



Narberth Presbyterian Church

September 10, 2023

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

September 10, 2023

Prelude

Entrée in G Minor
Jinhee Shim, organ

Dubois

Welcome and Family News

Pastor Steve

Call to Worship

1 Peter 2:9,10

Maggie Hawthorn

Hymn #689

The Church's One Foundation (1,2,4,5)

Aurelia

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:7,11-16

Mia Rogers

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we praise you that the church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, and that we are members of his body. We confess that we have not taken this reality to heart. You gave your life for the church, yet we often consider it as optional. We have turned away from you, the spring of living waters, and we have withheld ourselves from others. Please forgive us. By the Holy Spirit, fill our church and community with your blessing. As iron sharpens iron, help us to encourage one another in the ways of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Worship Song

The Blessing
NPC Worship Band

Anointing and Blessing of Children, Youth, & Teachers

Hymn #470

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know (1)

Jesus Loves Me

Children & Youth Dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Shepherd of My Heart
Linda Pilacik, vocals, piano

Baldwin/Tunney

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading	Exodus 18:13-27	Pastor Debbie
Sermon	Super Pastor or Multi-Gifted Body?	Pastor Steve
Hymn	Here I Am, Lord	
Benediction	<i>May the Lord (Tune of “Edelweiss”)</i>	Pastor Steve
Postlude	<i>Jubilation</i> Jinhee Shim, organ	<i>Payne</i>
Prayer Ministry		Linda DiLullo

Volunteer Fair! Join us **TODAY** following the service 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 the Worship Service in the gym and FOOD is provided. Contact Sara Mahoney if you have any questions.

Wednesday Night Programming returns this week! Join us each week for a family-style dinner followed by programming for children and adults. (See page 8 for more details.)

Senior 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! **Join us this Friday at 1:30pm in the Parlor to hear about Diane Chen’s trip to Iceland.**

Brunch in the Parlor! Please join us for a free brunch next Sunday, September 17th after the service to hear from the leaders of Well Rooted, an organization that exists to support nurture, and empower young adults and families affected by the child welfare system.

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>). 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.** (See page 8 for more details.)

Explorer’s Class If you are interested in participating in a new Explorer’s Class (date and time TBD), please sign up in the chapel or contact Pastor Debbie or Pastor Steve.

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

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

Promise Keeper – This fall the Sunday School children (K-5th) will begin a new series called “Promise Keeper”. Together we will explore very awesome promises in the Bible and be wowed at the creative ways in which God keeps his word!

NPC Nursery – Our youngest and most adorable will begin their new series called Bible-In-Life. Each week Miss Sharon and our faithful volunteers lead creative Bible lessons that help children interact with God’s Word. We are also welcoming Jennifer Fisher, a few special Sundays, who will lead lesson-based songs that children will be singing all day long. The Nursery is best for infants through PreK. Please reach out to Sharon Shallow (sbshallow55@gmail.com) or Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) with any questions or to volunteer.

Kids Praise – Join us on Wednesday Nights beginning **September 13th** for music fun! Mrs. Pilacik, NPC’s Minister of Music, will be joining us each week for an exciting time of music. Get ready to make a joyful noise! We will meet in the Choir Room from 7:00 – 8:00pm.

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

Teen Girls' Ministry – Beginning **Sunday, September 17th** Teen Girls' Ministry will meet weekly for discipleship, fellowship, and food! Directly following worship we will walk to the McGrew's home and our time will conclude at 12:30. All 6th - 12th grade girls are encouraged to attend! You can reach out to Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) or Lisa Hoffman (Lisa.hoffman1@verizon.net) with any questions.

NEW Teen Guys' Ministry – All teen guys (6th – 12th grade) are encouraged to attend a new ministry just for guys! We will kick things off on Friday, September 22nd from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the church gym with volleyball, food, and discipleship. Hope to see many of you there!

New Sunday School Curriculum – on September 10th we will begin a new Sunday School curriculum. This curriculum will be based on a JESUS series that matches the theme of the church year: Visualizing Jesus. The goal of this curriculum is to enhance Youths' vision and connection to Jesus and support them in seeing the beauty of the gospel.

Middle School Youth Group will be on Sunday evenings starting September 10th from 6:00 – 7:00pm in the Youth Room. We are excited about this new opportunity to come together and fellowship. This year we will focus on visualizing Jesus through games, interactive conversations, and at-home discipleship tools that will enhance your middle schooler's Christian journey.

High School Youth Group will continue Sunday evenings starting September 10th from 7:00 – 8:00pm in the Youth Room. Our sessions will include interactive conversations and hybrid fellowship. Our first lesson will be based on John 12:20-21... "Sir, we wish to see Jesus!"

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.

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.

Women's Bible Study The Apostle Paul was in prison when he wrote the letter to the Philippians exhorting them to rejoice always in the Lord. The word “joy” or “rejoice” is mentioned in the book of Philippians 13 times over 4 short chapters. Can we learn from Paul to rejoice in the Lord when we are going through trouble and hardship? Paul promises *“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you (Philippians 4:9).”* Join the Women's Bible Study group as we study the book of Philippians over four weeks (on Thursdays, starting 9/21) from 7:00 – 8:15pm in the church parlor. Contact Lalitha Naveen (lnaveen100@gmail.com) or Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com) if you have any questions about the class.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

The New Testament in Its World We will continue this 37-week, video-based study that looks at the entire New Testament. Each week, we will travel from the twenty-first century to the era of Jesus and the first Christians, where we will learn about how the message of the Gospel impacted them and their world. Only the Bible is needed; all the reading is found in its pages. Following each video there will be a time of interactive conversation based on what we have just seen/heard. If you would like to understand the NT at a deeper level, here is one opportunity to do that.

