

Representing Christ's Love During Thanksgiving and Advent

All year long our Mission Team seeks out ways we can represent the love of Christ throughout our communities. To make it easier to engage in giving this

season, we've gathered our mission opportunities onto one page. Click [HERE](#) and discover ways to serve our neighbors with genuine agape care.

Share the Story of Christ this Christmas: Drive-Thru Living Nativity!

We're looking for volunteers to help with Northminster's first **Drive-Thru Living Nativity**. We will be setting five scenes of the Nativity for Friday, December 11th and Saturday, December 12th. On both evenings we'll begin at 6:00 and finish by 8:00, inviting the community to drive through our parking lot to experience the story of Christ's birth. In this time of social distancing, what a great way to help our neighbors remember the true reason for the season! We're in need of set builders, lighting teams, costumes,

traffic control, and *acting talent!* Also we could use a few animals—mainly a donkey and some sheep. Come join the fun—and possibly the cold—and spread the news of Jesus' birth. We'll observe all pandemic protocols and prioritize everyone's health. It's okay if you are not available for both nights! Or have limited talents! We have a fun part for you regardless. All ages are welcome. Make this your new family tradition. Contact Karl and Tina Vandermyde (309.696.3852; tinavandermyde@gmail.com).

You Are Invited

Check out a Life Group this week. Life Groups are one of the best and most accessible ways in our congregation to move IN, UP and OUT. To sign up, send [Bob Jordan](#) an email today or sign up directly [online](#).

Tier One Mitigations=Changes to NPC Protocols

In response to increases in positivity rates, the State has issued what it calls Tier One Mitigations. Similarly our Elders have revisited our pandemic protocols and have made some temporary changes. Our church, through its Elders, has maintained a commitment from the beginning of the pandemic to prioritize the physical and spiritual wellbeing of the community and to submit to governing authorities in accordance with the teaching of Scripture. We will continue hosting up to 50 people at each of our onsite worship services but will make a couple of changes to the experience. Paper handouts and bottles

of water temporarily will not be provided, and attendees will be encouraged to make their way to the parking lot at the conclusion of the service. In addition, the Session encourages all who are at higher risk regarding the Covid-19 virus to make use of our online Worship playlist until the rate of viral spread goes down in our community. Other meetings, activities and events will be temporarily limited to 25 attendees at a time. A full description of these changes can be found [HERE](#). Thank you for your patience and for your prayers. Love in the name of Christ is our mandate and our joy!

WE WILL GROW WHEN WE



CONNECT

We will connect people in friendships that minister the love of Christ.



TRANSFORM

We will be transformed by learning and living God's word.



SERVE

We will serve our neighbor with genuine agape care.

Help Is a Text, Call or Email Away

Our congregation is committed to showing the love of Christ at all times. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, errands run or supplies provided, please contact the church office (309. 691.6322), **[Pam Garner](#)** or **[Bob Jordan](#)** (402. 943.8218).

Weekly Events

High School Youth Group

Sundays, 6-7:15pm & 7:30-8:15pm
Please register in advance [online](#).
Contact: [Jos Smolik](#)

Middle School Youth Group

Wednesdays @ 7:00pm
Contact: [Jos Smolik](#)

KidsMin Zoom Meetings

Sundays @ 10:00am
Contact: kidsmin@northminster.us

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 9:00am
Contact: [Kim Holdham](#) or [Pat Hegwood](#)

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

As we turn our thoughts toward Thanksgiving, we reflect on our gratitude for God's provision in our lives. It has been our tradition to collect canned food to make baskets to help those in need. This year, because the need is great and due to COVID, we will be doing our collection slightly different. November 1st to 20th we are asking each household to start a "Gratitude Box." Daily Scripture verses are provided for you to reflect upon as you place items into your box. Completed boxes may be dropped off at the church on Sunday, November 22nd, 9:00am to noon. Other arrangements may be made through the church office. Click [here](#) for a list of desired items and daily Scripture verses.

Contact: Lisa Lewis (l9295@sbcglobal.net; 309.253.1916)



Blessings Bags

In an effort to represent the love of Christ to those experiencing homelessness in our community, we are creating "Blessings Bags." Each "Blessings Bag" will contain travel size toiletries, cold weather clothing, snacks and a \$5 restaurant gift card to help provide for their basic needs. We are asking for donations to help fill the bags. For a list of needed items, please click [here](#). Plan on dropping off items on Sundays, November 8th or 15th, 9:00am to noon. Once filled, the bags will be made available to the congregation to give away as we encounter people in need throughout our community.

Contact: Lisa Lewis (l9295@sbcglobal.net; 309.253.1916)



Cookie Baking Kits

Our friends at Dream Center have to make difficult choices when it comes to their family's holiday activities due to the costs. It is time for us to give them a sweet Christmas surprise...a gift bag which includes items to make cookies with their families. Please consider buying some of the following items and placing them in the container in the vestibule of the gym on Sundays, November 29th and December 6th from 9:00am to noon.

Cookie cutters
Hot pads
Mixing spoons
Sprinkles

Cookie sheet
Measuring cups
Rolling pin
Sugar cookie mix

Food coloring
Mixing bowl
Spatulas
Vanilla frosting



Contact: LeeAnn Glatz
(jlglatz@hotmail.com; 309.453.1005)

Giving Tree

Each year, Northminster helps *The Center for Youth and Family Solutions*, by purchasing Christmas gifts for those they serve. Due to the pandemic, we will be doing it differently this year. Here is the process:

1. Sign up online for one or more individuals [here](#)
2. Purchase gifts on their list
3. Place items in gift sack – **do not wrap**
4. Securely attach a tag with the ID number (i.e. 1A XC/PP)
5. Bring gifts to the church on Sundays, November 29th or December 6th between 9:00am and noon.

Gifts need to be returned to the church by **Monday, December 7th**. Contact the church office to arrange a different drop-off time or if have questions (office@northminster.us; 309.691.6322).

