

NORTH STAR

March 2021

Making Disciples - Making a Difference

North Presbyterian Church
921 College Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901-2048
www.northpres.church
Phone: 607-734-2977
Fax: 607-734-2978

Worship: Sunday at 9:30 am

In This Issue

- **Letter from Pastor Hansen: Page 2**
- **A few reminders: Page 3**
 - Worship Volunteers
- **We are Family: Page 4**
 - *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*
 - *Send a Card*
- **Children & Youth: Page 5**
 - *Letter from our Director of Children & Youth Ministries*
 - *Kids' Corner Activity*
- **Did You Know?: Pages 6-7**
 - *Helpful Church Info for You*
 - *Food Pantry Info*
 - *Important Reminders & Announcements*
- **Stewardship: Page 8-9**
- **In The Spotlight: Page 10**
 - *Renovation House*
- **Food Pantry Page 11**
- **Presbytery of Geneva: Page 12-13**
- **Church Business: Page 14-17**
 - *Board of Session Minutes, Feb, 2021*
 - *Annual Meeting Minutes- 2021*
- **Monthly Calendar: Page 18**

Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen	Pastor pastor@northpres.church Open Door Office Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm
Paul Holland	Music Director music@northpres.church
Annette Stevens	Temporary Accompanist organist@northpres.church
Deb Stamp	Director of Children & Youth Ministries youth@northpres.church
Gretchen Duffy	Office Administrator office@northpres.church

NOTICE: Many groups, meetings & committees at NPC have been paused until further notice. Stay tuned to our Fb page for updates & see our website for helpful resources.

March, 2021

A Letter from Pastor Hansen

As we enter into Lent and the snow continues to fall and cover the ground with its cold, wet blanket, it is tempting to try to peer over these forty days and focus on the dazzling white of Easter morning and the colors that await us when snow bells, crocuses, daffodils, hyacinths, and tulips emerge from their long rest to greet us and the warming sun. Growing up in Montana, spring was heralded by yellowbells, bluebells, arrowleaf balsam root, lupine, and budding lilac bushes. When I moved to Salem, Oregon, in Oregon's Willamette Valley, to go to law school, I witnessed for the first time in my life, the springtime joy of cherry trees in full bloom with their fragrant, pink blossoms.

It is hard not to yearn for the green shoots of spring flowers and their promise of warmer days when each day we look out and see a winter landscape dominated by monochromatic whites, grays, browns, and the occasional evergreen. And yet, without the cold days of winter, the spring flowers we love may not arrive with their rich, extravagant colors. The hardy lilac, which can survive winter temperatures of -40.0° Fahrenheit, must have the cold of winter to bloom. Without winter, the lilac blossom would not exist.

As we approach the one-year mark of life in the time of COVID-19, it can certainly seem like the Lenten wilderness we entered last year never actually ended, but paved over Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time, Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany; and, that we are back in Lent without ever having left it. When COVID first hit, we said to ourselves, "It will be alright, we will be back for Easter." When Easter passed us by, the refrain became, "We will be back for Pentecost." Months later, our congregation has spent far, far more time worshipping and meeting remotely than in-person.

If we skip Lent and ignore its difficult lessons, its stripping of our pride, its unending reminder that in the wilderness nothing is constant except for the uncertainty of life and the unstoppable forces of change and time, we will arrive at Easter empty, unprepared, and with expectations of a return to "normal." We will ignore that COVID has exposed "normal" for what it always was: full of empty calories that left us feeling sated, but starving. We will forget that Easter can never be a return to 'what once was' – for the story of Easter is the triumph of God over 'what was.' Easter is God's exclamation point to proclamation of *a new thing* in Christ Jesus.

There is nothing "normal" about Easter. If that first Easter had been "normal," the stone over the tomb would have never been rolled away. If the first Easter had been "normal," the women would have not run from an empty tomb; but, instead would have arrived and wept over Jesus' decaying body as they dressed his corpse with spices. "Normal" cannot hold or bear the weight of our lives and our difficulties – and it never could.

Spring is coming, but before we get to spring and the joy of Easter, we need to look at Lent with new eyes and hear the Holy Spirit's call to discipleship anew. Friends, just as the lilac needs the freezing cold to thrive, we need the wilderness of Lent to strip away our callouses, our cataracts, and the chains of "normal;" so that, we may embrace and rejoice in the *anything, but normal* story of a God whose love has no bounds and no end.

Warmly in Christ,
Pastor Evan

COME FIND US!



