

# NEWS FROM NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Presbyterian Church  
539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966

NOVEMBER 2022



## CONTINUE READING FOR:

- **ADVENT "Bible Study for Everyone"**
- **Introducing our NEW "Sharing Sessions"**
- **Welcome Trish Conover!**
- **Fancy Fellowship & Reception (11/20)**
- **Welcome Home Kit Collection (11/20)**
- **Faith Commitment Dedication (11/20)**
- **Community Service of Thanksgiving (11/20)**
- **Advent Schedule**
- **Calendar & Livestream Information**

## *A Word from the Pastor*

By: The Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

### NOVEMBER

No matter how hard you try,  
Old crying wind, you cannot make us cry,  
You make the poor leaves sorry—very,  
But we shall keep on being merry;  
It's good it's true  
Not all the months behave like you,  
Blowing mean, and blowing cold,  
Hurting ragged folks and old,  
As if you never would be through;  
But never mind,  
Right near the end we'll find  
A time for all to laugh and play;  
You may be all the month unkind  
But after all, you bring Thanksgiving Day  
And that makes us glad—  
And so, cold old month, you're not so bad!

~ Annette Wynne



As the poet writes, November is “not so bad!” November brings the celebration of birthdays in our household and the anticipation of shared stories, laughter and memories around a Thanksgiving table laden with the fruits of harvest. Even as the winds pick up, the leaves fall down and frost covers the fields, we are grateful for this much-maligned month!

And I am grateful for the thought that went into the gift of appreciation I received from all of you last Sunday! How lucky I am to be appreciated by this wonderful congregation! With your gift I have been able to “pay it forward” with purchases from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. These “gifts of gratitude” include a share in a latrine (not glamorous but absolutely essential), five shares in educating a child through the DREAM House; experiential faith formation; teacher training and the Women’s Empowerment Project.

You can find all of these opportunities for alternative gifting (and many more) by going to [www.presbyteriangifts.org](http://www.presbyteriangifts.org). I highly recommend it! From practical gifts like fishing nets, kitchen kits, heating fuel and garden wells to scholarship funds and arts education, you can make a difference in the lives of our local and global neighbors.

I love the opportunity to practice theology. Helping women obtain self-sufficiency through agricultural and vocational training; making education available to at-risk youth; providing a safe and accessible space for young girls to attend to their hygiene needs; giving youth and young adults experiences like Presbyterian Youth Triennium, and increasing access to education for girls who live in remote areas by expanding teacher training – this is putting belief into action.

I am so thankful to have gone “shopping” in this catalog that I’ve invited my family to participate as well. Maybe you will do the same. However you spend this month of transition and transformation, I hope it brings to you and yours gratitude for this church family and for the deep joy we share in being part of Christ’s body in this beautiful place called Northampton. May the fruits of this season be yours!

