

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News October 2023

Stewardship.

It's not always about the money.

I have been appointed the Steward of my family history. I have always been drawn to stories of our past and the histories and mysteries of my families place in time, so I took over as the keeper of the family photos from days past. Most faces have been identified now in the hundreds of photos I have been made the keeper ...and the links to their place in the family and extended family made. Sadly, some faces will always be a mystery. Hopefully, in the future, someone will feel the same sense of responsibility to these long passed family photos and relationships as much as I do.

Similarly, we care for this house we share each Sunday (some of us daily), passed down to us from generations gone by...we are the stewards of this place.

Last Saturday was a Church workday. Armed with weed whackers, mulch and wielding pruning clippers, we went to town on the Church grounds. I did not take pictures, but we were clearing, weeding and generally filling the dumpster to capacity. (Sorry, daycare!)

The landscaping looks pretty good. There will be more outdoor projects in the Spring. Probably indoor projects this Fall. All to preserve the past for future generations.

A special thank you to the donut bringers, tool sharers, mulch carriers, brush choppers, and weed pullers...and to the makers of Tylenol. For a half days work, the landscaping looks pretty good.

“They” say “Many hands make light work” - which is true, but don't forget the Tylenol!

Chris Louis

Calendar at a glance:

October 4-10AM Property & Finance Meeting - library

October 8 -Deacons Meeting

October 9-10AM Women's Association

October 9 -7PM Session Meeting

October 14 -5PM Chili Cook off - Fellowship Hall (set-up 6pm Friday)

October 24 -5:30 PM Women's Book Club - Living Area

FROM THE SESSION

Session Meeting on September 11, 2023

Jim Butler, pastor at Lakewood Presbyterian, served as Moderator.

1. Clerk Kathy Moore reported that the annual minutes review was held and our minutes were approved “without exception.” She also reported that we will need to develop an Anti-Racism Policy for the church in the next year, a new presbytery requirement.
2. There is a “Faith and Blue” event in Akron on 10/7. We will have a table and distribute activity books to children, as well as trail mix for all. We will have church literature to distribute. Over 30 churches have signed up to participate.
3. We are in the black for the year, praise the Lord. There are a variety of repairs being scheduled, including work on the back patio and railings, repairing and painting the outdoor shed, and plumbing repairs in the basement children’s bathroom.
4. This year Christmas Eve falls on Sunday and Session voted to have a single service at 10:15 a.m. There will not be an evening service. Expect carols!!
5. Karyl Neubauer has made up a schedule for the year with the guest pastors, worship leaders, communion servers, etc. If you would like to help with any of this, please let Karyl know.
6. Michelle Williamson reported that the Nominating Committee is collecting names for the Pastor Search Committee. We had a conversation with Jim Butler to ask questions about the process. A summary of our discussion is in the Good News. (Below)
7. Congregational Life Committee asked to have a Chili Cookoff in October, and an October 14 date was approved.

Summary of Jim Butler’s Information about the Pastor Search Process.

There are three types of positions:

- A. Permanent or Installed pastor
- B. Temporary or Interim pastor
- C. Covenant or Stated Supply. The Covenant position is usually for 12 months, but can be longer if you both agree. If the Covenant pastor stays two years, the contract can be changed to an Installed pastor. This contract does not have to be a full-time position. Then you don’t have to have an Interim pastor.

Jim continued to give us information:

1. There are very few people out there who are available to be an Interim pastor, so it might take a year to find one. Then another two years or more to find a pastor to fill a permanent or Installed position.
2. He suggested that we examine our budget and see what we can afford before we start searching. A full-time Installed position now is \$57,228 plus 39% (projected 2024 may be additional 3.2%) additional in benefits. (a note: we had adjusted the pastor’s salary to 75% for 2023).
3. The Session calls a Covenant pastor, not a Congregational vote.
4. The Congregation calls an Installed pastor.
5. He suggested we have a committee of 5 people.
6. We should create a Mission Statement to summarize what we believe.
7. Keep the congregation informed by putting articles in the Good News, speaking at services.
8. Consider creating and distributing a questionnaire for the congregation to express its desires in a new pastor.

Finance/Building & Grounds

1. Session approved for Bolianz Construction repair concrete in 4 sections of the church grounds for a total cost of \$2,700. Some of you may remember Bolianz did FINE work on our steeple some years ago. The concrete repair work will begin next week and Gil Polcen will oversee the project on behalf of our church.