<https://www.facebook.com/North-Presbyterian-Church-317905658221204>



Visit
Our
Website

<https://www.northpres.church/>



JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*



We have resumed in-person worship in the sanctuary! For those who would like to join us remotely via Zoom or listen in the parking lot to the 1700AM radio station, we will be continuing with these, too. Please join us!



March Worship Volunteers

Tech Booth

3/7 Steven Allison
3/14 Ed Wilson
3/21 Bill Furnas
3/28 Steven Allison

Counters

3/7 Phil Carpentier and Jeff Richards
3/14 Cindy & Kurt Kalweit
3/21 Jim Mosher and Janice Williams
3/28 Suzie Hoskins and Deb Stamp

Maitre D

March - Janice Williams or Pat Richards

Ushers

3/3 Kurt & Cindy Kalweit
3/7 George Batrowney and Pat or Jeff Richards
3/10 Janice Williams and Phil Carpentier
3/14 Jerry Russell, Joe Rolls, Bob Russell
3/17 Wendy Swatling and Barb Duryea

3/21 Deb Stamp and Ann Motely
3/24 Tim & Cheryl Allison
3/28 Kurt & Cindy Kalweit
3/31 George Batrowney and Pat or Jeff Richards



March 7:
Laurie and Isabella Runyan

March 14:
Bob & Barb Russell
Alan and Jerry Russell

March 21:
Margery Schornstheimer

March 28:
Scott and Allison Sevey
Lauren and Ryan Sevey

**Jesus tells us
to pray without ceasing
for the good of God's people.**

March 7:
Norma Brooks
Colony Apts.
Apt.2020
1210 W. Water St.
Elmira, NY

March 14:
Rita Dery
207 Greenway
Boulevard
Churchville, NY 14428

March 21:
Maxine Burroughs
99 Demarist Parkway
Elmira, NY 14905

March 28:
Margery Schornstheimer
758 Silver Pine Drive
St. Augustine, Fla 32092



**Send a
Card
Today!**



**We would like to remind everyone that they are welcome to
attend Session Meetings.**

**If you are interested in attending one, please contact the
church office.**



CHILDREN & YOUTH



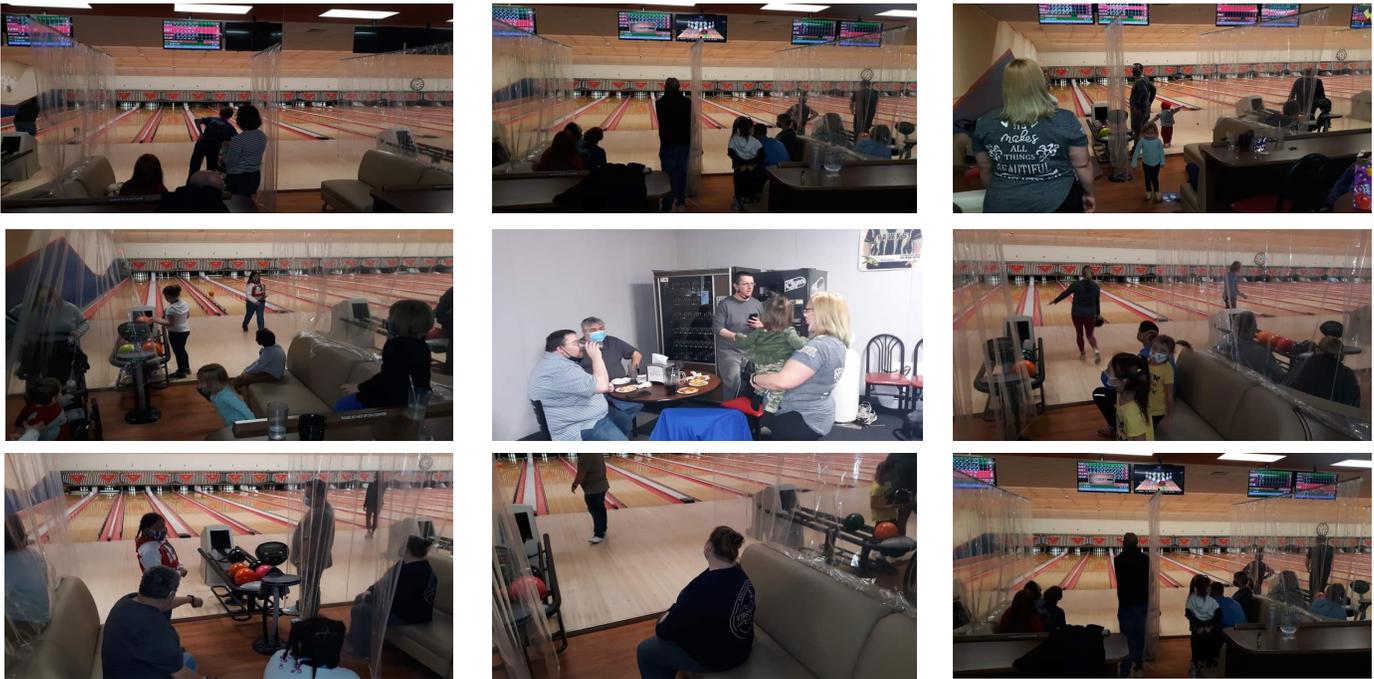
Children and Youth Ministry March 2021

As we enter into the month of March I'm hoping we can leave some of this wonderful snowy winter behind us and begin the long awaited thaw. Sunshine, birds singing and the promise of spring is hopefully around the corner. I do have to say that January and February were promising in the fact that we are slowly trying to get back to some form of normalcy here at North Pres. We were able to get together for an afternoon of bowling with some of our church families. Twenty seven people showed up and we had a great time. Please keep Tim Allison in your prayers as he was our one casualty. He slipped and came down hard on his hands and knees and ended up with a fracture in his knee cap. He was great though, after falling he brushed himself off and continued to bowl for a while and then transitioned to teaching some of our kids who had never bowled. All in all it was a fun afternoon, the kids were excited to be together and we adults had a chance to connect. We are excited that plans are underway to reopen Sunday school and Wee Worship on March 7th, 2021. We will be following the same protocol we had in place in September. Masks, social distancing, hand washing etc.

