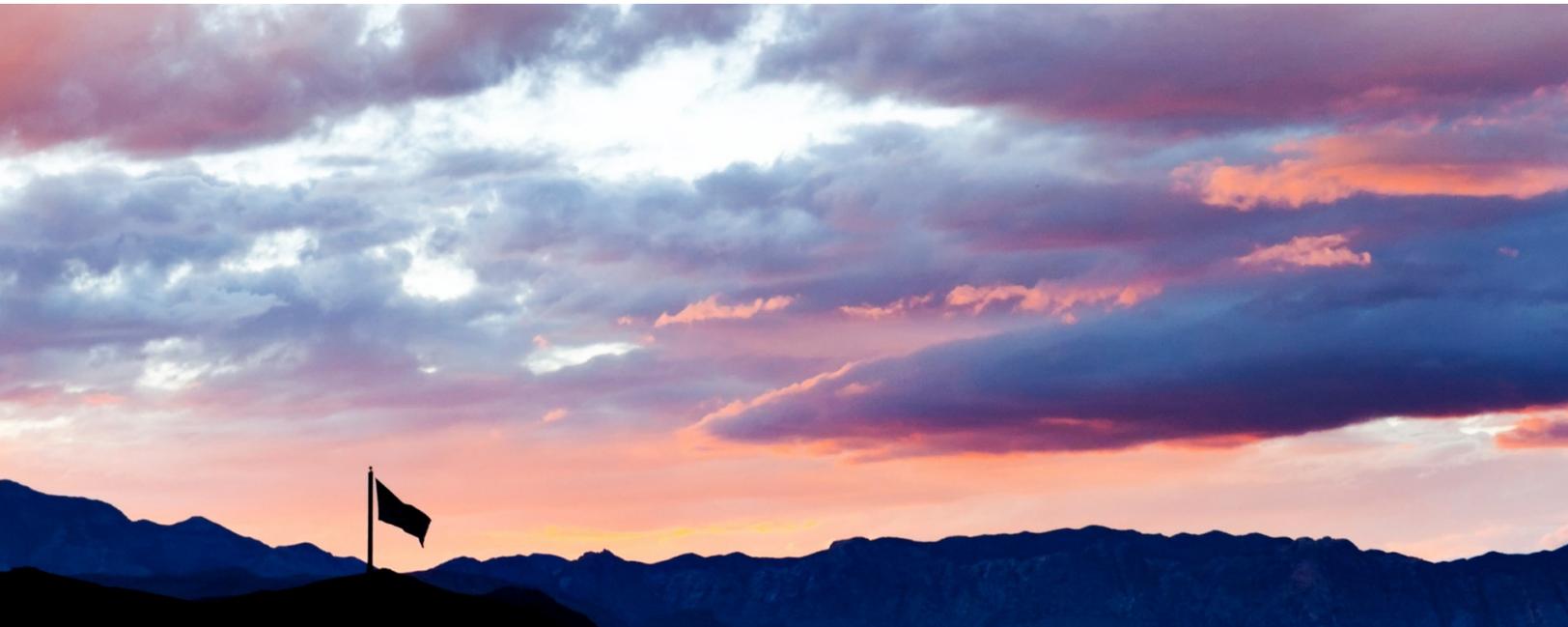


NEWS FROM NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Presbyterian Church
539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966

JULY 2021



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***“Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
And your young men shall see visions.”***

By The Rev. Dr. Andrew H. Mann Jr.

That is what the prophet Joel said long, long ago.

I wonder what prompted him to say that. I wonder if he said it in a time when most folks would have doubted such a thing to be possible. I wonder if he said it in a time of great cynicism, when hopes and dreams were considered the playground of fools. I wonder if he said it in a time when people felt that God was far away. I wonder if he said it in a time when most folks were just so busy just staying alive that they did not have time to imagine doing such a thing.

I wonder if he said it in a time when the economy was tight and things seemed to be getting worse all of the time. I wonder if he said it in a time when life seemed dangerous and threatened. I wonder if he said it in a time when most folks thought that their children would not have it as good as they had had it. I wonder if he said it in a time of strife everywhere people turned. I wonder if he said it in a time where people had lost their



jobs and their homes. I wonder if he said it at a time when people had to learn the meaning of the phrase “food insecurity”. I wonder if he said it in a time when people’s dreams seemed to be perishing right before their eyes.

I wonder if he said it in a time when people were just so tired they had given up dreaming.

I wonder if that is why he said it then.

I wonder if he would have said it now.

I think he would.

Perhaps, just perhaps, it is time to dream again.

