

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News March 2025

Pastor's Pen -

Nadia Bolz-Weber is one of my favorite pastor/theologian people to follow on multiple platforms.

Recently, she wrote:

“Each day in Lent, I’ll either: Take one photo of something beautiful I notice in my day – like how the light comes through our front room in the afternoon, or Write one sentence about a warm interaction with a stranger – like the guy in the hospital elevator who asked which floor I was going to and pushed the button for me, or Post something helpful someone said to me that day – like the six-word prayer my friend Jackie just shared: I can’t. You can. Please do.”

Lent is a time for prayer and reflection ~ and creative reflection is a wonderful way to engage with Lent. In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation leading to Easter. It was also a time of preparation and learning for candidates for baptism (which happened on Easter). It was a time for reflection about baptismal discipleship.

What can we learn about baptismal discipleship in this season of Lent and how can we explore as we move through our days and the world as baptized followers of Christ?

If we extend the theme started by Nadia, consider the following:

Week 1: Try writing a six-word prayer about...Lent, Jesus, hope, peace, love, or your own idea. It isn't simple and it gets you thinking and working to the core of a prayer. Bring it and include it on the sanctuary cross.

Week 2: Find people spreading joy or kindness and thank them - let them know you noticed. Encourage them to do the same.

Week 3: Pick up a small gift card from a store and find someone in the store to give it to.

Week 4: Be kind to a stranger and then write a prayer for that person and pray for that person all week.

Week 5: Go out and watch a sunrise or a sunset and write a prayer (or a six-word prayer) of thanksgiving for this small corner of the world.

Week 6: Read about the One Great Hour of Sharing and consider supporting this kindness of the church toward our siblings in Christ.

<https://pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing>

Think about how you encouraged yourself to make Lent more meaningful, how you felt, and if something that shifted in you. Share with someone, journal, or go for a walk with God and share your leadings and learnings.

Pastor Jenni

FROM THE SESSION

Summary of the Minutes of the Session Meeting on February 15, 2026

1. The newly elected interim General Presbyter Matthew Skolnik will be preaching at NPC on Palm Sunday. This is will be a great opportunity for the congregation to meet, greet and interact with him.
2. The Elders and Deacons will be sponsoring an Easter breakfast on April 5th prior to the church service at 9:00 am. Watch for the sign up sheet outside the sanctuary mid-March.
3. Pastor Jenni will be leading a Lenten study on Thursday March 5th & Thursday, March 19th from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. This will be a great way to prepare for Easter.

Minutes summary by Michelle Williamson, Clerk



**ONE GREAT
HOUR OF SHARING**

What does the Lord require of you?

...to do justice

*and to love kindness and to walk
humbly with your God. Micah 6:8*

*Responding to Christ's call to ministries of
compassion for the world's most vulnerable.*



One Great Hour of Sharing Presbyterian Special Missions Feb 18 - April 5

Serve the "least of these" among us: each gift to this Special Offering supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 2026

A moment for mission with Bethany Miller from RAHAB on March 1st during the service to speak to our congregation.

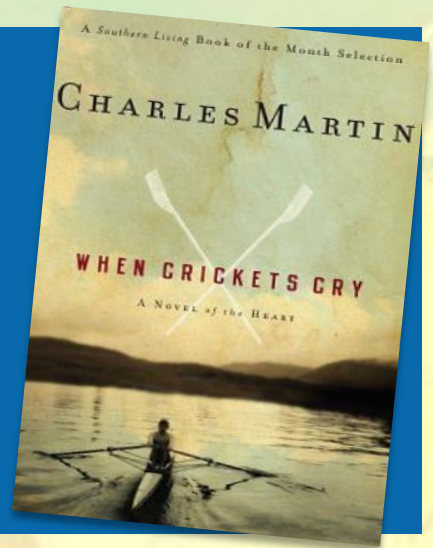
One Great Hour of Sharing continues till April 5th one of 3 Special Offerings of The Presbyterian Church to relieve hunger, and promote self development also disaster relief.

We shared in February with our partner churches in the Ministerium.

A luncheon was provided to celebrate the Teachers at Nordonia's High School and Middle School where we helped provide food served.

