

# Narberth Presbyterian Church

November 5, 2023

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

November 5, 2023

Prelude *God of Grace and God of Glory* Arr. Costello  
Jinhee Shim, organ

Welcome and Family News Pastor Steve

Call to Worship Romans 8:14-16 Rawson Kennedy  
Hymn *O God Beyond All Praising*

Prayer of Invocation Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading 1 John 4:9-12,19 John Mahoney

## Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you know everything about us, yet you love us without end. Your perfect love casts out fear. Even so, too often we doubt your goodness and love, and we keep you and others at a distance. Please forgive us. Thank you for pursuing us, even to the cross. By the Holy Spirit, open our eyes that we may see ourselves the way you see us, and love others the way you love us. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

Reception of New Members (See Member Bios on p 4)

Hymn #708 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds (1,2)* Dennis

## The Greeting

Worship Song *There Is One Gospel*  
NPC Worship Band

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Great I Am*  
Jennifer Fisher, vocals, Jamie Gaffga, guitar

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:1-10

Pastor Debbie

Sermon

How Jesus Sees You

Pastor Steve

The Apostles' Creed

Worship Song

*I Am Who You Say I Am*

NPC Worship Band

Invitation to Communion

Danielle Kauffman

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Pastor Steve

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

*May the Lord (tune of Edelweiss)*

Benediction

Pastor Steve

Postlude

*Toccata on "Thaxted"*

Jinhee Shim, organ

*Arr. Lasky*

Prayer Ministry

Clara Louie

**Today's altar flowers** are given by the Naveen family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Densil Premkumar, a wonderful brother, brother-in-law, and uncle.

**Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30** am is Pastor Steve's final Sunday Worship Service as our Senior Pastor. Those attending are encouraged to arrive early for a full and resounding service. (for more details, see p 5).

**Pastor Steve's retirement dinner!** Thanks to everyone for RSVP'ing for Pastor Steve's retirement dinner. Please know that your contributions are still welcomed and appreciated to help defray costs. If you have questions please reach out to Linda Behmke, Ashley Reed, Katie Kennedy, Michelle Phillips, or Jennifer Fisher.

There are copies of Pastor Steve's **Top 40 Lessons of Faith and Life** and **60 Most Influential Scripture Verses** available in the chapel.

**Coming this Saturday**, November 11, **Red Cross Blood drive** in the NPC Gym, 9:00am – 2:00pm. Please sign up to donate blood. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: NarberthPresby to schedule an appointment.

**We need your help!** The Parkway Ministry continues to request donations of food and warm clothing. Reach out to Jennifer Bonovitz or Marilyn Reed.

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

God continues to bless us with new people, among whom are these new members. Please take the time to welcome them, and as the days and weeks go by, get to know them, help them to feel at home, and encourage them in their faith!

**Lisa Bramwell** lives in Narberth, is working as a paralegal, and hoping to attend Law School. She comes to NPC from Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York.

**Julie & Forrest Fernandez** live in Wayne. Julie is a nurse, and Forrest works as a Trauma Surgeon at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. They come to NPC from Koinos, in Sinking Spring, PA.

**Cheryl Gunter & Paul Rabe** live in Upper Darby, and come to NPC from Marple Christian Church. Cheryl is an Associate Dean in The College of Health Sciences at West Chester University. Paul is retired, after a career in the field of technology.

**Trae Hoffner** lives in Philadelphia and works as a research analyst. Trae came to NPC through his mother, Lorraine, and Jyrki Mattila.

**Charlie Jones**, who has recently moved to Florida to serve in an ECO church there, came to NPC from Roxborough Community Church and its off shoot, the Wissahickon Church, as a first step in the ECO ordination process. We wish Charlie well in ministry in Florida!

**John Mahoney** lives in Narberth with wife, Sara, son Jack, and mother-in-law, Gwen Blessing. A software developer, John comes to NPC from a Methodist background.

**Hing-Kwan Morgan**, who lives in Newtown Square, works as a reading aide for elementary school children. She comes to NPC from a varied church background.

**Ricky Nicolai**, who is a Sr. Manager in Risk and Compliance, lives in Philadelphia, but grew up in Narberth, and has been a part of NPC since birth. This is Ricky's first formal church membership.

