

NORTH STAR

February 2024

**Making Disciples...
Making a Difference**



Worship: Sunday at 9:30 am
North Presbyterian Church
921 College Avenue
Elmira, NY 14901-2048
www.northpres.church
Phone: 607-734-2977

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February, 2024
A Letter from Pastor Hansen

Presbyterians like to talk about being a “connectional” church. It’s not that other denominations are not connectional; we just like to say that we are. Part of our connections come from how we organize ourselves. My father, a now-retired American Baptist minister, likes to tease me that the Baptists got their name from the Sacrament of Baptism, but Presbyterians took their name from their form of government. He’s right. Unlike the Roman Catholics, the Lutherans, the Episcopalians, and others who have bishops, we have presbyteries.

Presbyteries do a lot. I am serving here because the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon recognized that I needed to explore a call to ministry and agreed to partner with me as we worked together to determine whether I really was called to ministry as a pastor. The work I did with the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon was recognized and validated by the Presbytery of Geneva when it voted to ordain and install me as your pastor. Along the way, I spent time as an intern in the Presbytery of Philadelphia’s Incubator Program with Tree of Life Church and interned at Broad Street Ministry, a ministry that started with the blessing and support of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

I can trace the renewal of my sense of call to pastoral ministry to my time as a Ruling Elder Commissioner from the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon to the Synod of the Pacific and to the General Assembly. Without the Presbytery of Eastern Oregon and its support, I would not be here as your pastor. And without the Presbytery of Geneva, two members of our own congregation would not be slated to represent our presbytery at this year’s General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Part of being connectional is supporting our presbyteries by volunteering our time and our resources. As a congregation, we support our presbytery in a number of ways. North has a history of ruling elders and pastors serving on committees, such as the Camp Whitman Committee. When I came here, I agreed to be an active and supportive member of our presbytery. We also support it financially with per capita payments and with mission funding.

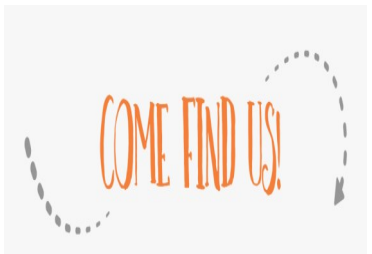
As a congregation, we voluntarily support our presbytery by honoring its request that we pay per capita of \$50 per member. Of the \$50, \$36.77 stays with the presbytery, \$4.25 goes to the Synod of the Northeast, and \$8.98 goes to the General Assembly. ***This is not a membership fee.*** By allocating per capita by membership, the larger churches, who should be more financially able to support the presbytery, pay more than the smaller churches.

We also voluntarily pledge to pay mission funds. Our mission support helps fund Camp Whitman and other ministries. Our food pantry has received grant funding from our presbytery for special projects, such as for our personal needs program.

Please consider helping our congregation pay per capita for this upcoming year. Mark your envelope, the envelopes in the pews, write in the memo of your check, or if you give online, you can give an additional donation as “per capita.” Every bit helps our congregation support our presbytery, our fellow congregations, and our past, current, and future pastors, commissioned ruling elders, and ministries in our presbytery and throughout the world.

By joining together with other congregations and other Presbyterians what seems to be not a lot goes a really long way.

Warmly in Christ,
Pastor Evan



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



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



JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

**If you would like to donate Chancel flowers (suggested donation of \$42),
please contact Lori Lee at 607-739-3176.**

Available Sundays for February and March 2024 are:

February 18 and March 10, 17 and 24.

Please take the flowers home to enjoy after the service.

If you are not in the sanctuary on
your chosen date,
we will be in touch with you to make a plan.