The Christian Ed. committee will be hosting a Corned beef and Cabbage dinner on Saturday March 13th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. The dinner will be takeout and deliver only. Cutoff time for call in orders will be Thur. March 11th. We are very thankful to John Duffy and Jeff Richards for ordering and helping cook the food. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the dinner please call myself, Ann Motley or Susie Hoskins. We are in need of delivery drivers and dinner prep people who can help fill food trays. We will have two pickup spots. One for preorder and one for walk-ins.

On March 27th we would like to have an informal communion class for the children. All ages are invited and Pastor Hansen will coming in to talk to the kids about communion and what it means to receive it. It will be a refresher course for some of our older kids. We will be making Communion bread for Easter Sunday and enough for them to bring some home and share with their families. I'm looking forward to getting Sunday school started again and welcoming the kids and their families back to church.

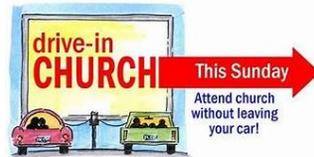
Blessings in Christ,
 Deb Stamp
 Director of children and youth Min.



Friendly Reminders

Did you know that, beginning March 7, 2021, we will resume Wee Worship and Sunday School for all ages?

As with in person worship, we will continue to take all of the CDC recommended precautions. Just a reminder regarding in person worship, we will continue to provide remote worship services via Zoom link or parking lot. If you would prefer to meet remotely, we will continue to provide an email to the congregation that includes a Zoom link and worship materials. If you are not comfortable with Zoom, you can still come to the parking lot and listen to the service on the 1700AM radio station. This being the case we wanted to provide everyone again with a handy guide to safe social distancing practices for those worshipping in person or in the parking lot. Please review the information below and if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the church office or any member of Session. Remember, we are all in this together!



Parking Lot Worship:

- **Cars will park at least six feet apart.**
Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.) We will have someone guiding your parking.
 - **All congregants will remain in their cars for the entirety of the service.**
 - **Windows will remain no more than half open and doors will remain closed.**
- Please tune your radio to 1700AM.
- **Parishioners will not sit in the beds of pickup trucks.**
 - **A box or basket will be provided for parishioners to deposit their tithes and offerings without engaging in social contact or leaving their vehicle.**

Someone will have a basket available to you as you exit. Please have your mask on if you roll down your window.