**Joe Thornton** lives in Philadelphia and comes to NPC from St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Hanover, PA. Joe is retired, after a long and varied career, in traffic and transportation.

# INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

## Additional Parking for Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



### Extra Parking Available

As we prepare for Pastor Steve's last worship service as Senior Pastor at Narberth Presbyterian Church, it is probable that we will have more attendees than normal. To extend our warmest welcome to those traveling from afar or for whom walking from a distant parking place may be physically difficult, we are asking regular attenders to consider arriving a bit earlier than normal and parking in one of the supplemental lots or spaces available to NPC on Sunday mornings. In addition to the lots shown, there is the SEPTA lot, which is free on Sundays, on the opposite side of the train tracks in Narberth as well as legal on-street parking in the Borough of Narberth. All regular rules, zones, and fees apply as noted by signage on the street.

**Childcare for Pastor Steve's Retirement Sunday!** We will be extending our Nursery ages and rooms downstairs as this will be Pastor Steve's last Sunday as Senior Pastor of NPC. All infants through age 3 are invited to RM 104 for Bible, music, and fun. Our older children age 4 through Kindergarten are invited to RM 107 for Bible, craft, and more. Both rooms are located in the Preschool wing (lower level) at NPC. Please look for Miss Sharon and Miss Danielle to guide you to the correct room that morning.

Elementary aged children (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are encouraged to grab a special worship bag and sit with Miss Danielle and other Children's Ministry leaders in the first three pews. We will not be holding Sunday School for children or youth this day but look forward to being together with our church family. Please reach out to Danielle ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) with any questions or concerns.

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**Family Worship is Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** – Children and Youth (K-12<sup>th</sup>) are encouraged to worship with their church family and participate in Communion. Children may grab a worship bag when entering the sanctuary and sit with Miss Danielle in the first two pews. Younger children are encouraged to be in the NPC Nursery with lessons, music, and crafts.

**NPC Nursery** – Infants through PreK are welcomed in room 107 each Sunday! Miss Sharon and our faithful volunteers lead creative Bible lessons that help children interact with God's Word. 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

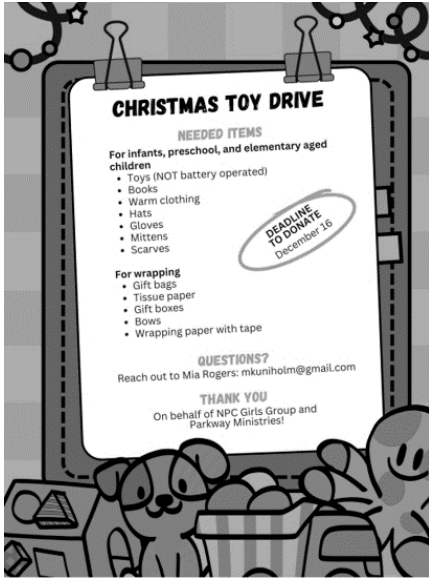
**The Philadelphia Project Blitz Weekend for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> grade - November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>** – Please pray for our children and volunteers attending The Philadelphia Project this Friday through Sunday.

**Children's Christmas Pageant** - Save the date for Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>! Our pageant will take place at the end of worship in the sanctuary.

**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 10<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. Many more details soon.

# INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY: YOUTH

**Teen Girls' Ministry** – Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, Teen Girls' Ministry will meet in the Youth Room directly following worship for lunch and then we will begin to sort and organize our service project items. Parents can pick up your daughter from the church at 12:30pm. All 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade girls are encouraged to attend! You can reach out to Danielle Kauffman ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) or Lisa Hoffman ([Lisa.hoffman1@verizon.net](mailto:Lisa.hoffman1@verizon.net)) with any questions.



**Teen Girls' Service Project** - 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](mailto:mkuniholm@gmail.com)) or Danielle Kauffman ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) to learn more.

**Philadelphia Project Blitz Weekend for Youth** – Join us for a meaningful weekend of service Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> through Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>! This weekend is open to current 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders. The cost is \$99 to participate, and scholarships are available. Please RSVP to Dave Bellamy ([DBellamy@narberthpres.org](mailto:DBellamy@narberthpres.org)) or reach out with any questions.

**Winter Chill Youth Retreat** - Save the date for some time away with our Youth Group at the shore this winter! January 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>! Stay tuned for more details.

