

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 18, 2016

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 *Pastorale on "What Is This Lovely Fragrance?"* *Kingsbury*

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call To Worship

Hymn #154 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* *Forest Green*

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading **1 John 4:7-10** (p. 1902)

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle **"Love"**

9:00am Tim & Kristen Henry, Caitlin and Natalie
10:45am Keith & Rachel Birch, Maxwell, and Catherine

Declaration of Love **1 John 4:11,12 (Unison)**

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. Amen!

Hymn #163 *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

The Greeting

Worship Song *Mighty To Save* *Morgan/Fielding*

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

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Passing of Friendship Pads

Offertory *Happy Christmas* *Toots and the Maytals*
Sarah & Colin Comstock

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

1 John 4:13-19

(p. 1902)

Sermon

How Does God Say

“I Love You?”

Steve Weed, Pastor

Hymn #171

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am John Kennedy

10:45am Laura Harrison

The Christmas poinsettias are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones listed on page 5.

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.

Tonight at 7:00pm all are welcome to the Found Wandering Concert, which will benefit The Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission.

2017 Giving envelopes are available in the Chapel. Your number may have changed as we consolidate to numbers between 1 and 200. If you want envelopes and do not have them on the table, please drop a note in the office or send an email to cbellamy@narberthpres.org

Stewardship letters were recently mailed out to members. Pledge cards may be dedicated through the offering on any Sunday in Advent, or may be mailed to the church office.

A short time ago, the Session sent out a letter to the congregation with a summary of the straw poll, along with anticipated next steps. Pastors Steve and Debbie or any of the elders are available and glad to respond to any questions.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 12:15-2:00pm, lunch and childcare provided. Along with discussing the budget and ministries of our church in 2017, we will hear a detailed update on the straw poll and our denominational discernment.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS

| Poinsettias given in loving memory of | By |
|---|---|
| My parents, Valli & Nathan Nathanson | Margie Nathanson |
| Mum & Dad, Tom & Thomas, Lucelle, June and Annalise Alfred Mancini | Isabel Lally the Donadio family |
| Nancy Donadio | The Freeman and Donadio families |
| Our dear parents, George & Helen Floyd | Suzanne and Barbara Floyd |
| Puck and Frans, Kemper, Dorothy Comstock | the Comstock family |
| My brother, John Barr, Jr. and son-in-law Rob Edson | Carol Corner |
| Our parents, John & Dorothy Barr | Carol Corner and Janet Norcini |
| Our parents, George W. Corner, Sr. & Muriel Jordan Corner | George Corner, Muriel Corner, and Mary Walker |
| Susan Mikol, my beloved mother | Michelle, Russ, Julia and Ethan Karten |
| The Murray-DiLella family | Jane Murray |
| Gerald "Cuddy" Murray | Jane Murray |
| Blake & Josephine Seward | Ken & Pat Svitek |
| Hea Ja Kim | Juen Kim |
| Amy Tawadros | her family |
| Our parents, William & Norma Procopiow and Herbert & Patricia Todd | the Todd family |
| Donna's Father, Denis Reitz and Mark's father, Edward Wren | the Wren family |
| Richard Groeneveld | his grandchildren Sonia, Tai, Mei Mei |
| My father, George McKinley | Meg McKinley |
| My Bill and our daughter, Freida | Gerri Wismer |
| Our parents, Regina & Wm. Wismer, Bob & Gerry Becker | Gerri Wismer |
| Thomas McGarvey Jr. & Alex Kapner | the Kapner family |
| John & Helen Kucharczuk | their children and grandchildren |
| Owen & Selma Dotseth | Maxine Dotseth, Steve & Elliot Levy |
| David Arthur Cope and Paul and Anna Reinsel | Kevin, Beth, Eliana, and Delaney Cope |
| Jacqueline and Joseph Devereaux | Jennifer Chung and family |
| Tom Nangle, dear husband and father | Joey, Glenn, and Heather |
| Thomas Jr., dear son and brother | Joey, Glenn, and Heather |
| My parents, Fred & Helen Sutliffe | Rick & Lori Sutliffe |
| Our parents, Warren & Jean Mills and Irv & Shirley Weed | Steve and Teri Weed |

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS:

- Sun. Dec. 18 Fourth Sunday in Advent
9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services
- 10:15am Between services Children's Christmas Pageant,
in Gym
- 7:00pm Benefit Christmas Concert by
Sarah & Colin Comstock and *Found Wandering*
- Sat. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
4:00pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service
(shorter and designed for young families)
- 5:30pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service
- 8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service
- Sun. Dec 25 Christmas Day
10:00am One combined Worship Service
- Sat. Dec 31 7:00pm New year's Eve Service – Communion
(6:30pm A time of music and praise beforehand)
- Sun. Jan 1 New Year's Day
10:00am One combined Worship Service – Communion
(The New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services are
identical)

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:

