



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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

[office@npcmh.com](mailto:office@npcmh.com)

434/929-2713

[www.npcmh.com](http://www.npcmh.com)

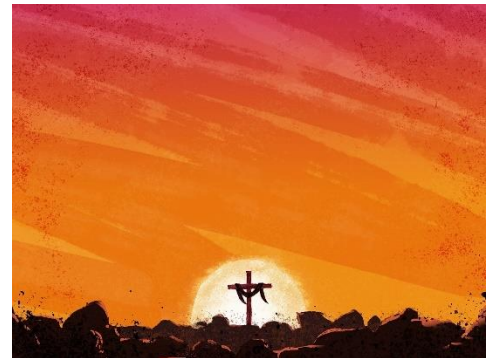
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## The Son Rises

*Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. (Matt. 28:1-8)*



They say that it's always darkest just before the dawn. I'll be honest, I'm rarely up early enough to find out if that's true, but I'm glad to trust those who are early risers. It was certainly true for the disciples the weekend Jesus died. Never had they experienced so dark a night as they did after Jesus died on Good Friday. I imagine that Saturday was spent in a grey fog of shock, fear, dismay, and denial with probably very little sleep. Their hopes had risen so high over the past three years, and in just a few hours, the heights of hope were replaced with the depths of despair.

I wonder if the two Marys had slept at all that weekend. Perhaps getting up and going to the tomb was something like, "well, we're not asleep so we might as well go to the tomb." Luke tells us they took spices to place on Jesus' body (Luke 24:1). It was the beginning stage of reluctant acceptance. But as they arrived at the tomb, just as the sun began to peek over the horizon, their world was shaken once again — literally, this time. A thundering earthquake, the piercing brightness of light — not the sun rising, but the Son rising! This light came from inside the tomb, not the sky.

*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).* The darkness of night can not stand against the light of the sunrise. The darkness of our souls can not stand against the light of God's love and forgiveness. The darkness of this world can not stand against the light of God's power and might (Ephesians 6:12).

You're invited to join us as we celebrate the Light of Jesus Christ rising and pushing back the darkness of our lives this Easter Sunday. Rev. Bob Mills will lead us in an Easter Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m., and we'll have a full Easter Celebration at 11 a.m. Join us for both, or just one. Let's celebrate the Light of the World together this Easter.

Blessings, Rev. David Garrison

## Holy Week Services

Let's gather together during this special week as we remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for our salvation, and then celebrate His victory over death on Easter morning.

Final Lenten Meditation – Wednesday, April 6 at noon;  
at Madison Heights Christian Church

Palm Sunday, April 10 – 11:00 am Worship Service

Good Friday, April 15 – 7:30 pm Service

Easter Sunday, April 17 – 7:30 am Sunrise Service  
11:00 am Worship Service



“Meanwhile, the rulers sneered at him, shouting: ‘He saved others, but he can’t save himself!’ Their words, spoken as an insult, were the literal truth. He could not save himself and others simultaneously. He chose to sacrifice himself in order to save the world.” — **John R.W. Stott, The Cross of Christ**

### ***Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary***

Northminster members and friends have the opportunity this year to provide Easter lilies in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one. These lilies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 17, and then be available to take home. To participate, please sign your name on the church bulletin board list and follow the instructions for payment. Lilies are \$7.50 each and the deadline is Sunday, April 10. Only 15 lilies will be available. Please contact Liz Boothe if you have questions.



[www.facebook.com/npcmh](http://www.facebook.com/npcmh)

Website: [www.npcmh.com](http://www.npcmh.com)

**DAVID GARRISON, *Pastor***

#### **ELDERS**

**Ron Reyburn, *Clerk of Session,***

**Liz Boothe, *Maggie Brockman***

**Sharon Bryant, *John Lange, Judy Reyburn***

**Bob Mills, *Director of Music***

**Liz Boothe, *Organist***

**Sharon Bryant, *Sunday school***  
***Superintendent***

**Vonnie Rucker, *Treasurer***

# Life Together

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

- 3 Vera Campbell
- 5 Ed Campbell
- 6 Liz Boothe
- 13 Cathy Work
- 15 Arlene Horton
- 16 Harry Rucker
- 19 Sue Burnett
- 24 Peter Garrison
- 24 June Hedrick
- 24 Linda Lange
- 30 Anita White



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

## Prayer Requests:



**Tim Wright** had been diagnosed with stage 3 kidney failure, but he recently received news that his numbers have significantly improved. Please pray for his numbers to continue improving.

**Delores & Jimmy Wright** have both been diagnosed with COVID. Please pray for their recovery.

**Ray Vandall** continues to heal from his hip replacement surgery. Praise the Lord, the surgery went well!

**Caiti & Carlos Vera** need prayer as Caiti moves to California to be near Carlos.

**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.**

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

- Harry & Vonnie Rucker, April 13, 1985
- Ian & Debbie Moore, April 17, 1993
- Michael & Christy Sechler, April 17, 2004
- Rob & Andrea Sievewright, April 28, 2007

## **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

### GENERAL FUND

#### February Y-T-D

Income*	7,043	18,587
Expenses	<u>14,438</u>	<u>25,545</u>
Balance	-7,395	-6,958

\*Tatman 1,334.00



## *Our Deepest Sympathy*

John Seal passed from this life into his eternal Home on March 9; our deepest sympathy is extended to Margie Seal, their daughters and family. While we grieve his loss, we are grateful that he is safely at Home with his Savior who he served for so long.

# Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism Update

## Why We Serve: Part 2

“Unity without uniformity.” (*First Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree* by Melissa Spoelstra)

It may seem as if not much is going on at NEPC. Actually, a lot is happening. In I Corinthians 1:10, Paul says “I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other... Rather, be of one mind united in thought and purpose.” NEPC members are “united in thought and purpose” as we participate in several community ministries:

**Amherst Cares** – food sent home on the weekend with needy students

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors** – grocery distribution and meal preparation and service

**CarePortal** – helping children in foster care

**Gleaning For the World** – sort and package food, clothing, medical supplies and occasionally stuffed animals

**Christmas Cheer Boxes** – food collection, packing and distribution to the needy

Christians from different denominations are collaborating to prosper the kingdom of God in Amherst County. Our goal is to lift up Jesus Christ and love our neighbor.

I Corinthians 1:7-9 says “Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited YOU into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ.”

At NEPC we serve by partnering with other brothers and sisters in our community. The unity Paul held as precious is evidenced in this partnership. We experience “unity without uniformity.”

The next MOE committee meeting is Wednesday, April 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tatman Room

Gleaning for the World is on April 21 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Note time change.) Car pool leaves the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

## Meals on Wheels Birthday Boxes

Beginning this month and continuing through July, we will be collecting items to pack in shoe boxes and wrap as birthday gifts for those in Amherst County who receive Meals on Wheels. The items needed are:

April – hand soap, shampoo, deodorant

May – lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush

June – scotch tape, pens, notepads

July – puzzle books, word search books, small packs of tissues, nail files

In July, we will partner with the Fellowship Committee and enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will wrap and pack the boxes. The youth will be invited to join us. If you are unable to join us at NEPC but would still like to participate, you could collect items and pack your box at home and drop it off at the church. The top of the box is wrapped separately from the bottom. Nothing edible may be included.



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## 2022 April Youth Ministry News & Info

Sundays from 6:30-7:45 p.m.

What is the Gospel? And is there a chance we've only looked at all it has to offer from one angle? The word "Gospel" means "good news," but hearing something is good and knowing WHY it's good are two very different things. In this series, as we take a closer look at the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we'll find that the Good News of Easter may be bigger, bolder, and better than we ever imagined. In doing that we can discover a new way of engaging Jesus and five things He doesn't want any of us to forget.



- April 3: You can be close to God
- April 10: Palm Sunday — No Youth Group
- April 17: Easter Sunday — No Youth Group
- April 24: You can be part of making wrong things right.

Join us @ Youth Group, Sundays, 6:30 p.m.

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## HUNDRED MILE YARD SALE FOR YOUTH

**Do you want to help our youth and get rid of used items at the same time?**

On Saturday, May 7, the Northminster Youth Group will be "renting" the church's parking lot spaces and tables to church members, friends, and family who would like to participate in the ONE HUNDRED MILE YARD SALE that will be passing through from May 5-8.



Renters bring their own supplies and keep their profits, but pay \$5 per parking space; you can buy 3 or 4 spaces if you have a lot to sell! If you want, you can also rent a table from the fellowship hall for \$5 per table, ordered ahead of time and set up in advance by our youth.

In addition, the youth will be hosting a bake sale on the premises with baked goods and water bottles donated by church members.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to send the youth to a summer camp event. Be watching your bulletin for more information.



## The Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet next on Thursday, April 21, at the home of Mary Wilhelm at 10:00 a.m. They will be discussing ***West With Giraffes***, by Lynda Rutledge. Please let Mary know whether or not you will be coming.

## Northminster on the 'Net – Check us out online

### Website

[www.npcmh.com](http://www.npcmh.com)

### Calendar, Directory & more

[npcmh.churchcenter.com](http://npcmh.churchcenter.com)

(This is also an app for your phone!

Go to your app store and search for "Church Center")

### YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI-8UYbBtfkYSo-QbVGmakQ>

(Tip: find it more easily by going to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "Northminster Clearview")

### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/npcmh](http://www.facebook.com/npcmh)



## Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

Join us in person or online as we finish the book of Hebrews. We will be meeting Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. through Lent due to the Lenten services at noon.

There will be no meeting during Holy Week on Wednesday, April 13.

## Inquirers' Class

Sundays, 9:45 a.m.

April 24-May 15

Would you like to know more about our church? Are you interested in the possibility of becoming a member? Then this 4-week class is for you. Taught by Pastor David, it will give you the opportunity to hear about our church, the denomination we belong to, and where we see God leading us.