- *Pastor Judy*



# ADVENT Bible Study for Everyone

By: Pastor Judy

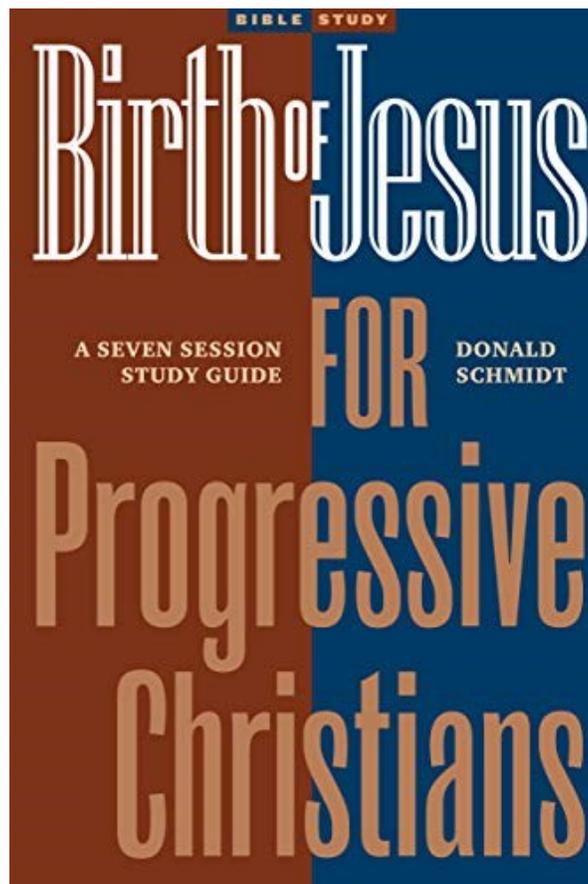
## ADVENT STUDY

**Mondays at 11:00 AM**

"Bible Study for Everyone" will move to Mondays at 11:00 AM from November 14th through December 12th. We will be looking at "The Birth of Jesus" as portrayed in the Gospels.

An excerpt from Donald Schmidt, author: *"To some extent, each of us fashions our own version of the "Christmas story. Over time, as our associations and identification with that story grow, it can feel very uncomfortable and even disrespectful to disrupt or question that story. And yet these reactions can be instructive, for they beg larger questions about what's really important: the biblical narratives; or the traditions that have gathered around them, layered them, and at times obscured them; or the meaning all of this may have for your lives today?"*

This is a 5-week study. IF THERE IS INTEREST, a Wednesday evening Zoom session can be scheduled. Please notify the office if you would prefer an evening group.



The Christmas story most people know comes from pageants, carols, or perhaps a television movie or two. But what we recall – and what many people seek to replicate each year – is an odd mixture of the two quite different stories contained in the gospels of Matthew and Luke, with certain pieces almost always present (even though they are not in the Bible at all) and with others sadly missing. The point of those versions of the story seems to be to nurture a warm, fuzzy feeling that leaves us cooing over a baby so we can then put the whole thing away as soon as possible after December 25 and get back to life as usual. But that's not what the gospel writers had in mind.

To some extent, each of us fashions our own version of the "Christmas story." Over time, as our associations and identification with that story grow, it can feel very uncomfortable and even disrespectful to disrupt or question that story. And yet these reactions can be instructive, for they beg larger questions about what's really important: the biblical narratives; or the traditions that have gathered around them, layered them, and at times obscured them; or the meaning all of this may have for your lives today?



# NEW “Sharing Sessions”

By: *Pastor Judy*

Some weeks ago, we posted an invitation to everyone at NPC to share your unique life skills, experiences and hobbies with us. We are excited to bring you a diverse assortment of life experiences in a new offering we're calling "Sharing Sessions."

Our first "Sharing Session" is called "Cooking with Jes and Andy" and will meet in the church Fellowship Hall/Kitchen following worship on December 11.

## **SHARING SESSION: “Cooking with Jes & Andy”**

***Sunday, December 11th at 11:30 AM***

***Fellowship Hall / Kitchen***

Jes and Andy love to eat well and love to cook to eat well! Just in time for the holidays —come join Jes and Andy as they demonstrate how they make slow roasted rack of lamb with mint herb sauce. Paprika potatoes will be the side dish. Those in attendance will receive a taste of each (note - not a full lunch). \*\* **Please RSVP to Jessica Stehr or Andrew Chen (or to the church office at [npchurch@comcast.net](mailto:npchurch@comcast.net) / 215-357-8282)** to help them know how much food to prepare. *Participants only need to bring their curiosity. There is no charge for this event.*

We'll continue these offerings in January with a 3-week Wednesday afternoon series on “Advertising” led by Dana Winslow.

## **SHARING SESSION: “Advertising with Dana Winslow”**

***Wednesdays of January 11th, 18th, 25th at 2:00 PM***

***Large Conference Room***

We all see advertising everyday—some of it funny, some silly or stupid, some serious. But someone has created these ads and paid large sums of money to have it broadcast over the air or online so it must be working, at some level. How do the ads work? What makes some advertising more effective than others? Actually, we know quite a few reasons for this—come and let's explore it together.

This will be a great lead-in to the Superbowl, where the craft of advertising is on full display! (It will also prepare us for our very own "Souper Bowl of Caring" here at NPC!)

Additional "Sharing Sessions" are being scheduled! Don't be shy - let us know what you have to offer!



