

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

6th grade and up meet in the Youth Room for Sunday School

During the 10:45am 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

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Bonar/Twit

Jean McIntire and Linda Pilacik, Vocals, Piano
Dana Ergenbright, Cello, Dean Pappas, Guitar

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Acts 3:1-10

(p.1695)

Sermon

Acts 29 Church:

The Gift of Being Available

Steve Weed,
Pastor

Hymn #568

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated

Hendon

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Charlie Choi
10:45am Scott Todd

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ellen & Shane Bangert, who were married here yesterday.

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.

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.

In our congregational study of the Book of Acts,

Assignment for this week:

- Monday through Friday, read one chapter per day in the Book of Acts.
- Saturday, or any days you are led, meditate more deeply on next week's passage: Acts 4

Today, the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, remembering with gratitude, Martin Luther and other reformers who helped to renew the Church of Jesus Christ back to the essentials of the gospel.

NEW ELDER/DEACON NOMINEES

Elders

Lisa Hoffman

I am grateful to be nominated for Elder at NPC. Attending church and joyful service was a significant part of my childhood. My family, including my grandparents, played a significant role in modeling the Christian life and nurturing my relationship with God throughout my life. During my college years, after enduring some difficulties, I knew I needed to make my faith my own and I surrendered into the arms of Jesus who forgave my sins and gave me hope. I felt complete and free. It was through the “hands” of many who loved me and prayed for me that I was able to accept Jesus personally. I hope to serve God on session in order to contribute to His plans for NPC and to help others find the same joy and freedom that I have.

Jo-Anne Kaplan

Some of my earliest and most pleasant memories are of attending church with my mom. When I was a sophomore in college, my mom was diagnosed with cancer and died two months later. During her illness, I prayed and asked God for a miracle. When a miracle didn't happen, my faith was shaken and I drifted away from church and God. I dealt with my pain by throwing myself into my schoolwork and all the distractions of world. In 2001, my husband and I were expecting our first child. I believed the arrival of our baby would finally fill the emptiness and heal my heart. When Alexander was born, he was premature and had a very rare genetic abnormality. Sadly, he passed away when he was four months old. This time I knew there was no other way: either God was going to see me through my grief or I would drown in it. I called out to Christ. I asked God to lead me out of desperation and darkness. For the first time in a long time, I felt that I heard His answer. God helped me to forgive those who I believed contributed to Alex's death and gave me the faith to start our family again. I came to have a deep peace that my mom and Alex were safe and healed with our Heavenly Father. I know none of that would have been possible without Jesus. For the first time in my life, I understood John 16:33 and I realized that while this life may be filled with trials and sorrows, Jesus has overcome all our pain. I feel so blessed that during this time, I found NPC where my faith has continued to grow and be strengthened. I look forward to using my experiences to serve the church as an Elder.

Sue Wenger

I was called by God's grace to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as a freshman in college through the ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ (now CRU). In my twenties, I grew in my faith especially through small group Bible studies and as a leader with Young Life in Colorado and a youth ministry in Germany. In 1996, Mark and I came to NPC where our family of five has grown, flourished, and served under the wisdom and care of so many faithful co-laborers in Christ. Especially in the past decade, I have experienced God's redeeming grace, unconditional love, and the Holy Spirit's power in more profound ways and am so grateful for those at NPC who have walked with me in this journey. It is with immense appreciation for what NPC has given me that I look forward, with God's help, to serving wholeheartedly this body of believers for whom I care so deeply.

NEW ELDER/DEACON NOMINEES

Deacons

Godfrey Louie

I grew up in a non-Christian home and did not care for or want to be associated with anything religious. The turning point came when my fiercely independent, had it all together older sister Mae Jane professed her faith and reliance on Jesus. I followed her to college and through her loving pleadings attended a weekly investigative bible study. Through the use of simple diagrams and selected Scripture as presented in the Bridge to Life tract, I professed my faith in Jesus Christ as a freshman in college. Although I am now a veteran Christian I long for a simpler yet deeper faith. I need to learn wisdom and unlearn willful self-preoccupation. It's been a joy for our family to attend NPC and I look forward to serving as a deacon.

