



APRIL 2022

VOLUME 26

NUMBER 4

# NORTHMINSTER *Life*

## CELEBRATION OF NEW LIFE - SUNDAY, MAY 1

Let the  
*Adventure*  
Begin

The Youth and the Congregational Care Committee invite you to attend a CELEBRATION OF NEW LIFE in honor of the new parents, the Olks, and the soon-to-be new parents, the Napiers, on Sunday, May 1 in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship. This will be a time for you to offer your good wishes to the honorees and to share food and fellowship with our entire Northminster family. If you wish to bring a gift, you might be interested to know that both couples are registered at babylist.com and the Napiers are also registered at Amazon. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this joyous event.

## PRESBYTERIAN SPECIAL OFFERINGS - ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

YOU SHALL BE CALLED  
**REPAIRERS**  
of the BREACH  
— Isaiah 58

*Join us*  
Providing relief from natural disasters,  
food for the hungry, and support  
for the poor and oppressed.



One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through three impactful programs. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities. Gifts for this offering will be collected Easter Sunday, April 17.

## COMMUNION AT CARLYLE



Communion at Carlyle will be served the first Sunday of each month (as it is in the worship service schedule) at 2:30pm. This worship service is open to all who would like to join. If you are an elder, past or present, who would like to assist with communion at Carlyle, please contact Genny Whitaker at 478-731-5248 or ggwhit@cox.net.

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## NOTES FROM YOUR PASTOR

As spring flowers (and pollen!) are appearing all around middle Georgia these days, so I am grateful for all the ways our congregation's common life is blooming again after such a long hiatus from normalcy due to pandemic concerns. Tasting the communion bread in our sanctuary on a recent Sunday morning reminded me of the many blessings I will not soon take for granted.

In the spirit of spring blooming, then, here are some upcoming gatherings about which your pastor is excited:

— April 14, 6pm — Our annual Maundy Thursday worship time is a highlight of my year. I love the simplicity and intimacy of this service, as once again we gather at the communion table to remember the Upper Room meal and ready ourselves for the Great Three Days of Easter weekend. Bring a friend and join me for this sacred service.

— May Sundays, 9:30am — For those of you missing adult Sunday School, I will be offering 5 sessions throughout May on Sunday mornings before worship. We will take a close look at the beautiful Brief Statement of Faith, the affirmation written by Presbyterians in the 1980s and one we use in worship several times a year, affirming that "in life and in death we belong to God."

— May 1, following worship — We are blessed this year to be welcoming two babies into our fellowship, one of which has already arrived! After worship that Sunday, we are throwing a Baby Celebration party! We will be giving thanks for Baby Olk who arrived early but is doing well, and anticipating Baby Napier who will arrive this summer.

— May 20-21, Friday evening and Saturday morning — Back in the fall, nearly 50 of our women gathered at the church for an outstanding Women's Retreat. Men, now it is our turn! Our first all-church men's gathering in more than 2 years will take place at the church, starting with Friday dinner and ending with Saturday lunch. In between, we'll enjoy guest speakers, mission updates, and a whole lot of fun. This is for all men, ages 10 to 100. Details coming soon!

— Sunday morning, TBD — Our Outreach committee is thrilled to announce that ground has been broken for the new outdoor pavilion at Loaves & Fishes downtown. You will remember late last summer we raised nearly \$40,000 for this important project, and now construction has begun. As soon as the structure is completed, we plan to host a Sunday morning worship down at Loaves & Fishes under the new canopy. A charter bus will provide transportation that morning from and back to our church for those who prefer not to drive downtown. There will be ample seating, live music, and a great celebration of God's faithfulness in this project. The date will be announced soon!

— June 11-18 — I'm so delighted to report that we have 10 young members attending the annual Montreat Youth Conference this summer. Karen Jones and I will be adult chaperones. Thanks to your wonderful generosity through several fundraising events, we are able to make this week affordable for every one of our youth who attend. Bless you for being a church communion that cares for its beloved youth members.

If indeed "April showers bring May flowers," then I'm looking forward to blooming in faith with you these next many weeks! RWH

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Apr 1 - Andy Weaver

Apr 11 - John Hurst

Apr 12 - Steve Southerland

Apr 22 - Sofie Aiello

Apr 30 - Kendall Emener

Apr 4 - Mary Wain Ellison

Apr 11 - Mary Kay Huber-Leslie

Apr 18 - Liz Riley

Apr 24 - Jane Prentice

Apr 6 - Bonnie Diboll

Apr 11 - Gwen Kitchens

Apr 22 - Lynn Davis

Apr 29 - Horace Stringfellow