isn't it something we should seek biblical guidance regarding?

Which leads us to the second truth: Did you know that the Bible talks about money more than any other subject? As an article at crosswalk.com points out, "It is worth noting that money is such an important topic in the Bible that it is the main subject of nearly half of the parables Jesus told. In addition, one in every seven verses in the New Testament deals with this topic. The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, fewer than 500 verses on faith, and more than 2,000 verses on money." As the article states, "Why such an emphasis on money and possessions? There is a fundamental connection between our spiritual lives and how we think about and handle money."

So for the next six weeks, beginning September 8, we're going to be talking about money. We'll spend the first three weeks talking about the connection between our spiritual lives and our focus on money and the second three weeks understanding what the Bible says about why and how our giving to the Lord is an important part of our growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. While certainly a subject no one wants to talk or hear sermons about, I think we'll find a way to a deeper, richer life in Christ as a result.

But as for you, O man of God, flee these things.

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. (1 Tim. 6:11)

Blessings,

Pastor David Garrison

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 10 Dot Stinnett
- 11 Ian Moore I
Caiti Vera
- 16 Ray Vandall
- 19 Sharon Bryant
- 23 Peggy Wright
- 25 Bobbie Garrett
- 27 Tim Wright



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 1 Vance & Anne Wilkins,
2007
- 5 Ray & Janet Vandall, 1956
- 10 George & Mickie Brine, 1977
- 10 George & Linda Sievewright, 1977
- 13 David & Kristin Kidd, 2014
- 18 David & Karey Garrison, 1999
- 21 George & Beverly O'Brien, 1974



SEPTEMBER ATTENDANTS

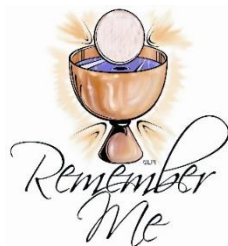
- 1 Debbie Irvine,
Ron Reyrburn
- 8 George & Mickie Brine
- 15 Gerald & Sharon Bryant
- 22 Maggie Brockman, Anne Wilkins
- 29 Sandy Stafford, Vonnie Rucker



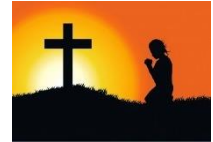
**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
September 1**

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



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



Prayer Requests:

Peggy Wright fell at home and hurt her knee. She also suffered a mild stroke but seems to be recovering completely from that.

Larry Irvine had an accident on his lawn mower, causing cracked ribs.

Dolores Wright's son, Jimmy, has improved following heart by-pass surgery.

Betty Reed has returned to her home at Valley View.

Mary Wilhelm's son, Stan, has returned home from the National Institute of Health but 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, Monyeene Wood.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Morning Circle:

The morning circle returns September to their regularly scheduled meeting time, the first Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. On September 3 they will begin a new Bible Study, "Busyness—Finding God in the Whirlwind." Pick up the study materials from June Hedrick.

Evening Circle:

The evening circle also returns to their monthly meeting time on September 3 at 7 p.m. Their Bible study is from the book of John with Margaret Feinberg's DVD presentation, *Pursuing God*. Participants need a study book which can be purchased on line at Barnes & Noble and Amazon (kindle and paperback).

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC**SUN., SEPT. 15****5:00 PM**

The annual church picnic will be held on Sept 15 starting at 5 pm.

Hotdogs, hamburgers and all the fixings will be provided. Everyone is invited to come and bring family, friends and neighbors. Please sign up on a sheet that is on the bulletin board. Everyone is asked to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share. There will be games and entertainment. Music will be provided by the *Country Proud Bluegrass Band*.

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE SURVEY**

The Fellowship Committee is trying to find new ways and activities to build connections and foster relationships within our congregation and draw new or prospective members into our community of faith. To assist the committee, they have developed an "Interests Survey". They desire to get more people involved in deciding which activities best suit our needs and our abilities. Beginning September 1, each adult in the congregation is asked to fill out a survey and return it to the designated place at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you in advance!

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB**Sat, Oct. 19, 10 am**

The Women's Book Club will not meet in September.

They will meet October 19 at Judy Reyburn's home from 10 a.m. until Noon. The group is reading **The Family Nobody Wanted** by Helen Doss. Please let Judy know if you will be attending.

**YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & INFO****2019 YOUTH GROUP FALL KICKOFF****SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8****6:00-7:15PM**

Youth group returns to its weekly schedule on Sunday, September 8 from 6:00-7:15pm at Northminster! We have a lot of great things planned for this coming year and can't wait to see y'all there.

Join us for our fall series, *Rescued from An Ordinary Life*. What kind of life are you living? You get up, get dressed, grab a pop tart on your way to school. You walk the same halls every day, sit with the same people at lunch, sleep through the same classes over and over. You come home, do some chores, put homework and studying off, watch some TV, annoy your siblings and go to sleep. Then repeat. Edge-of-your-seat stuff, right? You know what's funny? I know a lot of adults who yearn for their high school days to come back - the "best years of your life!" Wow. What a life.