Deborah Miller

I grew up in a close-knit, loving Christian home where my father was a Baptist pastor. I publicly professed my faith in Jesus Christ when I was in grade school. Soon after, our church went through a painful split. Despite the many blessings of a Christian family, I struggled with life and with living out my faith in a culture that offered a bewildering marketplace of ideas and lifestyles. Ashamed at my struggle, I avoided God—for years. Even though I was unfaithful, God was faithful. Through many twists and turns God continued to pursue me. I was able to go to seminary and it was there that I encountered the Bible as the dramatic story of God's redemption of all of creation in the person and work of Jesus Christ; an encounter that was transformational for me. I joined Narberth Pres in 2/29/04. It has been such a blessing to be a part of a healthy, Christ-centered church where the gospel is preached, where we are reminded in the preaching and in the liturgy of God's covenantal promises, where deep heartfelt gratitude [not guilt, not fear, not moralism] is the motivation and longing for obedience, and where church members are encouraged and equipped to join in God's saving activity in our church, in our community and in our world. I love my family of faith and have appreciated all the love and support of everyone over the years. If I have any gift it would be the gift of "helps" and I thank God for my nursing profession where I can use the gifts He has given to me. I thank God for this opportunity to serve as a deacon where, I pray, He can use me to be a vessel of His love that always seeks the lowly, takes risks, and is in it for the long haul. I pray, too, that the joy that comes in giving of myself would be sustained and invigorated by the Spirit.

Sunday, Nov. 5, after the second service,

There will be a Congregation/Corporation Meeting to elect new Elders/Trustees and Deacons. We will also elect two members from the congregation at large to serve on next year's Nominating Committee, and approve three ministries from which additional members of the Nominating Committee will be selected.

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

- 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, Youth Room
- 6:45pm Wednesdays: Middle School YG
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group

Upcoming Events:

- Fall Festival party & cookout, TODAY October 29 4-6pm
- High School Reality Retreat Nov 3-5

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

FALL GROUPS AND CLASSES AT NPC

Monday

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 1st, 3rd, & 5th Mon.

7:00pm MBR (Men Being /Becoming Real) Bible study, prayer and support in a safe and friendly setting. Music Office. All men welcome.

7:00pm Prayer Group, meets in Steve's Office. All are welcome.

7:30pm Men's Bible Study—Galatians Meets in the copy room. All men welcome.

Tuesday

11:00am Prayer and Study, Parlor. All are welcome.

Wednesday

6:45pm Making Room for God: Living by the Rhythms of Grace --learning more about keeping company with Jesus every day in ways that transform us. 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

6:45pm Learning To Love The Psalms

The rich variety of the Psalms calls 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

Thursday

7:00-8:30pm Freedom in Christ

Thursday evenings 8-weeks: Sept. 28th-Nov 16th , meets in the Parlor

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

7:30pm Young Adults

Please note the new day, and a new book study on life together, by D. Bonhoeffer. This Thursday there will be an introduction and books given out to begin reading the following week.

Friday

9:30am Moms' Group meets every other Friday in the Parlor. Come take a much needed break, every other Friday, next meeting Oct 13, 9:30-11:30 am. We talk, pray and read the Bible in a casual environment over coffee and snacks. All moms are welcome. Free childcare.

10:00am Women's Bible Study meets every Friday, location varies between Parlor and Chapel. All ladies are welcome.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NPC Treasurer's Report: Current Expense Account – 2017

	Year to Date- SEP 2017			
	2016 YTD	2017 YTD	2017 YTD Budget	Over/ (Under) Budget
Sunday morning offerings	\$739,657	\$752,313	\$762,000	(\$9,687)
Expenses				
Missions and Deacons' assistance	188,886	179,850	179,850	(0)
Pastoral services and church staff	469,993	465,275	481,464	(16,189)
Other expenses	<u>226,006</u>	<u>174,360</u>	<u>210,174</u>	<u>(35,814)</u>
Total	884,885	819,485	871,488	(52,003)
Net budgeted items	(145,228)	(67,172)	(109,488)	(42,316)

We are very thankful for your financial participation with NPC. Your gifts allow our ministry to flourish, helping us to reach out and support missions locally and around the world, teach our children and youth, and maintain our church building.

