

Northfield Presbyterian Church

The Good News April 2026

On waiting, watching, the Cross, and forsythia flowers ~

We continue our journey to the cross as we enter Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday – When we remember Jesus’ “mandatum,” or Commandment, that we love one another through servant sacrifice and presence with friend, neighbor, and stranger, welcoming them as Christ welcomes us.

Good Friday – when we remember Jesus’ crucifixion, and how the crowds turned from welcoming Jesus on Palm Sunday to shouting “Crucify him!”

Holy Saturday – when we remember that Jesus lay in the tomb. Chancels in churches are often stripped bare, and we wait.

Easter Sunday – when we remember that Mary Magdalene, Mary of Cleopas, and Mary Salome (Mark 16:1) went to the tomb and found it empty.

By the calendar, the earliest Sunday for Easter to occur is March 22 and the latest is April 25. We won't see an April 25 Easter until 2038 (and that means Ash Wednesday will occur on April 18). What an Easter journey that will be.

We tie Easter with the blossoming of the land around us - and rightly so. We anticipate new life with the resurrection. Some years, we anticipate the blooming of flowers and some years, we are caught off guard.

This year, I was caught off guard by the intense yellow of a flowering forsythia bush, in large part because of our roller coaster weather. We haven't had a smooth increase of temperatures leading to spring. The daffodils in our yard were left drooping after night time temperatures dipped into the freezing zone. I didn't expect to see a forsythia bush exploding in color because it still feels like we're still caught in the grip of winter.

Daffodils have had a difficult growing season this year. Our weather patterns have included 40 degree temperature gains and losses. It's hard to know what coat to take with us or how many layers to wear. How lovely it was to see that a lone forsythia bush on the corner would not be deterred from sharing to those who saw it that yes, spring will come. Hope is not lost.

Do we still ourselves enough to remember with hope that spring will come? Are we present to seeing the small changes happening around us (and in us), or are bustling through the season of Lent and Easter, unaware of the transformations occurring all around us. When we focus on hope and let the season take root in us, transformation takes root within us. We believe it will come, even when we cannot see it beginning.

What flowers do you look for first in the spring to encourage your spirit? What hope and new beginning rekindles Easter for you? What sense of wonder opens your heart to God's transformation?

May you experience God's unconditional love and transforming grace, in flowers and your faith journey, as life bursts forth around us and within us this Easter season.

Peace ~
Pastor Jenni

FROM THE SESSION

Summary of the Minutes of the Session Meeting on March 15, 2026:

1. Please plan on joining us for the Easter breakfast sponsored by the Deacons and Elders at 9:00 on Easter Sunday.
2. The Annual Church picnic will be held on Sunday, June 28th at Sagamore Hills park.
3. The mission committee has been busy supporting a teacher appreciation luncheon at the Middle School & High School, contributing to the Nordonia High Senior class celebration to be held on April 24th and putting together gifts for the NPC daycare children to be presented on April 12th at the children's service.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Williamson

EASTER BREAKFAST

APRIL 5th - 9 am

Easter morning before worship.

Breakfast provided by the
Elders and Deacons.

There is a sign-up sheet on
the table in the narthex.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The NPC Scholarship Committee are accepting applications for awards for tuition assistance.

Criteria for candidates includes those students pursuing graduate degrees.

In addition, student loan assistance will also be considered for those who have graduated within the last six years and have not previously been awarded an NPC scholarship. Contact the church office for an application form and information.

Completed applications are due April 30, 2026.



April Birthdays!

Cindy Maxhimer	1st
Richard Enczur	1st
Irene Peters	5th
Gail Burdis	5th
Tom Hall	13th
Ron Buddie	15th
Chriss Burdis	15th
Marcia Alcorn	16th
Renell Noack	17th
Chris Louis	18th
Jim Anderson	30th

Calendar at a glance:

April 2	7 pm	Maundy Thursday Evening Service
April 5	9 am	Easter Breakfast before Worship
April 12	10:15 am	Worship presented by Daycare Children
April 12		Deacons meet following worship
April 13	10 AM	Women's Association in Living Area
April 14	5:30 pm	Comforting Words Women's Book Club
April 19		Session Meeting after worship in Library
April 25		VBC Wedding/ Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

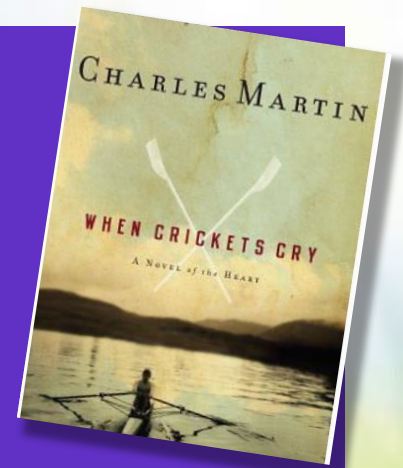
COMFORTING WORDS - Christian Women's Book Club

When Crickets Cry, A Novel of the Heart, by Charles Martin

Author Charles Martin is a committed supporter of the American Heart Association as well as the extraordinary heart connection between God and man.

You will find both heart interests elegantly and tenderly woven in this "Novel of the Heart." Come and share your response to this reading on Tuesday, April 14, 5:30 p.m., in the Fellowship area of the church.

All women are welcome to join us, even if you haven't finished the book!



