



NorthCreek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LIFE. LOVE. HOPE. IN CHRIST.

The Current

September 2026

Our Mission

We are cultivating a thriving community
of faithful Christ-followers who

- Grow deep spiritual roots in a **life-**giving relationship with Jesus
- Extend God's **love** by serving others with Christlike compassion
- Share Christ's **hope** by making him known near and far

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Back-to-School ... in the Spirit

September means that summer is winding its way toward fall. For many it means a new school year. With pleasant summer memories fueling us forward, we begin a new year, full of fresh opportunities and challenges. In church life, disciples of all ages and stages of life have fresh opportunities to grow in faith and understanding through Christian education. Sunday School teachers will begin preparing their lessons, praying for their students as they go. New opportunities abound in our congregation's ministry of Adult Education and in groups such as Bible Study Fellowship. Small groups will be engaging new studies, and Confirmation for our middle schoolers will soon commence in a matter of months.

This year, September also signals the return of this pastor who has been on a three-month sabbatical, attending to the voice of God in a season of rest and renewal. One of my hopes is to continue in the depth of spiritual connection experienced during the summer. I've discovered the wisdom of Saint Teresa of Ávila's counsel to "settle yourself in solitude" and there you will meet the Lord. We hear God's voice when we quiet the volume in and around us to attend to His presence. The words of Psalms 61-63 will stick with me. I'm planning on writing these verses down as reminders of my need for regular times of prayer and restful reflection in the midst of "regular" life.

- *"From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I."* (Ps. 61:2)
- *"Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation."* (Ps. 62:1-2a)
- *"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water."* (Ps. 63:1)

Whether or not we begin new studies this September, may we continue as passionate disciples of Jesus, apprentices in His way of life. John Calvin reminds us that the Holy Spirit has already enrolled us in the school of Christian spirituality: "The Spirit is the inner teacher by whose effort the promise of salvation penetrates our minds."

This month's Back-to-School BBQ for families in our community is a special blessing. As we reach out to our community with the love of Jesus, may we consider how the Holy Spirit invites all of us to go "back-to-school" in the Christian life, so that we will keep growing in our understanding of the life-giving promise of Christ's salvation.

Joyfully in Christ,

Pastor Kurt



Fall Sermon Series: **The Exodus Encounter**



For God's enslaved people, the exit from Egypt into the wilderness was an opportunity to get to know the LORD who liberated them. Before entering the promised land, there was a decisive desert encounter between human beings and the living God. Moses had a special role in helping the Hebrews get to know the God of their salvation, needing to navigate this redemptive relationship himself. Join us as we follow the Old Testament texts of the Revised Common Lectionary and experience the Exodus encounter ourselves.

September 6

Exodus 12:1-14

The Encounter: Passover

"A Memorable Meal"

September 20

Exodus 16:2-15

The Encounter: Manna in the Wilderness

"Fed from Heaven"

September 27

Exodus 17:1-7

The Encounter: Water from the Rock

"Through the Sea"

September 27

Exodus 17:1-7

The Encounter: Water from the Rock

"Water Testing"

3rd Annual

BACK TO SCHOOL

BBQ



SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12
4-6 PM



NCPC FRONT PARKING LOT

COMMUNITY FAMILY EVENT

FREE



ICE CREAM
INFLATABLES
FOOD

★ RSVP by SEPTEMBER 8 ★



Back-to-School BBQ Is Almost Here!

School is back, and we're getting ready to celebrate! Join North Creek Presbyterian Church for our 3rd Annual Back-to-School BBQ on Saturday, September 12, from 4–6 PM in the NCPC front parking lot.

This annual event is a wonderful opportunity to welcome families from our church and surrounding community as we kick off a new school year. Come enjoy the BBQ, connect with our neighbors, and help us create a welcoming afternoon for students and families.

Free Back-To-School Supplies

We'll have free back-to-school supply packs for the first 60 students, making this a great opportunity to bless local families as they prepare for the year ahead.

Help Us Spread the Word!

We want our community to know they're invited! Share our Facebook post, invite a neighbor, bring a friend, or pick up some BBQ invitation cards at the church to share with others.

Back-to-School BBQ Facebook Post

RSVP by September 8:

northcreekpres.org/BBQ

Bring your family. Invite your neighbors. Help us welcome our community to NCPC!



The graphic illustrates a Facebook post for the "Back-to-School BBQ" event. The post includes the event title, date (Saturday, September 12, 4-6 PM), location (NCPC Front Parking Lot), and activities (Free Ice Cream, Inflatables, Food). It also features an RSVP deadline of September 8. The graphic is overlaid with three numbered steps for sharing the post: 1. Tap Share (pointing to the share icon), 2. Tap the Share button (pointing to the share button in the post's interaction bar), and 3. Choose where to share and Post (pointing to the sharing options menu).

SHARE THE BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ!
Help spread the word and invite your friends!