Through September, our offerings are \$12,656 ahead of last years' pace, and just \$9,687 below budgeted pace. To reach our 2017 budget of \$1,161,000, \$408,687 (or about 35% of budget) is needed in the fourth quarter.

Spending year to date has been below budgeted pace overall (by \$52,003) and we expect to end the year spending below budget in our budgeted categories. . The net year to date shortage of \$67,172 has been funded by cash on hand and our endowment.

Outside of the budgeted areas shown above, there have been \$33,796 of expenses to complete various projects around the building (funded by a special gift), and \$11, 517 for Housing Support Program payments for non-ordained pastoral staff, plus \$51,526 of other expenses, primarily related to the ECO transition, funded by our endowment.

We ask for your continued support of our ministry to help bring us closer to our budgeted needs over the coming months, so we may fulfill God's purpose for NPC of building disciples in the love of Jesus Christ as we grow up in worship, grow together in community, and grow out in witness and service. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Last Sunday**, about 65 NPC members met with the Presbytery's Administrative Commission in the Chapel. There was a healthy exchange of comments and questions. Thank you for your prayers and participation! Check your mailbox for more details in the next ECO Spotlight.

- † **The Fellowship Café needs YOU!** In this exciting season of Wednesday Night learning opportunities, we want to continue our tradition of providing a meal for everyone at 5:45pm. We have a willing leader/point person. We still need folks to join a once-a-month team to help with the simple meal preparation, serving, and clean-up. 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).

- † **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe** - A group of us will be outside the church in the lawn area on Windsor Ave., greeting our neighbors with free coffee, pastries, conversation, and prayer if desired. Come outside and join us anytime from 10:45-11:45 a.m. TODAY - for fellowship, and prayer for us, with us, for yourself, or for our neighbors!

- † **Christmas Choir Notice** All interested singers are invited to join in singing on Christmas Music Sunday, December 10. Rehearsals will be in the Choir Room, on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30 beginning this Monday, October 23. Sign up sheet is in the chapel.

- † **For those who like to sing!** On an occasional basis, prior to the worship services, our musicians will be offering an “extended prelude” of music and praise. The praise team will kick it off this Sunday, Oct. 22 from 8:45-9:00am. On other Sundays, Sherry will play the organ for a hymn sing.

- † **On November 12, at The Flanders in Ocean City**, the congregation is invited to the book signing for "Don't Leave Me, French Fries" by Chris Abbott. He asks for prayer to be healthy enough to attend and sign his newly published book, and welcomes all who can make it down to OC.

- † **Wednesday Supper menu this week:** Pasta with meat sauce, salad, fruit, dessert.

- † **Wycliffe Bible Translators (Shannons)** need a new ambassador to pray for and represent them at NPC. Please contact the office, 610-664-4880, if anyone in our congregation is called to be the “connection” for this Mission Cause.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† Director of Children's Ministry Update

As Pastor Terry prepares for retirement at the end of December, the Personnel Committee has been in full swing searching for our next Children's Ministry director. We have received several resumes and interviews are being lined up in the next couple of weeks. If you have any names to suggest, please let Linda Behmke know at lrbehmke@yahoo.com. Our search committee includes: Linda Behmke, Charlene McGrew, John Kennedy, John Chaffee, Melinda Groeneveld, Lisa Hoffman, Sarah Comstock, Dave Bellamy.

† For the last 75 years, Young Life has focused on introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. Join us to celebrate & share about the work of Young Life in the lives of students across the Main Line. This year's event will be on **Monday, October 30th** at the Saturday Club in Wayne.

7:30pm: Arrive for lite fare & drinks, followed by an area update, entertainment, and an opportunity to invest in the lives of students.

We hope to see you there! For questions, or to RSVP, please reach out to Trish & Greg Hein, trmm1211@msn.com or 6106082524.