- **At the conclusion of the services, parishioners will exit as they came.**
- You will be guided when to pull out. Due to car spacing requirements, we will need to limit the number of cars in the parking lot. Please understand if you are turned away. If the lot is full, please know that you can still pick up the radio signal from the surrounding neighborhood streets.
- **Zoom service Link will be emailed each week for those who would like to participate via Zoom.**

Sanctuary Worship:

- **Masks are required per Executive Order for all people entering and within the building during worship service.**
- Congregants will abstain from gathering socially in the narthex or sanctuary. Hand sanitizer and masks are available. Trash receptacles are at all exits.
- Entering through the front door, congregants will remain 6 feet apart as they wait in line to register at the Welcome Center for purposes of possible contact tracing later, if needed.
- All congregants will then move to the podium to their left and wait to be seated. Congregants will be seated with social distancing in place.
- There will be no sharing of the peace to minimize physical contact.
- There will be no singing. A mental reflective contemplation of the words is encouraged.
- Friendship pads and hymnals have been removed from pews to minimize contact transmission.
- The service will always appear on the large screen at the front of the church.
- Congregants are welcome to leave service and continue participating in their car at any time if they feel the need to do so.



Committee/Coordinator	Email Address
Audit	audit@northpres.church
Buildings & Grounds	campus@northpres.church
Building Use	building_use@northpres.church
Clerk of Session	session@northpres.church
Deacons	deacons@northpres.church
Education	education@northpres.church
Fellowship	fellowship@northpres.church
Finance	finance@northpres.church
Mission & Outreach	mission_outreach@northpres.church
Nominating	nominating@northpres.church
Staff Relations	staff_relations@northpres.church
Tech & Communications	tech_com@northpres.church
Treasurer	Financial_sec@northpres.church
Worship & Music	worship@northpres.church



Staff	Email Address
Church Administrator	office@northpres.church
Director of Youth Ministries	youth@northpres.church
Music Director	music@northpres.church
Organist	organist@northpres.church
Pastor	pastor@northpres.church



Thanks to the generous donations from the First Presbyterian Church Food Drive, our Food Pantry is full!! We will not be requesting any food donations at this time. We will let you know when the pantry is in need again.

Thank you for all of your continued support!



Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

Sponsored by Christian Education

- Saturday, March 13th from 4:00– 6:00 pm.
- The dinner will be take out and delivery only.
- Cutoff time for call in orders will be Thursday, March 11th.
- We are in need of delivery drivers and dinner prep people to fill food trays.
- Please contact Deb Stamp if you would like to volunteer.
- Please contact the church office if you would like to preorder.



Stewardship Is **HEART WORK** Learning ♥ Worship ♥ Service

Per Capita Contributions

It's that time of year when we consider Per Capita Contributions.

Per capita for 2021 is set at \$50 per church member -- the same as for the last several years. The Presbytery of Geneva uses these funds for a variety of programs to support churches throughout our Presbytery. Please consider giving toward North's per capita contribution.

Below is an explanation of what Per Capita is and how those contributions are used.

Thank you!

A Per Capita Primer

What is Per Capita? In essence, per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that is paid to the Presbytery of Geneva, the Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Just as a train cannot move without an engine, our church councils require a power source to enable them to provide basic services which support our mutual mission as the Body of Christ. Per capita covers the ecclesiastical expenses of the denomination: the coordination and evaluation of mission, and the performance of ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions. Per capita is an opportunity for all members of the Presbyterian Church to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the organizational costs of the larger church.

What does the Book of Order say about Per Capita? “Each council above the session shall prepare a budget annually for its operating expenses, including administrative personnel, and may fund it with a per capita apportionment among the particular churches within its bounds. Presbyteries are responsible for raising their own funds and for the timely transmission of per capita funds to their respective synods and to General Assembly. Presbyteries may direct per capita apportionments to the sessions within their bounds but in no case shall the authority of the session to direct its benevolences be comprised.” (G-3.0106)

How is per capita paid to the Synod and General Assembly in the Presbytery of Geneva? Different denominations have different ways of collecting revenue. Some receive a "head tax" of more than \$50 per member. Others receive a certain percentage of a congregation's receipts (up to 25%). In the Presbyterian Church (USA), per capita is an obligation of the Presbytery. The Presbytery of Geneva affirms the interdependent nature of our church by allocating funds in the annual operating budget for Presbytery, Synod, and GA per capita regardless of income from the churches.

What are the consequences if a Church does not contribute to the Presbytery? The majority of congregations in the Presbytery generously contribute funds every year. When particular churches do not contribute, a greater burden of responsibility is placed on sister churches in the Presbytery to fund our mutual mission including our partnership with Synod and General Assembly.

