

NEWS FROM NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Presbyterian Church
539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966

FEBRUARY 2022



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A Word from the Pastor

By: The Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

***In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.***

Many of us are familiar with these lyrics from a hymn usually sung at Christmas-time. Rev. Joyce Borger, worship leader and hymnal editor, writes about hymns and hymnals as resources for pastoral care.* Hymns speak to us about the challenges we face. When we open the hymnal we want to hear God speaking to our needs and to speak to God in song.

Some hymns we sing are “heart songs,” songs that we turn to over and over again, in joy or sorrow. These are the hymns we have memorized. Hymns speak not only to our particular situations, but also help us to think beyond ourselves to events in our nation or world. In the midst of human catastrophes like the pandemic, we need a way to enter into the grief left in its wake. We might choose a hymn like “Come, Bring Your Burdens to God” out of the African tradition, or “Abide with Me,” a heart song many of us have committed to memory.





The voices of the bereft may be sore from grief, unable to sing, but we can sing on their behalf, holding on to the promise that “ills have no weight and tears no bitterness,” even when they might not feel that reality. This kind of song helps us authentically acknowledge that we are part of a larger Christian community. When one part of the body suffers, we all suffer, and when one rejoices, we share in that rejoicing.

“In the Bleak Midwinter” was written to make the birth of Christ personal to each of us, as intimate as the ice, snow and wind that come into each of our lives. While things may seem bleak, life still beats beneath the snow. New ways of doing what we love are even now underway: with our new hymnal, we will sing both “heart songs” and newer hymns we will come to love. We can sing those hymns while in the sanctuary, to ourselves or when livestreaming our worship service. We can even sing as we collect food for the food ministry!

We are always making music in different and beautiful ways. Music helps us to let go of old things so the new can be born. This newsletter will give you a peak at what is new, so if you find yourself beset by the mid-winter blues, why not try one of them? Or even all of them?

It is in the bleak midwinter that we send and receive notes of affection to and from those we love, sure signs that this season of contemplation and growth contains seeds of hope. We can even sing of Spring, knowing it will surely come.

- Pastor Judy

** Joyce Berger is editor of the quarterly journal Reformed Worship and team leader of Worship Ministries for the Christian Reformed Church (CRC). She is an ordained minister in the CRC with a Master of Divinity degree from Calvin Theological Seminary with a concentration in Worship Studies, and has Bachelor degrees from both Calvin College (BA in Music Education, minor in Church Music) and Kuyper College (Bachelor of Religious Education).*

Ash Wednesday Service

MARCH 2 - 6:30 PM



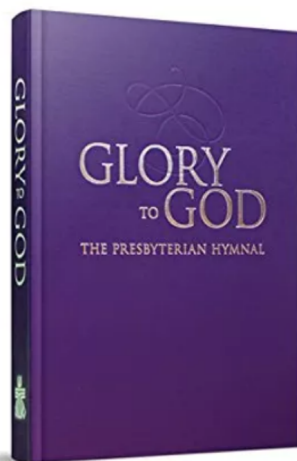
Minute for Mission: *White Gift 2021 Update*

By: *Cathy Cocchia*

The Mission Committee has chosen a local family in need to be the 2021 White Gift recipient. The family is very appreciative. Thank you to all who generously gave this past year.

“Thanks so much for caring about this family. Their daughter has been such a close friend to our child for many years. We have brought her with us to church several times. This monetary gift really touches us, and we can only imagine how much it will touch her family as well. She was so surprised when I told her about it. This thoughtfulness is deeply heartfelt and extremely appreciated.” - Anonymous Church Member / Referrer

The Mission Committee next meets on Monday, February 7th at 7 PM on Zoom; Everyone is welcome!



HYMNAL UPDATE

With the goal of making available to the congregation a broad selection of hymns both old and new, the Worship Committee is excited to announce the purchase of the “Glory to God” Presbyterian Hymnal. We would like to offer members and friends of Northampton Presbyterian Church the opportunity to purchase a hymnal (**\$20 each**) in honor or in memory of a loved one.

To donate, please complete the online form at:

WWW.NORTHAMPTONPRESBY.COM/HYMNAL

Please make checks payable to "Northampton Presbyterian Church" (memo: hymnals) or pay online at www.northamptonpresby.com/online-giving

Financial Overview – January 2022

GENERAL FUND GIVING	19,124.33
Housing Fund Transfer	1,600.00
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	
PAYROLL	12,889.09
BENEFITS	3,595.23
ADMINISTRATIVE	719.35
CHRISTIAN ED	
FACILITIES	
PNC Mortgage	4,705.03
Church Facilities	2,276.68
OUTREACH	
STEWARDSHIP	
WORSHIP	98.00
PRESCHOOL COST ALLOCATION	-2,300.00
Total GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	21,983.38
NET	(1,259.05)



HAY DAY!

