



The Good News

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends and Church Family,

The summer is over. I hope that you all had some time to get away to be refreshed. Kids are back to school and the fall routine is kicking in. Life will be busy. As you check your calendar let me give you some dates, events and activities that you should know about.

September 7, Choir Rehearsals begin. After a summer filled with a variety of great musical offerings during our worship services, the choir will be getting their voices tuned up for another new year. It will be great to have the whole choir back again. Be sure to thank Mr. Z for the wonderful music we've enjoyed the past three months.

September 11, Kick-off Sunday. Adult, youth and children's classes start up with a new format for the children's classes and a new adult class for parents of younger children that will help connect you with what the kids are learning. **Children's Chats** will return to our worship services that morning.

September 17, New Member Orientation. This Saturday morning orientation will familiarize you with who we are, what we believe, and how you can connect with NPC in a more formal way. The class will begin at 9:00 a.m. and be finished before noon.

September 24, Children's Communion Class. Parents desiring their children to be able to join them in receiving communion will want to have their children (3rd grade and older) come and learn about the Lord's Supper. After a time of instruction, the children will gather in the kitchen to assist in baking communion bread for World Communion Sunday.

September 30 – October 2, Growing a Praying Congregation with Dr. Ron Rand. This weekend will involve much more than just talking about prayer. We will eat together, have fellowship, learn how to deal with some of life's tough issues and come together for communion on

World Communion Sunday with our brothers and sisters from Victory Baptist.

On a different note, the Session is continuing to discuss what our response, direction should be in the wake of the denomination's action to open the door for the ordination of unrepentant homosexuals. A special session meeting has been scheduled exclusively for the purpose of dealing with this concern. At some point in the future we will come to the congregation with a full report. Please keep the leaders of NPC in prayer for wisdom and discernment.

Isaiah the prophet reminded a weary people that their strength and hope were found in the LORD. He wrote to those who had lost sight of Him,

*But those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.*

*They will soar with wings like eagles;
they will run and not be weary,
they will walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

As the summer comes to a close and the fall is upon us I want to encourage you to reconnect and involve yourself in a community of faith here. This is where we can sit under the Lord's teaching, pray together, enjoy fellowship, and the breaking of bread.

In His Grip,

Art Helin

Sunday School Resumes September 11th - 9:00 a.m.

We have a **new format** for children in **7th grade and below**. Like VBS, the children will gather with songs, act in skits then divide into age groups for lessons and "extras"



Grades 8 and up will have their own lesson plan and activities

Parents will enjoy Fellowship & Sunday School time (topic TBA)

Kids Own Worship during the 10:15 service will continue for **ages 4 through grade 3**.

There will be a Children's Chat during the service and older children are invited to worship with their parents.

Nursery care for ages 3 and under also provided!

Coming to church just 1 hour earlier isn't that hard ... really! Make it a habit.

Bible Study Opportunities

We are encouraged to be in the Word of God. One of the best ways to do that is through Bible Study. There are many opportunities here at NPC to make that happen. Consider joining a group this month to get started (or renewed) in the Word.



Men:

- Wednesday a.m. (every other week) 6:30 am at Chick-Fil-A - studying Daniel. Contact Keith Miller for details.
- Saturday a.m. (every other week) 8:00 am at Chick-Fil-A - studying a Discipleship Series. Contact Art Helin for details.

Women:

- Women's Association, 2nd Monday of month - Studying 2 Corinthians. See related article page 3.
- Community Bible Study - moved to Faith Fellowship Church - Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. Studying Deuteronomy and Hebrews. Contact Brenda Johnson 330-468-8875 to find out about registration. Begins Sept. 7.

Men and Women:

- There is a Tuesday Evening Bible Study meeting at NPC in hopes of becoming an Evening Community Bible Study Class. Beginning September 13 at 7:00 pm. We will be doing a 30 week study of the Pentateuch. Invite friends. Materials (\$5.00) available the first night. Contact Ellen Miller 440-717-0173 for details.
- Adult Sunday School meeting Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m. We hope to have 2 classes - one for parents of young children and one for others. Topics to be announced or determined at the first meeting in September.

Greetings Northfield Presbyterian Women!