Per capita establishes a minimum level of financial participation in the vital work of our connectional church as the Body of Christ, strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians. It is a moral obligation we share with one another. Some sessions encourage each member to contribute per capita beyond regular giving to the church. For more information about per capita: <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/departments/per-capita/frequently-asked-questions/>

***The Presbytery of Geneva is grateful for your congregation's partnership
in mission and ministry!***



Renovation house

TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF MEN

North Presbyterian Church
921 College Ave.
Elmira, NY 14901

Hi friends,

My name is Zaan Austen. I am the office manager here at the Renovation House.

The Lord has done a whole lot in my life the last year.

Last year this time, I wrote the thank you letter as Zaan Parsons, a South African Intern at the women's home. I got married in August to my husband, Taylor, an alumni of the program. God blessed us with a beautiful wedding with our closest friends and family, it was beautiful.



We now live in a parsonage on ministry property both as full time staff members. God has brought me from South Africa to the middle of nowhere in Spencer, NY. He had a purpose and has carried me this far and will continue to carry me. I have had the honor and privilege of watching many men and women be changed by this program, and have been able to witness the fruit in lives like my husbands. The men and women of this program have become our family.



My husband is, besides Jesus, the best thing that has ever happened to me and without this program I wouldn't have the man that I do. The program not only saves the students, it saves their families as well

I just wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving to this ministry. It truly saves lives.

Your giving has made that so many can receive the freedom from Jesus. I ask that you would prayer-fully continue to give.

THANK YOU

Blessings

Zaan Austen

379 Dean Creek Road Spencer, NY 14883
Cell (607) 738-9709 Tel (607) 589-4413 Fax (607) 589-7383 renovationhouse777@gmail.com
Mailing Address: PO Box 396 Spencer, NY 14883



First Presbyterian Church of Elmira sponsored a Food Drive on February 13th to benefit the North Presbyterian Church Food Pantry. The drive, *Show Your ❤️ For Hunger Relief* was a big success! Donations were received from Notre Dame High School, Holy Family School, Members of the First Presbyterian Church, and members of the community . **Thank you to all who donated!**





Moderator's Missive

January 24, 2021

Dear Geneva Presbytery Servant Leaders,

We just finished a week full of activities: celebrating the life and legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the pageantry of the Inauguration for the 46th President, and our first Presbytery meeting for 2021. We viewed each by either television or computer. We are grateful for this technology so that we may be witnesses of history and being connected.

The highlights from the Presbytery meeting --

- Heard a presentation from The Rev. Dr. Y. Diana Wright, PCUSA Interim Director for Ecumenical Relations
- Welcomed two pastors
 - The Rev. Dr. Allen Wade for Canandaigua United (PCUSA & ABC) Church
 - The Rev. Colin Pritchard for The Presbyterian Church in Geneva
- Passed the 2021 Budget
- Launched a "Friends of Camp Whitman" Campaign
 - Received a \$10,00 matching gift for Camp Whitman
 - The 2020 Necrology report remembering the Great Cloud of Witnesses of 38 Ruling Elders
 - Presbytery Leader Susan Orr's resignation, effective March 25, 2021
 - Presbytery Women will regroup with Virtual Tea on January 27
 - Heard Covid-19 update from Dr. Rob Anderson
- The Rev. Anita Milne and folks from Waterloo Presbyterian Church led Communion and Worship "For All People"

If you wish to read more about any of the above items, please go to the Geneva Presbytery webpage. Elena keeps it all up to date.

Looking ahead to our next meeting on Tuesday, March 23rd in the afternoon, our theme will be "Won't you be my neighbor." Our meeting is three days after the PCUSA is observing the birthday of the late The Rev. Fred Rogers. This will be another Zoom meeting. Please feel free to wear your cardigan sweaters and sneakers.

I would like to close with "MKK Day Affirmation"

- I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us.
- I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice.
- I believe those around me are my sister and brother.
- I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed.
- I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it.
- This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation.
- I remember, "Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can."

~~drawn from writings of MLK, Jr. by Abigail Reichard

In Christ's Service,
RE Virginia Champlin
2021 Geneva Presbytery Moderator



Welcome

February 9, 2021

I hope that this letter finds you well. Much of the recent news has been better than last month.

