



Narberth Presbyterian Church

September 24, 2023

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

September 24, 2023

Prelude *Prelude and Fugue in C Major* *Böhm*
Jinhee Shim, organ

Welcome and Family News Pastor Steve

Invitation from Teen Girls' **Ministry** Abby McGrew, Lucy Fleischauer

Update from Pastor Nominating Committee Jack Comstock

Call to Worship **Psalm 27:1,4 Psalm 19:14** **Fin Kauffman**

Hymn #99 *When Morning Gilds the Skies* *Laudes Domini*

Prayer of Invocation Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading **James 1:19-25** **Josh Mehdi**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, thank you for the truth of your word in Jesus Christ and the scriptures. We confess that too often we have allowed the world to squeeze us into its mold, instead of being transformed by the renewing of our minds. Please forgive our sins and cleanse us from unworthy thoughts. Deliver us from poor eating habits and lack of exercise, not only for our bodies, but also our minds. May the truth of God's Word set us free to love you and others more fully. In Jesus' Name. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

The Greeting

Worship Songs *Joy in Your Waters*
Resurrecting
NPC Worship Band

Children & Youth Dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory **Before the Throne of God** **Ansley White**
Sara Comstock, Accompanist Smith

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading	John 8:31,32; 14:25,26; 17:15-18	Pastor Debbie
Sermon	Winning the War in Your Mind	Pastor Steve
Hymn #612	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	<i>Foundation</i>
Benediction		Pastor Steve
Postlude	<i>Rondo in F Major</i> Jinhee Shim, organ	<i>Morandi</i>
Prayer Ministry		Clara Louie

GriefShare, an educational support group began last Monday evening, and is open every Monday from 6:30-8:00pm for those grieving the death of a loved one or friend. (For more details, see bulletin page 6).

Explorers Class 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.

One Day Personal Retreat. Monday, Oct 2 from 9:30am to 2:30pm (see p7).

New Mens' Small Group. A Saturday morning men's group which meets on the first and third Saturday mornings at 7:30 is now open to welcome new guys. (Please see Justin Crawford and bulletin page 8 for more details).

Pastor Steve's retirement dinner! You're invited! Save the Date! We are excited to invite you to celebrate this exciting event! On Friday, November 10th we will be celebrating Steve's 32 years of ministry at NPC and blessing him and Teri into retirement. Email invitations will be coming out shortly with more details and a link to RSVP. The dinner will be at Drexelbrook in Drexel Hill, reception starting at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:45pm. This is an all-ages event! If you have questions please reach out to Linda Behmke, Ashley Reed, Katie Kennedy, Michelle Phillips or Jennifer Fisher.

Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) Update The PNC has solidified the criteria for evaluating and selecting a Transitional Pastor and has interviewed one candidate for the position. We have decided to continue to move forward with their candidacy. We have also revamped our Church Profile to reflect the change from an overlap model to a transitional model and reposted the Senior Pastor position on job websites. In addition, with Session's approval, the PNC has begun the process of working with a pastoral search firm to help bring to us more candidates for the Senior Pastor position. Please pray for God's blessing on the PNC and our church 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.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

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 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. This program is best for PreK through 5th grade.

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 costs \$75 and ends on October 8th. Please email Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) for more details or to register.

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.

The Philadelphia Project Benefit Dinner! Please consider joining us for this wonderful event to celebrate the great things the Lord has done in and through The Philadelphia Project. TPP is a well-loved mission cause of NPC and our children, youth, and adults have enjoyed meaningful service with them each year. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Dave Bellamy (dbellamy@narberthpres.org) or Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org). We hope to see you there!

Please Join Us
BENEFIT DINNER
SUPPORTING
THE PHILADELPHIA PROJECT

NOVEMBER
SUNDAY | **12** | AT 4 PM
2023

Flourtown Country Club

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY: 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.

Teen Girls' Service Project - Did you know there are less than 95 days until Christmas?! Teen Girls' Ministry is helping to support the Parkway Christmas Shop and you can get involved by donating new or gently used toys for children and babies. Please see the flier around NPC for more details. Donations can be left in the Toy Drive box in the Chapel. Contact Mia Rogers (mkuniholm@gmail.com) or Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) to learn more.

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 from 6:00 – 7:00pm in the Youth Room. We are excited about this 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 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 every Monday thereafter 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

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.

- 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)

The Marriage Course provides husbands and wives tools to build and strengthen a vibrant relationship over time. 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 (less than \$8/person/week). 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! Please contact Debbie (dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 ext.114) to sign up, or find out more. **We will meet from 6:30 – 9:00pm, beginning Friday, October 6th, through December 1st.** There will be no class on November 10th, due to Pastor Steve’s retirement dinner, and none on November 24th, due to Thanksgiving.


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). **Please respond no later than Monday, September 25.** 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.**

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!

