

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News

September 2024

Grief Notes

Everyone experiences Grief. It is part of our human emotional makeup. For some, grief is painful but bearable. For others, grief can be disabling. And for most of us, grief is somewhere in between. Grief comes to us often after a significant loss. Grief includes physiological distress, separation anxiety, yearning, obsessive dwelling in the past and apprehension about the future.

Grief has stages; denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. In one way or another, when we are experiencing grief we go through these stages. We might move quickly or dwell in one area for a long time.

Many things trigger grief. The loss of a loved one such as a parent, a spouse, child, a job, a pet can trigger our grief.

When the loss happens, we need to embrace our sadness and enter the space of our broken heart. Don't linger in our denial. Talk openly about the loss. Talk about dreams and unfinished expectations.

Bring this conversation to God in our prayers. Let God know of the pain. When working through grief, stop trying to heal yourself and turn it over to that divine understanding Jesus.

When you encounter someone deeply stressed by grief, you don't have to have healing words. What the grieving person needs is your presence. Give a smile, a shoulder tap and sit with them in silence. Let the grieving person talk, cry, vent. Help them to let go of their emotion by just being there.

When Miss Abigail, my golden retriever died, my grief was very deep. I felt I needed to be strong and hide my tears. A friend would stop by and just look at Abigail's picture. Nothing was said, but it allowed me to cry, which was so helpful.

Send a text, or make a phone call to the suffering one. Small acts allow the emotions to flow and God begins the healing process.

We all experience grief and a good friend can help us recover.

Be a blessing!!

Wally

SEPTEMBER 1

Preaching:
Rev. Kerri Peterson-Davis
Communion Sunday

SEPTEMBER 8

Preaching:
Rev. Kerri Peterson-Davis

SEPTEMBER 15

Preaching:
Rev. Kerri Peterson-Davis

SEPTEMBER 22

Preaching:
Rev. Missy Shiverick

SEPTEMBER 29

Preaching:
Rev. Kerri Peterson-Davis

FROM THE SESSION

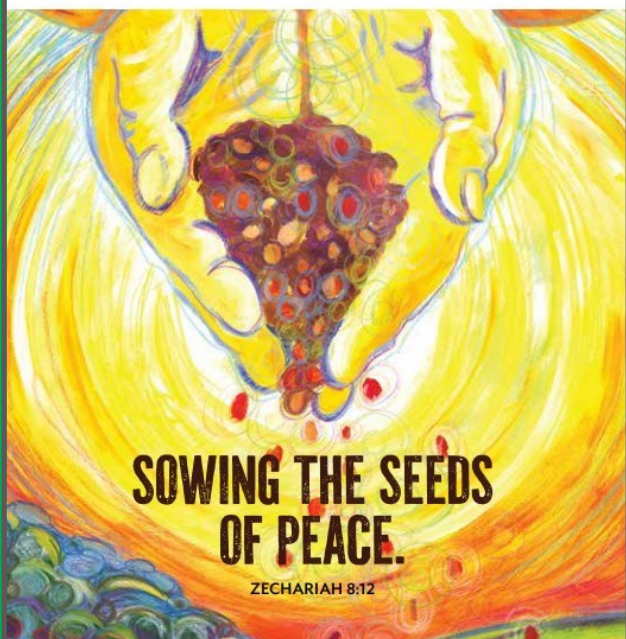
Session met with the Deacons for their annual Joint Meeting, held after church, August 11th.

1. The Missions Committee is providing lunch and additional snacks to take away for the congregation at North Church on Sunday, 8/18. They will worship with them before the lunch.
2. The parking lot is newly paved and thanks go to Chriss Burdiss for coordinating this project. It looks great! Other repairs and projects of the Property & Finance Committee include repairs to the east wall, replacing the light by the paper recycling, getting lights for the steeple repaired and clearing dead branches (with a lift and giant trailer, and the branches hauled to the younger Fenns' yard).
3. Our current financial statement shows that we are in the black by \$34,000 for the year. This is primarily due to the savings of not having an installed pastor.
4. The Pastor Nominating Committee gave its report and there was discussion about the difference between a Covenant Pastor and a Gap Pastor. It was decided that the job description will be amended to consider the possibility of finding a three-quarter or full-time pastor, as this might attract an applicant who can help grow the church and attract more young members. One applicant was interviewed but subsequently withdrew her name from consideration.
5. The "Harassment and Child Protection Policy" was reviewed and approved.