After a significant rise in COVID-19 cases in December and January, we are seeing a significant decline in cases nationally and locally. The positivity rate is declining. More people are getting vaccinated, and the supply does seem to be improving. I think it's worth noting that the sheer numbers are still much higher than they were a few months ago. Continued diligence with masking and social distancing will be critically important in the coming weeks to continue these trends downward.

Much has been made of the newer variants. They are a concern in that they seem to spread more efficiently. For most of them, the vaccines do seem to be effective, although the data on the two available is somewhat limited for the "South Africa" variant, named for the location in which it was first detected. Some of the vaccines pending approval have active studies going, and the Astra-Zeneca vaccine hasn't done well with it so far. Johnson and Johnson's was still effective, but less so. This might lead people to question the vaccinations. The most important statistics so far indicate that for all of the vaccines authorized or pending authorization, they dramatically reduce the risk of death and hospitalization. No deaths and nearly no hospitalizations have been found in published studies involving 75,000 vaccinated. This is significant because the problem of COVID-19 is not the fact that it's a virus. We have had viruses since the beginning of time, and we are all accustomed to milder viruses. The concern here is the risk of hospitalization and death. If we can severely limit or eliminate that risk, we will eventually be able to resume more normal social interactions.

This winter is relatively emotionally difficult, as we're unable to be outside for dining or other social interactions. Athletics are limited outdoors. Based on the evidence and expert advice, it still seems that congregating indoors for more than short periods of time remains among the greatest risk activities. I would continue to encourage significant limitation of these interactions.

Another interesting question is that of gathering vaccinated people. The NYS recommendations are that vaccinated people exposed to known cases or traveling out of state are still subject to the same quarantine requirements. At issue here is a relative lack of evidence. We simply don't yet know if vaccines reduce transmission. Many experts (including myself, although I'm not sure how much I count as an expert) suspect that it will reduce transmission, but we simply don't have information about this yet. I would advise using caution, and making less risky choices such as choosing only a few family members to gather, avoiding locations like restaurants where people are unable to distance without masks. I would also note that with very careful precautions over the next few weeks, cases should continue to fall. This, along with the continued vaccinations, should allow us to reduce transmission going into spring (if such a season exists in Upstate New York).

Finally, I'd like to again encourage people to check their eligibility through the NYSDOH website. Many hospitals and the county public health departments also have links to vaccination clinics and eligibility checks. The best vaccine remains the one closest to your arm, and I would recommend any available. Experts do think if variants form that have less susceptibility, they will be able to adapt the vaccines relatively quickly to boost coverage for these.

I pray for our continued work, for patience, and for courage.

Peace and Health,
Rob Anderson MD

NPC Board of Session

SESSION MEETING

Sunday, February 21, 2021

NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM

Elders present: Barbara Duryea, William Furnas, Eva "Annie" LeFevre, Ann Motley, Linda Palmer, Jeffrey Richards, Wendy Swatling

Moderator: Rev. Evan Hansen

Clerk: Cynthia Kalweit (excused)

Treasurer: Patricia Richards

Guests (Elders-elect): Steven Allison, Timothy Allison, George Batrowny, Susan Hoskins

A quorum was determined, and the meeting was called to order by the Moderator who opened the meeting with prayer and a reading from Faith Unraveled by Rachel Held Evans.

On the motion of LeFevre, seconded by Swatling, Linda Palmer was elected Clerk Pro tempore.

Motion was made by Ms. Swatling on behalf of the Staff Relations Committee to remove the request relative to the Organist job description from the agenda (being forwarded to the Music and Worship Committee for review). Motion was made by Duryea, seconded by Swatling, and carried to approve the agenda as amended.

The minutes of the January 17, 2021 Session meeting were approved on the motion of Swatling, seconded by LeFevre, and carried.

The minutes of the January 24, 2021 126th Annual Congregational Meeting were amended on the motion LeFevre, seconded by Richards, and carried, to define the terms of George Batrowny and Timothy Allison with each serving a two-year unexpired term, placing them in the Class of 2023. Motion was made by Duryea, seconded by Furnas, and carried by Session to approve the minutes as amended.

Pastor Hansen presented the Clerk's Report noting the statistics for the month of January.

Mrs. Richards presented the Treasurer's Report. She advised the endowment fund lost almost \$17,000 in January. There were no questions for the Treasurer relative to the financial reports. A motion to receive the Treasurer's Report was offered by LeFevre, seconded by Swatling, and carried.

