

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News

November 2025

Silhouettes - *Rev. Beth Merrill Neel*

We were at the beach, and the clouds and sun were positioned in such a way, and I was positioned in such a way, that everyone I could see as I looked toward Haystack Rock was in silhouette. And I thought, isn't that lovely – all I see are human shapes. I can't tell if someone is young or old; I can't tell what the color of their skin is, or what god they worship. We are simply human beings, our lowest common denominator.

We are different. We are young and old; our skins are different colors. We worship different gods, or no God at all. And I think that is good. I do not simply want to be one of many silhouettes.

I once heard an interesting interpretation of the story of the Tower of Babel. The story in Genesis 11 tells of the people wanting to build a tower that would reach to the sky. God sees that activity and says, "There is now one people and they all have one language. This is what they have begun to do, and now all that they plan to do will be possible for them. Come, let's go down and mix up their language there so they won't understand each other's language." (Common English Bible). So God does that. The traditional interpretation of the story says that God punishes the people for their pride, scattering them and confusing their language.

But what if God was actually delighted by the humans and their ability to build a tower, the way a parent might be delighted by a fort of cushions and blankets or a sand castle that withstands the waves? What if the scattering of the people and the gift of languages was in fact a reward, an acknowledgement that human beings had evolved and matured enough to be able to live with difference? What if God made difference as a challenge to be mastered or a reality to be embraced?

Maybe that is a good measure of our humanity –our ability to deal with our differences and delight in them. I believe we will be tested in that regard in the months and years that are coming. May we prove our worth.

- from the blog by

Rev. Beth Merrill Neel
Westminster Presbyterian, Portland, OR
holdfasttowhatisgood.com

FROM THE SESSION

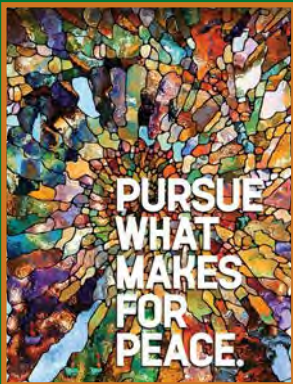
Summary of Session Meeting on October 19, 2025

- 1. Property & Finance:** Financials show us \$20,084 in the black for the year. Repairs are being made to the landscaping, sinks, toilets and faucets. A crack on the back patio that was leaking into the kitchen was chipped out and patched with a vinyl material.
- 2. Mission & Evangelism:** Current projects are the Fill the Bus, which is pitting Nordonia HS with Twinsburg HS to collect the most pounds of food and supplies for The Emergency Assistance Center. We also are participating in the Christmas Connection, a community-wide effort to provide Christmas gifts for children in our community. It will be held on December 6th and volunteers are needed that day. Gifts include age-appropriate toys (not requiring batteries) and gift cards. There will be a Christmas tree with tags for you to take to choose your gifts.
- 3. Pastor Nominating Committee:** There will be a survey distributed to the congregation to get your views on how NPC is doing and what changes you might want to see. We hope to have it out in November or December.
- 4. Nativity Scene:** Donna Hamed's family is donating a large Nativity scene that she and her husband made. We will be decorating the church for Christmas on November 29th.

Minutes summary by Kathy Moore, Clerk

 SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The peace of Christ
belongs to everyone,
everywhere



PCUSA PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERING - THANK YOU!

\$510 was raised for this offering.

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 across the globe.



Don Kovitch	2 Nov
Dave Cavanaugh	13 Nov
Ron Fenn	16 Nov
Sharon Hofmeister	19 Nov
Jack Stitt	27 Nov
Barb Anderson	28 Nov

NOTEWORTHY NEWS - from October 2025 Deacons Meeting

- from Co-Moderators Barb and Stacy

The curtain will be changing from white on November 1st to green until Thanksgiving.

We will be having the Christmas poinsettias again this year to be taken home on December 21st. More details will be coming soon.

A big thank you goes out to the Day Care for inviting us to be part of this year's first official trunk or treat!

A great time was had by all, and we thank all of you who shared your time, talents, and candy donations to make it possible.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, November 9th after the service.



Comforting Words Women's Book Club:

As you gear up for the holidays, add a bit of hope-filled nostalgia reading:

[A Wishbook Christmas](#), by Lynn Austin.

Facing the challenges of parenting in the glitter and possession-focus of the up-coming Christmas season, two single mothers also consider their own values and relationships.

You have two months to read this simple delight of a book, and then start the new year with our discussion of it on January 6, 2026.

Happy Thanks-giving and a true Christ-mas joy to us all!

