LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

September 17, 2017

In preparation for worship, please take time to silence all electronic devices, and quiet our thoughts, so that we all may focus our hearts and minds on the Lord.

Prelude I Sing the Mighty Power of God arr. Limbaugh

Sherry Beebe, Organist

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call To Worship

Hymn #95 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Coronation

Emil Pilacik, Trumpet

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading Acts 1:1-5 (p.1690)

9:00am Georgia Ward 10:45am Kelly Watson

Reader: This is the word of the Lord All the people: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in the book of Acts, you are the living God, actively at work in the world. You are on the move! We confess our inertia, our busyness with self, and our fears of reaching out. We are easily overwhelmed by the storms of this world. Still, so often we do not turn to you and embrace your promises. We continue to do life on our own, instead of in partnership with you. Please forgive us through Jesus Christ. Help us to live as those who have been raised with Christ. Rekindle in us the great adventure of life, which is to follow you every day, and serve others in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Invitation to Wednesday Night Adult Discipleship

David Fraser Norm Johanson

Worship Song Build Your Kingdom Here Rend Collective

Worship Song Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble? Smith

During the 9:00am service, children up to grade 5 may be dismissed to Children's Sunday School.

During the 10:45 am service, children in K through 5th grades may be dismissed to the gym for Lighthouse Kids children's church after the hymn/worship song.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Deborah Watson,

Pastoral Associate

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Love Has A Name

Smith

Jennifer Fisher, Soprano

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading Acts 1:6-8

(p.1691)

Sermon Acts 29

God Is On The Move! Steve Weed,

Pastor

Hymn #669 God of Grace and God of Glory Cwm Rhondda

Benediction

Prayer Ministry 9:00am Charlie Choi

10:45am Emma Shaw

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, by Charlie and Joann Huntington.

CDs of today's sermon are available in the Chapel within 15 minutes after the service. Previous Sundays' sermons are available by date in the bin on the small table. Sermons are also available online at our website www.narberthpres.org or podcast through iTunes.

New Explorers' Class start Sunday Sept 24. More details on page 10.

Open prayer group – Sunday mornings at 8:00am (Pastor Steve's office).

Prayer for Healing (Pastor Steve's Office)

Sunday mornings, 10:15-10:45am, prayer for healing is offered in a confidential, quiet and welcoming environment.

Special Offering for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief (see page 6)

INTRODUCTION TO ACTS

Today we begin a congregational journey through the Book of Acts, called "Acts 29." It is not all "mapped out" yet, as we are seeking to be open to the Holy Spirit's direction, but here are some guidelines so far:

- We are calling our journey "Acts 29", because while there are only 28 chapters in the Book of Acts, God is on the move, writing new chapters through ordinary people like us.
- As Christ's body on earth, we as the church are invited to share in his Great Commission.
- Since we cannot cover every verse in the Book of Acts, Sunday morning messages will highlight major passages which capture the heart of Christian discipleship and mission, and God's purpose for our lives.
- Everyone is encouraged to read a chapter of Acts each day, to understand the grand sweep of the message, and also to meditate more deeply on the specific verses that will be preached on the following Sunday.
- If your small group would like to study the Book of Acts this year, we are pulling together resources that you can use, or you can simply study the scripture passage from the previous Sunday and use some of the application questions we plan to provide each week. (see page 14)

Assignment for this week:

- Monday through Friday, read Acts 1-5, one chapter per day.
- Saturday, or any days you are led, meditate more deeply on next week's passage, Acts 1:8, just one verse!
 Sermon: "Where's The Power – What's The Power?

Guidelines for reading Acts:

"The key to your reading of Acts is to recognize the "movement" of the gospel from Jerusalem to Rome, narrated in six parts (panels) and signaled by Luke's little summary statements in 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; and 19:20. In each case the narrative seems to pause for a moment before it takes off in a new direction - sometimes geographically, sometimes ethnically, and sometimes both." (Gordon Fee, How To Read The Bible Book By Book).

Luke wants us to read Acts as "a play in which we are invited to become actors ourselves. The stage opens up and we discover we're in the middle of the action. That is part of the point of the "ending", which isn't really an ending: the story continues, and we are part of it." Acts 29! "It is a play in which the only true acting is what happens when the spirit of the playwright himself takes charge." (NT Wright, Bible Study Guide on Acts and Acts For Everyone).

