



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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How's This for Unexpected Irony?

Pentecost brings to a close the first half of the Christian year. The seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Easter trace the grand arc of God's saving action in Jesus Christ. In addition to that rhythm, we have spent the past 90 days reading through the entire Bible. It's felt something like a whirlwind. Then add in the chaos we've all experienced in our lives and our world with the coronavirus pandemic, and it's enough to leave you dizzy, confused and probably a little overwhelmed. At this point, most all of us are yearning for just a little bit of ordinary.

The second half of the Christian year is one long season called *Ordinary Time*. As Philip Reindeers explains, "*Ordinary*" doesn't mean boring or second-rate but simply "everyday." *The Christian faith is not an otherworldly faith; it's about this creation, your life, these days. Ordinary Time gives us the space to consider all the implications of God's salvation in Jesus Christ for our day by day, week-in, week-out lives.*' As we find ourselves yearning for something of the ordinary in these very extraordinary times, the Christian calendar offers an invitation to consider the implications not just of all that God's salvation in Christ means for our daily lives, but also how this pandemic is impacting us as well — and perhaps even to ask how does the Gospel inform and affect our understanding of the pandemic's impact?



So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. (Rom. 12:1–2 MESSAGE)

May the unexpected irony of being in Ordinary Time during these extraordinary times be a blessing and a gift for you.

Blessings,
Rev. David Garrison

Life Together



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Judy Reyburn
- 14 Marge Mills
- 16 Jennifer Mann
- 19 Albert Garrett
- 21 Kaleigh Bennett
- 25 Garrett Mann

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Jonathan & Britt Bryant, 2011
- 10 Jeremy & Robi Vandevander, 2013
- 12 Don & June Hedrick, 1960
- 15 John & Margie Seal, 1956
- 22 Albert & Bobbie Garrett, 1951
- 26 Bobby & Debbie Irvine, 1971
- 28 Bob & Marge Mills, 1980



Church Directory

In March we published our 2020 CHURCH DIRECTORY. Realizing this was right when the coronavirus hit our area, many of you have not been to church since then and possibly have not gotten a new Directory. If this is the case, please call or email the church and we will mail you a new 2020 CHURCH DIRECTORY. We think it is important to have current contact information for our congregation, especially now while that is our main way to communicate with one another.

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

Prayer Requests:

Michael Babcock's mother who is recovering from her recent stroke.

Jennifer Tucker, Joel & Virginia Carnefix's daughter has stage 3 breast cancer. Chemo began the first week of March.

Bobby Irvine, Debbie Irvine's husband has had serious stomach surgery. Pray for Debbie and Bobby as he will have a long recovery.

John Ledden is in the hospital in Bedford with congestive heart failure.

Ron Reyburn has received treatment for prostate cancer.

Mary Wilhelm's son, Stan, continues treatments for an immune deficiency. He is consulting with doctors about his next steps.

Sue Burnett continues chemotherapy for lung cancer.

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

All medical personnel who have continued serving those with coronavirus in spite of the possibility of getting infected themselves.

Remember others who cannot be with us in church: Dick Collins, Dot Stinnett, Leonard Rowe, Margaret Watts, Dot Rucker, and Betty Reed.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2020

| | April | Y-T-D |
|----------|---------------|---------------|
| Income* | 13,466 | 45,469 |
| Expenses | <u>10,073</u> | <u>41,332</u> |
| Balance | +3,393 | +4,137 |

PC USA DEBT: 50,109

Northminster's Plans for 'Phase 1'

On Tuesday, May 12, the Session met to discuss our plans for Phase 1 of Virginia's 'Forward Virginia' reopening plans. Up to this point, we have been limited to no more than 10 people at any gathering and, out of an abundance of caution and a desire to follow the guidance from the VDH and CDC, we have postponed all ministries. Since we have 8-9 people leading worship each Sunday, we've asked that no one else attend.

As of Friday, May 15, the 10 person limit has been lifted and so, if you greatly desire to do so and believe it is safe for you, the sanctuary is open for folks to join us on Sunday mornings. However, we believe it best to err on the side of caution at this time and are encouraging folks to join us on Facebook Live for worship, especially if you are in an at-risk category or are experiencing cold symptoms. Sunday school, women's circles, children's and youth ministries continue to be suspended at this time.