Notes From Justice and Mercy: NPC's Orphan Care Ministry has recently partnered with Well Rooted 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. Well Rooted has a mentoring program for young adults who have aged out of the system. 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. In addition to the NPC Nursery downstairs, the Parlor is available to parents who wish to keep their child with them, even when the child is restless, crying, etc. during worship. 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, 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 1 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.

New Men's Small Group In addition to the larger monthly breakfasts that the NPC Men's Group hosts on the last Saturday of each month, there is an open Men's Small Group for men looking to connect in a more intimate setting. The Men's Small group meets from 7:30-9:00 am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month in the NPC Parlor. Donuts sometimes exist, but coffee is *always* guaranteed! The basic format of the group is designed to facilitate intimate sharing, prayer and accountability. While the study of scripture helps to facilitate those conversations, education is not the primary goal of this group. Our primary purpose is to provide a place for men to deepen relationships with a small cohort of other men and experience what it looks like for "iron to sharpen iron". Anyone interested in participating in this small group please contact Justin Crawford (me@JustinCrawford.com / 646.588.9042).

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

2023 MISSIONARY CAUSES

Mission

4D Ministries – Hank Paulson
 Amnion Pregnancy Center
 Cephas Tushima
 Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. – N. Ireland
 Chosen People Ministries– Paul Cruz
 Cornerstone Christian Academy
 CRU City – Brindleys (Philadelphia Gospel Movement)
 CRU International–Leah Darwin
 Development Associates International
 DiscipleMakers – Rebecca and Dan Hall
 ECO Church Planting and Global Missions Funds
 Esperanza Health Center
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes – Kasey Dougherty
 For Richmond – Matt & Anna Shenk (formerly CRU)
 Greater Europe Mission- Liz Loeffler
 Habitat for Humanity –N. Central Philadelphia
 House of His Creation
 InterAct Ministries – Dan & Bev Mayerle
 Interserve-USA – Jan Kennedy
 Kingdom Connect – Ben Duffy
 Neighborhood Crusades Inc.
 New Horizons/Amoenitas – Scott Todd
 Olney Christian School
 Presby's Inspired Life (Human Good)
 Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International
 Rancho Del Rey
 REAP Granada-Scott Esposito
 Redeemed For A Cause Outreach – Sakinah Love
 Servant Partners – Dan & Denise Anderson
 The Antioch Partners-Haugens
 The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Standing Rock)
 The Philadelphia Project
 The Welcome Church – Schaunel Steinnagel
 United World Mission – Nick & Ginny Woodbury
 World Link
 Wycliffe Bible Translators – Al & Barb Shannon
 Young Life (Western Philadelphia Suburbs)

Ambassador

Helga Sauter
 Alice Antonelli
 Scott Todd
 Danielle Kauffman
 Jennifer & Tim Roykoff
 Joyce Lewis
 Tom & Alyson Burnett
 Kathy McLean
 Open
 Bob Moore
 Open
 Open
 Ashley Reed
 Open
 Helga Sauter
 Linda Behmke
 Open
 Marilyn Reed
 Jesse Kennedy
 Ken & Sally Kapner
 Helga Sauter/M. Reed
 Marilyn Reed
 Ann Sattel
 Suzanne Morrison
 Open
 Ann Sattel
 Charlie Choi
 Sally Kapner
 Faithe Hornung
 Open
 Ashley Reed
 Dave Bellamy
 Jane Murray
 Helga Sauter
 Rob & Sandi Wray
 Kim Ishmael
 Barb Montgomery

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please Remember in Prayer

Please pray for patience and discernment for the PNC as they meet this Monday, September 25th. 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: Esperanza Health Center From its modest beginnings in 1989, Esperanza (which means “Hope” in Spanish) has gone from strength to strength, growing in service to people who otherwise might not have access to quality medical attention (or any at all), whether due to financial, or language difficulties. Please pray for the ministry and its people – those serving and those served – to experience the powerful presence and restorative touch of God through the work and witness of this medical ministry, undertaken in Jesus’ Name, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

<https://esperanzahealth.com/>

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, September 24

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor
8:30 – 9:15am Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve's Office
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream
Teen Girls Group following the Worship Service
6:00 – 7:00pm Middle School YG, Youth Room
7:00 – 8:00pm High School YG, Youth Room

Monday, September 25

6:15 – 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Chapel

Tuesday, September 26

12:15 – 1:15pm Staff Enrichment, Parlor,
7:00pm Missions Meeting

Wednesday, September 27

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 28

4:00 – 5:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym
6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
7:00 – 8:15 Women's Bible Study, Parlor

Friday, September 29

11:00 – 1:00pm Ladies' Bible Study, Parlor

Saturday, September 30

7:30am Men's Breakfast Group

Sunday, October 1

8:15am Sunday School (Parlor)
8:30 – 9:15am Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve's
Office
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-
stream
Parkway Ministry Meeting following the
Worship Service, Parlor
6:00 – 7:00pm Middle School YG, Youth
Room
7:00 – 8:00pm High School YG, Youth
Room

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



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org

twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

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