Special Offering for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief

Our prayers are with those who have lost loved ones, been displaced, or sustained property damage due to Hurricane Harvey. The destruction has been devastating and the needs are great. For the next several weeks, we will be receiving a special offering for disaster relief to be sent through **The Salvation Army**. The Salvation Army has volunteer teams and mobile feeding units (canteens) in the region or in route to provide immediate assistance, and will remain in the communities impacted by the hurricane to support long-term disaster recovery efforts and provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

To give:

Sunday morning offering: Please make your checks out to NPC and note Hurricane Harvey in the memo section, & put it in the offering plate.

By text: Txt the amount of your gift and keyword Harvey to 610-624-4831. Example: \$25 Harvey

Online: Visit <u>narberthpres.org/give</u> and select Harvey as the fund.

In addition to our financial gifts, we have reached out to First Presbyterian Church of Houston, an ECO congregation, to offer our assistance. We will keep you informed of additional ways we may bless those in great need.

Open prayer group – Sunday mornings at 8:00am (Pastor Steve's office).

Anyone is welcome to come any time between 8 and 9am to pray for the worship service, the preacher, the worship team, the hearts of people coming to worship, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit, guiding us individually and together as a church.

Prayer for Healing (Pastor Steve's Office)

Sunday mornings, 10:15-10:45am, prayer for healing is offered in a confidential, quiet and welcoming environment.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT NPC

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 20TH

5:45-6:45: Supper in the Fellowship Cafe

Each week a simple nutritious meal will be provided by rotating teams of volunteers. You are invited to help once a month with a team doing prep, serving and clean-up. See calendar page for each week's menu.

6:30-7:00pm Children's Choir

Donna Wren and Sherry Beebe will lead a children's choir for 1st through 5th grades in the Choir room each week. The eventual goal is to sing in Sunday Worship.

6:30 or 7:00pm-8:00pm Children's Classes and Childcare

- (6:30-8:00pm) **Kindergarten and younger** will have Bible Story time with Sharon Shallow in the Red Door Room (large nursery school room).
- (7:00-8:00pm) 1st through 3rd grades will meet with Pastor Terry for Bible Time in his office, followed by kickball in the gym.
- (7:00-8:00pm) 4th and 5th grades will meet with Debbie Watson for Bible Club in her (very cool) office.

6:45-8:00pm Middle School Youth Group

• New addition this Fall! This will replace the once-a-month Fun Night, as we meet weekly now on Wednesdays. Led by John Chaffee, in the Youth Room

6:45-8:00pm Adult Classes

• Making Room for God: exploring the rhythms of grace --learning more about keeping company with Jesus every day in ways that transform us. If you long for something more, something different, something deeper, something that connects the presence of God to the changes you crave, this class will provide some of the means. From the beginning the church linked the desire for more of God to intentional practices, relationships and experiences that gave people space in their lives to keep company with Jesus. Discipleship and spiritual disciplines complement each other. Come and learn. Led by Dave Fraser Location: Chapel

• Learning To Love The Psalms

Often referred to as the "anatomy of the soul," the Psalms have long served as the praise and prayer book for the people of God. The Psalms are written, not as theological pronouncements from on high, but more like personal prayer in the form of poetry, or like reading someone's spiritual journal. The Psalms not only teach us, but give voice to our faith and doubts, our deepest feelings. The rich variety of the Psalms call us back to the centrality of worship, and the rediscovery of God's greatness and goodness. Each class includes a brief video message, followed by discussion. Come and be refreshed in the presence of God

Led by Norm Johanson Location: Parlor

FAMILY MINISTRY: CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

Sunday Morning Schedule

Infants and Toddlers

• 9:00am-12:15pm: *Nursery* provided in the *Nursery* Room downstairs near the restrooms, and a separate crying/changing room is directly across from the bottom of the stairs.

2 to 3 Year Olds

Summer Schedule: 2-3's join 4-5's in Red door room

- 9:00-10:30am: Hands On Bible, Blue Door Room downstairs.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: Spinners! class, Red Door Room downstairs.

