



# NORTHMINSTER *Life*

MARCH 2024

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## EASTER AT NORTHMINSTER

This Lenten season, we have a variety of studies and worship opportunities in which our members, friends, and community can participate. Our **Sunday morning studies**, beginning at 9<sup>AM</sup> with a light continental breakfast in the fellowship hall, are currently being led by our good friend and teacher, Rev. Dr. Bryan Whitfield. Bryan is leading us through Lent for Everyone: Mark, Year B by N. T. Wright.



**Wednesday Bible Study** continues through the month of March. Lent: Learning the Lord's Prayer and the Language of Love has two Wednesday sessions, both featuring video lessons by the late Dr. Kenneth Bailey. Member Jeanne Roddenberry leads our morning women's study here at Northminster at 10<sup>AM</sup> and Pastor Ralph Hawkins leads the discussion for everyone via Zoom at 7<sup>PM</sup>. Please contact the church office for details to join the online study.



Holy week begins with Palm Sunday, March 24th, when we gather during our normal worship time. We will hold our annual **Maundy Thursday service March 28th at 6<sup>PM</sup>**, leading us into a self-reflective journey of Christ's crucifixion Good Friday. Invite friends and family to worship with us as we celebrate His resurrection Easter Sunday, March 31st at 10:30<sup>AM</sup>.

**Potted Easter lilies** will help beautify our sanctuary the morning of Easter. These lilies symbolize the beloved memories of loved ones who have gone before us. They can be taken home or donated to someone after the worship service. To have a lily placed for your loved one(s), simply fill out your blue response sheet in the weekly bulletin or contact Jennifer in the church office.

**5th Sunday Fellowship meal**; Typically, we share lunch together after worship on the last Sunday of a month with five Sundays. Since this month holds the same, but falls on Easter, we will share breakfast at 9<sup>AM</sup> instead. Sunday School will not be held. Please stay tuned to your weekly emails for details regarding this fellowship meal.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

All Elementary children (K4 through 5th grade) are invited to attend Sunday School at 10:00<sup>AM</sup>. We'll have a quick lesson with a craft and a morning snack. All children will join their parents for the worship service at 10:30. If you are interested in helping lead children's Sunday School, with your own lessons or ones provided, please contact elder Donna Shuford.



## YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT - MARCH 3

All Middle and High Schoolers are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, March 3, at 4<sup>PM</sup> for a movie and discussion.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mar 1 - Betty Faulkner  
Mar 9 - Nita Tidwell  
Mar 12 - Emily Bredeson  
Mar 18 - Lynn Denny  
Mar 23 - Nikki Gleaton

Mar 6 - Betty Alderman  
Mar 9 - Brenda Felts  
Mar 13 - Buz Hall  
Mar 19 - Joan Walker  
Mar 26 - Amy Maley

Mar 7 - Ray Mosely  
Mar 11 - Nita Mitchell  
Mar 14 - Shea Smith  
Mar 21 - Natalie Vernon  
Mar 27 - Ann Dunwody

## CELEBRATING THE LIVES AND RESURRECTION OF MEMBERS

This February, we celebrated the life and grieved the loss of member Rev. Frank Clark, who died February 13th. Cards of condolences can be mailed to his beloved wife, Evelyn Clark. Please contact the church office for her address.



## GOOD SAMARITAN

Did you know that every month we donate \$400 a month through our self-funded Good Sam fund to Centenary Community Ministries? This nonprofit group uses the money to assist local people with unexpected expenses and bills. In addition, we purchase bus passes to be handed out at Loaves and Fishes Ministries to their clients. The Good Sam fund also helps with local community needs that become known as well as assisting our own congregation. Beginning March 3rd, we will collect a special donation on Communion Sundays to fund this important outreach. Envelopes will be in the bulletin on Communion Sundays. Thank you for your continued support!

Recently, the Good Sam account helped the family of Eric & Lisa Schultz, Ministry Assistant Jennifer Whitehead's sister and brother-in-law. Eric - pictured here with his two youngest children, Lizzie and Alex, at Emory Hospital's Hope Lodge for transplant patients - was diagnosed with acute leukemia and required intensive treatment, including a bone marrow transplant. Being unable to work throughout his illness and having a child with type 1 diabetes has caused a great deal of financial hardship on the family. Your donations to the Good Sam fund helped them stay current with their bills. Eric continues to have a long road of recovery, but is now living at home and currently making remarkable progress toward remission!



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JANUARY 2024

As of January 31, NPC has:

- Received \$26,812 in pledges; Received \$16,984.39 from regular (no pledge) givers
- Received \$150 in loose offerings; Received \$5,674.50 for outreach programs
- Spent \$31,824.66 on budgeted and outreach expenses

Summary: NPC has received \$49,620.89 in total income and has spent a total of \$31,824.66.

## ALTERNATE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to everyone who helped support our alternative Christmas fair in December. You all helped make a huge impact on missions and ministries important to our congregation. Here are the final amounts donated, totaling \$2,552.04!

- Habitat for Humanity: \$415
- Heifer International: \$631
- The Haugans (our missionaries in Iraq): \$941.04
- Thornwell Children's Home: \$656

## SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES



We recently heard from our dear friends, Jean and George Hagan. Their ministry in Iraq continues to flourish. George shares that the Old and New

Testament is currently being translated into the native language, but a fully translated book of Genesis is available. Genesis is resonating with his bible study group with the cultural similarities and connections. Jean will be having a double knee replacement surgery at the end of February in Columbus. George will be with her for a week or so, but she will remain here through the rehab process. Please keep her in your prayers. A printed copy of their email will be available in the narthex. Here are their prayer requests:

"UPDATE: in our last email, this was a request...

Jeanne's Rheumatoid Arthritis will improve and her knees will be able to handle walking normal distances.

1. Jeanne is scheduled for two knee replacements, as mentioned, the date of surgery is Leap Day, Feb. 29th. Please pray she doesn't have any infection due to her compromised immune system. Also for healing.
2. Pray for George's friend and others who are exploring and learning more about our wonderful Savior.
3. Pray for the continuing work of translation of His Word here and around the world."



## PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Millions of people lack asset to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People-all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development. Their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Collection of this offering will take place Easter Sunday, March 31st. Envelopes will be provided.