NPC Board of Session

Pastor Hansen is continuing telephone visitations, and he said attendance has increased with in-person worship, however winter weather is still making Zoom an attractive option. In response to questioning by Ms. Hoskins, Mr. S. Allison stated there were 18 devices signed into Zoom for today's worship service, but the average is 20-30 devices (representing more people). Pastor Hansen and Paul Holland continue to work on licensing, particularly for music used by the handbell choir.

Mrs. LeFevre gave a report on the recent meeting of the Geneva Presbytery. The 2021 budget was reviewed, and two pastors were approved as members of the Presbytery. Mr. Richards updated Session on Camp Whitman – planning for in-person camping this summer following roof replacement and solar panel installation on the main lodge.

The examination of Steven Allison and Timothy Allison as Ruling Elders was led by Pastor Hansen. Both reflected on their spiritual journeys. Motion was made by Duryea, seconded by LeFevre and carried to close the examination of Steven Allison. The Ordination of Steven Allison as a Ruling Elder (Buildings and Grounds Committee, Class of 2024) was approved by Session on the motion of Richards and seconded by LeFevre. Motion was made by LeFevre, seconded by Richards and carried to close the examination of Timothy Allison. The Ordination of Timothy Allison as a Ruling Elder (Music and Worship Committee, Class of 2023) was approved by Session on the motion of Duryea and seconded by Swatling. The Ordination and Reaffirmation Ceremony (Batrowny and Hoskins) was scheduled for March 14, 2021 on the motion of Richards, which was seconded by LeFevre, and carried.

Each Committee presented a verbal or written report. Mr. Batrowny indicated the Deacons will hold their first meeting on March 18th. On behalf of the Music and Worship Committee, Pastor Hansen asked for authorization to conduct a fundraising campaign to purchase paraments – frontals and scarves for the Chancel. He noted that North used to have these elements, however they were lost years ago in the fire. Recent budget transfers from Finance and the rummage sale account have allowed the purchase of frontals for Lent and Easter at an estimated cost of \$1,665 apiece. The Pastor will quantify the cost for the additional materials needed to complete the church-year. A motion was made by Swatling, seconded by LeFevre and carried by Session to authorize a fundraising campaign to purchase additional paraments for the church. Mrs. Motley noted in-person Sunday School will begin on March 7th, and the Christian Education Committee is planning a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner (take-out and delivery only) on March 13th. Mr. Furnas suggested recording the instructions for the dinner patrons to be played on the church's radio station.

Mrs. Motley and Mr. Furnas were applauded for their dedication to North Church and their years of service as members of Session. They were reminded that "once an Elder, always an Elder!"

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 7:45 p.m. on the motion of LeFevre, which was seconded by Swatling, and carried.

ANNUAL MEETING

One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting
of the Congregation
of the
North Presbyterian Church
January 24, 2021

Rev. Evan Hansen called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

The Clerk determined that a quorum of the membership was present via ZOOM and by in-person attendance.

The agenda was approved as presented on the motion by Annie LeFevre, seconded by Jeff Richards. Motion carried unanimously.

On the motion by Jeff Richards, seconded by Cheryl Allison, the Clerk of Session was appointed Moderator pro-tem for consideration of the Pastor's Terms of Call. Motion carried unanimously.

Elder Wendy Swatling, Chair of the Staff Relations committee, presented the Pastor's Terms of Call for the period 2/1/2021 through 1/31/2022 as follows:

Cash Salary	\$50,327.38
Housing Allowance	\$16,200.00
½ SECA	\$ 4,789.97
Pension/Benefits*	\$26,405.04
Professional Expenses	\$ 1,200.00
Study Allowance**	\$ 1,000.00
Misc. Expenses	\$ 150.00

31 days Vacation (4 Sundays)
14 days Study Leave (2 Sundays)
Mileage reimbursed at IRS business rate
Fully paid (salary/housing/pension/benefits) sabbatical after seven (7) years so long as Pastor Hansen stays at NPC for at least one (1) year after sabbatical is completed.

*includes dental and vision insurance

** the unspent balance rolls over to the net year so that Pastor Hansen can save for larger ticket items; also, one-half of this can be spent on books.

Suzie Hoskins asked for clarification regarding the Pastor's effective salary (as presented in the 2021 NPC budget). The Treasurer explained that the Pastor's salary as presented in the budget (\$50,327.38) is the total of the effective cash salary of \$45,537.41 plus the reimbursement of ½ SECA (Social Security) of \$4,789.97.

The Pastor's Terms of Call as recommended and presented by the Staff Relations committee were unanimously approved.