Submitted by:
John Gallagher

COMFORTING WORDS - Christian Women's Book Club
 Life is unpredictable! Our current reading: When Crickets Cry, a Novel of the Heart, by Charles Martin, explores our physical hearts' impacts as well as our emotional and spiritual heartaches - while God's loving hand shapes it all. Since our discussion of this heartwarming, yet unexpected story will be April 14, it will also take us from winter to spring in our own timing as well. Get your hard copy or read it online. We hope you will join us!



SPRING FORWARD!

Yes, We STILL do this...MARCH 8th,
 Daylight Savings Time begins.
 Set your clock ahead 1 hour.

Calendar at a glance:

- March 5 Lenten Study 5:30 PM- 6:30 PM
- March 7 Set your clocks ahead 1 hour before bedtime
- March 8 Deacon's Meeting after worship service
- March 9 10 AM Women's Association Living Area
- March 15 Session Meeting after worship in Library
- March 19 Lenten Study 5:30 PM- 6:30 PM
- March 22 Property & Finance meeting after worship



| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Scott Williamson | 5th |
| Carol Metz | 12th |
| Linda Goldenbogen | 22nd |
| Kirk Louis | 27th |



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

All women of NPC are invited to join us on the Second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is March 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the living area. We are in lesson seven "The Women Who Was Bent Over" 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.

We are still collecting items for The Emergency Assistance Center. The month of March we are focusing on paper goods (Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, etc), but any items that you would like to donate are always appreciated.



Providing Christ-centered transformational services to those directly affected by sex trafficking.

For many years, RAHAB Ministries has offered a 3-day Retreat for local women who have experienced sex trafficking. It is an opportunity for these women to spend three days in safety, being cared for and encouraged with the gospel of hope.

Last fall, the members of Northfield Presbyterian provided funds for more than 12 women to have this experience! Because of how many lives have been changed during this Retreat, RAHAB is offering two Retreats this year for those who are still stuck in trafficking and is seeking support so more women can have this experience at no cost to them.

Please mark your offering envelope "RAHAB" if you'd like to donate to this Spring retreat. (You can donate anytime on their website, or marking RAHAB on your offering envelope.)



RAHAB Retreat 2025

Thank you Northfield Presbyterian!

United Presbyterian Church aka Northfield Presbyterian Church

Profit and Loss

January 1-31, 2026

| DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT | TOTAL | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| | JAN 1 - JAN 31 2026 | JAN 1 - JAN 31 2025 (PY YTD) |
| Income | \$11,201.00 | \$13,169.00 |
| Gross Profit | \$11,201.00 | \$13,169.00 |
| Expenses | \$25,902.22 | \$17,086.23 |
| Net Operating Income | -\$14,701.22 | -\$3,917.23 |
| Other Expenses | | -\$5,043.13 |
| Net Other Income | | \$5,043.13 |
| Net Income | -\$14,701.22 | \$1,125.90 |

Easter Flowers Order Form

Spring will be here soon and with it the season of rebirth and renewal. Easter is April 5th. It is time for the Deacons to place our order for Easter flowers. The flowers listed below are available for purchase.

The cost is \$12 for a 6 ½" foil wrapped pot.

All orders must be received in the church office by Sunday, March 22nd.

The order will be placed with the greenhouse the following day to assure pricing and delivery dates.

Please indicate your choice of flower, circle color preference, and mark the number of plants desired.

Checks should be made payable to Northfield Presbyterian Church and marked for Easter Flowers.

Cash payments should be placed in an envelope and also marked Easter Flowers.

Payment must accompany all orders.



Easter Lilies _____

Tulips (red, pink, or yellow) _____

Daffodils _____

Hyacinths (Blue or Pink) _____

Pansy Baskets (Assorted Colors in one basket) _____

Your Name (s) _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

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

Flowers marked for take home should be picked up after the 10:15am service on Easter Sunday. All other flowers will be distributed to those who are ill or home-bound. Please mark your order form appropriately.

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

Once again, The Women's Association Is collecting a new item category each month throughout 2026 to help supply items not covered by SNAP benefits to TEAC.

The items for MARCH are paper products: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper and Kleenex
Calendar copies are available on the Narthex table.

March
Paper Goods: Toilet Paper
Paper Towels, Kleenex

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

Members of the Women's Association will deliver the items to TEAC. THANK YOU!



12 MONTHS OF CARING

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.

