

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

November 19, 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.

8:45-9:00am and 10:35-10:45am

Hymn Sing

Sherry Beebe, Organist

Prelude

Thanks Be To Thee

Handel

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

The Cookie Song (sung to tune of "Jingle Bell Rock")

Marilyn Reed

Call To Worship

Hymn #26

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Lauda Anima

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading

Romans 12:1-8

(p.1763)

9:00am Kristen Henry

10:45am Kelly Watson

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

All the people: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we thank you that you are the source of every good and perfect gift. Too often we fail to acknowledge that all of life comes from you, that you are God, and we are not. We confess that we have forgotten to say thank you to you and others. Please forgive us for withholding ourselves from you, and our gifts from one another. Thank you for Jesus, who in his generosity became poor for us, that we might become rich in Him. Renew us in that grace, that we may be faithful stewards of your bounty, abounding with Spirit-filled life and good will. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Worship Song

Build Your Kingdom Here

Rend Collective

9:00am Sacrament of Infant Baptism

Duke Wesley Martin

Son of Kyle & Emily Martin

9:00am Hymn #470

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

Invitation to The Gifts of Hope Gallery

Will Esterhai and Lily Freeman

Video

“Advent Conspiracy”

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

David Bellamy,
Elder

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Acts 6:1-7

(p.1700)

Sermon

Acts 29

Growing Pains And Opportunities

Steve Weed,
Pastor

Hymn #356

All Creatures of Our God and King

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

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

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, George & Helen Floyd, by Barbara and Suzanne Floyd.

Come down to the gym after the 2nd service today and join in our Gifts of Hope Gallery!

All are welcome to a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday at 7:00pm. Along with Scripture meditation, singing, and prayer, there will be opportunities to share testimonies of thanksgiving. Childcare and classes for the younger children are provided. (No dinner this week, resumes next Wed. at 5:45pm)

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:

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

Upcoming Events:

- All youth Christmas Party Dec 10th at 4-6pm in the youth room
- Star Wars Movie Outing Dec 15th, gather at 6:15pm at King of Prussia UA Movie Theatre for 7:00pm showing. Tickets only available through NPC website

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† November is **National Adoption Month**. Have you been considering fostering or adopting a child in need? Are you daunted by the process or expense involved? NPC's Orphan Care Ministry has partnered with **Lifesong** to create a fund to help cover the cost. Whether you are looking to become a foster parent, starting your home study process, or need funds to complete your adoption, we want to help. Please contact Jess Gaffga (jessicagaffga@yahoo.com) or Valerie Foley (valerie@vfoley.com) for details.

† **The Senior Adults are going to Longwood Gardens on Tuesday, Nov 28!**
Sign-up in the Chapel, or call for more details.
Why not join us for this event? We're a friendly bunch, always glad to meet new friends and add to our numbers!
Planning ahead to December, save Friday, December 15th to attend our annual Christmas Carol Sing and Tea! More details to come.

† **Cookie Time!** 
It's that time of year when we begin to prepare for our **Great Cookie Giveaway on Dec 2nd** and Narberth Dickens Festival on Dec 3rd. Start baking those cookies and freeze them. Or freeze the cookie dough so it's ready to bake when needed. We need 7,500 cookies to bag to give to our neighbors and to give out at the Dickens Festival!
We need your help! Please sign up to bake/buy cookies, bag and distribute cookies to our neighbors on Dec 2nd and at the Dickens Festival on Dec 3rd!

† **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 are in the Choir Room, on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **New Women’s Study Group starting on Thursday evenings!** Starting the Thursday after Thanksgiving we will meet from 7:00-8:30pm. Join us for an Advent study, “The Women of Christmas: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary and Anna”. These three women demonstrate remarkable faith and trust in God. Following in their footsteps we too can prepare for the Savior to enter our hearts, minds and lives in a vibrant, new way. **We need to order books for this study, so if you are interested, 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. Next one: A Hymn Sing led by Sherry Beebe TODAY at 8:45-9:00am and 10:35-10:45am.
- † **Wycliffe Bible Translators (Al & Barb Shannon)** 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.
- † **Visit the book table in the Chapel!**
We have a new assortment of music for adults and children. Also, be sure to visit the Children’s Library upstairs with your children.
Please look for any forgotten items from the resource center that might be in your home. Thanks! (Helen Moffa)
- † **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.
- † **From John Kennedy with Interserve:** We have a missionary family (couple and three young boys) coming back for a brief visit in February 6-7, 2018. We will be running our winter Candidate School then and so are looking for some empty nesters or folks with a big house who could offer hospitality/lodging for those 2 nights/days. They arrive here in the area on the 6th and depart on the morning of the 8th. If you are able help you can reach me, John Kennedy, at my work number – 610-352-0581; or my cell – 610-930-8994. Or by email JKennedy@ludlow.net

