

Northfield Presbyterian Church

# The Good News

August 2022

## *Pastor's Pen*

For the month of August through the First Sunday of September, we will be directing our attention to the Old Testament Book of Genesis during our Sunday worship. We will be looking at five episodes which occur in this ancient book and see what they have to say for us today. Genesis means "beginning," and that's where the book of Genesis starts: "In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1-2). The Genesis account affirms the goodness of God's creation. "God saw everything he had made, and indeed, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). This includes the creation of us human beings.

Yet, more than being just another good thing God created, Genesis makes it clear that the human person is set apart from the rest of creation: "God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27). This is to say we humans are different from all the other creatures of the earth in that there is a piece of God's design in all of us.

And we have to ask ourselves what this means in terms of how we relate to one another and to our Creator. We are set apart from the rest of creation and God has certain expectations of us because of it.

Other aspects of the Book of Genesis concern how human beings are prone to rebel against God's good purposes for our lives. We see this in the account of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, when they ate of the forbidden fruit from the tree which was in the middle of the Garden. Why would they be tempted to do that which is forbidden, knowing their disobedience would bring misery upon their lives? This prompts us to ask why we are prone to do the same. Even though Genesis is an ancient book, it has much to say about human nature and how much of it has remained the same.

Moreover, this ancient book tells us a great deal about God's nature and how God continues to seek out and love human beings even as we human beings fail to seek out and love our Creator. We see God reaching out to Abraham with whom he made his covenant (which means promise): "I will make you a great nation, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2). God made this promise, not because Abraham deserved it, or because he was the most qualified to receive it, but because God chose to be gracious to him. This would become a theme throughout the Old Testament as well as the New Testament.

So, Genesis may be an ancient book, but it still speaks to us today!

See you in church,

*Pastor Peter*

## UPCOMING WORSHIP:

### AUGUST 7:

This Sunday is the first in the Five Episodes in Genesis series, and it starts with the Creation Account: Genesis 1:1-10; 24-31. If you are able to read the full chapter beforehand it can provide more insight. The sermon is called, "No Maker of Junk."

We will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on that day as we do the first Sunday of each month.

### AUGUST 14:

The second episode we are looking at in the Book of Genesis concerns Adam and Eve's disobedience and the consequences which follow (Genesis 3:1-13). The sermon is called, "More Than Apples and Snakes."

### AUGUST 21:

This week will focus on the story of two brothers, Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16). Both brothers brought an offering to the Lord and Cain's offering is rejected while Abel's offering is accepted. We can sympathize with Cain, as we have all experienced rejection and have struggled with how to deal with it. The sermon for this day is called "Descendants of Cain."

### AUGUST 28:

In the fourth episode in Genesis, we will look at God's covenant with Abram, later given the name Abraham. Here God makes his promise to Abraham stating he will make of him a great nation. Why would Abraham be the one God chooses? The message for this day is "An Impractical Covenant" (Genesis 17:1-8; 15-22)

### SEPTEMBER 4:

This Sunday is about Jacob. He was, among other things, a thief and a con-artist. Yet God chose him to be the continued link in God's covenant plan. The focus for this Sunday will be on Jacob's encounter with a divine being who "wrestled with him until daybreak" (Genesis 32:24). The message is called, "A Wrestler of Angels."

## FROM THE SESSION

### FROM THE SESSION...

The session met for its stated meeting on **Monday, July 11, at 7:00 pm.**

Session actions/discussion included:

1. Mission and Evangelism reported that school supplies have been purchased for the Nordonia Elementary School mission project. A total of \$143.54 was spent, using funds from our share of the Pentecost Special Offering.  
Pastor Peter and Pastor Charlie Hurst from the North Church are planning a pulpit switch tentatively set for September 11. NPC will be providing meals for this congregation on that day as well. North Church is a partner congregation with NPC.
2. Christian Education reported that VBS is being held with the Day Care on Wednesdays, from July 20 to August 10.  
A Women's Book Club will be starting on July 25, with Sharon Hofmeister taking the lead.
3. Property and Finance Committee provided updates on the HVAC repairs and replacements and the roof replacement. Also reported there are continuing plans for upgrades on the church website and new signage.
4. Presbytery: The next presbytery meeting is September 26. On July 25 there is a presbytery wide picnic at Chalet Mill Stream Park. It is a potluck for all the churches in the presbytery.

Approved minutes of the last meeting are available on the table at the entrance of the sanctuary.

### PRAYER CONCERNS:

**Sharon Danko**

(friend of Renell Noack, now home)

**Jeff Cavallo**

(friend of Ted Kokenos)

**George Hamed**

(Donna Hamed's son), heart ailment

**Braylon Gallagher**

(John and Cindy Gallagher's grandson)

**Amanda Karduck**

(friend of Earl and Sharon Kane)

**Rick Patz**

(recently had COVID, now recovered)

**Kerry Buddie**

(recovering from a fall)

### THANKS:

Please accept the deepest thanks for your continued support of the work and ministry, especially during the summer months!

