

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News

November 2022

Pastor's Pen

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." I think it's interesting that Jesus put it this way. He did not say, "Where your heart is, there your treasure will be also." He didn't say it starts with your heart; he said it starts with your treasure. And that's because Jesus understands human nature. Perhaps every single one of you in this room would declare without hesitation that you love God. However, before we declare that love, Jesus wants to know first what it is that we value most by the way we live our lives. If honest, we may have to admit that it is not our love for God, but our seeking of various other treasures that is the focus of our lives. Jesus knows that our hearts are going to be wherever our most treasured possessions are located.

Yet, these earthly treasures have a way of slipping through our fingers. They disappear. As life goes on, we tend to accumulate treasures, precious items we hold dear. This treasure is not just defined by things, but also by the people in your life who you cherish. There are parents, siblings, spouses, children, grandchildren and dear friends. Perhaps you have photographs of these precious individuals in your wallet and photo albums, on your cell phone, refrigerator, or stored on your computer. But even these treasures do not last. People we know and love are not with us forever. It's a sad and painful reality that is true for all of us.

But Jesus wants us to know that however painful it is to lose the things and people who are most precious to us, however much the treasures we value come and go this is not all there is. There is one treasure no one can take away, and that treasure is found in Christ. Jesus said, "Make for yourselves unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys." No one and no thing on earth will be able to take away or destroy the kind of treasure to which Jesus is referring, our faith, and unlike earthly treasure that is temporary, heavenly treasure is eternal.

So, as we approach All Saints Sunday, November 6, when we remember those people who were lost to us in this past year, let us join our voices with the saints in heaven as we offer our praise to God for the heavenly treasure that nothing can destroy and no one can take away.

See you in Church,
Pastor Peter

NOVEMBER 6:

On this **All Saints Sunday** we will be remembering the gift of the lives of members and those associated with our congregation who have passed since the previous All Saints Sunday which was November 7, 2021. During the worship service there will be a reading of the names of the deceased the date of their passing, and observe a moment of silent reflection.

NOVEMBER 13:

On this **Commitment Sunday** our focus is on the future ministry of the Northfield Church. During our worship we will be dedicating our commitments to financially support the church for 2023 using the estimate of giving cards which were sent to members and friends of the congregation by mail.

NOVEMBER 20:

On this Sunday, we will be celebrating the **190th Anniversary** in our worship and in the reception which follows. There will be photos and memorabilia items available in the family area which will serve as a reminder of the many faithful members who contributed to this church's ministry and mission over this 190-year period. We encourage our present members to invite friends and relatives who have had a past association with the church.

NOVEMBER 27:

This Sunday marks the **First Sunday in Advent**, which begins the season of preparation for the coming of the Lord.

We recall the words of the prophet Isaiah, "A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low'" (Isaiah 40:3-4).

FROM THE SESSION

The session met for its stated meeting on **Monday, October 10, at 7:00 pm.**

Below are some of the actions and reports:

1. The Mission and Evangelism Committee gave an update on the holiday mission project with Victory Baptist.
2. Christian Education reported on adult education opportunities available on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm and on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.
3. The Property and Finance Committee gave a status report on the financial forecast for 2023 and the plan for the stewardship promotion for 2023. The work on the church sign to be mounted on the north side (facing the parking lot) sanctuary building will begin in the next few weeks.
4. Worship and Music: Will be working with the Deacons for the 190th Anniversary Celebration on November 20.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Sharon Danko (friend of Renell Noack)
Jeff Cavallo (friend of Ted Kokenos)
Braylon Gallagher (John and Cindy Gallagher's grandson)
Amanda Karduck (friend of Earl and Sharon Kane)
Karyn Patton (Friend of Judy Kovitch)
Michael Kufner (Pauline Enczur's grandson)
Tracy Wyant (recovering from surgery)
Ron Maxhimer (recovering from surgery)
Nicole Kovach (daughter of a friend of Renell Noack)
Irene Peters (knee surgery)

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE NOVEMBER 20 -7PM

The Nordonia Hills Ministerium will be providing an Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Worship service on Sunday evening, November 20, 7:00 pm.

The service will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Macedonia (9080 Shepard Road).

190TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 20,

We will be celebrating NPC'S 190th anniversary in our worship and with the reception which follows. There will be photos and memorabilia items available in the family area which will serve as a reminder of the many faithful members who contributed to this church's ministry and mission over this 190-year period.

We encourage our present members to invite friends and relatives who have had a past association with the church. This service will also include a recognition of fifty-plus year members.



Knit.Crochet.Pray

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:

God bless all of you that have signed up to make a shawl. Donations of yarn are still needed. (Please note that yarns containing wool cannot be used due to allergy concerns). If you know of anyone that might have yarn to donate,

please let me know. I still have an assortment of random colors available. You may have yarn at home that would match up or blend with what is here. It is our hope to be able to supply yarn to our knitters / crocheters so there would be no cost to them. Questions: call Judy Kovitch 330-467-6181 Thank you!!

