



Narberth Presbyterian Church

August 27, 2023

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

August 27, 2023

Prelude

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Jinhee Shim, organ

Payne

Welcome and Family News

Pastor Debbie

Video – An Invitation to GriefShare

Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:1,2

Ben & Evan Doane

Hymn #95

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Coronation

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

Luke 9:28-36

Jay Field

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we sing the power of Jesus' Name, and we hail him as the King. We read in Scripture that Jesus is the radiance of God's glory. Yet like the disciples, we get sleepy, and our attention spans are short. Please forgive our dullness and our drifting. We have wandered from your living presence, and not honored you as Lord. Please come to us and reawaken us. In these last days of summer, we ask for a new beginning. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Worship Song

Son of Heaven
Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me
NPC Worship Band

Children and Youth dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Please Don't Pass Me By
Dean Pappas, vocals & guitar

Pappas

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading 2 Peter 1:16-19; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:1 Pastor Debbie

Sermon A Jesus Reawakening Pastor Steve

Hymn #92 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* *Diademata*

Benediction Pastor Steve

Postlude *Oh Mary* *Traditional*
Dean Pappas, vocals & guitar

Prayer Ministry

GriefShare® The journey of grief is a painful process; you do not need to walk it alone. We would encourage you to come to the video and support group called GriefShare (<https://www.griefshare.org>). The sessions specifically address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. GriefShare meets weekly, the content is Christ-centered and biblical, and the sessions will be led by Alice Antonelli and Gerri Wismer. You will find this to be a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first GriefShare session will meet on **Monday, September 18th from 6:30 – 8pm in the Chapel**, and continue into December (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website. Please feel free to email Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

Special Offering: In light of the ongoing devastation caused by the wildfires on Maui, and in Lahaina, specifically, our Deacons made the decision to send some of our Disaster Relief funds to help Kahului Baptist Church continue to open the doors of their buildings and hearts to provide the kind of welcome, comfort, and encouragement Jesus would, through shelter, food, clothing, prayer, presence, and whatever else they can. The other gift was prompted by Kathy and Alan Hecht, who had just visited Maui. While there, they worshiped with Maui Christian Church. One of their worship leaders lost everything, including her family's home. Through our Deacons, we are helping to restore hope, as well as what the flames consumed. For the next few weeks, we will receive a special offering for the Maui fire survivors, through the Kahului Baptist Church. Please indicate that your offering is for "Maui Fire."

THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

At our best, Elders and Deacons seek by the grace of God to be examples of Jesus Christ and models of the quality-of-life which God desires for the whole church. It is a great privilege and responsibility – we welcome your prayers!

Elders

As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament Church provided persons with particular gifts to share in governing and ministry. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world.

It is the duty of elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge. Together with the pastor, they should encourage the people in the worship of God, equip and renew them for their tasks in the church and for their mission in the world, visit and comfort and care for the people, with special attention to the poor, the sick, the lonely and those who are oppressed. They should inform the pastor and the session of those persons and structures that may need special attention. They should assist in worship. They should cultivate their ability to teach the Bible and may be authorized to supply places that are without the regular ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Those duties that all Christians are bound to perform by the law of love are especially incumbent upon elders because of their calling to office and are to be fulfilled by them as official responsibilities. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))

Deacons

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office.

It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people, and assisting with the Lord's Supper. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))

The Nominating Committee is receiving recommendations for the offices of Elder and Deacon to begin in January 2024. It is not necessary to obtain the permission of the person you are suggesting. It is preferable for the Nominating Committee to make the initial contact should this person be nominated.

In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for **Elder**, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

For the office of Elder:

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)

In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for **Deacon**, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

For the office of Deacon:

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)

Please put this form in the collection plate or drop off in the church office.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

Bible and Bingo – Join us in Sunday School this August for a summer favorite! Bible stories and Bingo with PRIZES!

Kickoff Sunday is Sunday, September 10th – We welcome a new church program year with the blessing of children and teachers, kickoff a new Sunday School year, and enjoy the Volunteer Fair with light refreshments directly following worship in the gym. All are welcome!

The Philadelphia Project Blitz Weekend for 3rd, 4th, 5th grade – Register today! All 3rd-5th graders are invited to serve with TPP Friday, November 3rd through Sunday, November 5th. Registration ends on October 8th.

Save the Date for the 2024 All-Church Retreat! Get out your calendar and mark the dates for the All-Church Retreat taking place on Friday, May 10th through Sunday, May 12th in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. Many more details soon.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

Youth Group Updates: Our next High School YG will be Sunday, August 27th, from 7:00 – 8:00pm.