Your support means a great deal. As we live in these inflationary times, the cost of maintaining our church's operating expenses increases as it does with other organizations and households, so we need members to be faithful with their giving.

## From the Missions & Evangelism Committee:

Sunday Sept 11 Pastor Peter and Pastor Charles Hurst (North Church) will do a pulpit switch. The mission committee will be looking for a few kind members to join us in worship at North Church as well as serving/eating lunch with the North Church congregation. Please contact Karyl Neubauer if you can join in person at North Church, 4515 Superior Avenue, Cleveland on Sept. 11.

Beginning this Sunday and through September we will welcome representatives from the missions our generous donations currently support.

The Mission Committee is hoping you will turn up or tune in for all the 5-7 minute updates during our normal worship service.

This **Sunday, July 31** we will show an informational video from **SAMAIR Peru**.

**Aug 21 RAHAB ministries**

**Sept 11 North Church**

**Sept 18 The Emergency Assistance Center**

Additional mission representatives and videos will be announced soon.

Peace and Blessings and Thank You,

Members of the Mission  
& Evangelism Committee



Loraine Ellett	5-Aug
Donna Jackson	7-Aug
Lilah Smith	8-Aug
Owen Fox	8-Aug
Karen Koenig	9-Aug
Steve Brooks	13-Aug

## From the Finance Committee:

New HVAC Installations and New Roof Replacement are complete!

Praise and Blessings go out to all the employees of Jackson Comfort Systems and A&B Roofing.

The employees of these 2 companies worked expeditiously, efficiently, and tirelessly during the current heatwave to complete the work requested.

Thank you for their work and thank you also to Gil Polcen for his expertise giving oversight for the completion of the projects.

Thank you also goes out to each of you for your generous financial giving which paid for the new roof.

Thanks also goes out to our Daycare for funding the HVAC installations.

Our workday Saturday July 23 was cancelled due to the extreme weather conditions. However, don't worry....we will be calling on all of you to help out in the next month or so to complete work in the front yard!

Peace,

Members of the Finance &  
Building Grounds Committee

## THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CENTER

July 29th was the final Community Meal food Distribution at NPC. Going forward, and as a Missions of our church, we are supporting The Emergency Assistance Center.

This gives the people using the food bank the opportunity to shop and choose what they really want as well as the availability of fresh meat and produce.

Our thanks to Gil and Trudy Polcen for their dedication to this mission over the years.

Women's Association will continue to collect much-needed paper and personal care items as well as food for the Center. Paper and personal care products are especially needed.

There is a blue container in the narthex. Donations can be dropped off anytime.

Thank You!



# August 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

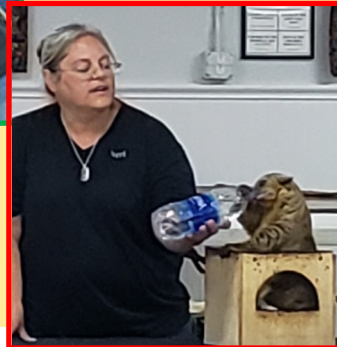
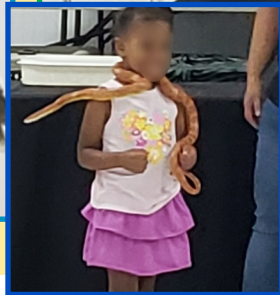
Fri

Sat

	1	2	3 9:30am Daycare VBS Chapel 10am Property & Finance meeting	4	5	6
7 <b>Communion</b> 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	8	9	10 9:30am Daycare VBS Chapel	11 7pm Choir 8pm AA	12	13
14 10:15 Worship Deacons meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	15 7pm Session	16	17 9:30am Daycare Chapel	18 7pm Choir 8pm AA	19	20
21 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	22	23	24 9:30am Daycare Chapel	25 7pm Choir 8pm AA	26	27
28 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	29	30	31 9:30am Daycare Chapel			

# At the Daycare...

The Owls class were studying the planets and space, made space suits "just like the astronauts wear"...right down to the oxygen tanks on their backs!



## Zoo day

When it's too hot for a fieldtrip, the fieldtrip comes to you! Our Zoo to You" came with some very unusual guests: A Kookaburra, turtles, snakes, a Macaw, a huge white rabbit, an Armadillo and a Kinkajou - who drank water from a bottle. The kids were able to pet the animals and even wear some-IF they were brave enough!

## VBS Starts!

And it's "Monumental" with desert animals, the story of Joseph and, of course, lots of music!



"Harley"