

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News January 2026

Change -

Are you a person who does or does not like change?

Many will reply that they are not keen on change. Others might even say – the less change, the better. And yet, there are some who are quick to affirm that yes, there is goodness in change.

The change of the season brings newness – bright flowers and leaves of spring, vibrant colors of fall, food in gardens. Even snow can be beautiful. The change of one year to the next on the calendar brings possibilities, resolutions, goals, dreams, and desires.

We know we also don't need to wait for January 1 to begin again, try something new, travel a different path, or go home by another way. We are very aware that change can be challenging when the change isn't desired or welcomed.

Thank goodness none of us walk alone. The family of God is a wonderfully persistent in sharing presence and the Peace of Christ.

We have an opportunity before us every day to embrace the new and the presence of change in our lives. Some is welcomed, some is not, and through every yes and no moment, we are welcomed by God into the known and the unknown every day and God walks with us in every moment.

Welcome to your next moment of change, whether it be as we shift to 2026 or whether it be something else. You do not walk this journey alone.

May the journey always share moments where we see God at work through our hands and heart, and may we be blessed with God's leading and love in every moment.

Peace ~
Pastor Jenni

FROM THE SESSION

Good News Summary - Session Meeting 12/21/25

1. Session approved the proposed budget for 2026. It will be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25, 2026. It shows a deficit of \$17,195 for the year with current pledges and expected income.
2. The Per Capita for the Presbytery will remain at \$40 per person for 2026. Session is requesting that individuals make additional offerings to cover this expense, which will save the church approximately \$3000 per year
3. The Worship Committee is asking for people to assist as Worship Leader in 2026. If you can help, please contact Karyl Neubauer.
4. New members of the Daycare Board will be Carolyn Glinski, Cheryl Emch and Chris Louis for 2026. Carol Metz will be the Liaison between Session and the Daycare Board.
5. Session received 29 surveys and Karyl Neubauer and Michelle Williamson are compiling the results. They will report to Session in January with the comments and suggestions.
6. New officers who were elected for 2026 will be installed during the service on January 11, 2026.

Minutes summary by Kathy Moore, Clerk

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS:

On Sunday, January 11, we will be installing newly elected officers to their respective positions on the session and the board of deacons.

Installed elders for session will be Michelle Williamson and Don Davies
Carol Metz will be Ordained as an Elder.

Installed deacons will be Jim and Barb Anderson and Patty Fenn
Karen Koenig will be Ordained as a Deacon.

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2026

SESSION

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Michelle Williamson	Don Davies	Carol Metz
Dylan Maholm	John Gallagher	Deana Fenn
Karyl Neubauer	Amy Williams	
Chris Fenn		

BOARD OF DEACONS

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Scott Williamson	Cindy Kokenos	Karen Koenig
Stacy Harber	Pauline Enczur	Barb & Jim Anderson
	Ron & Cindy Maxhimer	Patty Fenn

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Following the worship service,
to receive the annual reports
from the committees and
organizations of the church.
Lunch will be served.

All Committee reports
are due no later than
January 11th.



CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:

Thank you to all who supported the Christmas Joy Special Offering.

The total we received was \$470.00.



Birthdays!

Carol Kreger	4th
Marianne Fiala	7th
Margaret Stitt	13th
Heather Williamson	16th
Patty Fenn	19th
Don Davies	23rd

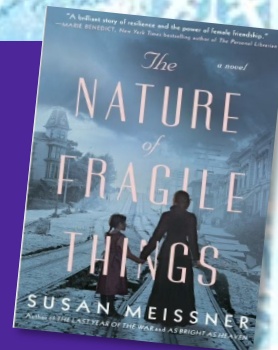
COMFORTING WORDS

Our Christian Women's Book Club

Upcoming reading: for February 24th:

The Nature of Fragile Things

by Susan Meissner



“A historical fiction novel set in 1906 San Francisco, following Irish immigrant mail-order bride Sophie Whalen as she navigates a new marriage to a mysterious man, Martin, and his young daughter, Kat, only to have their lives upended by the devastating earthquake, revealing hidden connections between Sophie, Martin, and another woman, and exploring themes of female solidarity, resilience, and love against a backdrop of impending disaster.”