We will begin meeting again September 12, 2011 right here in the living area. The NPC Women’s Association meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 10:00 am. We begin our meetings with our Bible Study and then have a brief meeting.



Our study this year will be **“2 Corinthians – Finding Strength in Weakness”**. Do you despise your weaknesses? Do you hate hardships? Do you beg God to remove obstacles from your life? The apostle Paul delighted in his weaknesses, welcomed hardship as a friend and thanked God for obstacles that offered opportunities to experience God's power. Was he crazy? In this study guide Paul Stevens shows you how this foundational Christian disciple and church leader will turn your thinking upside down! In everything Paul teaches you to rely, as he did, on God's great promise: "My grace is sufficient for you."

We know that a lot of you work or are in school, but if you can find the time (just 2 hours once a month) we would love to have you here! Each month we will have a new lesson from our Study Guide. We all take turns hosting the study each month and the NPC Women’s Association will provide the study guide for each attendee and host. Don’t worry! There’s really no prep work for these lessons. Just bring your Bible and your desire to learn God’s word and enjoy the company of other NPC Ladies. This group includes all women of all ages –members, non-members and frequent visitors.

All are welcome – you are all women of NPC!

Sincerely, NPC Women’s Association

These are the chapters from our book, “2 Corinthians – Finding Strength in Weakness”.

Our Comforting God	2 Corinth 1:1-11
Always Yes in Christ	2 Corinth 1:12-2:17
Every-Member Ministry	2 Corinth 3
This Treasure	2 Corinth 4:1-5:10
Ambassadors for Christ	2 Corinth 5:11-6:13
Good Grief	2 Corinth 6:14 – 7:16
The Need to Give	2 Corinth 8-9
Spiritual Warfare	2 Corinth 10
Super-Leaders	2 Corinth 11
My Burden Carries Me	2 Corinth 12
Examine Yourselves	2 Corinth 13

Pantry Items Needed

The Women’s Association will continue to collect food items for the Macedonia Emergency Center. They need dry, boxed nonperishable food items such as:

Spaghetti noodles and all other types of pasta either in a box or bags as well as rice, instant potatoes, cereal, hamburger or tuna helper, crackers jellies and Jams. Also, paper products like toilet paper and tissues is highly desired!

There is a container in the narthex where church families can drop off their donations on Sundays or any other day they are in the building. We will continue to collect them as long as they are being donated.

THANK YOU!



Day Care News - Sherry Pomeroy

Our carnival was a success! Thank you to Art, Jan, Ellen, Chris Louis, Scott Williamson, and the teenagers: Connor, Zack, Amber, Kenzie, Tyler, Molly and Dylan for all their help! A very special thanks to Cory Louis for some amazing pictures of our event! The parents and the children had such a good time!



We are now gearing up for fall. Our classrooms have had a name change this year. The Babies are the Darling Ducklings, the Toddlers are the Playful Puppies, the 2s are the Cute Koalas, the 3s are the Perky Penguins and the 4s are the Learned Owls. We have had some trouble in the past when a child has a birthday in the middle of the year...they think they should move up to the next room. By changing the names of the rooms, we hope to avoid this in the future.

Our fall fundraiser will begin September 25th and continue until October 17th. There will be brochures available for anyone who wishes to support the daycare by purchasing products. We will once again be selling frozen products made in the 5 state area as well as Root Candles. New this year are Quaker Steak and Lube wing sauces and Daffin's Candy, both made just over the Ohio line in Sharon, PA. We are saving to do some repair work on the rubber surface on the Puppies/Koala's playgrounds as well as beginning to save to replace equipment on the big playground. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sherry



Welcome New Members



On Sunday, August 28th, we welcomed the Kremyars as the newest members of our church family. Keith, Erin, Claire and Ethan have been attending since last summer. The children attend the NPC Day Care program. Erin was also baptized that morning.

▶▶ We will be having a **new member orientation on Saturday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m.** We will be sending out invitations, but if you don't receive one, just call the office if you are interested in pursuing membership.

We look forward to welcoming more new members this Fall.

Stewardship Report

We appreciate your continued faithfulness during the summer months.. Please contact a member of the committee if you have any questions. As you can see, we have fallen behind in our giving over the last month with vacations taking us away. Help us out and see if your pledge is up to date. Let's finish the year strong!