4 to 5 Year Olds

• 9:00-10:30am Sunday School Red door room (Kindergarten students may attend Lighthouse Kids, see below)

Grades 1-3:

These children attend the first part of the worship service with parents and are dismissed half-way through to attend:

- 9:30-10:30am: Rotation Sunday School, Brown Door Room downstairs.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: Lighthouse Kids, downstairs in the Gym.

Grades 4-5:

These children attend the first part of the worship service with parents and are dismissed half-way through to attend:

- 9:30-10:30am: Tweens Class, downstairs in the Gym.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: Lighthouse Kids, downstairs in the Gym.

Grades 6-12:

- 9:30 Youth Sunday School
- 6:45pm Wednesdays Middle School YG (begins Sept 20)
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group (begins Sept 24)

Upcoming Events:

- Friday Sept 22 6:30-9:00pm Middle School Fun Night, Gym
- Middle School Breakaway Retreat Oct 6-8
- High School Reality Retreat Nov 3-5

For all youth-related questions, please contact John Chaffee 610-664-4880 x112 jchaffee@narberthpres.org

2017 MISSIONARY CAUSES

Mission

4D Ministries - Hank Paulson

Amnion Crisis Pregnancy Center

Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. - North Ireland

Chosen People Ministries (formerly Messiah Now) - Cruz

Cornerstone Christian Academy

Corrymeela Community - North Ireland CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) - Darwin

CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) – Brindley (Philly Bridges)

CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) - Shenk

DiscipleMakers - Hall Esperanza Health Center

Fellowship International Mission/Jos Seminary - Tushima

Greater Europe Mission- Loeffler Habitat for Humanity - Camden Habitat for Humanity -Philadelphia

House of His Creation Interserve-USA - Kennedy Intervarsity – Emma Shaw Kingdom Connect - Duffy

Kirkwood Camp (Presbytery of Philadelphia)

Neighborhood Crusades Inc.

Presby's Inspired Life

Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International

Presbyterians for Renewal (Wee Kirk)

Presbytery of Philadelphia General Mission

REAP - Granada

Servant Partners – Dan & Denise Anderson

SIM USA - Jewell

The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Standing Rock)

The Philadelphia Project

The Welcome Church – Steinnagel

Timothy Academy

United World Mission - Woodbury Wycliffe Bible Translators - Shannon

Young Life (Western Philadelphia Suburbs)

Ambassador

Helga Sauter/Margie

Nathanson

Alice Antonelli

Terry Weyant

Jennifer & Tim Roykouff

Joyce Lewis Lally / Hartsock

Kathy McLean Jean McIntire

The Bowser Family

Bob Moore

Greg Esterhai

Scott Todd

Helga Sauter

Linda Behmke Linda Behmke

Melissa Esterhai

Jesse Kennedy

Meg McKinley

Ken & Sally Kapner

Curt Haring

Helga Sauter

Suzanne Morrison

Cathy Callaway

Steve Weed

Scott Todd

Charlie Choi

Faithe Hornung

Helga Sauter

Ashley Reed

Sharon Shallow

Jane Murray

Georgia Ward

Helga Sauter

Carol Heller

Barbara Montgomery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† Small Groups, Deacons, Elders, Band, Youth Group, Staff, Individuals! The Fellowship Café needs YOU! As we gear up for an exciting season of Wednesday Night learning opportunities, we want to continue our tradition of providing a meal for everyone at 5:45pm. Dee Knight has stepped away from her apron after many years of savory service in the kitchen, and we have been rethinking the meal – simplifying it so that we all are fed: around the tables in the gym, and in the classes upstairs. We have a willing leader/point person. We need YOU to join a once-a-month team to help with the simple preparation, serving, and clean-up.

Our goal is to have everyone fed and on their way out of the Gym by 6:45pm, and the clean-up crew on their way by 7:00pm. Please sign-up in the Chapel, and if you want to talk about the possibilities (or your hesitations), contact Debbie Watson at dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 (x114).