February Worship Volunteers

Tech Booth

February 4	Bill Furnas
February 11	Bill Furnas
February 18	Steve Allison
February 25	Steve Allison

Counters

February 4	Phil Carpentier, Jeff Richards
February 11	Cindy & Kurt Kalweit
February 18	Annette Stevens, Jim Mosher
February 25	Janice Williams, Annette Stevens

Ushers

February 4	Amanda Korfmann, Joe Rolls
February 11	Tim & Cheryl Allison
February 18	Nancy Isaacs, Kate Hansen
February 25	Kurt & Cindy Kalweit

Wee Worship

February 4	Allie & Scott Sevey
February 11	Karen Wilson, Barb Duryea
February 18	Liz Wilson and Wally Ferriter
February 25	Deb Stamp, Peyton Hoskins-Thomas

Communion

February 4	Linda Palmer, Steve Allison, Kate Hansen Sylvia Tuller, Lori Lee
February 18	Wendy Swatling, TBD

Worship Assistant

February 4	Tim Allison
February 11	Cindy Kalweit
February 18	Wendy Swatling
February 25	TBD

Greeters

February 4	Janice Williams
February 11	Linda Palmer
February 18	Jerry Harding
February 25	Tim Allison

Coffee Hour

February 4	Ann Motley, Glenda Solowiej
February 11	Cheryl Allison, Barb Duryea
February 18	Bobbi Furnas, Pat Richards
February 25	Cindy Kalweit, Annette Stevens

Youth Reader

February 4	Paityn Perry
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Youth Usher

February 4	Alexii Hoskins-Thomas
February 11	Charlie Wilkinson
February 18	Wally Ferriter
February 25	Paityn Perry

TOGETHER WE MAKE A FAMILY



February 4:
Pat & Jeff Richards

February 11:
Melissa Ripley
Corey, Kailey, Kyler

February 18:
Joel & Linda Robinson

February 25:
Joseph, Eric & Geoffrey Rolls

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

Our Homebound Friends

February 4:
Betty Carney
74 Smith Rd.
Millport, NY 14864

February 11:
Wilma Padgett
3015 Lake St.
Elmira Heights, NY 14903

February 18:
Margery Schornstheimer
758 Silver Pine Dr.
St. Augustine Fl, 32092

February 25
Liz Bush
37442 Loganberry Court
Wedgewood Manor
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

*Please send
a card to
our
Homebound
Friends*



Welcome!

**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.**



Weekly Prayer Chain Email

Did you know that you can pray or be
prayed for? You are invited to let the church
office know how you would like to be
involved.

We are stronger together.



Children and Youth Ministry February 2024

As we enter February, we have plenty of activities on the agenda for the next six weeks. We will be welcoming new committee co-chairs as we say **thank you and enjoy your extra free time to our out-going committee chairperson, Suzie Hoskins**. Children and Youth Ministry looks forward to a new year, a fresh start and, hopefully, welcoming new members to the Christian Ed. Committee.

The Sunday school classes will be focusing on Lent these next two months and, hopefully, a joint Seder Meal with the 3-5 grades and the Jr/Sr high classes in March.

This year, we will be joining with First Pres. Church for a joint VBS and will be meeting soon to begin picking out a theme (we think we might have found a really fun one). There are many decisions that go into putting on VBS such as location, dates, and times and I'm looking forward to working with our friends at First Pres. on such a big venture. We also have some fun events planned or in the planning stages for the joint youth group.

We will be moving the Sunday school rooms to the main floor sometime in April. We will begin the process of packing up our class rooms to prepare for the move. Session and Building and Grounds will be helping to make sure everything is ready.

As we begin this new year, let's look at it as a fresh start, a time for renewal and a chance to grow our youth program. All things are possible if we have faith in our Lord and his love in our hearts.

Blessings in Christ,

Deb Stamp, Dir. of Children and Youth Min.



Did You Know?



- If you would like to be prayed for or know someone who would like to be prayed for, please contact the church office. A prayer request will be sent to our prayer partners. If you would like someone to pray with you, a request can be sent to one of our prayer partners or Pastor Evan and someone will connect with you.
- Remember to check our bulletin board for NPC and Community Announcements/Information.
- Lost something? Be sure to check the lost-and-found bin in the church office.