August	INCOME:	\$ 15,275
	EXPENSES:	\$ 16,040
Year-to-Date	INCOME:	\$129,379
	EXPENSES:	\$135,976

September Birthdays

Richard Meyer	1-Sep
Laurel Mayeux	3-Sep
Gil Polcen	4-Sep
Tara Russo	8-Sep
Dwayne Smith	9-Sep
Cynthia Kokenos	11-Sep
Jaelyn Russo	11-Sep
Sue Foote	11-Sep
Roger Burt	12-Sep
Trudy Polcen	12-Sep
Debbie Czech	13-Sep
Tyler Fenn	14-Sep
Freida Stelmach	15-Sep
Karen Longo	17-Sep
Barb Harbert	17-Sep
Billie Mordas	19-Sep
Debbie Brooks	20-Sep
Debbie Satola	22-Sep
Keith Kremyar	24-Sep
Dave Rutledge	25-Sep
Stephanie Schmid	28-Sep
Rosemary Flanagan	29-Sep
Richard Griffith, Jr.	30-Sep
Paul Schmid	30-Sep



Leadership Connection

In today’s world, whether in business or government, people seem to be crying out for leaders who can solve problems and help everyday folks like you and me. And yet what we read about and hear and see on the news has most of us discouraged. My sense is that in these two largest segments of our society, the so-called leaders are not there to lead but to make themselves very wealthy at the expense of everyone else.

But Jesus hit the nail on the head when he said in Mark’s Gospel (chapter 10) of his own times, *You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. (v. 42)* Life hasn’t changed much in two thousand years. And Jesus said this to his disciples when James and John wanted to be his #1 and #2 men. Jesus went on to say, *Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to be come great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. (v. 43)*

True leaders and true leadership reflect a servant’s heart and eyes and actions that lead us to do whatever it takes to make things work regardless of our titles or positions. This is true for elders who are responsible for the spiritual welfare of our congregation or deacons who are responsible for extending care to our members. I am thankful for the acts of service that I have seen by so many of the leaders of our congregation.

The key for all of us when we are elected into the offices of deacon and elder is to remember that we have been elected to serve and care for others and become like our Lord. He reminded the Twelve *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (v. 45)* - Rev. Art Helin



Deacon Spotlight

To be a deacon: What is a deacon? According to World Book Dictionary, a deacon is an officer of a church who helps the minister in church duties not connected with preaching. Sounds like a man’s job, right?

Loraine Ellett

I had been praying for NPC. I even asked God if He could use me for an instrument there somehow. Be careful what you pray for. God does hear and answers our prayers. Lo and behold, Jan calls and asks ME to be a deacon. Oh, but I’m a woman, and a Baptist. Again, I talked to the Lord and I reminded Him of that fact—but He already knew that, before I was ever asked to be a deacon. Okay Lord, I’ll do it. Not really knowing what a deacon was, or their duties - I said yes. Art told me a deacon was “the caring arm of the church”. Okay, I could do that. So, I was ordained to be a Presbyterian deacon; and I’m still a woman.

Let’s see what the dictionary says about a deaconess. It says, “A woman who is an official assistant in church work, especially in caring for the sick and poor.” Yes, that seems to fit me better. Basically, we are simply servants of the Lord. The Bible tells us we are to be like Christ; helping and serving others, to show His love wherever we go—not only in church. I’ve been blessed serving as a deacon and working with others at NPC. I’ve never regretted accepting the call. It’s a wonderful position to have, even if you are a woman. God knows who He wants in these positions—so I would say, if you get the call, accept it. You’ll be glad you did. By the way, I’m no longer a Baptist; but I’m still a woman and a deacon!

*Let us go forth, as called of God, Redeemed by Jesus’ precious blood’
His love to show, His life to live, His message speak, His mercy give. - Whittle*

Northfield Presbyterian Church Presents

Growing a Praying Congregation

Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2011

Friday Evening for the Entire Congregation* - 7:00 pm

Growing a Praying Congregation—Kick-off (dessert served)

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after He had finished, one of his disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray...' Luke 11:1

Saturday Morning for Leaders - 8:30 a.m.