- † Do you lead or facilitate, or host a small group? Are you afraid to (but want to be part of a group)? Take a (small) leap of faith into the Parlor! This Fall's Small Group Lunch will focus on beginning and growing a viable small group. Come enjoy the food and friendly conversation as we explore the possibilities in this season of new beginnings. TODAY at 12:15pm in the Parlor. Questions? Contact Debbie Watson at dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 (x114).
- † All Sr. Adults (usually age 60 and above, but we don't card!) are invited to enjoy a trip to Japan, through slides and stories with Diane Chen, on Friday, September 22nd, at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Sign up in the Chapel. It's free. There are refreshments. Bring a friend!
- † Our Sr. trip this month on Sept 26 will be to The Highlands, a nearby historic property. We take a tour, and then enjoy lunch in a local café or diner. Please sign up in the Chapel, where there are more details.

† New Explorers' Class:

A New 6-week Explorers' Class will begin on Sunday afternoons, starting Sunday, September 24 at 12:15-2:30pm, led by Pastor Steve and Debbie. Lunch and childcare provided.

The Explorers' Class is designed for newcomers and provides a warm, welcoming atmosphere for discussing our relationship with Christ, opportunities and mission of NPC, and what it means to be Presbyterian Christians. Please sign in Chapel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† Freedom in Christ

Thursday evenings 8-weeks: Sept. 28th-Nov 16th 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Many Christians long for a closer walk and relationship with Jesus, and often find that unforgiveness, a lack of repentance, and other physical, emotional or spiritual issues stand in the way. **Unbound prayer** leads people lovingly and gently on a journey to freedom from issues that stand between them and a fuller walk with God. Join us on Thursday evenings for 8 weeks to learn about and practice the Unbound prayer model. Thousands of Christians around the world have found that Unbound prayer is an extraordinary gift from God, providing deliverance from issues that have plagued them for years, and bringing new vibrancy to their spiritual lives

Led by Dana Kaminstein and Gene McGee, Location: Parlor

- † Presbytery of Philadelphia 300th Anniversary Celebration: October 7, 2017 Our worship celebration will take place on Saturday, October 7, 2017 beginning at 10:00 am Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, 2800 West Cheltenham Ave. All are invited.
- † Stop by the Resource Table, located in the chapel area, and see new books for all members for the family.
- **Scripture Readers needed!** Each week someone from the congregation blesses us by reading the first scripture portion for the day. We are compiling a Winter/Spring roster of people for the two services, and would be happy to have you read if you are at least 7 years old and are willing to speak a little more slowly than you probably do otherwise! Please sign up in the Chapel, and leave your email so that we can get the "script" to you the Friday or Saturday before you read.
- **† All Sundays in the month of October** are open for flower dedications. If you would like to make one, just call or email the office.
- † You can do something to restore the lives of victims of human trafficking here in Pennsylvania.

Walk Her Home is having a walk/run & kids Fall festival October 7, 2017 starting at the Westtown School in West Chester, PA. Registration starts at 9:00am, there is a Q & A expert panel discussion at 10:00am and the walk/run at 11:00am. You can go on-line to register at walkherhome.org and/or contact Sally Kapner at salthegalforme@yahoo.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† You are invited to the Great Co-Mission Conference on September 28-29th! The Great "Co-Mission," to be held at nearby Church of the Good Samaritan, in Paoli, is for anyone who is passionate about, involved with, or curious about what it means to be a missional church; it is for all who want to join in welcoming and sharing in God's work in our community.

Andy Crouch will be the keynote speaker for the conference. Other speakers include Tony Campolo, Sturgis Poorman, Jeff Conway, and Jeff Moretzsohn, speaking on how to help without hurting, local ministry with refugees, holistic approaches to alleviate poverty, and how to live an authentic Christian life in a secular world and make a difference.

Sign up at www.good-samaritan.org/co-mission, or www.paolipres.org for this FREE (including Saturday lunch) conference which will explore our common-unity, and learn how the Lord wants to build a stronger and deeper community of faith which welcomes all people.

† Open Mic Night at NPC

On Sunday, Oct. 15th from 7:00 to 8:30pm NPC is hosting our first Open Mic Night! Our goals for the evening are as follow: to celebrate the talent within our own church family and friends; to raise funds for the Deacons' Assistance Fund and their ministry in our community, and to simply enjoy an all-church evening together! Bring a dessert to share – we'll provide cold drinks and coffee. This event is open to everyone, so why not invite a friend or two? There is no charge to attend, or perform. Donations for the Deacons' Assistance Fund will be gratefully accepted.