Parking Lot Worship:

- Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.)
- Please tune your radio to 1700AM.
- Please exit through the South Entrance (towards the college).



Sanctuary Worship:

**Please join us for in person
Worship on Sunday mornings
at 9:30 am.**

**Check out our facebook page or
church website for special services
throughout the year, including
Monthly Wednesday and weekly
Lent and Advent services.**



Zoom Worship

- Zoom service link will be emailed each week for those who would like to participate via Zoom.




SHOPPING LIST

February Food Pantry

Shopping List:

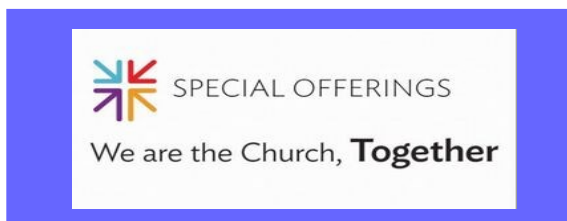
The following items are needed this month for the Food Pantry:

Toilet Paper
Canned Pasta
Peanut Butter

In addition, if your dentist gives you toothbrushes, floss, or toothpaste, and you don't need it, the pantry does! Monetary donations are also welcome.

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



Special Offering for February:
Building Fund



Meet the Staff

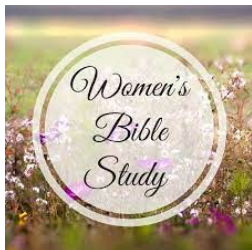
Pastor Evan Hansen	Pastor
Open Door Office Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm	
Paul Holland	Music Director
Sharon Reynolds	Organist
Randy Cornell	Pianist
Deb Stamp	Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Gretchen Duffy	Office Administrator

NOTICE: As CDC/NYS guidelines change, please stay tuned to our FB page & website for updates.

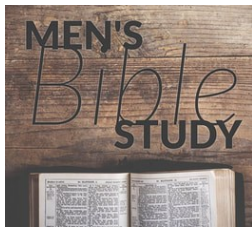
Reminder

Important Reminders:

- The church office needs your contact information. Please let us know if anything has changed.
- If you need to contact the church office for any reason, please feel free to email office@northpres.church or call (607) 734-2977 Tues-Fri 9am to 3:30 pm.



Women's Bible Study
meets Tuesdays at 6:00pm in the Library. For more information, please contact Suzie Hoskins or the church office.



Men's Bible Study
meets Tuesdays at 4:00 pm in the Brisbane Room and will study *The Great Divorce Study Guide: A Bible Study on the C.S Lewis Book, The Great Divorce*. If you would like more info, please contact Kurt Kalweit, Steve Allison or the church office.



Wednesday Noon Bible Study
is studying "Evangelism". If you would like more information or study materials, please contact Bobbi Furnas or the church office.



Sunday SCHOOL
ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD
Growing in Faith Together



Sunday school meets weekly at 11:00 am.



Praise Band rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.



Chancel Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.



The Good News Singers' practices are on Sundays at 10:45 am.



Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm.





Wednesday Lenten Services will begin with our
Ash Wednesday service on February 14 at 7:00 pm.
Wednesday Lenten services with Communion will also be held on:

February 21

February 28

March 6

March 13

March 20

Maundy Thursday service will be held on Thursday,
March 28 at 7:30 pm at the **First Presbyterian Church of Elmira.**



Second Place East, Inc.



**February donation
Request:**

Reusable Bags



From the Presbytery



WELCOME BRYAN MUECKE, NEW CAMP WHITMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

Bryan Muecke, and his wife Chrissie

The Search Team for Camp Whitman is thrilled to introduce Bryan Muecke (Mickey, he/him/his) as the new Executive Director of Camp Whitman, beginning January 1, 2024.

