

The Northminster News shares information about programs and activities of interest as well as news and milestone events in the lives of our church and larger community.

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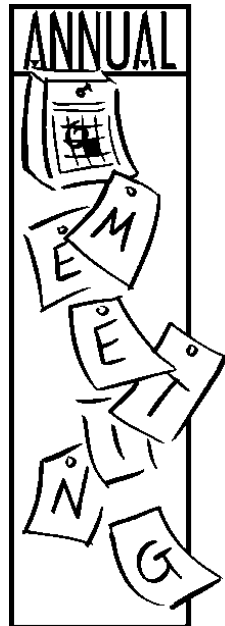
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Annual Meeting of the Congregation-Corporation

Sunday, February 10, 2019



The Session has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation-Corporation for Sunday, February 10, following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to hear the review of Northminster's mission and ministry for the calendar year 2018, elect persons to any necessary positions (Deacons and 2019 Nominating Committee), hear plans for 2019, and participate in a Self Study discussion.

A Deli Lunch will be served in the Ark at the conclusion of worship. Please add your name to the signup sheet on the bulletin board (or call the church office) so we can order the appropriate amount of food.

The plan for this meeting is to complete the business portion in as timely a fashion as possible so there will be opportunity for the congregation to engage in a discussion that is an important piece for the Self-Study process. Members of the Session will be facilitating this part of the meeting.

Church Members can pick up a copy of the Annual Report booklet on Sunday, February 3rd, in order to review it prior to the meeting date. The Report from the Treasurer will not be available until February 10th. Having the report ahead of time will allow the meeting to be expedited giving the bulk of our time to the Self Study activity.

Pastor's Message

Greetings:

As I write this Message, we are in the deep-freeze of minus zero temperatures and even worse wind chills. It's days like this that reinforce my dislike of winter. I know I'm meant to be on sitting on a beach in shorts and a T-shirt soaking up the rays, but here I am shivering in multiple layers.



At least today, the sun is shining! Which reminds me of those bright, yellow stars from Epiphany. Those who worshipped at Northminster on January 6th (Epiphany) were invited to take a yellow star off the tree in the sanctuary. These stars serve as a reminder to us that God calls us to "Be the Light" in the world today. Just as a star guided the Magi to the infant Jesus, our light is a guide to those who are seeking refuge, who are distressed, who are lost, who are facing difficulties along their life journey.

I hope those who received a star have placed it in a location so you see it each day as a reminder to "Be the Light." If you missed getting a star, you can still strive to be Christ's light in our dark world on a daily basis.

Your Pastor,

Heeta R. Nichols

"Per Capita" – What is it?

One of the regular expenses in the church budget is Per Capita, a yearly apportionment that each Presbyterian congregation is asked to pay to cover the administrative costs of the three governing councils: Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Per Capita allows our mission dollars to be spent directly on mission projects rather than on costs for

administering mission.

Per Capita for the year 2019 is \$28.55 per church member. The total apportionment for Northminster is \$2,740.80.

If each member of Northminster contributed an extra \$28.55 for Per Capita, the church budget would be relieved of this \$2,740 expense and have extra dollars to put toward mission and programs.



If you are willing to contribute the Per Capita amount, please multiply \$28.55 by the number of church members in your family. Mark your contribution "**2019 Per Capita**" so it can be properly credited on your giving statement. Thank you.



Upcoming Grace in Aging Meetings

Our Grace in Aging Group will meet in members' homes on **Thursday mornings at 10:00a.m.** as follows. Join us!

February 14, hosted by Sue Fish

March 21, hosted by Jim Hoogstra

April 11, hosted by Bea Smits

May 16, hosted by Judy Lewis



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 3rd. Now is the time to put these special worship opportunities on your calendar. Further information will follow next month.

Ash Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

These are identical worship services being hosted by Central Woodward Christian Church. The Rev. Neeta Nichols will preach.

Palm-Passion Sunday, April 14, 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Hosted by NPC. The Rev. Bob Cornwall will preach.



Session

During the January 10th Session Meeting, the following actions were taken:

1. Authorized the Treasurer to place up to \$100,000 in short-term CD(s). The funds may be invested all in one CK, or divided among multiple CDs. The CD terms should not exceed 6 months, and the Treasurer is authorized to roll them over into new CD(s) as appropriate. The Treasurer shall report at least quarterly to the Session on the status of, and any action taken with regard to, these CDs.
2. Approved serving communion on Sunday, February 3, 2019.
3. Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Peg Griffard from the Board of Deacons effective January 10, 2019.
4. Elected officers of the Corporation: Martha Babcock, President; Sarah Leight, Treasurer; Clay Dobrovolec, Secretary.
5. Scheduled ordination/installation of Elders and Deacons on Sunday, January 20, 2019.