Eight *POSITIVE* Leadership Qualities as modeled by Jesus.

Saturday Evening for the Entire Congregation*

5:30 p.m. with Potluck Dinner

UpBuilding One Another in Practical Expressions of our Christian faith,
Including: How to Have a Good Fight, Learning to Listen,
Dealing with Anger, Praying as a family

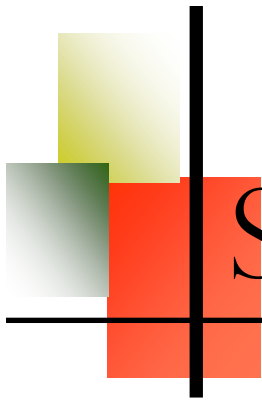
Sunday Morning - 10:15 a.m. Worship/Worldwide Communion

Featuring:

Dr. Ron Rand—Pastor, Author, Speaker for *Upbuilding Ministries* which specializes in training events for all to use as practical expressions of their faith.

**Childcare provided Friday and Saturday evening and during the service on Sunday morning.*

Sign up to Help on insert in Sunday Bulletins



SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8pm AA	2	3
4 9:00 am Prayer 10:15 am Worship 12:30 VBC Worship	5 LABOR DAY	6 7pm Special Session Meeting	7 9:45 am DC Chapel Time 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Venture 7pm VBC Bible Study 7pm Choir	8 6:30 pm Simple Supper & Prayer at Helin's 8pm AA	9	10 8am Men's Bible Study
11 9am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 pm VBC Worship 2pm Private Event	12 10am Women's Association 7pm VBC Choir 7:30 pm Deacons 7pm Boy Scouts	13 7pm Evening Bible Study	14 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9:45 am DC Chapel Time 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7pm VBC Bible Study 7pm Choir	15 7pm Building & Grounds 8pm AA	16	17 7am Session Prayer 9am New Member Orientation
18 9am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 pm VBC Worship & Pastor Installation Event	19 7pm Session 7pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	20 7pm Day Care Board 7pm Evening Bible Study	21 9:45 am DC Chapel Time 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Venture 7pm VBC Bible Study 7pm Choir	22 8pm AA	23	24 8am Men's Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Class for kids
25 9am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 pm VBC Worship	26 7pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	27 7pm Evening Bible Study	28 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9:45 am DC Chapel Time 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7pm VBC Bible Study 7pm Choir	29 8pm AA	30 5:30 pm Community Meal 7pm Growing a Praying Congregation Program and Dessert	

MUSIC NOTES - Zeger Verhage



I love this time of year; the low hum of school buses driving by again, music students ringing my doorbell, the chill of the evening breeze and watching our tall shadows on the sidewalk on the way to the park. What a great time to reflect on a wonderful summer filled with great music, exciting journeys and warm friendships. Let me take this moment to also thank all who have taken ownership of the music ministry at NPC this summer. Your musical contributions are greatly appreciated and the variety of your gifts have made our worship experience so much more meaningful.

And special thanks to Paul Jackson for offering up his lake house to host this year's choir party. Even though the weather was a bit rough at first, it did clear up and some brave choir members even took a little paddle boat tour. Tom Hall was our undisputed choir-quiz winner and, as a reward, he and his family will enjoy a meal at Luna's in the near future. The quiz included questions such as "what is the speed limit in the church parking lot", and "who manufactured the piano in the sanctuary".

It is also time to look ahead and plan for the remainder of the church year. To me, these last months of the year always seem to fly by. Before you know it you're leading Batman and Shrek down the street begging for candy, picking out your turkey and the next thing you know you are singing carols in church. Listening to the choral catalogues CDs and picking out new repertoire for an upcoming semester is always a thrilling part of being a music minister. And I can't wait to share some of these gorgeous anthems with our choir.



We are starting up again with Wednesday night rehearsals on September 7 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. Choir leads again in worship on Sunday, September 11. Ever find yourself humming along or tappin' your toes to some of our choral anthems? Then maybe you should be IN choir! An open invitation is extended your way to join us. Contact me or see me after church. Let's fulfill the scripture and make a joyful noise to our God!



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