Cim McFarlane, co-chair of the Search Committee and member of Camp Committee, said, "Bryan brings an entire career of leading camp and retreat ministries to Whitman's beautiful shores of Seneca Lake!"

Bryan grew up in northern Minnesota and attended Covenant Park Bible Camp near his home from an early age. As a long-time camper, he developed deep friendships which are still special to this day. In his late teens, Bryan also served on the summer staff as a lifeguard and camp counselor.

During his college years, Bryan served as the summer waterfront director at Camp Mission Meadows in Chautauqua County, NY while earning his B.A. in Writing from North Park University in Chicago. He later went on to earn an M.S. in Hospitality Administration from the University of New Haven in Connecticut - fully intending to launch into a career directing faith-based summer camp and retreat ministries.

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From the Presbytery

Bryan served as Executive Director of Covenant Park ('04-'11) and Camp Mission Meadows ('11-'21). Both camps had been significant in his faith formation as a youth, and later, they benefited from his leadership as he guided them through seasons of expansion, growth and a renewed vision for the future. Most recently, Bryan served as Director of both the Transportation Department and Community Based Services with the ARC of Western New York. His duties included coordinating daily transportation to day habilitation programs and coordinating financial resources within a self-directed care plan for dozens of individuals with special needs.

Co-Chair Laurel Nelson said, "From the beginning of this search, our team was impressed by Bryan's enthusiasm for the outdoors, warmth and humility in connecting with others, deep experience with camps and retreat ministries, and his appreciation of Camp Whitman's ministry paired with imaginative vision to reach more people."

In addition to being a seasoned non-profit leader, Bryan is a Licensed Staff Minister specializing in camping ministry through the Evangelical Covenant Church of America. He has also served on several local boards including Habitat for Humanity, the Christian Camp and Conference Association, the Association of Covenant Camps and Conference Centers, and the Chautauqua-Mayville (NY) Chamber of Commerce.

Outside of camp, Bryan has experience in parish children's ministry, youth sports coaching, and peer mentoring. He and his wife Chrissie enjoy outdoor activities like hiking and snowshoeing in their spare time, as well as spending time at their family cabin on Tug Hill and hanging out with their five boys.

We are delighted to welcome Bryan as the next leader of Camp Whitman, taking the baton from Lea Kone, who leaves us in a healthy position. We thank God for Lea's gifts that have revitalized the ministry of Camp Whitman, and for all her love and investment in God's work in this holy place.



From the Presbytery

Register for free online PC(USA) book study of ‘Poverty, by America’

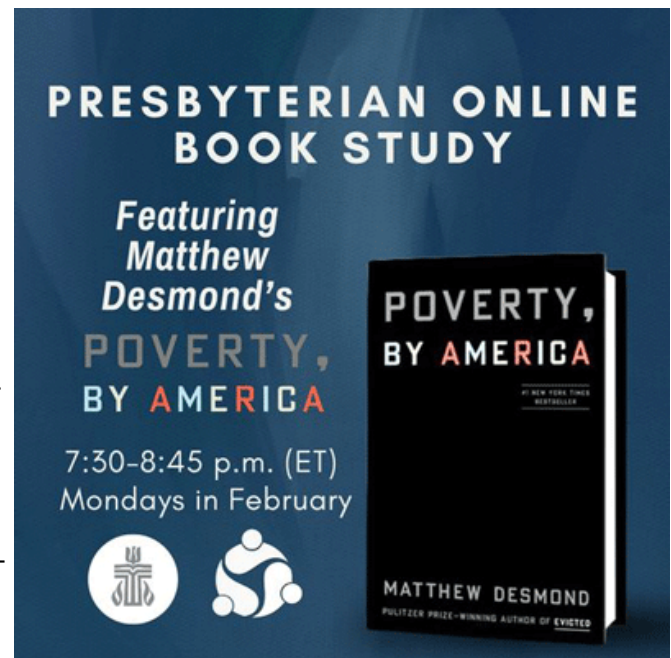
Pulitzer Prize-winning author Matthew Desmond to make a guest appearance

by Darla Carter | Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE — The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of “Poverty, by America” will take part in the kickoff of a four-week book study being held next month by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Registration is open now for the free online study, which will feature Matthew Desmond in the Feb. 5 session. Discussions will continue each Monday in February to help give participants a heightened understanding of the insidious nature of systemic poverty.