Elder Jeff Richards, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of Elders and Church Officers:

Session Class of 2024:

Buildings and Grounds: Steve Allison
Christian Education: Suzie Hoskins
Congregational Life (Deacons): George Batrowny
Communications and Technology: Barb Duryea
Treasurer: Pat Richards
Clerk of Session: Cindy Kalweit
Commissioner to the Presbytery of Geneva: Annie LeFevre

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion to close the nominations and approve the slate as presented in one motion made by Wendy Swatling, seconded by Annie LeFevre. Motion carried with Glenda Solowiej opposed.

Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the 125th Annual meeting and ratify the action of Session (approval of minutes on February 17, 2020) made by Tim Allison, seconded by Annie LeFevre. Motion carried.

ANNUAL MEETING

Celebration of our ministry together in 2020: Rev. Hansen asked people to share specific ministries, events, or celebrations from 2020 that they are thankful for and/or what they are looking forward to in the year to come.

We are thankful for:

Our new Pastor
Wonderful staff/worship team/tech. booth volunteers
Church family that has stuck together through a difficult year
Food Pantry being able to remain open during the pandemic
Session members
Bell Choir
Technology (ZOOM) that has allowed us to continue to worship “together” and hold meetings
No deaths of members due to COVID-19

We look forward to:

COVID-19 vaccine
Resuming Fellowship dinners
Resuming Bible study
Resuming Sunday school
Christmas caroling
Men’s breakfast
Easter celebration
Getting to know our new pastor and his family better

Annual Committee Reports: Rev. Hansen reviewed the written committee reports included in the 2020 Annual Report. He thanked each of the committees for their dedication and hard work and encouraged anyone interested in joining a committee to contact the committee Chairperson.

Presentation of the 2021 Budget: NPC Treasurer, Pat Richards, presented the 2021 Budget as approved by the Session on December 20, 2020. She noted that \$3,000 in additional pledges have been received, bringing total contribution income for 2021 to \$129,577. Total Expenses are budgeted at \$324,423. The 2021 budget will utilize \$195,000 of the Endowment Fund to meet operating expenses.

In response to a question from Suzie Hoskins regarding the total transferred in 2020 from the Endowment Fund, the Treasurer noted that the total transferred in 2020 to meet operating expenses was \$145,000. The Moderator asked for a recap of the 2020 beginning and ending balance for the Endowment Fund. The Treasurer stated that the beginning balance (as of 1/1/2020) was \$2,030,000 and the ending balance (as of 12/31/2020) was \$2,247,166.

Motion to receive the 2021 budget as amended (\$3,000 additional contribution income) was made by Suzie Hoskins, seconded by Jeff Richards. Motion carried unanimously.

Pastor Hansen led the congregation in a unison prayer of Thanksgiving.

A moment of silence was observed for members (and friends of NPC) deceased since the last annual meeting: Ann Gawenus, Eleanor Riley, Larry Campbell, Elena Forrest, Earl Bush, Barbara Mosher, Margaret Carney, Dick Schorenstheimer

In remembrance, praise, and thanksgiving for their lives and dedication to the church, the congregation recited verses 1 & 3 of the hymn “For All the Saints”.

Motion to allow Session to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting at the February 21, 2021 Stated Session meeting made by Annie LeFevre, seconded by Jeff Richards. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Jeff Richards, seconded by Annie LeFevre. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed in unison prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia G. Kalweit, Clerk of Session

MARCH

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Bulletin Information Due 9:30 am Finance Meeting 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Lenten Study Group 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm Lent Service with Communion 	4 11:00 am Deacon's Meeting 12:00 pm Blood Drive 	5 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	6
7 9:30 am Worship Service with Communion 	8	9 4:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting 7:00 pm Buildings and Grounds Meeting	10 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Lenten Study Group 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm Lent Service with Communion 	11	12 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	13
14 Daylight Savings Time Starts  9:30 am Worship Service	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Lenten Study Group 5:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm Lent service w/ communion 	18	19 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	20
21 9:30 am Worship Service with Communion  6:00 pm Board of Session 	22 Newsletter Info Due 	23	24 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Lenten Study Group 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice 7:00 pm Lent service w/ communion 	25	26 10:00 am Food Pantry 5:15 pm AA Meeting	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Worship Service 	29	30	31 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am Food Pantry 12:00 pm Lenten Study Group 6:00 pm Bel Choir Practice			