The next meeting was moved to September 16 due to a schedule conflict with Moderator Missy Shiverick.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING

Throughout the month of September there is a special offering to support the Peace and Global Witness Initiative which advocates for the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our communities and around the world.

Our congregation retains 25% of this offering to support peacemaking and reconciliation within our own community.

The other 75% goes to joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking work being done by Presbyterians in our region across the globe.

This is one of the four annual special offerings of the Presbyterian Church USA.

Comforting Words Women's Book Club:

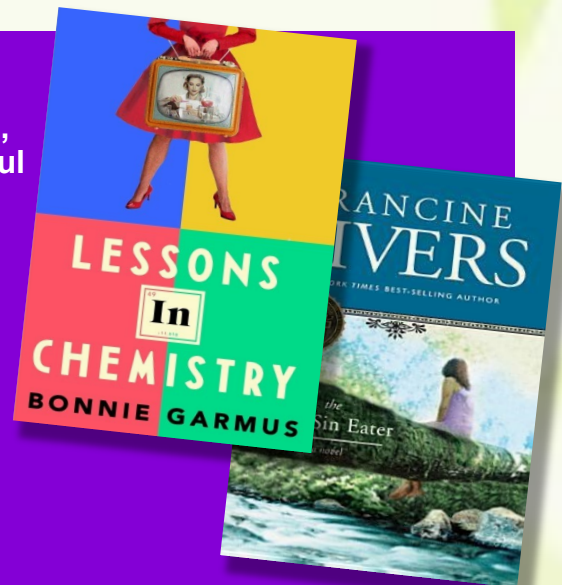
Falls reading is on! Tuesday, September 10, 5:30, we'll gather to consider the delightfully meaningful Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

Following that, we'll be reading The Last Sin Eater, by Francine Rivers, one of our favorite Christian authors.

Although a novel, the story has an Appalachian, historically-accurate setting and illustrates Biblical themes.

Our meeting to discuss it is October 22.

Come join us for sweet sisterhood and worship!



September Birthdays

Dwayne Smith	9-Sept
Cindy Kokenos	11-Sept
Sue Foote	11-Sept
Trudy Polcen	12-Sept
Debbie Czech	13-Sept
Gil Polcen	14-Sept
Tyler Fenn	14-Sept
Casey Harber	17-Sept
Billie Mordas	19-Sept
Donna Patz	22-Sept
Genny Pauley	23-Sept
John Gallagher	23-Sept
Richard Griffith, Jr.	30-Sept

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Will meet the second Monday of the month in the living area from 10am - 11:30am beginning September 9th. The book we are studying this year is titled "God's Promise, I am with you". The cost of the book is \$10 per person. If you are interested in joining us September 9 please let Carol Metz know ASAP at 330-467-6789 so we can order the study guides.

NORDONIA FAITH COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND UPCOMING EVENTS

"The Nordonia Ministerium is a fellowship of spiritual leaders in the Nordonia Hills community who have formed an ecumenical alliance of Christian churches and faith-based organizations within the community, committed to shared ministry, interfaith relations and faith-based responses to community concerns."

In the absence of our pastor, Alan Gruber represented NPC.

Nordonia Night of Prayer:

Thursday, September 12, 6:30 pm, Longwood Park The Life And Praise band will lead worship. This will be the second of our quite successful gathering of Christians from many traditions for prayer, praise and teaching. Contact: Matt Griffith, Our Lady of Guadalupe

MLK Event:

January 19, 4 pm. Nordonia High School, Theme: "Diverse Threads of One Fabric", Looking for choirs, church and school singers to participate. Contact: Pastor Angela Murray, Faith Fellowship.