PNC Update

By: Dana Winslow

NPC Congregation,

While we continue to pursue our tasks of interviewing candidates and reviewing recent sermons, we have also spent some time discussing and planning for the days after we have a single candidate to present to the congregation. There are several steps that are prescribed by the Presbytery—first, only one candidate will be presented to the congregation. That candidate will conduct a Sunday worship service including a full sermon. Following the service, the candidate will leave the sanctuary and the congregation will be asked to cast their votes on accepting or rejecting the candidate for the position of Pastor and Head of Staff for the church. Results will then be tabulated, and the Pastor will be accepted if he/she receives a majority of the votes cast. This process will be supervised by the Philadelphia Presbytery Commission on Ministry. The leader of this Commission has been very helpful to the PNC throughout our search, and we are confident that he will work with us through the end.

We are beginning to think through the process of introducing the Pastor (and his/her family) to the staff and congregation of our church. We think this will include a number of informal gatherings where each of you will have an opportunity to introduce yourselves and begin to get to know our new Pastor. We are contemplating whether these should include pot luck lunches, CLG type discussion sessions or other formats. If you have ideas or suggestions or have experience with other occasions that have worked well, please let one of us in the PNC know as we are beginning the process of putting a plan together.

We are all anxious to be finished with our process and to move on to our next phase, but we have been reminded that we are working on God’s timetable, not ours so we continue to look for His guidance and discern His will at each step.



We Are Open!

By: The Rev. Dr. Andrew H. Mann Jr.

At their regularly scheduled meeting on 6/15/21, Session decided to fully open Northampton Presbyterian Church, and to restore its life to something akin to our old “normal”. We will continue to ask those who have not been vaccinated to wear masks, and for those for whom wearing masks are essential to their own sense of safety to continue to do so.

But with the aim of keeping past habits of summer programming, and with an eye to returning to the full range of programming following Labor Day, Session is inviting everyone to come back home. Let us all make plans to return together fully into the life of faith here at NPC.

Summer worship is open at 10:00 a.m., complete with coffee time afterwards. CLG will return the Sunday following Labor Day.

We invite all our groups to plan to reactivate after Labor Day as well. In fact, if you are a member of a circle or some other group that would like to get a head start on gathering together, please contact the office to schedule and reclaim your meeting times and days now! You needn't wait until the Fall.

Friends, we have waited for a long time for this moment; it is upon us now. Come on back; the familiar faces of your Christian sisters and brothers await your return.

Blessings, to all.

Nominating Committee

By: Barbara Erdmanis

On June 27th, at the annual Congregational meeting, the Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) presented a slate of elders and deacons for election. The congregation elected for Elder Class of 2024: Andrew Chen, Corinne Kauermann, and Sharon Melsky; for Deacon Class of 2024: Florence Houseman and Betty Ruhfass (second term). They will be installed during the July 11th worship service. The current CNC members are Elva Naphy, Barbara Erdmanis, Andy Chen, Kathy Hurwitz, Liz Kauermann, Mary McCaffrey and Sharon Melsky.

The newly elected CNC will be made active for 2021-2022. Those members are Lori Beehler, Steve Cocchia, Jim Houseman and Jessica Stehr. There will be two Elders and one Deacon who will join this group. They will begin their work in the spring of 2022, nominating deacons and elders for the June, 2022 Congregational meeting as well as nominating for the preschool board which Session elects.



Minute for Mission:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

By: *Kathie Piscella*

Some of our NPC Mission envelope/online offerings have been designated to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). The below is from their website: pda.pcusa.org.

Millions of people around the world struggle to provide basic food staples for their families. Many of the regions have been affected by drought, flooding, or other disasters, and in some regions of the world, the situation is critical. One way PDA addresses food crises is through Growing Hope Globally (GHG). Modeled after the successful Canadian Foodgrains Bank, GHG was established with the commitment that food is a basic right and that God intends for all to have enough to eat.

GHG is focused on farmers and farming communities who set aside acreage to be used for growing projects; when harvested, the crops are sold and the proceeds given to promote programs of hunger relief and sustainable agriculture in countries of need.

Presbyterians in the United States are invited to partner with faith-based, civic, farming, urban or business communities and participate in a growing project. These growing projects generate funds to support overseas programs of hunger relief, sustainable agriculture and food security. Projects have included grains, livestock, bees and more.

Example: An urban-based congregation might offer its financial gift to purchase seeds, while a farmer dedicates a field for the growing project, and members of other congregations participate in harvesting the produce. All proceeds are given towards an international GHG project. The funds can be designated by the U.S. participants to be used in a specific country or to be used where most needed.