*We are pleased to welcome  
Trish Conover as our  
Director of Music!*



*Trish Conover*

## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, NPC**

An active vocalist, teacher and church musician, Trish Conover teaches middle school vocal music and music theater to 6-8th graders at Community Middle School in the West Windsor Plainsboro School District, in Plainsboro, New Jersey. Beginning her 30th year as a music educator, she has been passionate about music since an early age. Trish holds a Bachelor of Music in piano and voice, and a Master of Music Education degree (vocal/conducting principal) from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. During her 30+ years as a music educator, she has had the honor of serving several churches as the music director and organist. During that time, Trish created and directed a 5-octave handbell choir, rehearsed and directed children, youth and adult choirs, as well as served as the organist. Trish lives in Holland with her husband and three daughters. She loves all things Disney, and enjoys the summer season most of all. Trish is very excited to be a part of the Northampton Presbyterian Church family, and is passionate about leading the music program. **Trish will begin her work with us on November 20th.**

*Choir rehearsals will begin on  
Thursday, November 17th at 7 PM.*



# THANKSGIVING WEEK

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

### ***10 am Worship Service***

Dedication of "Art Kits" and "Welcome Kits" for the  
Welcome Church

"Commitment Sunday" (dedication of 2023 pledges)

### ***11:30 am Fancy Fellowship and Reception for Trish Conover***

*Help us welcome our new Music Director, Trish Conover on  
her first Sunday at NPC!*

### ***3 pm Community Service of Thanksgiving***

*The Newtown-Yardley Ministerium is excited to begin a new  
tradition by offering an interfaith service of giving thanks.  
All are welcome! Pastor Judy will be participating and you  
may see other familiar faces in attendance. Location is:*

*Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ*

*1400 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966*

*Nonperishable food and monetary donations  
will be gathered for the  
Food Pantry of Lower Bucks County.*

*(No Service on  
Thanksgiving Eve)*





# Advent Schedule 2022

1

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 27

*10 am Worship Service*

2

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 4

*10 am Communion Service*

*11:30 am Hanging of the Greens*

3

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 11

*10 am Worship Service*

*11:30 am Sharing Session #1:  
"Cooking with Jes & Andy"*

4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 18

*10 am Tidings of Joy:*

*Music to Celebrate the Season  
(Featuring our Choir)*



CHRISTMAS EVE  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

*5 pm Family Candlelight Service  
(No Service on Christmas Day)*



NEW YEAR'S EVE  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 31

*5 pm "Watch Night" Service  
(No Service on New Year's Day)*

# November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>13</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream &amp; In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs "Just the Basics" (Salvation, Ch. 7)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11 AM ADVENT Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>7 PM Facilities Committee Mtg.</p> <p>7 PM Cub Scouts (Tigers #2)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7 PM Session Mtg</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4 PM Women's "Digging Deeper" Study</p> <p>7 PM Cub Scouts (Tigers #2)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1 PM Esther Circle</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2545</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30 AM First on the Scene Training</p> <p>10 AM Boy Scouts Court of Honor</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream &amp; In-Person</p> <p>FAITH COMMITMENT &amp; WELCOME HOME KIT DEDICATION</p> <p>11:30 AM Fancy Fellowship and Reception</p> <p>3 PM Community Service of Thanksgiving at Trinity Reformed UCC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>11 AM ADVENT Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts Committee Mtgs</p> <p>7 PM Cub Scouts (Lions #4)</p> <p>7 PM Preschool Board Mtg.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23 THANKSGIVING EVE</p> <p>9 AM Women's Breakfast at Manny's Deli</p>	<p>24 THANKSGIVING DAY</p> <p>(Church Office Closed)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>(Church Office Closed)</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream &amp; In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11 AM ADVENT Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>7 PM Boy Scouts Seabase '23</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934</p>	<p>Dec 1</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2545</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Boy Scouts Fall Clean-up Day</p>
<p>4</p> <p>10 AM Communion Service Livestream &amp; In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM Hanging of the Greens</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11 AM ADVENT Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>6 PM Cub Scouts (Bears #1)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4 PM Women's "Digging Deeper" Study</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934</p> <p>7 PM Cub Scouts (Lions #4)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>

## Livestream Information:

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

*Northampton Presbyterian Church*

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