Property and Finance Committee Updates

Capital Improvement Projects In Progress

A Sign Above-15' Sign to be installed on the outside sanctuary wall "Northfield Presbyterian Church" \$5,400

Northfield hired Jackson HVAC to install 2 new furnaces this year. Thank Goodness Gil Polcen and our Session thought ahead. Fall turns to Winter and Winter brings increased utility bills to all our homes. The same holds true for our church.

We will be inputting utility expense increases into the budget forecast for 2023.

Please consider returning your 2023 Pledge Cards by the Stewardship Sunday Service (Nov 13, 2022). Thank you!

Financial Statement Jan-Oct 21, 2022

Total Pledge & Per Capita Income YTD \$131,607.83
Total Expenses YTD \$144,739.77

****Shortfall \$ -13,131.94**
The Shortfall continues to grow monthly.

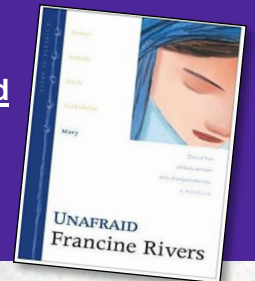
Thank you to everyone who remembers our church in their prayers, service and donations.



**Holiday
Church Decorating
Saturday, Nov. 26th
9am-noon**

COMFORTING WORDS Our Christian Women's Book Club

To herald the Christmas season, we are reading a brief, historical fiction on the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. See new, subtle insights into the Christmas story and how our sovereign God uses His faith-filled as well as unfaithful people and the natural world to accomplish His will. Read and mark your calendars for our discussion of Unafraid by Francine Rivers on Tuesday, January 10, at 5:30.



Mission Committee News

Nordonia School Family Services Specialist, Amy Gay said ALL the new coats Northfield and Victory donated are all in the hands of local children in need. **BIG THANK YOU to everyone who was able to participate in this project!!**

NPC donated **73lbs** of non-perishable food and paper products to the "Fill the Bus" Food Drive. The Emergency Assistance Center said **THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!**

We will partner with the Nordonia Schools again in November/December to adopt a family for Christmas. This should be a joyful giving effort. We will send out details as we learn more specifics on this heartwarming project. Stay tuned for the details....we WILL need people to wrap presents! (FUN!!)

We will provide lunch to the congregants at North Church (4515 Superior Ave, Cleveland) for the second Sunday of Advent. Worship is at 11:00am with lunch served immediately following the service.

November Birthdays



| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Don Kovitch | 2 Nov |
| Sue Russo | 2 Nov |
| Ian Fox | 13 Nov |
| Dave Cavanaugh | 13 Nov |
| Ron Fenn | 16 Nov |
| Sharon Hofmeister | 19 Nov |
| Jack Stitt | 27 Nov |
| Barb Anderson | 28 Nov |



November 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|-----|--------------------------------|---|-----|---|
| | | 1 | 2 9:30am Daycare Chapel | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 All Saint's Service Communion 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship | 7 7pm Property & Finance meeting | 8 | 9 9:30am Daycare Chapel | 10 7pm Choir 8pm AA | 11 | 12 |
| 13 10:15 Worship Deacons meeting 12:30 VBC Worship | 14 10:00 am Women's Association 7pm Session | 15 | 16 9:30am Daycare Chapel | 17 7pm Choir 8pm AA | 18 | 19 |
| 20 190 Anniversary Celebration 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship | 21 | 22 | 23 9:30am Daycare Chapel | 24 THANKSGIVING DAY Office closed 7pm Choir 8pm AA | 25 | 26 9am Church Decorating for Christmas |
| 27 ADVENT BEGINS 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship | 28 | 29 | 30 9:30am Daycare Chapel | | | |

At the Daycare...Spooky stuff!

The school ages Annual Pumpkin contest!
Winners: Blue 1st place, Red-2nd, Yellow 3rd and green honorable mention.
 So many creative ideas!



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

It is the time of year when the Deacons need to place our holiday order for poinsettias. Varieties listed below are available for purchase. The **cost is \$11.00** for a 6 1/2 inch foil wrapped pot with a cover and plastic saucer.

All orders must be received in the church office by Thursday, November 17, 2022. The order will be placed with the greenhouse the following day to assure pricing and delivery dates. Please indicate color and number of plants. Make checks payable to Northfield Presbyterian Church and marked for Christmas Flowers in the memo section. Cash payments should be placed in an envelope and marked "Christmas Flowers".

Payment must accompany all orders. **All orders must be on this form. Sorry, no telephone orders.**

Red _____ Pink _____ Jingle Bells _____ (red with white flecks)

White _____ Marble _____ (Pink and White)

Your Name(s) _____ Phone _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Taking Poinsettia home? Yes _____ No _____ Cash () Check () Total: \$ _____

Poinsettias marked for home may be picked up after the 10:15 service on December 18, 2022.

All others will be left in place for the Christmas Eve service and then distributed.