YOUTH NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Youth Committee: Calling all demographics of the church! We are creating a new Youth Committee and we would like to invite you to be a part of it. The task of youth ministry is the joy of the whole church, and it is our expressed interest to have as many different decades of life a part of this crew! This committee will help to represent the happenings of the youth to the rest of the church, to help brainstorm new events, find ways to gift our volunteers, and create a feedback loop for how we can improve NPC's Youth Program. We would love to have you, if you are able! Please email John Chaffee at jchaffee@narberthpres.org to express your interest. Our first meeting will be just after Thanksgiving!

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!

ACTS 6

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews^[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ²So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Application Questions – for individuals or small groups:

- In Acts 6, there is another reminder that the early church was not perfect, as there was complaining and conflict. Yet the story has a "good ending." What is your theology of problems? Of imperfection in the local church?
- What do we know about the priority of caring for widows and other vulnerable people in scripture? How well do we do this as a church? Are there vulnerable groups in our midst whom we are overlooking?
- How do you interpret the apostles' statement in Acts 6:2, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables?" Can you think of an example in your life when the enemy of the "best" was something that was "good?" When faced with a need or an opportunity, what is your filter or criteria for saying "yes" or "no"? Which is harder or easier to say?
- What were the benefits of the apostles NOT waiting on tables?
- What do you notice about the credentials and composition of those chosen to serve?
- In Acts 6:4, the apostles said, "We will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." Where do you "give your attention?" What is your area of greatest passion and ability? What is the sweet spot in your job? In ministry? In what ways do you need to improve your focus?
- What are the challenges of numerical growth in a church community? Opportunities?
- From the summary statement in 6:7, what is the nature of the church's growth? Should churches try to grow, not only spiritually, but numerically? Why or why not?

SERMON NOTES

November 19, 2017 Pastor Steve Weed

Acts 29

Growing Pains And Opportunities

Romans 12:1-8

Acts 6:1-7

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 6 and 7, "Stand Up With Courage"

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Sherry M. Beebe, Minister of Music
Donald Robinson, Dir. of Contmpy. Music
Dave McIntire, Business Administrator
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Mrg.
Jennifer Addy, Dir. Christian Nursery Sch.
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor
Karen Pappas, Secretary
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper
Carol Bellamy, Financial Secretary
Spencer Hurst, Sunday Morning Custodian
CCLI # License #387124

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, November 19

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

10:45am Worship Service

12:00-2:00pm Gifts of Hope Gallery, Gym

4:00pm High School Youth Group

Monday, November 20

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

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, Choir Room

Tuesday, November 21

7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at Narberth Diner

11:00am Prayer group, Resource Room

7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal, Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 22

7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service, Sanctuary
Childcare and children's classes are provided

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving

Office closed

Friday, November 24

Office closed

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel
7-9pm Pickleball (usually 2nd and 4th Fridays), Gym

Saturday, November 25

Sunday, November 26

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

10:45am Worship Service

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

Nov 28	Sr. Trip to Longwood Gardens
Nov 29	9:30am Staff Meeting, Parlor
Nov 30	9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
Dec 1	9:30am Moms' Bible Study, Parlor
Dec 1	6:30-9:30pm Parents' Night Out, Gym
Dec 2	Great Cookie Giveaway (Bagging cookies: 9:00am, Delivering cookies: 12:00 noon)
Dec 4	6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Dec 5	7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor
Dec 8	7-9pm Pickleball (usually 2 nd and 4 th Fridays), Gym
Dec 10	12:15pm Annual Meeting with Lunch provided, Gym
Dec 10	4:00-6:00pm All Youth Christmas Party
Dec 12	6:00pm CNS "Little Stars" program, large classroom downstairs
Dec 12	7:00pm Elder/Deacon Training, Parlor
Dec 15	1:30pm Annual Christmas Carol Sing and Tea, Parlor
Dec 16	10:00-11:30am Sunday School Christmas Pageant rehearsal, Gym
Dec 17	10:20-10:45am Christmas Pageant, Gym