2. Shout out and THANK YOU to Scott Williamson and Don Davies who have repaired the shed on our property. The Daycare Board has hired a person to paint the shed and utilize the space for seasonal toys, etc. BIG JOB and GREAT RESULTS!

3. Fall Workday was a big success to clean up the outside grounds of our Church and Daycare. Thank you to everyone who participated!!

4. NPC has several building maintenance projects which we need to pursue this year and in the Spring. Session has approved to allocate 10% of the donations received to the Capital Improvement for the balance of 2023. Mission remains at 2.5% of tithing received for the balance of this calendar year.

January-August 2023 NPC is \$6,658.83 in the black THANKS to every one of you!

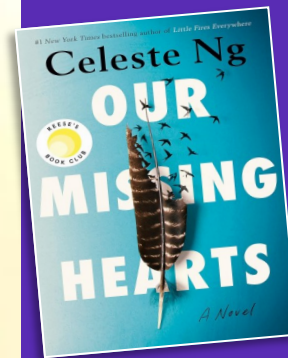
Jan – Aug 2023	
INCOME	\$109,304
EXPENSE	\$102,645
Building & Grounds	15,837.65
Christian Education	146.65
Church Office	7,294.45
Evangelism	125.00
Leadership	2,624.89
Missions	2,659.00
Other Payroll Costs	15,198.36
Salaries	58,127.42
Worship	611.84

**COMFORTING WORDS
Women’s Book Club:**

Our Missing Hearts

by Celeste Ng.

A complicated mystery of the delicate inter-weavings of personal, familial, and societal dynamics — perfect for fall reading. Mark your calendars for 5:30, Tuesday, October 24, to meet and discuss.



Our Missing Hearts is an old story made new, of the ways supposedly civilized communities can ignore the most searing injustice. It’s about the lessons and legacies we pass on to our children, and the power of art to create change.

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.

October Birthdays



Fran Merriam	6-Oct
Chris Fenn	15-Oct
Judy Kovitch	20-Oct
Earl Kane	24-Oct
Ron Emch	25-Oct



Our first post-COVID Chili cook-off is scheduled for Saturday, October 14th at 5 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your best chili for a chance to be named “Chili Champ” for 2023! (Or just come hungry!) Everyone is welcome to enter, or just come and enjoy!



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion Sunday 10:15 Joint Worship	2	3	4 10am Property & Finance meeting	5 8pm AA	6	7
8 10:15 Worship Deacons meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	9 10 am Women's Association 7pm Session	10	11	12 7pm Choir 8pm AA	13 6pm set up for chili cook off	14 5pm chili cook off
15 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	16	17	18	19 7pm Choir 8pm AA	20	21
22 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	23	24 5:30 pm Women's Book Club	25	26 7pm Choir 8pm AA	27	28
29 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	30	31				

Welcome to the Missions Page!

NPC Mission activities are busy and productive this October. Thank you for your generous donations which are working to help the following mission needs.

1. Nordonia Schools FILL THE BUS campaign begins 10/2. Please bring your non perishable food items to church Sunday Oct 1 through Friday Oct 27. All food will be donated to The Emergency Assistance Center (TEAC). We know TEAC is serving more and more local people in financial distress. Let's help our neighbors in need through the 2023 FILL THE BUS campaign!

2. Saturday October 7 NPC will participate in the Faith and Blue event at Akron's Hardesty Park. We will distribute Cookies wrapped in information on our Mission: "To Know Christ and To Make Christ Known" to our fellow neighbors in Akron. If you want to join us and meet people who may choose to visit our church, please talk with our chair, Don Davies.

3. Our Macedonia Methodist Church friends have gifted us all of the 2023 Heroes of the Bible VBS materials for our use. The Mission Committee has utilized a small amount of NPC mission donations to purchase 2023 Heroes of the Bible activity books at a greatly reduced rate. We will provide all the materials to our NPC Daycare for their use in next Summer's Chapel when we have preschool and school age children with us daily. Fun and Christian learning for all!

4. Sunday October 29th we will join with St. Marks Presbyterian to worship and serve lunch to our friends at North Church. Anyone who chooses to join us can contact Don Davies for instructions to North Church (11:00am worship)



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