To summarize:


- The sanctuary is open for worship, but we still encourage you to stay home and worship with us online.
- All other ministries and programs will remain suspended for the duration of Phase 1.
- If you have any symptoms or are at-risk, please remain home.

The Session will continue to monitor the situation and will make plans as we learn more about Phases 2 & 3. As always, we welcome your feedback and invite you to email me or the elders. Particularly if you have need, please let us know how we can be of help and pray for you during this ongoing season.

We miss seeing you very much, but want to be prudent and wise in how we move forward.

Blessings,

Rev. David Garrison and the Session of NEPC



www.facebook.com/npcmh

Website: www.npcmh.com

DAVID GARRISON, *Pastor*

ELDERS

Ron Reyburn, *Clerk of Session,*

Michael Babcock, George Brine, Maggie Brockman

Sharon Bryant, John Lange, Anne Wilkins

Bob Mills, *Director of Music*

Liz Boothe, *Organist*

Sharon Bryant, *Superintendent*

of Sunday School

Vonnie Rucker, *Treasurer*

Northminster Adds Online Worship and Giving

As we continue to adjust to what is hopefully a short-term “new normal” of social distancing and quarantine, Northminster is working hard to take advantage of various online resources to help us stay connected during this season. Right now, our efforts are focusing on helping you join us for worship on Sunday mornings through live-streaming the service, and providing ways for you to make your donations to church online. Here’s a basic tutorial for these services.

Worshipping with us through Facebook Live

On a Phone or Computer

On any internet-connected device, go to www.facebook.com/npcmh to find our worship service. You *do not* need a Facebook account to access this. If you don’t see the Live feed, refresh your browser to reload the page. We expect to start the live stream right at 11am (or whatever time the service is scheduled), but we might be a minute or two late every once in a while. To make it easier for you, if you have a QR scanner on your smartphone (built into the camera on most newer phones), you can scan the code you see to the right.



If You Have a Facebook Account

Make sure you “Like” our page and set it to notify you whenever we go live, and Facebook will send you a notification when the service starts. You can find our page by searching for “npcmh” in the Facebook search bar, or scanning the QR code.

We do encourage you to watch the service on the largest screen you have available, to help give the sense of “being there.” Many modern TVs allow you to “send” a video from your phone or laptop directly to the TV.

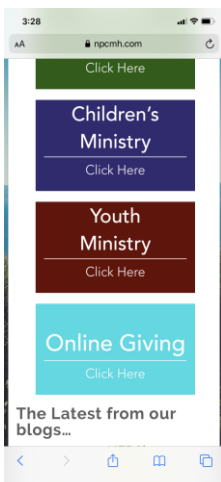
On A “Smart” TV, Roku device or Apple TV

If you’ve purchased a TV in the past 5 years or so, most likely it is a “smart” TV that includes a variety of streaming services and apps. On those TVs, or if you have a Roku or Apple TV, you can download the Facebook Watch app. Again, you do not need a Facebook account to use this app. Once downloaded, search for “npcmh” to find our page and our videos.

Download the Bulletin Each Week

To assist your worship, the bulletin will be available on our website at www.npcmh.com/sunday-bulletins. Be sure to download and print it off prior to worship. The bulletin will have all the liturgical elements as well as hymn and song lyrics included each week.

Making Donations Online Through tithe.ly



You can now make donations online! You can do this on a computer, phone or tablet. Simply go to our homepage, www.npcmh.com, and scroll down until you see the blue “Online Giving” button (pictured on the left). Tapping or clicking on it will send you to a secure donation page. Once there, you can make a one-time donation or set up a recurring donation. There is a small processing fee for each transaction, and you can choose to include those fees in your donation if you would like (otherwise the church absorbs those fees). You **do not** need to make an account with tithe.ly in order to make a donation.

If you have a smartphone with a QR scanner (built into the camera on most newer phones), you can simply scan this barcode to go directly there!





Join Us at Gospel Light's

SONTreasure ISLAND VBS

VBS 2020 POSTPONED

After being stranded in our homes for the past several months probably no one will want to get stuck on SonTreasure Island this summer. We look forward to getting stranded with you in **Summer 2021!**

Look for special opportunities and events for children and youth coming in July and August once the restrictions are lifted!

Where Kids Discover God's Love