



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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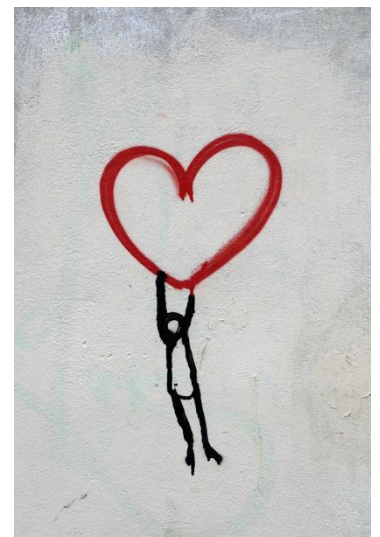
What If It's Actually True?

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. —Ephesians 1:3–8

What if it's actually true? All the things the Bible says about how much God loves us, particularly as shown in the passage above. What if it's actually true? Would you accept it, embrace it? I don't mean do you *know* God loves you, I mean deep down in your heart, do you *believe* it? Most likely you've been singing "Jesus loves me, this I know" since you were knee-high to a grasshopper and you've probably memorized John 3:16 (in case you haven't, it says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"), so I know that you know God loves you. But believing it, accepting it, embracing it is a little bit different, and a lot harder.

We just aren't naturally inclined to believe that God's love for us could be as deep, vast, eternal and passionate as it is. Not us. Others, absolutely. But not me. Not with what's in my heart. And yet... it is. It is true. It is real. The Bible isn't joking. God isn't pulling some sort of eternal, cosmic prank. Notice the words used above (I underlined them for you): God has blessed us, God chose us, God predestined us *in love*, he's freely given to us... he has *lavished* the riches of his grace on us. I love that last one. How often do we think about God lavishing his love and grace on us?

Truly accepting God's love for us is so hard that a few chapters later, Paul prays that we would have the power and strength necessary to embrace the fulness of God's love for us. It's a lifelong journey, and one the end of which we'll never come this side of Glory and maybe even not on the other side. But I can't imagine a better journey to take. God's love for you isn't based on anything you have or haven't done, it's because He has chosen to love you. He knows what's in your heart and mind, far better than you do. What is keeping you from accepting and embracing His love for you today?



For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. — Ephesians 3:14–19

Here's the thing: It really is true, regardless of whether you believe it is or not. May the truth of his lavish love warm your heart more than the summer sun this month.

Blessings,
Rev. David Garrison

“Celtic Communion”

The choral anthem on Sunday, June 6, meant so much to the choir that we wanted to post the words in hopes that you would be touched by the beautiful lyrics, too. The tune is the same as the familiar hymn, “Morning Has Broken.” So sing along as you read the words to “Celtic Communion” arranged by Mark Hayes.

Vs. 1 Bread of the World in mercy broken,
Wine of the Soul in mercy shed,
by Whom the words of life were spoken,
and in Whose death our sins are dead.

Vs. 2 Look on the heart by sorrow broken;
Look on the tears, tears by sinners shed;
And by Your feast to us the token
That by Your grace our souls are fed!

Vs. 3 Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, One in Three;
Christ above me, Christ beneath me,
Christ within me, Three in one.

Amen



Life Together



JULY BIRTHDAYS:

- 7 Don Hedrick
- 11 Henry Sechler
- 29 Margie Seal

JULY ANNIVERSARIES:

- Gerald & Sharon Bryant, July 10, 1976
- Ernie & Barbara Baker, June 14, 1973
- Michael & Janel Babcock, July 27, 1997

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



Prayer Requests:

Larry Irvine is recovering from heart valve replacement.

Arlene Horton is selling her home and moving in with her daughter, Bronwyen.

Peggy Wright is in rehab at Guggenheimer as she heals from a compression fracture in her lower back.

Lorraine Ledden fell. Please pray for her to heal quickly.

Sue Burnett continues chemotherapy for lung cancer.

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, and Margaret Watts.**

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2021

	MAY	Y-T-D
Income*	13,592	115,820
Expenses	<u>11,457</u>	<u>50,791</u>
Balance	2,135	65,029