DATE and TIME CHANGE!

Church Decorating
for Christmas -
volunteers needed!
FRIDAY, Nov. 28th
10am-noon



(We'll bring donuts!)

CALENDAR at a Glance:

NOV 1 - PWR Women's Luncheon 9am - 1pm

NOV 4 - Election Day

NOV 9 - Deacons meet after Worship

NOV 11 - Women's Association meeting 10 am

NOV 11 - Veteran's Day

NOV 16- Session meeting after Worship

NOV 27 - Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed

Nov 28 - Decorate Sanctuary for Christmas 10 am

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

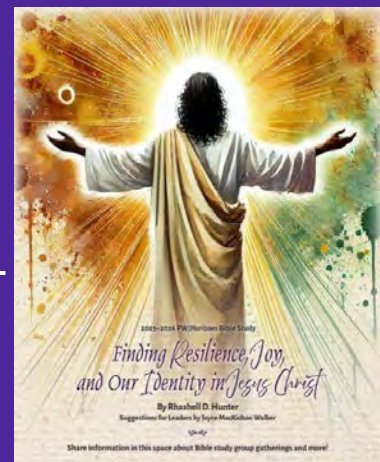
All women of NPC are invited to join us on the Second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is November 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the living area.

We are on lesson three "Jesus is Tested" in our bible study Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ, by Rhashell D. Hunter.

Come and join us for fellowship and bible study. There is no prep work so you can just come and listen and participate. If you wish to study with us we ask that you donate the \$15 to cover the cost of the study guide. Any questions, please contact Kerry Buddie at 216-650-2546.

We are still collecting items for The Emergency Assistance Center. So far we have donated over 200 lbs. of items needed by members of our community.

The month of November we are focusing on kitchen disposables: foil, cling wrap, baggies, paper plates & napkins and leftover containers, but any items that you would like to donate are always appreciated.



Finance / Property / Stewardship Committee Report

United Presbyterian Church aka Northfield Presbyterian Church

Profit and Loss
January - September, 2025

	TOTAL		
	JAN - SEP, 2025	JAN - SEP, 2024 (PY)	CHANGE
Income			
4XXX INCOME	133,154.74	131,167.57	1,987.17
Total Income	\$133,154.74	\$131,167.57	\$1,987.17
GROSS PROFIT	\$133,154.74	\$131,167.57	\$1,987.17
Expenses			
51XX SALARIES	56,817.76	34,863.82	21,953.94
52XX OTHER PAYROLL COSTS	5,094.62	6,438.30	-1,343.68
53XX Service Costs (leadership)	4,738.69	2,946.83	1,791.86
54XX BUILDING & GROUNDS	41,630.01	26,989.79	14,640.22
55XX CHURCH OFFICE	3,612.13	4,693.58	-1,081.45
56XX CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	24.95	7.88	17.07
57XX WORSHIP	917.23	741.43	175.80
58XX EVANGELISM	125.00	125.00	0.00
59XX MISSIONS	6,116.98	3,059.44	3,057.54
Total Expenses	\$119,077.37	\$79,866.07	\$39,211.30
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$14,077.37	\$51,301.50	\$ -37,224.13
Other Income			
9XXX Non Operating Sources of Revenue	1,819.10	9,524.78	-7,705.68
Total Other Income	\$1,819.10	\$9,524.78	\$ -7,705.68
Other Expenses			
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-4,908.35		-4,908.35
Total Other Expenses	\$ -4,908.35	\$0.00	\$ -4,908.35
NET OTHER INCOME	\$6,727.45	\$9,524.78	\$ -2,797.33
NET INCOME	\$20,804.82	\$60,826.28	\$ -40,021.46

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future — who point us to God.



The Christmas Joy Special Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

50% of our gifts smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in time of need.

50% of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

November 30-December 21



**CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

NOVEMBER 30- DECEMBER 21



**CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

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 \$12.00 for a 6 ½ inch foil wrapped pot.

All orders must be received in the church office by Sunday, November 23rd. 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 21, 2025.
Remaining flowers will be taken to home-bound members. See Cindy Maxhimer with any questions.



Ladies' Christmas Tea

Saturday, December 13th 10am

*Celebrate the season with food, fellowship,
music and a special message.*

*Invite your friends, family, neighbors and
co-workers to join us for a celebration
of this this JOYFUL Season!*

All women are invited!

*Please fill out an
invitation form on the narthex
table or call the office.*

There will be a place for you!



COOKIE BAKERS:

Sunday, December 21st, the Deacons will be preparing cookie boxes for our home bound members.