Join us for a discussion of this book at the church February 24th - 5:30 pm in the Living Area.

Epiphany Stars

The main players on Epiphany are the wise men. They show up in Jerusalem, odd, unexpected visitors, unusual people from another place and another culture.

Star-gazers from a far off land, they remind us first and foremost of the power of attentiveness.

They were watching for signs that God was moving in the world.

They engaged others in their search, and showed a willingness to ask questions and to learn from strangers.

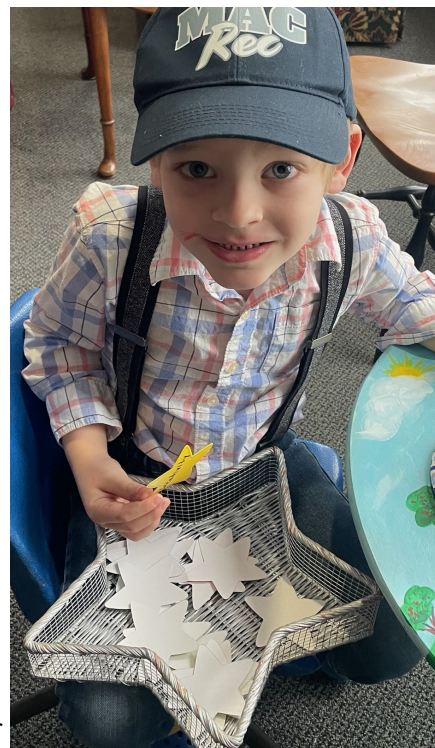
The wise men model for us what it means to worship: to watch for signs of God's presence, to experience the hospitality of God in the humblest of places, to offer our best gifts back to the One from whom they came, and then to go back into the world bearing the good news we have to share.

We share in a tradition that comes from the Orthodox Christian Church. Each person receives a star-shaped piece of paper on which is written a single word.

Each person's word is different. This word becomes yours to live with during the coming year- a star, if you will, your own star for which you might watch.

If you did not receive a Star word or would like to share this experience with someone, here is the link to Star Words on the Presbytery's website:

https://www.preswesres.org/starwords?mc_cid=301ad53d85&mc_eid=f6d64f5b90



Emmet helps to hand out Stars

Finance / Property / Stewardship Committee Report

United Presbyterian Church aka Northfield Presbyterian Church

Profit and Loss
January - November, 2025

		TOTAL	
	JAN - NOV, 2025	JAN - NOV, 2024 (PY)	CHANGE
Income			
4XXX INCOME	164,343.74	153,361.73	10,982.01
Total Income	\$164,343.74	\$153,361.73	\$10,982.01
GROSS PROFIT	\$164,343.74	\$153,361.73	\$10,982.01
Expenses			
51XX SALARIES	71,391.80	42,799.74	28,592.06
52XX OTHER PAYROLL COSTS	6,666.41	3,056.03	3,610.38
53XX Service Costs (leadership)	5,547.89	3,233.84	2,314.05
54XX BUILDING & GROUNDS	50,165.97	32,089.32	18,076.65
55XX CHURCH OFFICE	4,656.96	6,416.01	-1,759.05
56XX CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	24.95	7.88	17.07
57XX WORSHIP	1,096.61	1,181.23	-84.62
58XX EVANGELISM	125.00	125.00	0.00
59XX MISSIONS	6,976.54	4,268.16	2,708.38
Total Expenses	\$146,652.13	\$93,177.21	\$53,474.92
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$17,691.61	\$60,184.52	\$ -42,492.91
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	-4,521.66		-4,521.66
Total Other Expenses	\$ -4,521.66	\$0.00	\$ -4,521.66
NET OTHER INCOME	\$6,340.76	\$9,524.78	\$ -3,184.02
NET INCOME	\$24,032.37	\$69,709.30	\$ -45,676.93



Happy
New Year!