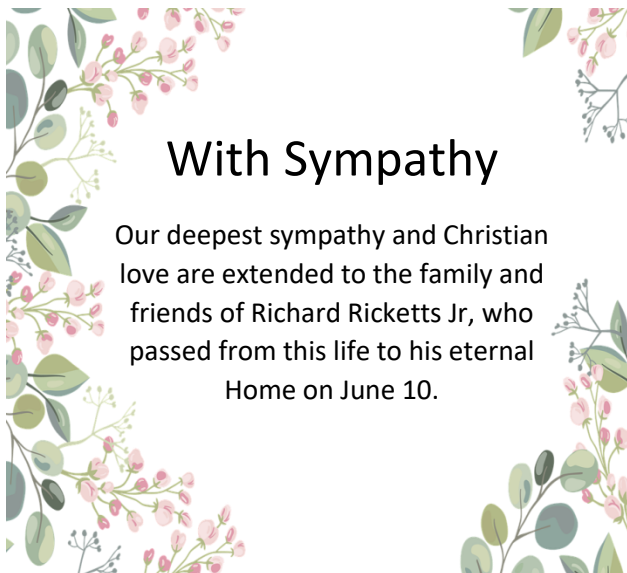
*Tatman 588.65

Front Parking Lot Paving – July 1 & 2

On behalf of the Session & Property Committee, we wanted to let you know that beginning next Thursday, July 1, the front driveway and parking lot will be repaved. For approximately two weeks beginning on the 1st, the front lot, driveway and doors will be inaccessible for the duration of the project. However, you will still be able to get in through the back driveway and parking lot, and the library and back doors. The front lot will reopen as soon as it has been painted and striped.

This project has been made possible thanks to the generous bequest given to the church by the John & Dick Collins Estate. We look forward to sharing with you in the future the other ways this bequest is enabling us to further the witness of the Gospel and expand the Kingdom of God.

Please note that this is a tentative schedule depending on possible weather delays and whatnot.



With Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy and Christian love are extended to the family and friends of Richard Ricketts Jr, who passed from this life to his eternal Home on June 10.

Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism Update



Christmas Cheer Boxes

Peanut Butter & Jelly

July is peanut butter and jelly month! If you would like to contribute to the Community Christmas Cheer Boxes there will be a bin by the front door for your contribution. Next month is pancake mix and syrup.

Gleaning for the World

We will meet at the church on July 15 at 8:30 a.m. We will work from 9 a.m. until noon.



Upcoming Ministry Updates

Sunday, July 11 – Susan and Mark May will be with us during worship to give an update on Burundi Hope.

Sunday, August 1 – Gleaning for the World will be presenting a ministry update.

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club met June 24 at Vonnie Rucker's home. The group discussed *The Baggage Handler*. In this modern-day parable about the burdens that weigh us down, the author, David Rawlings, issues an inspiring invitation to lighten the load.

Next the Book Club will read *How to Be a Good Creature: A Memoir in 13 Animals* by Sy Montgomery. The author reflects on the personalities and quirks of 13 animals—her friends—who have profoundly affected her in this stunning, poetic, and life-affirming memoir. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 29, at 10 am at Mary Wilhelm's home.



Youth Ministry July 2021 Update

We're taking a break from Sunday night youth group for the summer, but not from the fun! Stay tuned for some exciting, summer-themed events & activities!!



Son Treasure Island Adventure Weekend Postponed until 2022

After discussions with our travel agent, we have learned that SonTreasure Island was hit harder by COVID than they initially realized. As a result, we've decided to postpone our trip to SonTreasure Island until **Summer 2022**. Keep your eyes and ears open for the new dates, and we look forward to seeing you there!



Holy Land 2022 — February 23rd – March 3rd



{ A view from the Garden of Gethsemane, across the Kidron Valley—
Up towards the Golden Gate of Temple Mount! }

More views where that one came from!

Join Pastors Cameron Smith and David Garrison for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Ten days of traveling from the Mediterranean coast, up Mount Carmel, through the Jezreel Valley, navigating the streets of Nazareth, taking in the sights of the Sea of Galilee, examining the ruins around Mount Hermon, traveling through the hills of Samaria, conquering the top of Mount Gerizim, hanging out at Jezebel and Ahab's place for a spell, dipping your feet into the Jordan across from the Plains of Moab, hiking down the Pilgrim Road on the Mount of Olives, exploring the Old City of Jerusalem, experiencing David's palace, the solitude of footsteps on the Herodian pavement of the Temple Mount, and of course, Bethlehem. This, and so much more.



Never read your Bible
the same way.
Now, live it!

Northminster Online Worship and Giving

Over the past year, Northminster has worked hard to take advantage of various online resources to help us stay connected. Our efforts have primarily 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 *should 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 little bit 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.

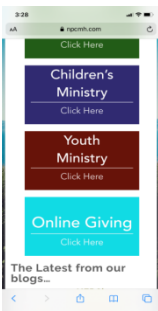
We do encourage you to watch the service on the largest screen you have available, to help give the sense of “being there.” Many modern TVs allow you to “send” a video from your phone or laptop directly to the TV.

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).

NORTHMINSTER ON THE ‘NET

Website
www.npcmh.com

Calendar, Directory & more
npcmh.churchcenter.com (This is also an app for your phone! Go to your app store and search for “Church Center”)

Facebook
www.facebook.com/npcmh

YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI-8UYbBtfkYSO-QbVGMakQ>
 (Tip: find it more easily by going to www.youtube.com and search for “Northminster Clearview”)

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, Judy Reyburn, Caitlin Vera

Bob Mills, Director of Music

Liz Boothe, Organist

**Sharon Bryant, Superintendent
 of Sunday School**

Vonnie Rucker, Treasurer

Sandy Stafford, Secretary