“It’s not about people being lazy, not all those things we have traditionally talked about regarding personal responsibility,” said the Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, coordinator of the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (SDOP), one of several ministries involved in the book study.



In “Poverty, by America,” Desmond, a sociologist who won the Pulitzer for a previous book, “Evicted,” argues that poverty exists because many people and corporate America profit from it.

“I wrote this book because children by the millions are not getting enough to eat in the richest country on the planet,” Desmond says in a YouTube clip about the book. He also refers to poverty as a “capability destroyer” and a “dream killer” and urges people to become “poverty abolitionists.”



The Rev. Rebecca Barnes, coordinator of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, said, “In this book study we hope as many Presbyterians as possible can listen, learn, and share together about the author’s premises and our own experience and knowledge of root causes of poverty.”

Johnson said the book has much to offer to help people’s understanding and to motivate them.

“This book is very detailed and thorough in laying out the intersections of systemic poverty — everything from mental health, employment, gender, and a whole plethora of issues — and it is clear about the way the systems contribute to poverty in a way that is not partisan,” Johnson said.

“This book is very approachable.”



From the Presbytery



A few chapters a week will be covered in the 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time book study, and breakout rooms will be available for people who want to have conversations in smaller settings about specific questions and personal connections.

The book study is being organized by a poverty consulting group of Presbyterian national staff, mid council staff and volunteers, and some Presbyterians “at large” who’ve met monthly and worked for a number of years on eradicating systemic poverty, one of the foci of the PC (USA)’s Matthew 25 invitation.

“The group read and discussed this book together last year and wanted to then be able to offer it to the wider church,” Barnes said. “We hope that after the book study, folks will take it to their own churches or book groups or presbytery spaces.”

In the YouTube clip, Desmond encourages viewers to work to fight poverty by taking steps such as examining their own consumer choices and supporting affordable housing in their communities.

“It is exciting that author Matthew Desmond will be with us for the beginning of this denominational-wide Matthew 25 book study on poverty,” said the Rev. Carl Horton, coordinator of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. “It is our hope that Mr. Desmond will provide helpful background to the book for our readers and that he will challenge the PC(USA) and its members, congregations and mid councils to meaningful action to alleviate poverty.”



Efforts already are underway by the denomination and its partners.

“The author talks a lot at the end of the book about fusion coalitions — building relationships and networks with people to end poverty,” Barnes said. “Presbyterians already have multiple strong relationships, organizations and outlets through which we can take action,” including Compassion, Peace and Justice ministries such as SDOP and PHP, and the action alerts of the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness.

Furthermore, “we also have ecumenical and interfaith places to join ongoing work, such as the Poor People’s Campaign and the Kairos Center, and international work to eradicate poverty through mission coworkers and global networks,” Barnes noted.

Available resources from the consulting group include a poverty resource packet and recordings of last year’s online workshop series on poverty.

To register for the book study on “Poverty, by America” go here:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvd-qpqjwsG9Yuh2o6gLkWotKKnpaiflrT#/registration>

THE 2023 GATEWAYS CHRISTMAS DINNER RECAP

THE GATEWAYS PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

NPC BEGAN THIS MISSION IN 2003 AND HAS CONTINUED EACH YEAR SINCE TO HOST THIS DINNER [WITH THE EXCEPTION IN 2020 – DUE TO COVID].

THE DINNER THIS YEAR WAS HELD ON DECEMBER 14TH, 2023.