FROM THE SESSION: HELP WANTED

Northfield Presbyterian Church will be seeking a part time Administrative Assistant for our office. Please put on your thinking caps- do you or your circle of contacts know someone seeking part-time employment as a confidential, skilled office administrator?

3 months paid position training offered.

Interested individuals should contact our Personnel Chair, Karyl Neubauer

karylneubauer@gmail.com or 216-650-7647



NOTEWORTHY NEWS March Deacons Meeting Notes

from Co-Moderators Barb and Stacy

- The curtains will remain purple until Good Friday.
- Patty Fenn will be making the next batch of communion bread.
- Rev. Jenni will be doing an Intinction Communion on Easter and supplying the bread.
- The Day Care kids will be singing on Sunday, April 12th during the service, and Kerry Buddie and Chris Louis will be supplying cookies for coffee hour.
- Ron and Cindy Maxhimer have done a great job organizing the Easter flower orders, four flowers will be delivered to shut-ins.
- Katie Juhas will be sending out the gift cards to the college /military recipients.
- The deacons are all making their initial contacts in terms of their Faith Connection members, and they are in the process of signing up for Boundary and Ethic training.
- Plans were discussed for Easter breakfast at the church on Easter morning at 9:00.
- Gift ideas were also decided on for Mother's Day and Father's Day, and initial plans are being discussed for the church picnic at Sagamore Hills Park on Sunday, June 28th.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, April 12th after the service.



April 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7pm Evening Communion Service	3	4
5 EASTER Communion 9am Easter Breakfast 10:15 Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	6	7	8	9 7pm Choir 8pm AA	10	11
12 10:15 Worship Daycare Children's Service Deacons meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	13 10am Women's Association	14 5:30 pm Women's Book Club	15	16 7pm Choir 8pm AA	17	18
19 10:15 Worship Session meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	20	21	22	23 7pm Choir 8pm AA	24	25
26 10:15 Worship 11:30 Property & Finance meeting 12:30 VBC Worship	27	28	29	30		



What a wonderful outpouring of joy and friendship came about during our coffee hour Sunday March 22!

Together we signed Easter Blessings to 135 residents in the Brentwood skilled nursing facility and the residents of The Reserve assisted living.

Jeff Decker, Manager for the Brentwood nursing care centers assures us the residents will be smiling over the cards as well as knowing their neighbors care about them!

Thank you everyone!



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

All women of NPC are invited to join us on the Second Monday of each month.

Our next meeting is April 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the living area.

We are in lesson eight "Remembering Jesus' Baptism" in our bible study Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ, by Rhshell 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 TEAC - The Emergency Assistance Center.

The month of April we are focusing on personal hygiene items (shampoo, body wash, soap), but any items that you would like to donate are always appreciated.

United Presbyterian Church aka Northfield Presbyterian Church

Profit and Loss

January 1-February 28, 2026

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL		
	JAN 1 - FEB 28 2026	JAN 1 - FEB 28 2025 (PY)	\$ CHANGE (PY)
Income	\$26,977.00	\$28,267.11	-\$1,290.11
Gross Profit	\$26,977.00	\$28,267.11	-\$1,290.11
Expenses	\$36,175.46	\$23,612.70	\$12,562.76
Net Operating Income	-\$9,198.46	\$4,654.41	-\$13,852.87
Other Expenses		-\$5,043.13	\$5,043.13
Net Other Income		\$5,043.13	-\$5,043.13
Net Income	-\$9,198.46	\$9,697.54	-\$18,896.00



Northfield Presbyterian has introduced RAHAB Ministries to our Nordonia Hills community members.

Thursday March 26, Bethany Miller provided participants an introduction to the reality of human trafficking in Ohio. Bethany detailed the mission of RAHAB Ministries as well as the vision: bringing Christ's love to all victims of trafficking.

Attendees were attentive and emotionally moved by Bethany's presentation as well as RAHAB's dedication to leading trafficked women to our Lord via the annual retreats.

Thank you NPC for sharing this vital ministry with our community. RAHAB's mission carries on each day!

QUICK REMINDER: Donation envelopes for RAHAB ministries are on the table in the Narthex. 2026 Women's retreat dates are May 1 and September 4

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS FOR APRIL 2026

- Scott Taylor from TEAC who support our neighbors in need will speak to the congregation on April 19th
- Celebrating Nordonia High School Seniors April 24th . We will be sharing food cost through our partnership with Nordonia community connection.
- Thank you to Bethany Miller sharing the important mission they are doing in our community. We will continue asking for donations toward the RAHAB women's retreat on May 1st. Please mark any offering envelopes with RAHAB to have that directed to them or go to their website

Your Missions Committee



(NPC, VBC and the local Ministerium provided lunch for the Nordonia Middle School and High School Teachers.)

“On behalf of the entire staff of Nordonia Middle School, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for providing lunch for our team this past Wednesday. Your generosity and thoughtfulness were truly appreciated. Gestures like this mean a great deal to our staff, and it was uplifting to be recognized for the daily efforts we make to support our students and community. The meal was not only enjoyed by all, but it also served as a meaningful reminder of the strong partnership we share.

Please know how grateful we are for your continued support and encouragement.”

With appreciation, On behalf of the Nordonia Middle School & High School Staff

Bryan Seward
Principal, Nordonia Middle School