Church, Society & Mission

Troy-Area Interfaith Group



In lieu of a February meeting, TIG is encouraging our members to join two other very meaningful programs this month:

The first one, *And Then They Came For Us* on **February 10, 3:00 – 6:00 pm**, is co-sponsored by the InterFaith Leadership Council (IFLC), the Race Relations and Diversity Task Force, WISDOM (Women's Interfaith Solutions for Dialogue and Outreach in Metro-Detroit) and the Waterford Refugee Welcome Alliance. The program will feature the film of the same title which features many of the Japanese Americans incarcerated during WWII, as this difficult story is retold. The film will be followed by a panel discussion. The film will be shown at **Adat Shalom Synagogue**, 29901 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills. RSVP to Jasmine, 419-561-5772

The second program on **February 21 from 6:30-8:30 pm** is co-sponsored by the Troy Public Library and Know Your Neighbor Daily (KYND). It features Dr. Michelle Johnson, who will speak about the Michigan Underground Railroad and Detroit's pivotal role in it. Ages 12+ are welcome; held at the Troy Public Library. RSVP is requested at www.troypl.org/calendar.

The **20th Annual World Sabbath**, sponsored by the IFLC (and which has TIG representation in planning) is scheduled for **March 3, 4:00p.m.-5:30p.m.** at the Islamic House of Wisdom (22575 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights). This interfaith experience of music and prayer features speakers, choirs and dancers from many different faiths. Its purpose is to help build a world of tolerance, justice, faithfulness and peace. In it, we celebrate our "children of peace" and the amazing religious diversity of Metro Detroit.

TIG March 4 meeting will be **7:00-8:30p.m.** at Beacon Unitarian Universalist Congregation (4230 Livernois Rd., Troy). The program will feature Song and Spirit Institute of Peace founders Mary Gilhuly and Steve Klaper as they present about their programs serving those less fortunate, including many of the homeless in Metro-Detroit. They are hoping to engage TIG faith communities' assistance in some of these programs. Beacon UUC will also share about some of their mission or outreach efforts as well. All are welcome.

Flyers for these events are on our bulletin boards!

Northminster Alternative Giving Opportunities and Mitten & Hat Tree

This year's NAGO Market had slightly fewer participants than in past years, but those involved seemed to still appreciate the chance to "shop" for world-wide projects, and were again very generous. The total sent to Alternative Gifts International was \$1,069 and the amount donated to Baby Basics was \$200.

The Hat and Mitten Tree was filled with 26 single hats, 23 pairs of glove/mittens, and 16 combination sets, ensuring many warm children in Pontiac this winter. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and kind spirits!

Baby Basics



As babies age (or "potty-train") out of our program, we work diligently to interview and certify new families on our waiting list to enroll. Just as a reminder, if a parent meets eligibility guidelines, they are welcome to apply and in the next few months we will again resume taking names for that list. For information on those guidelines, please feel free to take one of our brochures or latest newsletters in the hall.

Also, we are extremely grateful for the donations of cash or diapers for our program. If you wish to give either, please speak to one of our Board members: Christy Cook, Jennifer Kondak, and Ruth Turner. Because of the long wait to get in the program, our babies rarely need smaller sizes but we are always in need of sizes 5 & 6! Unfortunately, we are unable to store donations of clothing or other baby items unless arrangements have been made with one of the Board members in advance, since storage is not always feasible in our oft-used lounge!



Happy Birthday!

<i>Eliza Edrington</i>	<i>02/06</i>
<i>Ben Gano</i>	<i>02/15</i>
<i>Pam Gano</i>	<i>02/20</i>
<i>Jonathan Pocisk</i>	<i>02/26</i>
<i>Donna Farner</i>	<i>02/27</i>

Deacon's Corner

As part of our role in providing care and support to our members, we try to offer assistance when someone is in crisis, such as a health concern, death in the family, etc.; but we also want to help our members and church community meet important needs of everyday life, such as computer help, rides to meetings or events. That support may even be shown by simply sending a card from our congregation to let others know we're thinking of them.