**Youth Sunday School** – Middle School and High School meet in the Youth Room each Sunday. Together we are connecting to Jesus and learning to see the beauty in the gospel.

**Middle School Youth Group** - Middle School Youth Group meets every Wednesday in the Youth Room from 7:00 – 8:00pm. All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to attend.

**High School Youth Group** – High School Youth Groups meets every Sunday in the Youth Room from 7:00 – 8:00pm.

## CLASSES

**8:15am Sunday Class** – Please join us – 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.

***An invitation to live into a deeper transformative friendship with Jesus.*** Join us for a spiritual formation group for women, exploring the following questions: What is Christian spiritual formation? What is my picture of God? Myself? The Gospel? How do people change? How do I follow Jesus? Through Biblical insights, experiential prayer, group discussion, and personal reflection & journaling, we will examine how our *default* answers to these questions have been forming (or deforming) us, and we will learn to attune our hearts to the invitations Jesus has for us. This group meets on **Sundays from 4:00 – 5:30pm, through November 12<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Heather Gallagher (minimeheather@gmail.com) or Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com).

***As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead – James 2:26.*** The book of James emphasizes the importance of living out one's faith through actions and practical wisdom. It teaches us how to be mature Christians. Join the Women's Bible Study as we explore the book of James on **5 Thursday nights from 7:00 – 8:15pm** in the Parlor, starting November 2<sup>nd</sup> (and skipping the week of Thanksgiving). Contact Lalitha Naveen (lnaveen100@gmail.com) or Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

**NEW Men's Interactive 5-week Bible Study on the Book of James** starts on Thursday, November 2, from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in Pastor Steve's office. Please contact Ken Eng (k\_eng@msn.com) or Naveen Daniel (nav@drexel.edu) for questions. All men are welcome!

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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. 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 an opportunity to do that.

**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!

**Middle School Youth Group** – we meet on Wednesdays evenings from 7:00 – 8:00pm in the Youth Room.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



The journey of grief is a painful process; you do not need to walk it alone. We encourage you to come to the video and support group, GriefShare. The sessions 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. You will find this to be a place with people who understand the pain of your loss. GriefShare sessions meet on **Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the Chapel** into December (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website. Contact Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

**Men's Small Group** There is an open small group for men looking to connect in a more intimate setting. The Men's Small group **meets from 7:30 – 9:00am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month in the Parlor**. Donuts sometimes exist, but coffee is *always* guaranteed! The 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 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." Contact Justin Crawford (me@JustinCrawford.com / 646.588.9042) for more information.

**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.

- November 17<sup>th</sup> Paris (2022/23) & Cambridge 2023 (Debbie Watson & Diane Chen)
- December 1<sup>st</sup> Guam (Alice Antonelli)
- December 15<sup>th</sup> Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea (Save the date)

**Redemption Housing Bike Drive** Do you have a bike that takes up space in your garage or shed? Want a good cause to donate it to? I am happy to pick up your bike and deliver it to Redemption Housing which houses men that are re-entering society from prison. As you can imagine, they don't have any wheels to get around, and a bicycle is a good first step. Just let Alice Antonelli know at arichardson1@gmail.com.

**Notes From Justice and Mercy** We have received a note from Ones Tuhenya, the first recipient of NPC's Special Award Scholarship, studying at Montgomery County Community College for Social Work. Ones said, "Thanks for reaching out. School is going pretty well, and my grades are looking good so far. I appreciate your prayers and blessings. How are things with you? It sounds like you [all] are doing great work at church. I'll definitely let you know if I need anything. Thanks!" Please continue to pray for Ones, the first of his family to be able to receive higher education. He is grateful for our support as it enables him to pursue his dream of helping other immigrants.

## PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The PNC has an update on both the Senior Pastor and Transitional Pastor searches.

For our Senior Pastor position, the PNC has hired a search firm, Shepherds Staff, to help find a greater number of qualified candidates. The PNC is still responsible for taking any forwarded candidates through our review process and for making final decisions. In order to help us, Shepherds Staff will be coming for a weekend visit sometime in early December. In addition, we continue to post our position on job sites. We are currently reviewing a recent submission.

