



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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

office@npcmh.com

434/929-2713

www.npcmh.com

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Being, Having, Giving Thanks

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. — Colossians 3:17

As I'm sitting down to write this article, I'm also preparing a sermon on Colossians 3:12-17, which I've probably already preached before you've read this. But it's worth taking a bit of extra time in this space on it, particularly as we begin the month of November. Three times in three verses Paul stresses thankfulness. "Be thankful" (v.15), have "thankfulness in your hearts to God" (v.16), "give thanks to God" (v.17). Paul uses three different Greek words, which our English translations capture pretty well. Being, having, giving. As we begin this month in which we are intentional in giving thanks, I find myself particularly doing those very things: being thankful, having thankfulness, and giving thanks.



Being Thankful

Whenever I have opportunity to talk with the Presbytery leadership about Northminster, I am always quick to talk about how loving and supportive you are of my family and me. Over the past month, we have been overwhelmed with the cards and gifts you have sent for Pastor Appreciation Month. What I appreciate even more is that you share your appreciation throughout the entire year. I am so grateful and thankful to have the opportunity to serve alongside you in service to our Lord and Savior. It is easy to "be thankful" when one gets to serve a congregation as wonderful as you are.

Having Thankfulness

This has been a very challenging year, to say it lightly. We have all faced difficulties we never would have expected or anticipated, both individually and as a society. But even in the midst of the hardship, God is still good and His blessings abound. Each day, the sun continues to shine, our lungs fill with air, we have clothes on our backs, food on our tables, and a roof over our heads. While we all wish and yearn for this pandemic to come to an end, there are countless blessings for which we can have thankfulness in our hearts to God. If “being thankful” is something we do in a moment, “having thankfulness” is more of a continuous state of being. I invite you to think about ways you can cultivate an “attitude of gratitude,” even in these difficult times.

Giving Thanks

An important part of that “attitude of gratitude” is to express it by giving thanks. On behalf of the Session, I’d like to give thanks to God the Father for each of you. Throughout the difficulties and challenges of this year, you have faithfully continued to support the work and ministry of this church. Your monthly giving has exceeded last year’s every month except for two, and our income has exceeded our expenses each month except for two. Where last year at this time we were facing an uncertain financial situation, because of your generosity we are much more stable this year. We do not know what the future holds, but we know the One who holds the future. We are excited, even in the midst of the uncertainty, about what God has done, is doing and even more for what God has yet to do through you and this church in the months and years to come.

Blessings,

Rev. David Garrison

Pastor’s Midweek Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.



Join us in person or online for a midweek Bible study with Pastor David! We’re working our way through the book of Judges, with a focus on learning to study the Bible ourselves and apply it to our daily lives. As 2 Timothy 3:16 says, “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the person of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” It’s easier to see this in some passages than others, but together we’ll be encouraged and equipped. We look forward to seeing you there! Sign up at <https://npcmh.churchcenter.com/groups/small-groups>.

Life Together

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

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



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

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



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



Prayer Requests:

Ron Reyburn has received treatment for prostate cancer.

Mary Wilhelm's son, Stan, continues treatments for an immune deficiency. He underwent a bone marrow transplant on July 21.

Sue Burnett continues chemotherapy for lung cancer.

Karey Garrison will have a tonsillectomy on Monday, November 9.

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: **Dot Stinnett, Leonard Rowe, Margaret Watts, and Dot Rucker.**

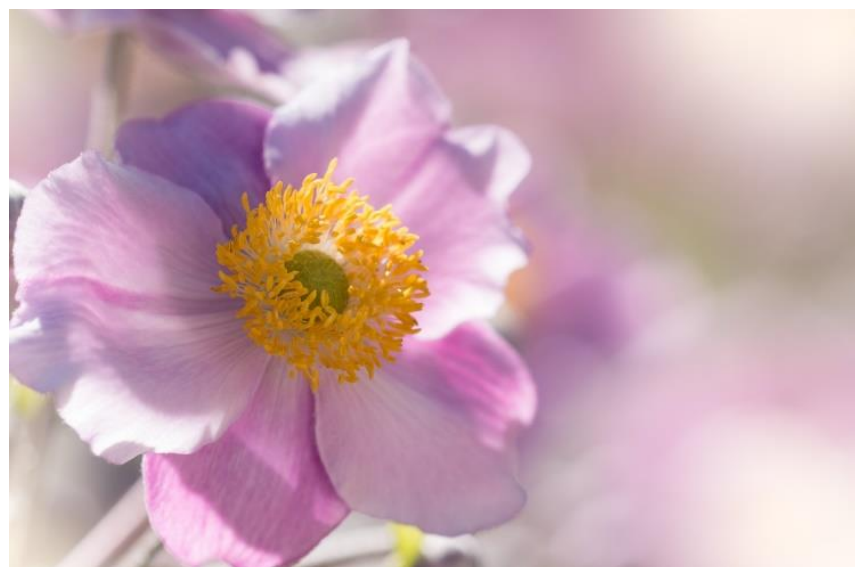
FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2020

	September Y-T-D	
Income*	9,206	98,681
Expenses	<u>9,850</u>	<u>94,630</u>
Balance	-644	4,051

PC USA DEBT – 50,420

With Sympathy

Our Christian love and deepest sympathy are extended to the family of Betty Reed on her homegoing October 26.