To do that, we need YOUR assistance; people like to help one another, but need to know when and where it's needed. If you or a friend in our church community could use support, please speak to Neeta and the message will be passed on and we will strive to offer that extra hand.



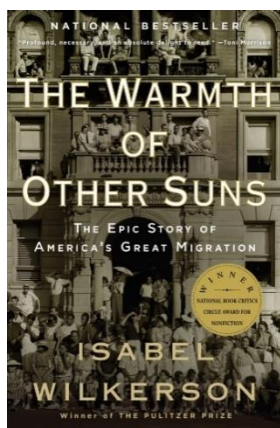
In an effort to expand the feeling of welcome during our coffee hour, Deacons would like to serve cookies, brownies or similar items, each Sunday.

Through theirs and a few other members' efforts, we've done this every Sunday in December and January. Help us keep it going by donating a treat (not a huge amount needed) occasionally one Sunday.

Please speak to hospitality chairs Chris Riddering or Jamie Love if you'd like to chip in to help – or if you find you've bought or baked more than you need for some event, just bring those extras on a Sunday. If we already have desserts on hand, yours can be refrigerated for the next week (just let our hospitality folks know they are there!). Thank you!



Book Group



The Warmth of Other Suns is the book selection for our February meeting. The author, Isabel Wilkerson, draws on ten years of

research and over 1,500 interviews to tell the story of America's Great Migration – the mass exodus of Southern blacks to Northern cities from 1915 to 1970.

Over six million blacks migrated North during this period. Wilkerson focuses on three representative people who left the South in 1937, 1944 and 1953. The first left her sharecropping life for Chicago, following the train routes north; the second left Florida and become a porter on trains up and down the eastern

seaboard; and the third left Louisiana and took trains to the west, ending up in Los Angeles.

Wilkerson's 622 pages tell stories of the hardships of living under Jim Crow laws and the determination of these migrants to find a better life.

We invite everyone who is interested to read the book and join us in the lounge on Thursday, February 13, at 1:00 for our discussion, which will be led by Sue Fish.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9a Bells Rehearse 9:45a Choir rehearsal 10:30a Worship	28 11:30a Women's Luncl 7:30p Tai Chi	29	30 7p Choir rehearsal	31 Office closed	2/1	2
3 9a Bells Rehearse 9:45a Choir rehearsal 10:30a Worship 11:45a Deacons' Meet	4 7:30p Tai Chi	5	6 6p Baby Basics distrib 7p Choir rehearsal	7 7p Session Mtg	8	9
10 Annual Mtg of Congr 9a Bells Rehearse 9:45a Choir rehearsal 10:30a Worship	11 6p Baby Basics Board 7:30p Tai Chi	12 7:30p Bldg & Ground:	13 7p Choir rehearsal	14 10a Grace in Aging 1p Book Group	15	16 11:30a Shorts at the D
17 Newsletter Info Due 9a Bells Rehearse 9:45a Choir rehearsal 10:30a Worship 11:30a Worship & Mu:	18 7:30p Tai Chi	19 12:30p Men's Lunch	20 6p Baby Basics distrib 7p Choir rehearsal	21	22	23
24 9a Bells Rehearse 9:45a Choir rehearsal 10:30a Worship	25 11:30a Women's Luncl 7:30p Tai Chi	26	27 7p Choir rehearsal	28	3/1	2

**Northminster
Presbyterian Church**

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Our Facebook page is
*Northminster Presbyterian
Church – Troy*

and our private friends group is
Northminster Troy

PASTOR:
Neeta R. Nichols

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
Suzanne Joy

MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Dr. Brandon Ulrich

Tree Project

In anticipation of the new roof this Spring, some trees were removed or trimmed to prevent debris and clogged drains on the roof.

If you haven't stopped in lately to see the photos from the day, Dave Love has put together a slideshow of the project on our [website](#). Click [HERE](#) to see it!



About Our Church...

Our core purpose is to love God and our neighbors as we seek to understand, respect and celebrate our differences.

In recognizing Christ's calling to treat others as

we desire to be treated, Northminster Presbyterian Church welcomes all people, regardless of sexual orientation, color, gender, religion, age, politics, social or economic class, ethnicity, nationality or disability.

We value all members of the community. We consciously strive to create an environment of mutual respect, hospitality and warmth in which none are strangers and all may flourish.

Northminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3633 W. Big Beaver Rd
Troy, MI 48084

Newsletter for February 2019