VBS

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 28 - 30
6 - 8 PM

For Age 3 yrs - 4th Grade

Growing
in
Friendship with Jesus

WWW.NORTHAMPTONPRESBY.COM/VBS
FACEBOOK.COM/NORTHAMPTONPRESBY

Join us this March
for our Noon Hour Lenten

MUSIC SERIES

Northampton Presbyterian Church is pleased to offer a month of musical Tuesdays during Lent with our "Tuesday Noon" recitalists. Come, refresh your spirit with a brief lunch-hour program each week!

Drop in at noon on the Tuesday of your choice or come to the series of all four and enjoy the wide variety of literature and styles included across the month of programs. Every concert is free and open to the public.

This series is presented through the generous support of a private sponsor. Our series will be livestreamed on the NPC facebook page for those who are unable to attend in person.

All free-will donations received will support the work of our "Voices in Mission!" partners.



WWW.NORTHAMPTONPRESBY.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/NORTHAMPTONPRESBY

**WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME
THESE FINE ARTISTS
TO OUR SANCTUARY:**



**TUESDAY, MARCH 8 AT NOON
MARILYN CLARK**



**TUESDAY, MARCH 15 AT NOON
AUSTIN WOODLIN**



**TUESDAY, MARCH 22 AT NOON
COLIN O'MALLEY**



**TUESDAY, MARCH 29 AT NOON
CARRIE LESSENE**

VOICES IN MISSION!

The Mission Committee invites you to join us on Wednesday nights at 7pm for our Lenten Speaker Series.

Hear from a diverse group about creative ministries that meet urgent needs and foster self-development locally and across the globe. Learn about the Matthew 25 initiative of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and what it means to become a "Matthew 25" church, actively engaged in the world around us.

The following speaker series is offered as a ministry of the Mission Committee of Northampton Presbyterian Church. Offerings for the ministries represented can be made online at northamptonpresby.org/online-giving.

****Current plans are to offer this series via Zoom.** Should pandemic conditions improve, plans to hold the event in our sanctuary will be advertised! Please contact npchurch@comcast.net to receive a Zoom invite.



**MARCH 9
DR. RICHARD MSHOMBA**



Professor of Economics at LaSalle University, whose mission is to *change the world one education at a time.* Along with his wife Elaine, Richard has built a community library in his hometown in Tanzania. Hear about his fascinating life story and the process of creating access to education for those who otherwise would have none.

**MARCH 16
REV. ROSEMARY C. MITCHELL**



CFRE, Senior Director for Mission Engagement and Support of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, overseeing all of mission funding and special offerings and advising on interpretation of per capital. Co-author of two books: *Birthings and Blessings* (Vol. 1 and Vol. 2). Will discuss the "Matthew 25" invitation, and how you can help our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world.

**MARCH 23
KAREN MINEO**



Representing Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN), a Bucks County interfaith nonprofit providing year-long access to emergency shelter, food and other life-sustaining services. Learn how one concerned neighbor developed a ministry that now includes Code Blue, Meals to Wheels, Shower Mission and Those in Need.

**MARCH 30
REV. ADAN MAIRENA**



Adan moved to Pennsylvania in 2003 to serve as a Lilly Resident in Ministry at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. He was then called by the Presbytery of Philadelphia to be the organizing pastor of the West Kensington Ministry. Learn about WKM and their "Building Bridges" mentoring program, recording studio and WKM T-shirt Studio!

**APRIL 6
REV. SCHAUNEL STEINNAGEL**



Associate Pastor of The Welcome Church, a church without walls on Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway serving people in poverty. The Welcome Church is a co-ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (USA), with a volunteer clergy team that includes a number of faith leaders from other traditions.

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 10 AM Sunday (Communion) Worship Livestream & In-Person 11:15 AM Annual Congregational	7 1 PM Facilities Committee 7 PM Mission Committee Zoom	8 11 AM Freeing Jesus Zoom CLG 6:45 PM Boy Scouts COH 7 PM Worship Committee	9 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Robin Hood	10 7 PM Choir Practice	11	12
13 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person 11:15 AM CLGs	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Mohl) 6:30 PM (Lions)	15 11 AM Freeing Jesus Zoom CLG 7 PM Session Meeting 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	16	17 6:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2545 7 PM Choir Practice	18	19
20 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person 11:15 AM CLGs 11:15 AM Deacons	21 PRESIDENTS' DAY 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Committee 7 PM Preschool Board Meeting	22 11 AM Freeing Jesus Zoom CLG 7 PM Facilities Committee 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	23 9 AM Women's Breakfast at Manny's Deli 5 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934	24 12:30 PM Esther Circle 7 PM Choir Practice	25	26
27 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person 11:15 AM CLGs	28	1 11 AM Freeing Jesus Zoom CLG 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	2 10 AM SBRM Blanket Group 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service	3 6:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2545 7 PM Choir Practice	4	5

Livestream Information:

All "livestreamed" messages are broadcasted from our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/northamptonpresby
 Sunday Worship Services are additionally posted on our website: www.northamptonpresby.com/sermon-videos

Northampton Presbyterian Church

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