† Dr. Janet Moore has been serving in our Counseling Ministry for the past 10 years, working with individuals struggling with a wide range of personal and psychological challenges. Dr. Moore's perspective is that addressing mental health issues is essential to opening our hearts and minds, thereby enabling a closer relationship with God that can sustain us in an imperfect world. You may reach Dr. Moore by leaving a message on her church extension, 610-664-4880 (ext. 121), or at 484-686-6630.

† TRUNK OR TREAT! Tuesday, October 31, from 6:00-7:00pm

Location: Parking Lot

Trunk or Treat is an alternative to Halloween, a festive time for families to enjoy visiting the cars in the parking lot for goodies! (No inside activities this year)

We have plenty of open parking spots to fill. Bring your car, truck, etc., to the church parking lot, open the trunk, add some decorations (fall decorations, pumpkins or a sports theme or whatever you have a collection of!) and add about 5-6 bags of candy and you're ready! Invite your families, friends and neighbors to this super event which is open to kids of all ages-even Pastor Steve!

ACTS 3

Acts 3:1-10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ²Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” ⁵So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

⁶Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. ⁸He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹When all the people saw him walking and praising God,¹⁰ they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Application Questions – for individuals or small groups:

- In this passage, Peter and John were on their way to an “appointed” time of prayer. How does their openness to an “interruption” speak to you or challenge you? What are the greatest impediments in your availability to the Holy Spirit, to people?
- In this story, the lame man did not get what he wanted (or asked for), but he got what he needed, which was much better. Can you think of an example from your own life? Compare this line from a great hymn, “Hast thou not seen how thy desires have been granted in what He ordaineth?”
- Peter’s prayer for the lame man’s healing was a bold expression of great faith, more a command than a petition. Where did Simon Peter get this faith? (Acts 3:12,16; 4:8,13). How can we increase our faith in praying for others?
- On the basis of this passage and others in the Bible, what is your response to sickness in yourself or others? Do you pray emphatically for healing as Peter did? Why or why not? How can the local church today continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ?
- In Acts 3:6, Simon Peter did not worry about what he didn’t have, he gave what he did have. How does this encourage you and challenge you in the use of your gifts? What holds you back from using your gifts? Where do you sense God is prodding you to risk more in the use of your gifts?
- How are we as Christians and the church to respond to the “beggars” in our own world?
- The miraculous healing of the lame man was immediately followed by Peter’s preaching of the gospel. What does this say about the holistic nature of the gospel? How do we strike the balance between word and deed, between acts of mercy and justice, and evangelism?



On the Web:

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BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, October 29

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve’s Office
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service
10:45am Worship Service
12:15pm Explorers’ Class, Parlor, Lunch included
4:00pm High School Youth Group

Monday, October 30

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
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
7:30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 31

7:00am Men’s small group, Resource Room
7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at Narberth Diner
11:00am Prayer group in Parlor
6:00pm - 7:00pm Trunk or Treat, Parking Lot
7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal, Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 1

5:45pm-8:00pm Wednesday Night supper, then classes for all ages
Menu: Pasta with meat sauce, salad, fruit, dessert. (g-free/vegetarian, too)
6:45pm Adult Discipleship classes
6:45pm Middle 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: jlmpsy@hotmail.com

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

- Nov 6,20 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- Nov 7 NPC provides primary polling place in Narberth (Parlor)
- Nov 7 7:00pm Deacons’ Meeting, Chapel
- Nov 9 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
- Nov 10 9:30am Moms’ Bible Study, Parlor
- Nov 10 1:30pm Sr. Slide Show: Switzerland, Parlor
- Nov 10 7-9pm Pickleball (usually 2nd and 4th Fridays), Gym
- Nov 11 1:30pm Memorial Service for Herb Links
- Nov 14 7:00pm Session Meeting, (moved up one week)

Nov 19 12:00-2:00pm Gifts of Hope Gallery, Gym
Nov 22 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service, Sanctuary
Nov 23-24 Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday
Nov 28 Sr. Trip to Longwood Gardens
Dec 1 6:30-9:30pm Parents' Night Out, Gym