WE COOKED AND SERVED 61 STAFF MEMBERS AND THEIR CLIENTS .

IT TAKES MANY VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THIS DINNER HAPPEN.

VOLUNTEERS TO PREPARE THE FOOD, TO SET UP CHAIRS, TABLES, DECORATE TABLES AND WALLS IN WILLITS HALL, TO PREPARE AND SET UP THE DRINKS, CUT THE CAKE, TO SERVE THE FOOD, DRINKS, CAKE, AND CLEAR TABLES, CLEAN UP KITCHEN AND WILLITS HALL.

**TO THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED TO MAKE THE
2023 GATEWAYS CHRISTMAS DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS!!**

CHERYL ALLISON, STEVE ALLISON, TIM ALLISON, JIM CASSELBERRY,
DOLORES CUMMINGS, ELIANA HANSEN, EVAN HANSEN,
KATE HANSEN, SUZIE HOSKINS, CINDY KALWEIT, KURT KALWEIT,
LORI LEE, ANN MOTLEY, JEFF RICHARDS, PAT RICHARDS, JOE ROLLS,
DEB STAMP, MIKE STAMP, ANNETTE STEVENS, SYLVIA TULLER,
ED WILSON, AND ETHAN WILSON.

*Thank
You*

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Communications - The Fruit of the Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

We hear these words almost every Sunday during the worship service before we give one another a quick wave or fist bump. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior we are filled with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit within us is exhibited by how we share these good things. The Rev. Karen Wagner (Southminster Presbyterian, Prairie Village, Kansas) wrote a Lesson Plan for One Great Hour of Sharing and Fruits of the Spirit in 2016 (available at www.pcusa.org). In her lesson, she explains how we can put these gifts from God into use:

Love – showing care for one another

Joy – being happy, showing excitement

Peace – feeling complete, whole, at rest

Patience – keeping our temper, sticking with our work

Kindness – serving others, being helpful, respectful

Generosity – sharing with others

Faithfulness – being genuine, real, keeping promises

Gentleness – putting ourselves in someone else’s shoes, compassion, empathy

Self-Control – being OK without getting our own way

Sometimes we are moved to give up something during Lent as a way of sacrificing for the One who sacrificed everything for us. We may be moved to do just that, but what if we add some good things to our lives. Look at the list above from Rev. Wagner – what would our days look like if we lived our faith?

Pray – each week during Lent focus on two or three of the gifts and ask Jesus to bring these into your life. God wants to answer our prayers, and when we ask for what He longs to give us it helps us grow closer to Him.

Each of these attributes benefits us – they are all good things! When we are filled with the Fruit of the Spirit it will overflow out of us into our families, our workplaces, our schools.

Each of us can change the world - not through anything in our power, but through the power of Christ. Please open yourself up to the love and gifts your Father has for you.

“Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God’s gift of himself.” Mother Teresa

Peace and hugs,

Linda Palmer on behalf of Communications & Technology

FOOD PANTRY



Feeding the Community

The North Pres Food Pantry welcomes the New Beginnings Food Pantry.

New Beginnings was unable to keep their rented space and has partnered with North Pres to keep serving the community. Our food pantry will now be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to noon.

The New Beginnings crew will staff the pantry on Mondays and has brought a large amount of items to stock the pantry.

Welcome!



Fellowship

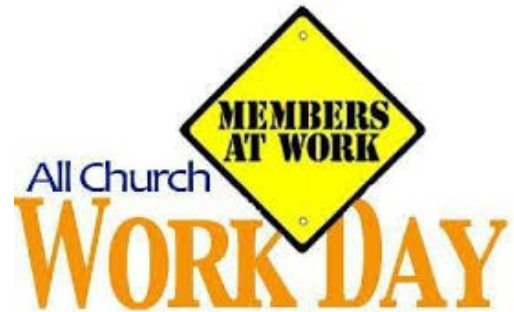


There will be a Saturday Breakfast on February 10 at 8:00 am.
Breakfast will include:

- *Pancakes
- *Fresh Fruit
- *Coffee/Juice



There will be a church Work Day on
February 10, starting at 8:00 am.
Please join us to help keep North Pres
looking good!