2:07 North Creek Presbyte... All Photos Reels More

1. Tap Share

BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 4-6 PM
NCPC FRONT PARKING LOT
COMMUNITY FAMILY EVENT

FREE ICE CREAM INFLATABLES FOOD

★ **RSVP by SEPTEMBER 8** ★

northcreekpres.org
North Creek Presbyterian Church | BBQ Learn more

10 3

2. Tap the Share button

3. Choose where to share and Post

Facebook WhatsApp Messenger Messages More

Summer of Building, Serving & Imagining What's Next

If you've spent any time in our Fellowship Hall this summer, you've likely noticed the exciting transformation taking place. Many in our church family have watched it take shape and have already had the chance to enjoy the space and see the vision beginning to come to life.

A special thank-you goes to our summer staff team, Kynan, Tiegan, and Pastor Scott, whose time, creativity, energy, and care were instrumental in bringing this project to life. While their time at NCPC has come to an end, their contributions have laid a strong foundation for what is still to come. We are also grateful for the support of Steve Giboney, Karen Butler, Callie Carmean, and the many volunteers and supporters whose efforts helped move this vision forward.

The Play Cafe is more than a new space in our Fellowship Hall. It reflects our desire to create welcoming environments where children, families, and our broader community can gather, build relationships, and experience the warmth and hospitality of North Creek Presbyterian Church.

The Play Cafe Is Ready to Welcome Families

The Play Cafe is preparing to open its doors as a place where children and families can play, connect, and feel at home. Beginning this fall, the Play Cafe will be open Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, creating new opportunities for community and connection throughout the week.

Before the official opening, we invite you to join us for a special preview during our Back-to-School BBQ on Saturday, September 12, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Come celebrate the start of a new school year, enjoy great food and fellowship, and get a first look at this exciting new ministry.

How You Can Be Part of What's Next

As we prepare to launch the Play Cafe, we are continuing to welcome volunteers who would like to share their time, gifts, energy, and hospitality with our community. If you are interested in serving, stop by the Play Cafe area in the Fellowship Hall after worship to learn more or sign up.

Volunteer training will be offered on:

- Sunday, September 6, following fellowship time & Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 PM

We are deeply grateful for everyone who has contributed to this project and for those who are stepping forward to help make this new ministry possible.

Project 50 will continue to share updates and exciting developments in the weeks and months ahead. There is still much more to come, and we look forward to sharing the next chapter of the Play Cafe story with you. We can't wait to show you what's next!



Celebrating the Life of Maury Spencer

Please join us as we gather to celebrate the life of Maury Spencer, a beloved longtime member of NCPC and a devoted member of our choir for many years. Maury's faithful presence, love of music, and contributions to our church community touched many lives and will be fondly remembered.

A memorial service will be held on **Saturday, September 5, at 11:00 AM.** Following the service, all are invited to stay for a luncheon reception as we share memories and honor Maury's life and legacy.



Pirate Bash Event Volunteers Needed

The annual Pirate Bash is on Saturday, September 19, from 4:00-6:00 PM. This event is sponsored by Eagle Wings, serving people with different abilities. There are many volunteer opportunities. To learn more or volunteer, email Reneé Dittman at Renee_dittman@frontier.com. For more information on Eagle Wings or to donate to their great work, visit their website: eaglewingsministries.org

Women's Bible Study Tuesdays at 10 AM

The Book of John will be the topic of the Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study this Fall. Our intro class will be on September 15 after which our study will last 12 weeks. We meet every week at 10 AM through noon to study God's word, praise him and also pray for each other.

Come and experience a deep study of this remarkable book. Drop-ins are always welcomed.

To reserve your study guide (\$8 each), please contact Linda Roundhill at 206-390-0701.



Give the gift of life by donating blood at the Bloodworks Northwest Blood Drive at North Creek Presbyterian Church. Every donation helps patients in local hospitals and can make a lifesaving difference for those in need.

Blood Drive Details

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 10:30 AM

Location: Fellowship Hall

[Register online today!](#)

Is God Calling You to Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is looking for a new class of members who are full of faith and have a compassionate heart. We would like to have a minimum of four new trainees, and more would be great.

North Creek has a long tradition of Stephen Ministers. The program started here at NCPC in 1991 and has been ongoing since. Stephen Ministry was started in St. Louis by Dr. Kenneth Hauk when he realized as a pastor, he could not care for everyone in his congregation alone. He began training lay members. From that it has grown to an international organization of caregivers providing spiritual and emotional support to individuals who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministers are not counselors. Our mantra is "We are the caregivers and Christ is the cure-giver". Stephen Ministers help Pastor Kurt to expand his reach for congregational care for those individuals who need long-term care.



Galatians 6 tells us to "bear one another's burdens". Sometimes life is hard and we need to know that we have a fellow Christian walking the road with us. A Stephen Minister can be that person. We are called the After People - serving others after a death of a loved one; after a job loss; after a broken relationship; after a serious health crisis; etc. The logo for Stephen Ministry shows a broken person made whole through Christ, symbolized by the cross.

