

The Good News June 2023

Pastor's Pen

Beginning the second Sunday of June through the first Sunday of July, we will be looking at the Book of Philippians in the New Testament. Now that we've celebrated Easter (the Resurrection of Jesus) and the Day of Pentecost (the arrival of the Holy Spirit), it's appropriate to look at the life of the early church, and this four-chapter Book called Philippians provides keen insight into what these communities had to confront in a world that was hostile to the gospel.

Philippians was a letter written by the Apostle Paul who wrote most of the New Testament which we have today. This letter was written to the church in Philippi during a time of persecution and throughout the letter we see Paul providing hope and encouragement to a people who were suffering and overwhelmed. Philippi was a flourishing commercial center in the Roman Empire and was steeped in a pagan culture which included the worship of the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus. It was to this city that Paul introduced people to the gospel, proclaiming the lordship, not of Caesar, but of Jesus Christ. As could be expected, those in power pushed back violently on the idea of allegiance to someone other than Caesar, and for this reason persecuted the Christians there. One can sense while reading this letter that Paul is answering people's questions, such as, "How are we supposed to live out our faith in this place that is so hostile to us?" "How can we remain unified with our brothers and sisters of faith during these troubled times?"

The other significant aspect of Philippians is that Paul wrote this letter while he was in prison under Roman custody, his punishment for proclaiming the gospel and the Lordship of Jesus. This is to say, Paul was writing as a co-sufferer with the Christians in Philippi, as he was being persecuted as well. We see in this letter a man of determined faith with an unshakable hope in Jesus. He uses his circumstances both to affirm the power of the gospel and the model of Jesus who also suffered. He lets the Philippians know that even while he and they are being persecuted they can still do the work of the gospel and also the spreading of it.

Paul's words are relevant to us also, as often we find ourselves in difficult places, that is, places we would rather not be. In the midst of our struggles we can still, to use Paul's words, "shine like stars in the world" (Philippians 2:15).

See you in Church,

Pastor Peter

JUNE 4:

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Cassie Wolfe will be providing the message on this day. The text for her message is Acts 10:1-28, and the message is called "A Brand New Menu." The service will also include the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

JUNE 11:

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

On this day we begin a four-part series on Philippians. Life for the followers of Jesus after his resurrection was not easy. Those who carried the good news of Jesus were often met with resistance and hostility. The message for this Sunday is called, "When in a Bad Place", and the text is Philippians 1:1-6; 12-14.

JUNE 18:

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

This Sunday we turn our attention to chapter two in Philippians and will focus on the image of Jesus as one who emptied himself of his divine power in order to live in solidarity with the least of the ones of the world, even to the point of death on the cross.

The text is Philippians 2:1-11 and the message is called "The Art of Emptying One-self."

JUNE 25:

WORSHIP AND PICNIC AT SAGAMORE HILLS PARK AT 11:00 AM

This Sunday we will gather at the Rosemary Snell Pavilion at Sagamore Hills Park at 11:00 am. The focus text for worship will be Philippians 3:12-16 and the message is called "Forgetting Rightly."

FROM THE SESSION

The session met for its stated meeting on Monday, **May 8, at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting was conducted in person at the Northfield Presbyterian Church in the church library. Session actions/discussion included:

1. Mission and Evangelism Committee: Reported that six members of our congregation traveled to North Church to attend worship and to provide an after-church meal for the congregation. This was done in partnership with the Saint Marks Presbyterian Church in Beachwood.
2. Christian Education: The Lunch and Learn after worship Adult Study will continue through the month of May. They are doing a reflective study on *The Jesus Revolution* movie. Pastor Peter's midweek adult study resumed on May 3 and will continue through the first Wednesday in June.
3. Property and Finance: The congregation is presently meeting the expenses of the church primarily because of the reduction made in the budget for 2023. It was also reported that online giving is now available on the church website.
4. Worship and Music: Dylan Maholm is offering training opportunities to learn how to run the video streaming and the sound board.
5. Presbytery: The next presbytery meeting will be at the Lyndhurst Community of Faith Church, and it will be hybrid. Pastor Peter will be attending in person. Karyl Neubauer is the Ruling Elder Commissioner for this meeting.
6. Daycare: The search for the Daycare Director continues.

CONGRATULATIONS:
to our three scholarship winners:
Abby Williamson, Heather Williamson
and Deana Williams Fenn.
Scholarships will be awarded at the
June 18th worship service.



PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING: Thank you to all who contributed to the Pentecost Offering. We received a total of \$965. 40% of this offering is retained to be used to support children and youth ministries.

NPC OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC - SUNDAY, JUNE 25 11:00 am

Join us for worship the last Sunday in June at the Sagamore Hills Township Park in the Rosemary Snell Pavilion (11550 Valley View Road, across the street from the Sagamore Hills Safety Center). The pavilion is on the west end of the park near the playground (and restrooms!). Lunch is provided by the Deacons after the worship service.