So, if you are musical, have written poetry, want to tell a funny story, or just want to come and enjoy the entertainment of other people performing for you, this evening is for you. To attend or perform, please sign up, by e-mailing John Chaffee at jchaffee@narberthpres.org.

Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe - Do you wish to share Christ's blessings with others more boldly? Join us in stepping outside the walls of the church and greeting our neighbors and passers-by with Christ's love through free coffee, goodies, a friendly conversation, and prayer. And you will not be doing it alone. If such a desire is "percolating" in your spirit, contact Debbie Watson or email Clara Louie at claralouie@yahoo.com.

† Wednesday Supper menu this week:

Mac & Cheese, green salad, fruit salad, dessert

ACTS 1

Acts 1:1-8 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Application Questions - for individuals or small groups:

In Acts 1:1, what is the significance of the word "began"? If Luke's gospel (volume I) is about "what Jesus began to do and to teach", how is that work "continued?" In Acts? In us? Do you frequently think of the church and yourself as partners with God?

In Acts 1:3, Jesus presented himself and "gave many convincing proofs that he was alive." What were these "proofs" for the apostles? What "proofs" have enabled you to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? What questions or doubts do you have about the resurrection?

In Acts 1:4 (and Luke 24:49) the apostles were instructed to "wait" for the promise of the Holy Spirit. In a book entitled, "Acts", what is the connection between waiting and working, prayer and action? How does this dynamic duo play out in your life? Which word is God speaking to you now?

In Acts 1:6,7, the apostles are still hoping for a kingdom that is especially for "them." How does Jesus correct them in Acts 1:8? How might these words of Jesus speak to us in the midst of our social, cultural, and political divisions? How are we as the church called to be a different voice and presence in this world?

If Acts 1:1-8 is a story in which we are actors, what is Jesus saying to you in particular, how is he directing you in your role?



On the Web: www.narberthpres.org twitter.com/narberthpres facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, September 17

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office 8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service 10:45am Worship Service

12:15pm Luncheon for small group development, all interested are invited, Parlor

Monday, September 18

7:00pm Prayer Group, open to all, Steve's Office 7:00pm MBR-Bible Study, Music office 7:30pm Men's Bible Study in Galatians, Copy Room

Tuesday, September 19

7:00am Men's small group, Resource Room 7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at Narberth Diner

7:00pm Session Meeting with the Administrative Commission of Philadelphia Presbytery

Wednesday, September 20

5:45pm-8:00pm Wednesday Night beginssupper, then classes for all ages See page 7 for details Menu: Mac & Cheese, Green salad, fruit salad, dessert

Thursday, September 21

4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, gym

Friday, September 22

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Parlor 1:30pm Sr. Adult Slide Show, (Japan), Parlor 6:30-9:00pm Middle School Fun Night, gym 7:30-9:00pm Young Adult Group, Parlor

Saturday, September 23

Sunday, September 24

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office 8:00am Sunday School, Parlor 9:00am Worship Service 10:45am Worship Service 12:15-2:30pm New Explorers' class begins, lunch included, Parlor (childcare as needed) 4:00pm High School Youth Group

Each Week

Christian Nursery School – Jennifer Addy, Director, 610-664-8890

2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 11:30am & 11:30am to 3:30pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May **AA** meets 12:30pm, Monday–Friday. Also, Saturday at 12:30pm & Sunday at 4:30pm **Counseling**: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlmpsych@hotmail.com

Planning ahead Information and calendar updates 24/7 at www.narberthpres.org

Sept 26	10:15am Sr. Trip to The Highlands
Sept 26	10:00-11:00am Prayer Meeting, Parlor
Sept 28	9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
Sept 28	7:00pm new 8-week class: Freedom in Christ – Unbound Prayer, Parlor
Sept 29	9:30am Moms' Bible Study, Parlor
Sept 29-30	Save the dates! Missions Conference at Paoli Pres. (See announcement on page 5)
Oct 6-8	Middle School Breakaway Retreat
Oct 7	10:00am Service of Celebration @ Enon Baptist Church for Phila. Presbytery 300th
Oct 8	12:00pm Cream of the Crop Luncheon, Parlor
Oct 15	7:00-8:30pm Open Mic Night
Nov 3-5	High School Reality Retreat