Don't you wonder if there isn't supposed to be more to this life? That we were made for so much more than just eating and breathing? Turns out, you weren't made for ordinary. Jesus once said,

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Want to be rescued from an ordinary life? Then join us on Sundays as we explore this verse and find out just what Jesus meant when he invited us to "have life, and have it to the full." See you there. **Sundays, 6 pm, beginning September 8.**



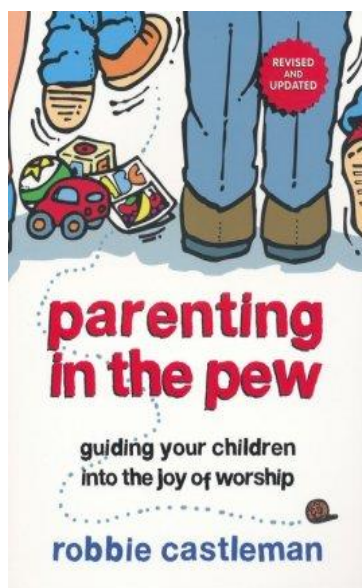
PARENTING IN THE PEW
BEGINNING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
9:45 AM, IN THE TATMAN ROOM

One of the questions we're asked on a regular basis is, "How do I teach my children how to worship? How do we help them understand what the different parts of the worship service mean and why they matter?" These are great questions, so we're offering this new Sunday School class to help find some answers together.

Karey Garrison will be leading a study of the book, *Parenting in the Pew*, by Robbie Castleman. From the back cover:

"Daddy, I'd like you to meet my children." That's Robbie Castleman's attitude about taking her children to church. She believes that Sunday morning isn't a success if she has only managed to keep the kids quiet. And she knows there's more to church for kids than trying out their new coloring books. Children are at church for the same reason as their parents: for the privilege of worshipping God. Worship, Castleman writes, is "the most important thing you can ever train your child to do." So with infectious passion, nitty-gritty advice and a touch of humor, she shows you how to help your children (from toddlers to teenagers) enter into worship.

This class is open to all parents, grandparents and great-grandparents - anyone who would like to help their children, grandchildren or even nieces and nephews learn how to love and worship God with all of their heart, mind, soul and strength. Books cost \$10 each. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend or would like a book so we order the proper amount.



MISSIONS SUNDAY, SEPT. 29

Susan May from Burundi Hope will visit Northminster on Sunday, September 29, during Sunday school. **All ages** are invited to the Fellowship Hall for updates on Burundi Hope. It is always exciting to see and hear about Susan's adventures. Breakfast treats will be served.

Also, the winners for the Quilt Raffles were:
 Barbara Keefer- Dahlia Wall Hanging
 Laura Lease – 9 Patch
 Patty Rafferty – African Quilt
 All proceeds benefit *Women of Hope Sewing Center Bujumbura, Burundi.*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
FALL ACTIVITIES

Fall is upon us and with it comes Operation Shoebox and Trunk - or- Treat!! We will begin collecting items for our shoebox ministry very soon, as the boxes have to be ready around the second week in November. 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 keep you up to date with any new information as it becomes available.



Secondly, we are planning another Trunk - or- Treat on Sunday, October 27 at the church. Start planning your costumes and how you would like to decorate your car. If you are not able to participate, pick up a bag or two of Halloween candy to help the participants out!



**NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS
EXPANDS ITS MINISTRY**

Garry Friend, Director of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, will visit Northminster on Monday, September 16 at 9:00 a.m. to explain a new opportunity for outreach to our community. NHN would like to start having an evening meal (5:00-7:00) during a weekday (possibly Monday or Tuesday). This is open to any group, church, or business which would want to cook and serve our clients. We would bring covered dishes prepared and then warm them up upon arrival. Jimmy Price is willing to open up his office space located on route 29 in Madison Heights.

Garry will be at Northminster on Monday, September 16 at 9:00 a.m. to go into details and options. This is another opportunity for the community to help our neighbors.

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

The Nominating Committee is meeting to propose a slate of nominees for Elders for the coming year. They are looking to fill two vacancies. An excerpt from the Book of Order states: "According to Scripture, those who bear the office of Ruling Elder should be mature believers, led by the Holy Spirit, who exhibit a manner of life that conforms to the biblical description of an officer in Christ's Church"

In September, there will be an insert in the bulletin for you to use to recommend someone to serve as Elder. We invite you to prayerfully consider the commitment, involvement, and talents of individuals you suggest. We appreciate your input. Please, do not tell your nominee choices that you have suggested their name. We will follow God's lead as we prayerfully consider your suggestions.

If anyone has questions, please contact Judy Reyburn, Nominating Committee Chair, by email at ronjudyreburn@yahoo.com or call 946-5273.

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 by the end of 2019. You will see below in the Financial Stewardship Report the amount accumulated towards the balance owed (\$60,000). Please help us reach our goal of obtaining the full amount owed within this year by continuing to give to the PC USA Dismissal.

<u>PC USA DISMISSAL DEBT UPDATE</u>	
Nov. 2015, Original amount:	\$ 89,600
Paid:	29,600
Held in savings as of Aug. 30:	<u>55,765</u>
Balance needed:	\$ 4,235

<u>FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT</u>				
	<u>General Operating Fund</u>		<u>Campaign/PC USA Debt</u>	
	<u>July</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income	10,559	70,945	1,161	54,033
Expenses	<u>11,352</u>	83,073		
Balance	- 753	-12,128		

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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.*