Opportunity Is Coming!

News from Missions, Evangelism & Outreach

We drive through our community knowing there are children in need. How do we reach them? **Careportal.org** is a new ministry opportunity we are aligning with to help children in Amherst County remain with family. Careportal is part of the Patrick Henry Family Services. The Department of Social Services identifies a need and submits it to Careportal. Careportal sends the request out via the internet to participating local churches and organizations who then have an opportunity to respond. Northminster may be able to meet the need or we may partner with others. The goal is to keep children with family. Soon you will be given the opportunity to sign up to receive these requests and partner with your MOE committee in this exciting new ministry.



Women's Book Club

Thursday, November 5 @ 10 a.m.

The Women's Book Club will meet next Thursday, November 5 at 10 am. We have met several times during the pandemic outdoors and, weather permitting, will do so again November 5 at Monacan Park. If it is too cold, we will meet in the church's Fellowship Hall. (An email and text will be sent to tell you where to meet.) The Club is reading *12 Faithful Women: Portraits of Steadfast Endurance*, by Melissa Kruger. Join us for a look into 12 faithful women whose faith in Christ enabled them to endure and overcome many hardships.



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

Treats and Eats

Our youth had fun dressing up as their favorite food for a night of laughter and learning at their Halloween party.



Youth Group Continues in November!

(See info on the next page!)

Youth Group in November

Every Sunday, 6:00-7:15 pm

Youth group (for all students 6th-12th grade) is back in action! Join us each week for fellowship, games, and digging into God's word. All done with appropriate masking and distancing, of course.

Here's what we're studying right now:

Bulls Eye Living: Staying On Target In Our Walk With God

There are many things that surround your life — friends, school, family, church, sports, band, and maybe a lot of other things. Think about a bullseye, the target an archer uses. There are different circles, but an archer's goal is to hit the bullseye right in the middle. If all of the different things that make up our lives are the circles on the target, the bullseye for our life should be God. Through this series, we'll be talking about what does it mean to have bullseye living. What does it mean to live for God?

Through this series, we'll be looking at:

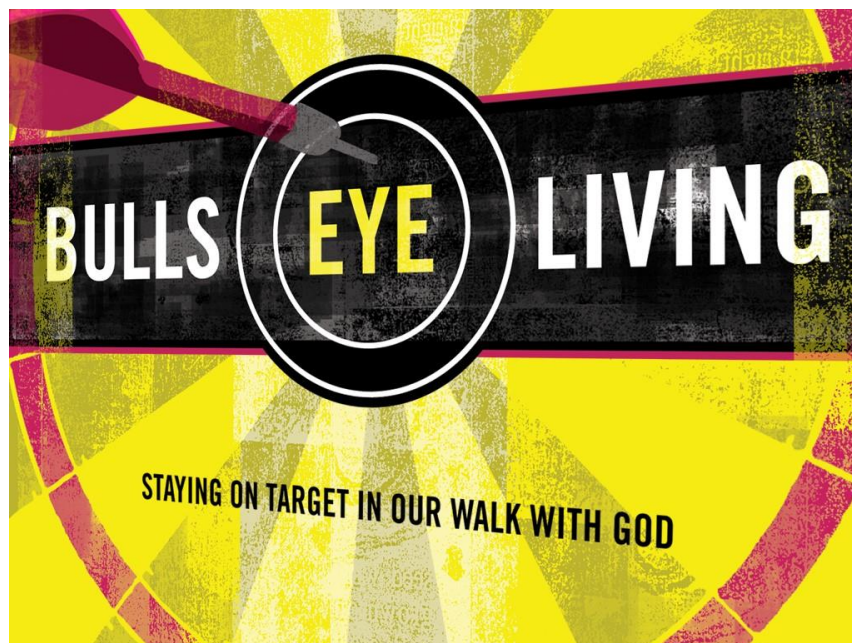
What On Earth Am I Here For?

The World's Values vs. God's Values

Defining My Life's Purpose

Living Out My Life's Purpose

Join us @ Youth Group, Sundays, 6:00 PM.



Northminster 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.npcmh.com/live 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 about 5 minutes before the service begins, but we might be a minute or two late every once in a while.

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.

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.

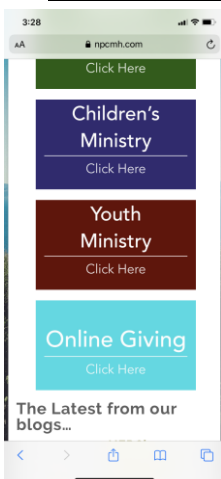
On A “Smart” TV, Roku device or Apple TV

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 shouldn’t 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 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).

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!