There will be no Wednesday Dinner in February or March. Instead, we will
have our **Shrove Tuesday Dinner** on Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 pm.

- *Three Cheese Quiche
- *Waffles

- *French Toast Bake
- *Coffee/Juice

- *Fresh Fruit
- *Dessert

Reservation required. Please call the church office by Monday, February 12, so
that we can make seating accommodations.

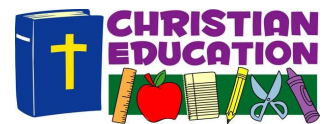
February EVENTS



Communication & Technology
Committee Meeting
February 13 at 10:00 am



Finance Committee Meeting
February 14 at 9:30 am



Christian Ed Comm Mtg
February 21
at 4:00 pm.



Information to be included
in the March North Star
Newsletter is due to the
Church Office by
Thursday, February 23.



February EVENTS

ASH WEDNESDAY Worship Service



February 14 at 7:00 pm



Buildings &
Grounds Comm
Mtg
February 13 at
7:00 pm



Our local chapter of
TOPS meets on
Mondays at 5:30 in
Willits Hall. If you're
interested, please call
the church office for
information.

Community Meal at Grace Episcopal Church



Wednesday, February 14
Set up at 3:00 pm
Dinner at 5:00 pm



Music & Worship
Committee Meeting
February 14 at
3:00 pm.



**American Red Cross
BLOOD DRIVE**

Give Blood • Give Life

There will be a Red Cross Blood
Drive on February 1, starting at
noon. If you're interested in
signing up to give blood, please
visit redcrossblood.org or call
1-800 RED CROSS.



Yoga meets Tuesday and
Thursday mornings at 8:45 in
Willits Hall. If you're interested,
please contact the church office
for more information.

Board of Session
will meet on
February 18 at
6:00 pm.

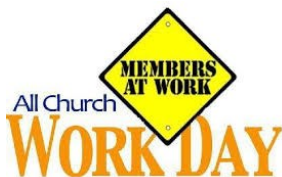


Kindermusik



Kindermusik meets on Tuesdays
at 3 pm and Thursdays at
10 am and 5:15 pm.
For information on how your
child can participate, please
contact the church office.

There will be a church
workday on Saturday,
February 10 at 8:00 am.



NPC Board of Session

Session Summary

January 21, 2024 (noon meeting)

The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.

Rev. Hansen called the meeting to order, and the meeting was opened with devotions and prayer led by Wendy Swatling.

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the December 17, 2023 stated Session meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Session reviewed the Financial Statements including the Profit and Loss Budget Performance for December 2023 and the Account Activity Summary for the Endowment Fund. Pledge income was down \$2,341 from the budgeted amount but recorded income for 2023 was higher for non-pledge income. Endowment transfers were \$22,857 above the budget draw for 2024. The Endowment Fund performed wonderfully in December with \$7,325 in income and a positive market value change of more than \$70,000. The Treasurer's report was received, with thanks, by the Session.

Pastor Hansen reported that he continues to visitation with homebound members both in person and via telephone. He has been meeting every-other Friday with the "YOUMARCO" group. He officiated a funeral service of a non-member at a local funeral home in January.

Written reports were received from Christian Education, Communications & Technology, Finance, and Nominating Committees.

The following actions were taken by The Session:

Approved date for Ordination of Elders: Sunday, February 4, 2024 during worship.

Approved date for Installation of Elders and Officers: Sunday, February 4, 2024 during worship.

Authorized sampling of sermon cassette tapes to determine if any should be digitized.

Authorized scanning of written sermons being stored in the Archive Room.