Suicide Loss Support Group,

for bereaved family and friends of those who have died by suicide, meets Thursdays, 6 pm - 8pm Sept.26 - Nov. 14 at St. Timothy's, Contact: Rev. Albert Jennings, 330-554-2852 / JENNINGS4@ Roadrunner.com



September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 10:15 Worship 11:30 P&F meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	2 LABOR DAY Office Closed	3	4	5 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	6	7
8 10:15 Worship 11:30 Deacons 12:30 VBC Worship	9 10 am Women's Association	10 5:30 pm Women's Book Club	11	12 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	13	14
15 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	16 7 Pm Session	17	18	19 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	20	21
22 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	23	24	25	26 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	27	28
29 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	30					

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS- AUGUST 2024

NPC provided an absentee ballot application and stamped envelope to the Summit County Board of Elections for every homebound participant in the Nordonias Hills Senior Meals Program. All Ohio voters whose registration information is up-to-date have the opportunity and right to vote via absentee ballot.

We have extra applications that are available in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or one of your neighbors who may need to request an absentee ballot!

*Do not neglect to do good
and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
Hebrews 13:16*

If you or anyone you know could benefit from the Doorstep Meal Program, please visit the Macedonia web-site. This opportunity is for residents within the Nordonias Hills Community. <https://www.macedonia.oh.us/community/macedonia-senior-center/doorstep-meal-delivery> Information is also on the bulletin board.

Sunday August 18th the Mission Committees of Northfield Pres and St. Marks Pres worshipped with and served lunch to the congregants of the North Church. You may remember the musicians of North Church joined us in worship at our church last year. We are happy to report Bruce Dean has recovered from his serious illness and is back at the keyboard again and lifting his voice in song to our Lord at each Sunday service.

Brenda is now not only providing an interpretive dance in reflection of the Pastor's message, but she is also on the Session for the congregation of North Church.

We served lasagna, salad, garlic bread, fresh fruit and cookies. The attendees took fruit cups, a chocolate/nut granola mix, chips and fruit juice bottles along with them as they departed.

Please pray for our friends in Christ who attend the North Church. These folks are living on the streets of Cleveland and a few get to sleep inside at night, at the men's shelter on Lakeside Avenue. Each time we have a chance to worship with our North friends, I am reminded of God's love to all of us.

Northfield Pres and St. Mark's join again at North Church on Sunday September 29th.

2024-2025 school year has begun: A Nordonias Hills elementary school teacher emailed the Nordonias Hills Ministerium on Sunday August 18th. By Tuesday morning, August 21, each of the elementary schools needed 10 bookbags filled with school supplies for families in need. Quick telephone calls reaped 12 filled bookbags for early elementary students in our school district. The bookbags were delivered to the Nordonias Hills Administrative Office on Monday August 19th - in time for children to start the new school year with all their needed supplies. When there are families in need, God always helps its believers by bringing friends forward to assist.

May God bless and watch over all our Nordonias Hills school students and their families!

Peace and Blessings to each of you,
NPC Mission Committee

12 MONTHS OF CARING
Women's Association
Monthly Collections

The Women's Association will be collecting the items below each month. We plan to buy in bulk, if possible, so if you would prefer to donate cash, we will take those funds and purchase the items each month at Sam's or Costco. Please feel free to donate smaller packages and place your donated items in the blue bin in the Narthex.

Any cash donations should be marked "Women's Association" and may be placed in separate envelopes in the Collection Plates or the Mailbox on the wall outside the church entrance.

January Pullups - Toddler size 4T-5T (pull-up diapers)	July Pet Food and Supplies Canned or Bags (large bags will be divided up)
February Incontinence Underwear Men's XXL Women's Medium	August Diapers and Wipes All sizes
March Paper Goods, Toilet Paper Paper Towels, Kleenex	September Home Cleaning Products Sprays, Liquids Brooms, Brushes
April Personal Hygiene Shampoo, Body Wash, Soap	October Deodorants, Shaving Products for Men and Women
May Denture Tabs, Floss Toothbrushes, Toothpaste	November Kitchen Disposables Foil, Cling Wrap, Baggies
June Feminine Hygiene Pads and Tampons	December Paper Plates and Napkins Containers for leftovers

Thanks for helping!

 **THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CENTER**
Love Your Neighbor

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Continues to collect new items each month this year to help supply items not covered by SNAP benefits to TEAC.

The category for **SEPTEMBER** is Cleaning supplies of all kinds, including sprays, brushes and brooms.

Calendar copies are available on the Narthex table.

You can help TEAC supply the women, men and children in need by donating the items highlighted each month.

Your donations will be delivered to
The Emergency Assistance Center.

THANK YOU!