In the search for a Transitional Pastor, after vetting and interviewing a potential candidate via Zoom, the PNC invited the candidate and his wife to come for a visit. They did so the weekend of October 14<sup>th</sup>. During their time here, the candidate met 1-on-1 with several key staff members and attended a staff luncheon. Both the candidate and his wife met with Session, the PNC, and attended Sunday services.

Upon the conclusion of their visit, the PNC received feedback from staff and Session. With that and our own time with him, the PNC unanimously and enthusiastically decided to extend a call to Farrar Griggs to be our Certified Transitional Pastor. He has graciously accepted our call and will be coming with his wife Cindy to NPC in just a few short weeks! In fact, his first official day is November 13<sup>th</sup>, the day after Steve retires. And just so you know, he also goes by the name of Skip.

Farrar was a naval officer before starting his own attorney practice for many years in North Carolina. During that time, he served in a variety of lay positions in the Presbyterian church, including thirty plus years as an elder. He also served as a lay pastor before going back to seminary to be ordained as an ECO pastor. He recently completed his DMin plus ECO Certification as a Transitional Pastor. In this capacity as an ECO Transitional Pastor, he has served at two different churches in recent years.

As a person and leader, Farrar is articulate, humble, intelligent, Spirit-filled, and wise. He understands what we are going through, has already given us helpful counsel, and is willingly moving from his hometown in North Carolina to serve us. And as he will wholeheartedly attest to, he is also coming with his greatest asset, his wonderful wife Cindy. She brings a lot of warmth and wisdom to us and is accomplished in her own right. By God's providence, they will be moving into an apartment across the street from the church.

We are so grateful to God for His provision and for all of you who have been praying for us. He is good! Thank you! Now, please pray for a smooth move for Farrar and Cindy and that they are able to settle in easily. Please also pray for the PNC and the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

## PRAYER INFORMATION

**Please pray** for patience and discernment for the PNC. Please also pray for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

**Pray for Pastor Steve & Teri**, for energy, wisdom, and grace for the future.

**Missions: ECO Church Planting and Global Mission Funds** Believing that churches and networks of churches should live out the whole of the Great Commission – including evangelism, spiritual formation, compassion, and redemptive justice – in our communities, and around the world, ECO’s mission approach emphasizes the role of the local church in mission globally, through the planting of new churches which will reach their neighbors with the Good News that in Christ, there is individual and shared life they long for, and the ongoing encouragement and equipping of Christians in existing congregations. Please pray for the Lord to move us all to share the Good News of Jesus through Christ-centered, biblically based teaching, preaching, advocacy for the helpless, and compassionate service to all people.

building disciples in the Love of Jesus Christ

**Sunday, November 5**

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor  
8:30 – 9:15am Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve’s Office  
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream  
11: 00am Teen Girls Group, meet in the Youth Room  
4:00 – 5:15 Women’s’ Spiritual Formation, Parlor  
7:00 – 8:00pm High School Youth Group

**Monday, November 6**

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

**Tuesday, November 7**

NPC Polling Place, Parlor  
12:15pm Staff Enrichment, Parlor  
7:00pm Deacon’s Meeting, Chapel

**Wednesday, November 8**

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper, Gym  
7:00 – 8:00pm The New Testament in Its World,  
Pastor Debbie, Chapel (Combined class this week)  
7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Miss Danielle, Choir Room  
7:00 – 8:00pm Middle School Youth Group, 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](mailto:jlmpsych910@gmail.com)

**Thursday, November 9**

Kickball with the Pastor concluded last week.  
6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

**Friday, November 10**

10:00 – 12:00pm Ladies’ Bible Study, Parlor  
Open to new women!  
6:00 – 9:00pm Retirement Dinner for Pastor  
Steve, The Drexelbrook, Drexel Hill, PA

**Saturday, November 11**

**Sunday, November 12**

8:15am Sunday School (Parlor)  
8:30 – 9:15am Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve’s  
Office  
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-  
stream **Pastor Steve’s Last Service!**  
4:00 – 5:30pm Women’s Spiritual Formation  
Group, Parlor  
7:00 – 8:00pm High School YG, Youth  
Room

**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](mailto:office@narberthpres.org)**

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**On the Web:**

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[twitter.com/narberthpres](https://twitter.com/narberthpres)

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Stephen N. Weed, Pastor  
Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor  
Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry  
Lisa Hoffman, Interim Youth Coordinator  
Jinhee Shim, Organist  
Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Leader  
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