Accept donation of \$2,000 from The Panosian Foundation. The Treasurer was authorized to deposit funds into the savings account.

NPC Board of Session

Accepted bequest of \$92,660.78 from the Ethel A. Whitaker Charitable Remainder Trust. The Clerk and Treasurer were authorized to sign any necessary paperwork regarding the receipt of the funds. The Treasurer was authorized to deposit funds into the savings account.

Authorized 10% tithe of bequest from the Ethel A. Whitaker Charitable Remainder Trust; referred to the Mission and Outreach Committee for recommendation.

Approved updated NPC Purchasing Card and Credit Card Use Policy.

Authorized the Treasurer to pay monthly (ongoing) bills without requiring a voucher.

Approved NPC participation in a combined Maundy Thursday worship service, including the Chancel Choir, and possibly the Bell Choir, to be held at First Presbyterian Church, Elmira.

Approved the use of the Sanctuary for a “movie night” (date TBD). The movie is based on the life of C.S. Lewis.

Approved disposal of left over rummage sale items. Items will be offered to the congregation at no cost for 2 consecutive Sundays. Anything left over will be taken to the Salvation Army and/or be thrown away.

Approved re-opening of the NPC Food Pantry on Monday mornings with a crew from New Beginnings.

Approved the (temporary) use of the Bell Choir room for additional food storage and a refrigerator/freezer.

Approved dates for VBS: July 14-18, 2024.

Approved curriculum for VBS: Diving into Friendship with God.

Approved joint VBS with First Presbyterian, Elmira. Location TBD.

Approved April 13, 2024 for Sunday school rooms to move to first floor.

Approved the following one year positions as recommended by the Nominating Committee:

Treasurer: Pat Richards

Assistant to the Treasurer: Janice Williams

Clerk of Session: Cindy Kalweit

Commissioner to Presbytery: Annie LeFevre

Approved “giving voice” to the Treasurer and Clerk of Session for 2024 Session meetings.







The meeting adjourned in prayer at 1:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kalweit,

Clerk of Session

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 12:00 pm - Blood Drive 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 	2 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	3
4 9:30am -Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School 	5 5:30 pm -TOPS 10:00 am -Food Pantry	6 8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 4:00 pm - Men's Bible 6:00 pm - Women's Bible	7 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm - Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:15 pm - Bell Choir 7:00 pm - Praise Band 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	8 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	9 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	10 8:00 am - Saturday Workday/Breakfast 
11 9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School	12 5:30 pm -TOPS 10:00 am -Food Pantry	13 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Comm & Tech Mtg 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 4:00 pm - Men's Bible 5:30 pm - Shrove Dinner 6:00 pm - Women's Bible 7:00 pm - B&G Mtg	14 Bulletin Info Due Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 9:30 am - Fin Comm Mtg 10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm - Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Worship & Music 6:00pm - Bell Choir 6:30 pm - Praise Band 7:00 pm - Ash Wed Svc 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	15 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	16 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	17
18 9:30 am -Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good New Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School 6:00 pm - Board of Session 	19 President's Day 5:30 pm -TOPS No Food Pantry 	20 8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 4:00 pm - Men's Bible 6:00 pm - Women's Bible	21 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm - Bible Study 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 4:00 pm - Christian Ed Mtg 6:00 pm - Bell Choir 6:30 pm - Praise Band 7:00 pm - Lent Service 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	22 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	23 Newsletter Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm - AA 	24
25 9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour 10:45 am - Good News Singers' Practice 11:00 am - Sunday School	26 5:30 pm -TOPS 10:00 am -Food Pantry	27 8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Mtg 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 4:00 pm - Men's Bible 6:00 pm - Women's Bible	28 Bulletin Info Due 10:00 am -Food Pantry 12:00 pm - Bible Study 6:00 pm - Bell Choir 6:30 pm - Praise Band 7:00 pm - Lent Service 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	29 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am -Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 