

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 31, 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 *If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee* *Bach*

Linda Pilacik, Organist

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call To Worship **Proverbs 3:5,6**

Hymn #634 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* *Cwm Rhondda*

Prayer of Invocation **Brint Nicolai**

Scripture Reading Hebrews 10:19-23, 35-39; 11:1 (p.1873,4)

9:00am Diane Chen

10:45am Clara Louie

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All the people: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

God, we read in scripture that you are faithfully present to your people, never leaving us alone. We sing that you live in, among, and through us by your Spirit. And yet, so often we live as if you were absent. We dream of and dread the future, we plan and pursue what we and others like us think best - as if you were not the God who dwells among us, speaks to us, and leads us in paths of righteousness. Forgive us, and remind us, at every level of our being, that you are here, you are good, you are faithful, so that we will always remember you, follow you, and live lives that reflect your presence, your purpose, your power, your peace. We pray in the name of Jesus, your Son, Immanuel. Amen

Silent Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Worship Song *God With Us (New)* *Ingram*

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

Brint Nicolai

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Linda Pilacik

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 11:1, 8-10; 12:1-3

(p.1874,-77)

Sermon

**2018:On The Brink?
Or At The Threshold?**

Deborah Watson,
Pastoral Associate

Hymn #560

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

St. Leonards

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am John Kennedy
10:45am Linda Behmke

Narberth Presbyterian is a church that prizes the Bible as the Word of God and recommends daily reading of scripture. To help encourage your devotion, there are a variety of reading plans available in the chapel, from a few verses each day, to reading through the Bible in one year.

Thank you for being with us in worship today! To learn more about our church, Welcome Bags are available for newcomers in the Narthex (entrance area at the front doors.)

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.

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:

- 7:00-9:00pm Middle School on 3rd Fridays-begins January 19
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group –Resumes on January 7

Upcoming Events:

Confirmation Class 2018: Calling all youth who are interested in attending Confirmation and becoming members of Narberth Presbyterian Church! Just after the New Year we will be starting a new round of Confirmation; this is open to MS as well as HS youth. We will be covering the Christian faith, the Ten Commandments, the Creeds of the Church, and how Narberth Pres. sets out to be a community of faith. We will culminate on Pentecost, which is Sunday, May 20th. On that day we will have a large celebration and welcome all Confirmands into the Church as full members! To help make this a special spring, we would love to have the participation of the rest of the church, if this interests you, please email John Chaffee at jchaffee@narberthpres.org about Confirmation!

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 of Christian Athletes – Kasey Dougherty
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.
New Horizons/Amoenitas – Scott Todd
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
Alice Antonelli
Terry Weyant
Jennifer & Tim Roykouff
Joyce Lewis
Isabel Lally
Kathy McLean
Jean McIntire
The Bowser Family
Bob Moore
Greg Esterhai
Ashley Reed
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
Kim Ishmael
Barbara Montgomery

TREASURER'S REPORT

Important Giving Update:

Through the first three weeks of December, your offerings totaled approximately \$975,000, slightly lower than last year's offerings through the same period. While \$189,000 short of annual budget of \$1,161,000 (about 16%), we do expect actual spending in budgeted areas to fall somewhat below the budget. It is also customary to receive a large percentage of annual giving during the month of December.

Accordingly, as we approach the close of the year, we would ask that you prayerfully consider what you may be led to give in order to allow ministries to be fully funded this year. Your giving allows our ministry to happen, both near and far, and expresses our gratitude to God for his many wonderful gifts to us, especially in this season of Christmas as we mark his greatest gift of all - His Son.

Your 2017 tithes, offerings and other gifts, payable to Narberth Presbyterian Church, may be placed in the offering plate any Sunday this month or mailed (postmarked) prior to year-end to:

Carol Bellamy
Financial Secretary
Narberth Presbyterian Church
PO Box 414
Narberth, Pa 19072-0414

Please note that gifts intended for 2017 must be postmarked by December 31, 2017 or received at the church by December 31st. In addition, you may give online at narberthpres.org or, even faster, by texting the amount of your gift to 610-624-4831. Online transactions completed on 12/31 will be credited to your 2017 account. A gift of appreciated stock is also welcome; please contact Jim Hoffman, Treasurer, for that possibility. Thank you for your generous gifts this year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe** - We brought our hospitality to people at the Narberth train station on Dec. 10 and 17. There will be no Curbside Cafe on Dec. 24 and 31. Stay tuned for our winter cafe schedule and activity.
- † **New Women's Study Group has started on Thursday evenings!** We meet from 7:00-8:30pm in Steve's Office. After Christmas, we will resume with a new book study. **All are welcome to join at any time. For more information, please contact Cathy Callaway** at ccallaway@narberthpres.org or 215-341-6607.
- † **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 from 8:45-9:00am.
- † **Dr. Janet Moore** has been serving in our Counseling Ministry for the past 13 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.
- † **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 e-mail so that we can get the "script" to you the Friday or Saturday before you read.

ALPHA MARRIAGE COURSE



Calling all couples – newly married or veterans – the ***ALPHA Marriage Course***, will be offered on Friday evenings, beginning January 19th through March 9th. This course provides husbands and wives with tools to build and strengthen a vibrant relationship over time. Each Friday evening (6:30-9pm), a maximum of 5 couples enjoy a nice dinner at a table for two, watch a brief video presentation by Nicky and Sila Lee, and talk with each other about important issues that can get swept under the carpet in the rush of daily life. This is **not** a large group activity; rather, you and your spouse work only with each other. The cost for 7 weeks of dinner and the course materials is \$120 per couple. It's a bargain! So, whether you have been married a short time, or for many years, this course is a great investment in your relationship! There will be childcare provided at no extra cost. Please contact Debbie

(dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 ext.114) to sign up, and check it out at

http://us.alphausa.org/Groups/1000056818/The_Marriage_Course.aspx#.Vq-iLLrLcs



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org

twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 31

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service
10:45am Worship Service

Monday, January 1

New Year's Day
Office closed

Tuesday, January 2

7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at
Narberth Diner
(Deacons meet next Tues. at 7:00pm)

Wednesday, January 3

Thursday, January 4

1:00pm Nursery School Board Meeting,
Parlor
4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor
7:30pm Adult Pick-up Basketball, Gym

Friday, January 5

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel

Saturday, January 6

Sunday, January 7

Reception of New Members

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service-Communion
10:45am Worship Service-Communion

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@hotmai.com

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

Jan 9	7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor
Jan 10	5:45 Wed Night Supper and programming resumes
Jan 11,25	9:30am Quilts for comfort, Parlor
Jan 12,26	7:00pm Pickleball, Gym
Jan 14	Ordination & Installation of new Elders/Deacons-9:00am
Jan 16	7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor
Jan 19	6:30-9:30pm Marriage Course begins, Parlor
Jan 19	7:00-9:00pm Middle School Youth Group
Jan 30	7:00pm Missions Committee Meeting, Parlor
Feb 2	6:30pm Parents' Night Out, Gym