If you would like to donate a dozen cookies, please bring them to church before the service.

They are much appreciated by those who cannot get out for the Holidays.



November 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 9am - 1pm PWR Women's Luncheon
2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS Communion 10:15 Worship 11:00 am P & F Meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	3	4 TIME TO VOTE	5	6 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	7	8
9 10:15 Worship 11:30 Deacons 12:30 VBC Worship	10 10 am Women's Association	11	12	13 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	14	15 Memorial Service - Marie Fiala 11am
16 10:15 Worship 11:30 Session 12:30 VBC Worship	17	18	19	20 7 pm Choir 8pm AA	21	22
23 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	24	25	26	27 THANKSGIVING Office Closed	28 10am - noon Decorate Church for Christmas	29
30 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship						

MISSIONS – November 2025

Stuff the Bus – total poundage collected from NPC and VBC was 454 lbs!

- Community Christmas Connection Please note....NO toys that require batteries, please
- Email will be sent for anybody that would like to volunteer
- As noted before the congregation/since we've yet to receive the names
- Age Categories: 0-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, 13-16 & 17 years old
- Tables will be: Up to \$15.00 and \$16-\$25.00
- All Gift Cards – monetary value request, \$25.00, each
- Monetary donations being accepted Memo area CCC - toward toys / CCC - toward budget
- NPC and Victory Baptist will be putting up the Christmas tree after the Pres. Women's Luncheon
- Once ornaments are ready, they will be added to the tree Please take as many of the ornaments that you would like. Please have all toys back to the church no later than week of Thanksgiving so that we can tally what is yet needed and shop the week of Thanksgiving Do not wrap, just attach to the ornament to the present

As you can see, Missions are continuing what are church does best ONLY with your involvement. If you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of us. Let's see NPC shine through all of our holiday giving.

Warmly submitted w/the guidance of our Lord and Savior,
Your Mission's Committee



Community Christmas Connection of Nordonia Hills

Please join us in creating a joyous Christmas for local families!

What is Needed <ul style="list-style-type: none">★ new, unwrapped toys★ collection bins sites★ advertising or sponsors★ \$25 gift cards★ cash donations	When <p>Donations must be received by December 1, 2025.</p> 
Where <p>Check our website for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">🌲 church sites accepting cash/gift card donations🌲 collection bin locations for toy donations	For More Information <p>Please visit our website: commchristmasconnect.com</p> <p>Send us an email! CommChristmasConnect@gmail.com</p> 

Partner Organizations
American Legion Post 801, Faith Fellowship Church, Momentum Christian Church, Nordonia Hills City School District, Northfield Presbyterian Church, Northfield VFW Post 6768, Oasis Family Worship Center, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills, Saint Barnabas Catholic Parish, Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church, Spennatos Restaurant, United Methodist Church of Macedonia, Victory Baptist Church

The Tree is up in the Narthex and more ornaments are coming soon!



At the Daycare... We wrote a BOOK!!

This is the book the preschool and pre-kindergarten students are getting published. It is a non-fiction book that tells about the life-cycle of a pumpkin seed. It includes a recipe for roasted pumpkin seeds, facts about pumpkins, and the important part pollinators play in the life cycle of a pumpkin. All the students illustrated and wrote their own part of the story. They even included a glossary, index, and about the author pages.



VOTE FOR LILO!

This year, we are once again part of a nationwide election to decide the most popular calf.

Our calf is LILO. Our pre-K 4's and Preschool 3's class have adopted a new calf, who's name is Lilo. The class has been learning all about Lilo and what it takes to raise a cow. Last year our calf "Peony" won out of 88 calfs in the country. This year the group is 83 calfs. The winning calf receives a care package.

The kids will participate in the election so they can understand how voting works, that it's important and it's something that everyone has a right to do.

We hear Miss Dawn in the hallway reminding the kids and praising them for being "Good Citizens"

We hope Lilo wins!



Meet Oreo!

The Owls Class has a new furry friend! The class went on a field trip to find him, and voted on a name for their guinea pig.

His white face markings and feet made it pretty much a landslide. They are learning about guinea pigs care and feeding, and responsibility with their new acquisition.

Oreo is very friendly and loves to run around (confined) and to snuggle with Miss Mary Jane.





TRUNK or TREAT!

Kids and Parents had a great time at our first Trunk or Treat! It was a beautiful day! More than 30 parents and staff decorated cars & lined up to pass out treats to our daycare kids and families. Hay rides, pumpkin and face painting, prizes and lots of fun!