You may bring a dessert if you wish.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

Please sign up so we can plan for food and drinks.

Service will begin at 11:00 am.

Come and worship in the sunshine!

Congratulations Graduate!

Evan Skripac (son of Tracy Wyant) graduated cum laude from the Ohio State University on May 7 with a degree in computer science & engineering and a minor in business. Evan is living in Columbus working as a software developer for Infinity Labs, a cybersecurity/defense contractor.

Finance/Building & Grounds Committee

Finance gained Session approval to earn interest on our liquid funds by making a move of \$50,000 from the Citizens Bank savings account to a Huntington Bank Money Market plus Checking account which will earn 4.50% APY. This action has been completed by the Treasurers. NPC continues to also maintain our checking / savings relationship with Citizens Bank for the balance of our liquid assets.

We have an asphalt paving project (up to \$7,000) approved by Session. Infinity paving will return to hot-patch potholes and fix cracks in the front two areas of our church parking lot. As of this writing we are scheduling a work date with Infinity Paving. It will be completed this season.

Our Online giving app is working! Please go to the NPC website www.northfieldpreschurch.com; click on "GIVE" to check out how easy it is for any person to donate online to our church in a very safe, secure method. Our goal is to be able to embed the online giving URL into the YouTube application; thus, enabling easy donations by those people who find and follow our worship on YouTube.

Project in process: creation of an emergency contact information form. Our goal is to have a private, secure contact sheet which members can complete for useful individual information in case of an emergency during worship or church gatherings. Please know our project will be presented to the Session for their approval first!

NPC Total Checking/Savings as of April 30: \$123,745

INCOME AND EXPENSES

	Jan-Apr 23	Jan-Apr 22
Total Income:	\$55,911.00	\$64,158.11
Total Expenses	55,841.49	69,346.62
Net Income	69.51	-5,188.51

Peace,
Members of the Finance/Building Grounds Committee

The Women's Association will not meet during the summer months.

We will resume meetings in September.

We will be helping with the church photo day, so if you signed up to bake or help on the day of the pictures, we will see you on June 6th.

June Birthdays



Vera Hardiman	4-June
Ed Selzer	5-June
Tim Maholm	5-June
Patti Maholm	9-June
Jim Davies	10-June
Richard Griffith	19-June
Dylan Maholm	20-June
Emmett Fenn	20-June
Stacy Harber	20-June
Sharon Kane	21-June
Molly Davis	29-June

COMFORTING WORDS Women's Book Club:

Until Leaves Fall in Paris

by Sarah Sundin

We are walking back in time to the 1940's when an American ballerina and an American factory owner in Paris must independently anticipate Nazi occupation.

In this historical romance novel written by the well-known author Sarah Sundin, your heart and imagination and soul will be touched with the realities of WWII, life's tough choices, and love.

Put this novel in your summer reading bag and meet with us on Tuesday, July 26, 5:30, in the NPC fellowship area for a discussion of Until Leaves Fall in Paris.

At this same meeting we will be choosing the books for next year, so bring books you would like to recommend and any ideas for the group meetings.

For more information about Comforting Words, NPC's women's book club, pick up a flier in the vestibule or call Sharon Hofmeister, 330-468-2936.





June 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4 Communion 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	5	6 Directory Picture Day	7 10am Property & Finance meeting 1pm Adult Study	8 8pm AA	9	10
11 10:15 Worship Deacons 12:30 VBC Worship	12 7pm Session	13	14	15 8pm AA	16	17
18 Father's Day 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	19	20	21	22 8pm AA	23	24
25 11am Worship at Sagamore Park 12:30 VBC Worship	26	27	28	29 8pm AA	30	

Welcome to the Missions Page!

North Church:

July 30th is our next date to worship and break bread with North Church. If anyone wants to volunteer with us at North Church on July 30th, please speak with Don Davies, Mission Chair.

Nordonia High School Senior Celebration:

Members of NPC and Victory joined in celebrating our Nordonia Hills High School Seniors. Food, DJ, Games, Photos...FUN!
Please pray for the health and future success of all the students in our Nordonia Hills School System.

The Emergency Assistance Center:

Thank you for your continued support of the Emergency Assistance Center!
Currently TEAC needs the following:

Children's Pull-ups size 4T, 5T

Feminine Hygiene products, all types, and sizes

Adult Incontinence products: Depends, size XL

You can deliver directly to the Emergency Assistance Center or.....you can drop the items in the blue tub in the Narthex and we will deliver to TEAC.

Many Thanks for your support to our Nordonia Hills Community!

Peace and Blessings to everyone,
Members of the NPC Mission Committee