CLASSES

8:15am Sunday Class – Please join us – live in the NPC Parlor, or via Zoom – for a time of conversation focused on the scriptures for the day's worship service. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Debbie for the Zoom link.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Wednesday Night Programming will resume on Wednesday, September 13th with Church Family Supper followed by adult and children discipleship opportunities. Stay tuned for more information!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Room For Restless Children The presence of children is a gift to the church, and children are always welcome in our services. The Parlor is available to parents of young children who need a place for a crying or restless child during service. The Parlor is set up so parents can view the service while caring for their child. We invite you to make use of this room, located off the Windsor Ave doors when needed, so that all who are in attendance can pray and worship.

You Can Help Make the Grass Grow Part of our summer maintenance is preparing the Courtyard for the preschool's return in September. To address bare patches in the Courtyard, where there is dirt instead of grass, new sod has been planted where needed most. **We are asking everyone to stay out of the courtyard until mid-September when we plan to reopen it.**

Sanctuary Doors Restoration of the Outer Sanctuary Doors is underway and will continue during the month of August. The doors have been carefully cleaned, sanded and received their first coat of finish and stain, largely restoring the original appearance. Final coats of finish will complete restoration of the doors' appearance. This project is part of a planned overall improvement of the church entrance and protects the strong architectural heritage of our beautiful church. See the before and after pictures in the Friday newsletter.

Music Ministry's 2023-2024 season: We are seeking singers, bell ringers, musicians of all instruments, ages, and ability levels to participate in our Music Ministry programs. We have an exciting year of musical selections and performances planned and we want **YOU** to be a part of it! Rehearsals will begin in September on Monday nights for Bell Choir and on Thursday nights for the Sanctuary Choir. Be in touch with our Minister of Music, Linda Pilacik (lindapilacik@gmail.com, (610) 585-3339).

Volunteer Fair! Save the date, Sunday, September 10th for the NPC Volunteer Fair. Learn more about the many ministry areas of NPC and discover ways you can get involved and strengthen our community! It will take place directly following service in the gym and FOOD is provided. Contact Sara Mahoney if you have any questions.


Sr. Adult "Slideshows" are back! While these have, traditionally, been for people aged 60 and above, we welcome *everyone* (of any age) to these gatherings, which are interesting, informative, FREE, and offer a great opportunity to meet and get to know your NPC "neighbors" in-person! We also have snacks! We meet on Fridays at 1:30.

- September 15th Iceland (Diane Chen)
- October 20th Oberammergau (Nancy Davis & Nancy Wolfe)
- November 17th Paris (2022/23) & Cambridge 2023 (Debbie Watson & Diane Chen)
- December 1st Israel (Diane Chen)
- December 15th Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea (Save the date)

Save The Dates! Times of retreat bring perspective to the mind while strengthening and nourishing the soul. Extended time alone with God often goes by the wayside unless we set aside time on our packed schedules for it. **Road To Emmaus day retreat** is an intentional way to cultivate rest and solitude in the midst of our constant responsibilities of work, ministry, and people. Save these dates now: **October 2 (Monday), January 20 (Saturday), and April 11 (Thursday)**, and let's practice the forced rhythms of grace together. Registration details to come. Contact person: Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com)

Pastor Nominating Committee Update The Session approved the PNC's motion to hire a Transitional Pastor after Steve's retirement on November 12th. A Transitional Pastor's job is to assist and prepare the church for their new pastor rather than being our new Senior Pastor. In the meantime, the PNC will continue its search. We currently have one candidate in the process of evaluation and welcome new submissions. Please pray for wisdom and encouragement for the PNC and for a smooth process in finding a Transitional Pastor.

Notes From Justice and Mercy: Did you know that human trafficking is a \$150 billion a year industry? More people are trapped in slavery today than at any other time in human history, including when slavery was legal. Millions of these slaves are children. (From the movie, **Sound of Freedom**) One of our mission causes is **Redeemed For A Cause**. Their mission is to serve trafficking victims in Philadelphia, acting as a catalyst to help them realize their intrinsic worth and true potential. RFAC has provided thousands of care packages and meals, along with hundreds of trainings/workshops, and has served several thousand women and teens. RFAC acts through a street outreach team, and a drop-in center, providing basic needs, life skills workshops, health education and screenings and groups. Want to know more? You can pray, go see the movie **Sound of Freedom**, share what you have learned, and/or come out and help in RFAC's office. Please contact Sally Kapner or Debbie Watson to get involved. Why? God's children are not for sale.