- **Upcoming Youth Events:**
 - * **Youth Sunday School:** There is no Youth Sunday School this Sunday. Instead, we encourage you to support and cheer on the Children's Pageant. It will be adorable and not to be missed!
 - * **Youth Alumni:** We are looking to have a gathering over the Christmas break for people who have graduated out of the youth program. Our hope is to extend the youth ministry's "finish line" from graduating high school to graduating college. If you know of an alumni that may not be on our mailing list, please have them email jchaffee@narberthpres.org for an upcoming gathering!
 - * **Sunday School Returns** on Jan. 8th!
 - * **Winter Youth Kickoff** on Jan. 8th, 4-6pm! More details to come!
- For all youth-related questions, please contact John Chaffee 610-664-4880 x112 jchaffee@narberthpres.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Found Wandering Concert – TONIGHT at 7:00pm**

This will be an evening of joyful Christmas music led by Sarah & Colin Comstock and Found Wandering. A free-will offering will once again benefit the **Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission** in Philadelphia. Postcards with all of the details are available in and around the Sanctuary to take and share.

† **Sr. Trip to Longwood:** There is a sign-up sheet in the Chapel for the rescheduled Sr. Adult trip to Longwood Gardens on Tuesday, January 3rd, leaving from NPC at 9am, and returning by 3pm. What a great way to start of the New Year!

† **A hearty thank you and praise God for His ample provision for this year's Cookie Giveaway!** Thank you for donating a record number of cookies which were put to good use. Thank you for a record number of cookie baggers of all ages which made our bagging a fun time and not like work at all. Thank you for a record number of cookie deliverers, including 3 teenagers, who covered a huge number of Narberth homes and businesses, and came away with some wonderful stories of encounters that God had undoubtedly arranged before we got there. Thanks be to God for the new people, long-time members, elementary age people right up through seniors who lent their efforts to making this a fabulous, wondrous year for our Cookie Giveaway! I can't wait for next year.

† **Thank you for your participation at NPC's Gifts of Hope Gallery** on November 20th! If you were unable to attend, we will continue to receive orders until December 20th. You may drop off orders in the Chapel after worship or mail them to the church—your gift cards will be mailed to you or made available here at NPC. Gifts “purchased” at the Gallery and since total approximately \$13,883 and we expect to fill more orders. The last day to place orders is December 20th. Thank you! We look forward to celebrating Christmas with gifts that bless others!

† **For 4 nights, January 3 through January 7, there will be an intensive class for Palmer Seminary students, on the Eastern University campus.** There is one student traveling from a distance, and he will need to arrange for overnight lodging during that week. Hotels are quite expensive. Do you have a spare room which you could open to this Palmer student Tuesday through Thursday night? If you can spare the space, please contact Debbie at 610-664-4880 (x114) or dwatson@narberthpres.org. Thank you in advance!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Your 2016 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:
Narberth Presbyterian Church
205 Grayling Ave.
Narberth, Pa 19072-0414
Carol Bellamy, Financial Secretary

Please note that gifts intended for 2016 must be **postmarked by December 31, 2016** or received at the church office by the end of the day Saturday, 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 2016 account. Thank you for your generous gifts this year!

† **Treasurer's Report**

Through December 14th, our offering amount for the year is approximately \$975,000, which is \$242,000 below our \$1,217,000 annual budget. Our spending in budgeted areas is expected to be slightly below budget at year end (expenses were \$25,000 below budget at end of November).

We do generally have a significant percentage of giving arrive towards the end of the year, but we are currently further behind than in past years.

In our budget, over 20% is allocated to missions near and far. Through your giving, we also maintain our building and equipment, pay our staff and benefits, teach our growing number of children and youth about Jesus and help them to strengthen their faith, and assist in reaching out to our neighborhood and community.

Your prayerful consideration of how you can help us to finish 2016 well is greatly appreciated. May the Lord bless you in your giving!

† **“A Time To Remember” Wed. January 4th at 7:00pm**

For everyone who has lost someone dear, whether family or friend, this service will be a time of reflection, prayer, and encouragement.

- † **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.



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

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 18
Fourth Sunday in Advent
 8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service
 10:15am Sunday School Christmas Pageant
 (between services)
10:45am Worship Service
7:00pm Benefit Concert by Found
Wandering, Sanctuary

Monday, December 19
 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,
 Resource Center

Tuesday, December 20
 6:30am Men's small group
 7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at
 Narberth Diner
 11-12noon Study & Prayer group, led by Faithe
 Hornung, Parlor
 12:00pm Staff Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 21
Thursday, December 22
 4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym
 NO 7:30pm Basketball - resumes Dec 29
Friday, December 23
 10:00am Women's' Bible Study, Parlor
 7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study, Parlor

Saturday, December 24
 Services:
 4:00pm Family Friendly Candlelight service
 5:30pm Family Candlelight Service
 8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25
Christmas Day
10:00am 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: jlmpsyh@hotmail.com

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

Dec 26-27 Office Closed
 Dec 29 3-5pm Marathon Kickball with the Pastor
Dec 31 7:00pm New Year's Eve Service - Communion
Jan 1 10:00am One Combined Service – Communion
 Jan 2 Office Closed
 Jan 4 7:00pm A service of remembrance: "A Time To Remember"