There was a joyful noise!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service opened with “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” on the bells. Marianne Fiala, Tracy Wyant and Jennifer Abdo played the bells.

Recapping the Holiday Activities

Community Christmas Connection:

NPC partnered with 9 other churches and various businesses pitching in to make sure over 150 kids in our area had toys and gifts for Christmas.



Our volunteers had a great time greeting and assisting the parents in selecting gifts, stocking the tables and wrapping the gifts as needed.

Thank you to everyone who donated toys! They were much appreciated!

It was a wonderful day!



The Ladies Christmas Tea

Over 125 women attended the Tea this year. Missy Shiverick was the speaker and music was provided by The Forest City String Band. Donations of feminine products were given to The Emergency Assistance Center.





January 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 New Year's Day Daycare and Office closed	2	3
4 Communion 10:15 Worship P&F Meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	5	6	7	8 7pm Choir 8pm AA	9	10
11 10:15 Worship Deacons Mtg 12:30 VBC Worship	12 10am Women's Association	13	14	15 7pm Choir 8pm AA	16	17
18 10:15 Worship Session Mtg 12:30 VBC Worship	19	20	21	22 7pm Choir 8pm AA	23	24
25 10:15 Worship Annual Congregational Meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	26	27	28	29 7pm Choir 8pm AA	30	31

A note from Pastor Jenni:

As Christians, we give of our time, talent, and tithes to respond to God's call faithfully and fully, meeting the needs of the church and the wider work of the Presbyterian Church locally and in all parts of the world. We do this through our tithes to Northfield and our support to PCUSA giving programs. It is the work of these Special Offerings, coupled with the work of Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assemblies that make us as connectional in our financial support of the church as we are in our programming and work/worship in the world.

By supporting the PCUSA Special Offerings

Christmas Joy Offering ~ Received at Advent, this offering supports past, present, and future leaders of the church.

One Great Hour of Sharing ~ Received on Palm and/or Easter Sunday, this offering focuses on disaster relief, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration issues.

World Communion Offering (formerly Peace and Global Witness) ~ Received on World Communion Sunday in October, this offering supports grants to support efforts within racial justice, gender justice, and peacemaking, local and international.

Per Capita

Per Capita connects each of us the opportunity to participate equally in furthering the church's mission and ministry at the local and national level. The idea of Per Capita became part of the Presbyterian Church in the 1700's and is rooted in the idea of a united body, sharing united funds annually for the work of the wider church. Per Capita helps to mutually and equitably fund the work of the Presbyteries, Synods, and the General Assembly. It is one of the key ways we build and maintain the church's infrastructure, which helps us work together, and helps the work and ministry of the PCUSA be maintained. Simply, it is a covenant community fund for the work of PCUSA shared by every member and pastor.

The Per Capita for 2026 remains at \$40 per person (\$.76 per week.). *Northfield is committed to paying the Per Capita for every member whether a member contributes this or not. It is a significant help to the church budget when members complete their Per Capita contribution each year.* There is no set deadline for receiving Per Capita. When a Per Capita gift is received, it is sent on to the Presbytery Office who then distributes a percentage to each branch and work of the Church.

Per Capita translates as "Per each head." We share this because we care about each other and the future of the PCUSA.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

All women of NPC are invited to join us on the Second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is January 12th at 10:00 a.m. in the living area.

We are currently studying the book "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, listen and participate.

TEAC:

We are always collecting items for The Emergency Assistance Center. The updated giving calendar is on the bulletin board. January items are hats, gloves, and scarves for men, women, and children.

Any items that you would like to donate are always appreciated.