Flower Dedication:  Each week beautiful flowers grace the altar of the church. They remind us of the Lord's goodness and are a way to honor Him. You may provide one week's flowers with a donation of \$25. Flowers may be given in memory/honor of someone or simply to God's glory; your dedication will be acknowledged in the weekly bulletin. If you would like to dedicate flowers, please call Sara in the church office.

Dr. Janet Moore is a licensed psychologist with over 30 years of therapeutic expertise. With an understanding of spirituality and faith in clients' lives, she is able to provide spiritually integrated psychotherapy. Janet offers counseling to adults and couples experiencing such struggles as depression and anxiety, relationship issues, life crisis, grief, and personal adjustment problems. Contact Dr. Moore at 610-664-4880 Ext 121, or 484-686-6630, jlmpsych910@gmail.com

2023 CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION with Current Ministry Connections

Pastor Steve Weed – Moderator

Class of 2023

*Jo-Anne Kaplan – Clerk of Session, Children’s Ministry

*Sue Wenger – Adult Discipleship, Co-Chair of PNC

Brint Nicolai – Chair of Worship Committee

Jie Cai Finance – Committee

Class of 2024

*Linda DiLullo - Prayer

*Pam Fleming – Children’s Ministry

*Clara Louie – Spiritual Formation

Jim Hornung – Property, Safety and Security

Class of 2025

Linda Behmke – Chair of Personnel

*Jack Comstock – Personnel, Chair of PNC

*Jan Kennedy – Liaison to Youth

Nina O’Connor – Safety and Security

THE BOARD OF DEACONS with Current Ministry Connections

Class of 2023

Gaby Anik – Treasurer, Deacons’ Assistance Fund

Gwen Blessing – Homebound Communications

*Godfrey Louie – Moderator, Deacons’ Assistance Fund

Gerri Wismer – Bereavement Care/GriefShare

Class of 2024

Ray Bellamy – Transportation

Katie Kennedy – Deacons’ Assistance Fund, College Age Communications

*Dee Knight – Ushering

Donald Vangore – Ushering

Class of 2025

*Mike Boccasini – Clerk, Youth Ministry

Ann Sattel – Missions

Rashmi Vyas – College Age Communications

*Sandi Wray – Deacons’ Pantry/Meal Train, Visitation

*serving second term

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please pray for patience and discernment for the PNC as they meet this coming Monday, August 28th. Please also pray for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

Pray for Pastor Steve, for energy, wisdom, and grace to prepare for retirement and to bless NPC.

Missions: Child Evangelism (Sam & Sadie Doherty) Dr. Sam Doherty was called by God to start the ministry of CEF in his native Ireland in 1950, and after 14 years in Ireland, he became CEF Regional Director for Europe, which he led for 29 years. His latter years have been devoted to a writing ministry. He has written many publications especially for children's workers. Sam retired from CEF in July 2007 after more than 60 years as a teacher and children's worker, leaving a legacy of publications that will serve generations to come. God has uniquely blessed the ministry of Sam and his wife Sadie. Almost 100 titles have been produced in English, and many have been printed in 70+ languages. Each book contains wise, clear counsel for those reaching children today, drawn on the long and wide experience that Sam and Sadie have had in children's work. Please give thanks and pray blessing on Sam and Sadie in the days to come.

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, August 27

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor
8:30 – 9:15 Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve’s Office
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream
7:00 – 8:00pm High School Youth Group, Youth Room

Monday, August 28

7:00 – 9:00pm PNC Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday, August 29

12:00-1:00pm Staff Enrichment, Parlor
7:00 Session Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, August 30

Thursday, August 31

Kickball with the Pastor resumes on September 7th

Friday, September 1

Saturday, September 2

Sunday, September 3

8:15am Sunday School (Parlor)
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

Each Week

Christian Pre-School – 610-664-8890 x118

2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 12 noon & 12 noon to 3:00pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May

AA meets 12:30pm, Monday–Saturday & Sunday at 4:30pm

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlmpsy910@gmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

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Office hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

E-mail: office@narberthpres.org

CCLI # License #387124

Stephen N. Weed, Pastor
Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor
Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry
Juwana Williams, Intergenerational Ministry
Jinhee Shim, Organist
Colin & Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Ldrs
Linda Pilacik, Minister of Music
Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator
Tim Roykoff, Business Administrator
Sara Mahoney, Administrative Assistant
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Manager
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper
Ruth Ellen Patterson, Financial Secretary
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor
Virginia Davis, Dir. of Pre-School
Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian
Michael Ochal, Weekend Custodian



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