Prior to serving as a Stephen Minister one is trained in 50 hours of specialized caregiving – in listening, empathy, boundaries, etc. Trainees learn what to say or what not to say; what to do and what not to do. A Stephen Minister meets one-on-one – men with men and women with women - listening, praying with and for the care receiver; encouraging them as they journey along their path to become whole again.

If you sense that God might be calling you to serve as a Stephen Minister, the first step is to find out more about getting involved. Contact LeAnn Venn at 425-239-8144 or lav351@gmail.com or Dave Swanson at 425-218-4917. Keep our ministry in prayer that God may use you or others from NCPC to help those who are hurting.

Music Ministry

Choir Is Back!

Choir rehearsals have started, but it is not too late to join the NCPC choir for the 2026-2027 season. The NCPC Choir provides music in Sunday worship and additional services and concerts throughout the year. The choir rehearses every Wednesday evening from 7:30-9:00PM in the Music Room and returns to regular worship on September 6.

NCPC's choir is a non-audition choir open to singers of all levels of experience and all voice parts. If you want to know more about NCPC's Music Ministry, please email Brian Armes, Worship and Music Director at brian@northcreekpres.org or fill out the information form on the Music Ministry website.

Our Sing! Hymnals Are in Use

NCPC's new Sing! Hymnal books have been distributed into the sanctuary seats and throughout the church building for use by the congregation, classes, and small groups. Be sure to check the weekly bulletin for which songs can be found in the hymnal. A hearty thank you to all the volunteers who unwrapped and distributed the hymnals.

Pre-ordered copies of the Sing! Hymnal will be available to pick up after worship this Sunday, September 6. A limited supply is still available to purchase for your homes at \$15 per book. Purchases can be made on Sunday, September 6, or through the church office.

Finally, a big thank you is to be extended to all who participated in Jesus Jam: HymnSing!, from the musicians and the tech team to all who attended and sang! It was a wonderful evening of music, praise, and fellowship as we were introduced to the Sing! Hymnal and sang many NCPC favorites from the new hymnal.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God continues to open doors for *The Good News to Kazakhstan* to share Christ's love through practical care and compassionate outreach. Through your faithful prayers and support, individuals and families throughout Kazakhstan are receiving encouragement, assistance, and the reminder that they are deeply loved by God.

At **Esik Church**, care packages continue to bless families facing hardship. One recipient, **Tatyana**, shared her gratitude: *"God's blessings upon merciful people who sent me this package! Please send them God's blessings! May the Lord keep them for their kindness."*

Church volunteers recently delivered groceries to a young father raising two children with disabilities while managing serious health challenges of his own. Despite difficult circumstances, he remains faithful in attending church and trusting God's provision. His gratitude was a powerful reminder that even a simple gift can bring comfort, dignity, and hope.

The church also continues to support **Victoria and her family**. Many readers may remember Victoria, whose home was improved through ministry assistance, including a wheelchair ramp, gas service, and insulation. As Victoria and her mother, who is battling cancer, face ongoing challenges, church members continue to provide practical help, friendship, and encouragement.

At **Pastor Sergei's church**, God is also working in meaningful ways. Two children, Ramil and Shamil, were able to attend a Christian children's retreat, where they enjoyed fellowship, recreation, and spiritual growth.

Pastor Sergei also shared about a recent outreach in the village of Berezovka, where Good News Ministry volunteers prepared and served a warm homemade meal for children from large families and families in need. He wrote: *"Today in Berezovka, children from large families and families who need support came together. We prepared a warm meal for them and shared God's love with them."* Through acts of kindness like these, children and families are reminded that they are valued, remembered, and loved.

Thank you for partnering with *The Good News to Kazakhstan*. Your prayers and generosity continue to bring hope, compassion, and the love of Jesus Christ to communities across Kazakhstan.

"Let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."

1 John 3:18

**With gratitude and prayers,
The Good News to Kazakhstan Ministry**





Fall Day of Reflection

"You Are Seen"

October 10th
9:30am - 2:30pm

*God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.
- Psalm 46:5*

Join us for our Fall Day of Reflection, a sacred, joy filled gathering created especially for women longing to slow down, breathe deeply, and reconnect with God!



Sponsored by
Renewal
Ministries Northwest

Event Location:
North Creek Presbyterian Church
621 164th St SE



Both Rev. Denise Easter and Lynette Habegger teach women to find their true identity in Christ, operating in fullness, peace and freedom. Rev. Denise is an ordained minister in the PCUSA and co-founder of Renewal Ministries Northwest. Lynette is a women's Pastor at a church in Nashville, TN and a Certified Life Coach.

Scan the barcode or visit renewalminnw.org

Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment near you! **800-324-9458** and use code: **HABC001**



LIFE LINE SCREENING
The Power of Prevention

Have You Taken Control of Your Health Today?

Life Line Screening will be here at North Creek Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these health screenings today. Please see below to get more info about how you can sign up.

There is no time like the present to act!

Three ways to register:

- Call toll-free: 1-800-324-9458 promo code HABC001
- Online: [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://llsa.social/habc)
- Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607