A member of the Women's Association will deliver the collected items to TEAC throughout the month.

| | |
|---|--|
| January Hats, gloves and scarves For men, women and children | July Pet Food and Supplies Canned or Bags <small>(large bags will be divided up)</small> |
| February Incontinence Underwear Men's XXL Women's Medium | August Diapers (all sizes) and Wipes Pull-Ups for Toddler size 4T-5T |
| 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, Paper Plates & Napkins, Leftover Containers |
| June Feminine Hygiene Pads and Tampons | December Socks! For Men, Women and Children |

Thanks for helping!



THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CENTER
Love Your Neighbor



March 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|----|----|---|----|----|
| <p>1 Communion 10:15 Worship</p> <p>12:30 VBC Worship</p> | 2 | 3 | 4 | <p>5</p> <p>5:30 pm Lenten Study</p> <p>7pm Choir 8pm AA</p> | 6 | 7 |
| <p>8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS 10:15 Worship Deacons meeting</p> <p>12:30 VBC Worship</p> | <p>9</p> <p>10am Women's Association</p> | 10 | 11 | <p>12</p> <p>7pm Choir 8pm AA</p> | 13 | 14 |
| <p>15</p> <p>10:15 Worship Session Meeting</p> <p>12:30 VBC Worship</p> | 16 | 17 | 18 | <p>19</p> <p>5:30 pm Lenten Study</p> <p>7pm Choir 8pm AA</p> | 20 | 21 |
| <p>22</p> <p>10:15 Worship P&F meeting</p> <p>12:30 VBC Worship</p> | 23 | 24 | 25 | <p>26</p> <p>7pm Choir 8pm AA</p> | 27 | 28 |
| <p>29</p> <p>10:15 Worship</p> <p>12:30 VBC Worship</p> | 30 | 31 | | | | |

NOTEWORTHY NEWS from February Deacons Meeting

from Co-Moderators Barb and Stacy

1. CHANCEL PARAMENTS will change throughout the Lenten / Easter Tide season thanks to Scott Williamson and Ron Maxhimer. Did you know there was a calendar that has all the changes for the entire year? Scott shared at the Annual Congregational meeting the significance of the colors and times that they are changed.
2. COMMUNION – In January we changed how we served communion. There are only two servers for the main area. More elements are on the trays. The elements are taken to the balcony prior to service for those who are sitting there. This is working out nicely.
3. COFFEE HOUR – After a discussion about the increasing cost of supplying pastries, fruit, and cheese options for those who are volunteering to donate them as well as an increase in the numbers we are serving, we will provide a basket of pretzels in place of fruit. Coffee Hour is an important part of Sunday Worship and we will continue to look at ways that are affordable for those who want to help out. There is a sign up on the bulletin board for members of the congregation to schedule a Sunday to provide the pastries. There will be a deacon assigned for those Sundays to help make the coffee, set up and clean up.
4. CARE PACKAGES for college students and those serving in the military (in the form of gift cards) will be sent out soon. If you would like to contribute toward this or know someone in our congregation who should be receiving one contact Katie Juhas.
5. SPECIAL EVENTS - Thank you to Emmett Fenn who was a deacon's helper this month and helped distribute Valentine's Day bookmarks to the congregation.
6. FAITH CONNECTIONS was approved and introduced at the Congregational meeting. Read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

What is this “FAITH CONNECTIONS” you have been hearing about?

The role of the Deacons is to care for needs of the congregation in a multitude of practical ways. Part of their charge is also to love one another as the Lord loves us. This past year the deacons looked at what that looks like at NPC and discovered that we needed a way to connect with all the members of our congregation and be available to serve as the Lord leads.

FAITH CONNECTIONS is designed so that each family unit of our congregation will have a Deacon contact. The Deacon will reach out to several times throughout the year (quarterly) with a phone call, email message, a note by mail, or even a chance meeting at church or even the grocery store. As the relationship develops you will have someone to talk to, pray with, and a friend to share your faith journey with.

The Session has approved this initiative and it was announced with a short skit at the congregational meeting the first week in February. The Deacons have the names of their families and they will be or may have already made a first contact with you.

It is our hope that by the end of March all families will have “connected” with their Deacon. If you have not been called by the end of the month, please let Barb Anderson know and she will gladly make a “FAITH CONNECTION” for you.