Top Lessons of Faith and Life Pastor Steve has recently put together an informal list of his top 35 lessons of faith and life. Each Wednesday night he will share at least one of them. It will be a surprise! All are welcome! The first week we will begin with an overview of the entire list.

Kids Praise – Join us for music fun! Mrs. Pilacik, NPC's Minister of Music, will be joining us each week for an exciting time of music. Get ready to make a joyful noise!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Nominating Committee Update The PNC has received approval from Session to begin the search for a Certified Transitional Pastor within ECO. A Transitional Pastor's job is to assist and prepare the church for their new pastor rather than becoming the new Senior Pastor. The PNC has familiarized itself with ECO's process and requirements. Several available transitional pastors listed on the ECO website have been invited to review NPC's job posting and church profile. Two candidates have expressed interest so far. The PNC is watching their sermons and is in the process of setting up Zoom interviews with them. The PNC is also continuing the search for our next Senior Pastor. Please pray for wisdom and encouragement for the PNC and for a smooth process in finding a Transitional Pastor. Please also continue to pray for the person God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor

Special Offering: In light of the devastation caused by the wildfires on Maui, our Deacons made the decision to send 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. 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."

Senior 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 1:30pm in the Parlor.

- 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)


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 be on Monday nights for Bell Choir and on Thursday nights for the Sanctuary Choir.

Save the Date for the Found Wandering Christmas Concert Sunday, December 17th in the evening at NPC!

God's Presence in Liminal Space is the theme for NPC's day retreat on **Monday October 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** We will meet at the Gallaghers' Idyllic Barn in Devon, PA, spending the day in solitude, listening to God's heart for us personally, and experiencing his presence in the in-between and not-yet spaces of life we find ourselves. We will begin and conclude our day in community, and there will be guided material for those who are new to solitude and silence. Sign-up in the Chapel, or contact Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com) or Linda DiLullo (ldilullo3@gmail.com). Registration fee is \$25. It is a bring-your-own-lunch event. Register now, as space is limited! **Save the dates for upcoming Prayer Retreats on January 20th & April 11th.**

Notes From Justice and Mercy: NPC's Orphan Care Ministry has recently partnered with Well Rooted which exists to support, nurture, and empower young adults and families affected by the child welfare system by walking alongside them and connecting them to the relationships and resources they need to thrive. Nationwide, only half of the kids in foster care reunite with their biological parents, and each year 20,000 teenagers age out of foster care with no permanent home. Well Rooted seeks to interrupt these statistics by supporting foster families and struggling biological families. They also have a mentoring program for young adults who have aged out of the system, such as Malaeya, who says of foster care, "There may be rough patches in between... But time does matter and you will achieve it with the support." Please pray for the kids and families Well Rooted serves and for God's continuing provision. Well Rooted is especially in need of male mentors for young people aging out of foster care. To learn more and get involved, visit wellrootedpa.org.

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.

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, jlmpsy910@gmail.com.

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please pray for patience and discernment for the PNC as they meet on Monday, September 11th. 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: Founded in 2011, the Mission of **Olney Christian School** is to provide students in the Northeastern Philadelphia area with a choice for a quality, affordable, Christ-centered education. The vision of Olney Christian School is to equip students in our Philadelphia communities for life by educating their minds, nurturing their hearts, and training their hands with practical life skills. Please pray for the school to fully staff its faculty and to flourish during this academic year.

<https://olneychristianschool.org/>

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, September 10

Church programming year kick-off

Blessing of the Children

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

8:30 – 9:15 Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve's

Office

9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

NPC Volunteer Fair following Worship, Gym

6:00 – 7:00pm Middle School YG, Youth Room

7:00 – 8:00pm High School YG, Youth Room

Monday, September 11

6:30pm Preschool parent orientation, Gym

6:15 – 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:00 – 9:00pm PNC Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday, September 12

12:00-1:00pm Staff Enrichment, Parlor

7:00 Elder/Deacon/Staff Training, Chapel

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: jlmpsych910@gmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

205 Grayling Avenue

Post Office Box 414

Narberth, PA 19072

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

Wednesday, September 13

First day of Preschool & KE (3-day & 5-day children)

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper, Gym

7:00 – 8:00pm The New Testament in Its World, Pastor Debbie, Chapel

7:00 – 8:00pm Top Lessons of Faith and Life, Pastor Steve, Parlor

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Miss Danielle, Choir Room

Thursday, September 14

First day of Preschool (2-day children)

4:00 – 5:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym

6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, September 15

1:30pm Senior Slideshow, Parlor, Diane Chen, Iceland

Saturday, September 16

Sunday, September 17

8:15am Sunday School (Parlor)

9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

Well Rooted brunch following Worship, Parlor

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



On the Web:

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