“Ways to Help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance” – Please let someone on the Mission Committee (Lori B., Cathy C., Bob D., Kathy H., Gloria K., Dr. Mann, Sharon M. and Kathie P.) know if you have any ideas for ways our congregation could help after you browse through this website for ideas: www.growinghopeglobally.org.

“But someone will say, ‘You have faith and I have works.’ Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” (James 2:18).

Financial Update

By: Pam Kemper

Dear NPC,

After a dip in giving in May, June returned to the numbers that we saw earlier in the spring. Expenses continued to be slightly lower than income in May and are projected to be the same in June. We have now been in the black for the last four months. I am cautiously optimistic that we have rounded the corner from an exceedingly difficult period. The church is open for all summer worship and activities and we are actively planning for fall.

We also had an additional piece of good news in June. Our application for Paycheck Protection Loan Forgiveness was approved. The approval was for partial forgiveness based on adjusted 2019 payroll numbers but has still left us in a nicely improved position as we look to the future.

I know I speak for the entire Session when I say that our congregation's faithfulness to this church and its work has been inspiring. I could not wish for a better church family.

- Pam

Financial Overview

	May 2021	June 2021- est	YTD-est
GENERAL FUND INCOME	17,445.80	20,984.39	121,431.61
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES			
PAYROLL	10,345.25	11,583.31	65,421.50
BENEFITS	1,064.42	1,064.42	6,386.52
ADMINISTRATIVE	524.45	712.44	5,395.03
CHRISTIAN ED			37.10
FACILITIES			
PNC Mortgage	4,705.03	4,705.43	28,230.18
Church Facilities	1,561.44	2,301.19	21,064.04
STEWARDSHIP			254.29
WORSHIP	299.47	302.56	945.91
PRESCHOOL COST ALLCTN	-1,000.00	-1,000.00	-5,000.00
Total GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	17,200.59	20,668.95	102,134.20
NET	245.21	315.44	(1,302.96)



DRIVE-THRU FOOD DRIVE

THURS. 7/1 10am-12pm

NPC July 1st Food Drive

By: Cathy Cocchia

Northampton Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a drive through community-wide food drive to support the Morrisville Food Center on **Thursday, July 1st from 10 AM—12 PM** in the Church parking lot. Thank you for the Congregation’s generous and continuing support of this so very important cause near and dear to my heart. The Food Center’s mission is to provide supplemental food assistance to families in Lower Bucks county and the Trenton area. They have been serving the needs of food insecure people since 1997, in light of the pandemic the need is great. In 2020, over 9,500 clients were fed with over 550 new families served. An average of 60 -70 families are served each week. Total income from donations, grants and investment income for the past year was \$85,345, that included our White Gift donation.

A new iPad program with expanded computer database allows the Food Center to better track clients. Recent renovations to the basement permit additional shelving to store food. Additional items given to clients include fresh fruit and vegetables, diapers and formula, cat and dog food, toilet-ries, cleaning supplies, paper goods and LED light bulbs. I believe God wants our lives to overflow with mercy, love and compassion, the marks of His kingdom: ***“I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,” Matthew 25:35.***

Volunteers for this effort are always welcome! We need help with parking lot safety, collecting the dropped off food, and transporting it to Morrisville. Please see Kathy Hurwitz (267-252-7475), Kathie Piscicella and Cathy Cocchia (215-801-1533) with any questions.

Or email: npcmissions@comcast.net

I am so very grateful to be blessed with the opportunity to serve those in need of basic food with dignity and thank you for being a giving Congregation open to feeding the hungry.

Respectfully yours on behalf of the Mission Committee,

Cathy Cocchia





July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10 AM Food Drive 7 PM PNC Mtg	2	3
4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 10 AM Communion Service Livestream & In-Person	5	6	7 7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream	8 7 PM PNC Mtg	9	10
11 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person Ordination & Installment	12	13	14 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast @ Robin Hood Restaurant 7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream	15 7 PM PNC Mtg	16	17
18 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person	19 7 PM Preschool Board	20 7 PM Session Meeting	21 7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream	22 7 PM PNC Mtg	23	24
25 10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person	26	27	28 9 AM Women's Breakfast @ Manny's Deli 7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream	29 7 PM PNC Mtg	30	31

Vacation Notice:

The Office Administrator will be on vacation July 5th—9th.

Pastor Drew will be on vacation July 30th—August 29th.

Livestream Information:

All "livestreamed" messages are broadcasted from our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/northamptonpresby

Livestream service bulletins are posted on our website: www.northamptonpresby.com/bulletins

~Sunday Worship Services are additionally posted on our website: www.northamptonpresby.com/sermon-videos

~Fireside Chats are additionally posted on our website: www.northamptonpresby.com/fireside-chat-videos

Northampton Presbyterian Church

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