

February 2019



News & Views

A newsletter of Northminster Presbyterian Church



Italian Night
- page 5

VISIT US ON SUNDAYS AT 9:00 OR 11:00 AM

WWW.NORTHMINSTER-INDY.ORG

Pastoral Ponderings

In February we will continue through the Gospel of Matthew in our worship. As with most scripture, this book was written for particular people, at a particular time, because of a particular crisis. The author was speaking to a group of early Christians who were wrestling with how to be faithful as their world was changing around them.

These particular Christians had only recently left the synagogue to join a Christian community. Throughout history readers have imagined anti-Semitic teachings coming from Matthew. We can't

look at the book from our time. Actually, the original readers were Jews who believed Jesus was the Messiah. They were struggling with Jews who did not. We find many references to what we now call the Old Testament in this book. Matthew is trying to help followers maintain their Jewish heritage and at the same time worship this Messiah called Jesus. He wants to make very clear that Jesus came to fulfill the law and prophets, not to abolish them.

The author of Matthew probably wrote around AD 80-85. He drew heavily on Mark's gospel for his

material. There are also some similarities between Matthew and Luke which lead scholars to believe they shared another source.

Matthew's goal is to help us know who Jesus is and what he expects of his disciples. He wants to share the Good News with Jews and Gentiles alike and he wants us to share it with the world. From now through Lent, come and meet Jesus according to Matthew. He has a lot to say and we have a lot to learn.

Blessings,
Teri

Worship in February

Sunday, February 3rd, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion. We continue our journey with the Gospel of Matthew. This Sunday we explore the Lord's Prayer and our treasures in heaven.

Sunday, February 10th, is the 5th Sunday of Epiphany. In Matthew 7 Jesus show us his preacher side (don't judge, knock, do to others, the gate is narrow and hearers vs doers). I was always taught a sermon should be three points and a poem. I aim for one point. Jesus has at least 12, too many for me to cover in 15 minutes.

Sunday, February 17th, we will explore one of Jesus' favorite teaching methods- parables. Why does he use them so often? How

are we to understand them? Matthew has some ideas.

Sunday, February 24th, we welcome Dr. Lake Lambert, the President of Hanover College (*see photo, below*). We hope everyone who attended Hanover will join us and invite friends. Lake Lambert, Ph.D., began his tenure as the 16th president of Hanover College July 1, 2015, the sixth in the past 100 years.



Thank You from Family Promise

"Dear Pastor Teri - Our many thanks to you and your entire congregation for your (recent) financial support. On top of serving families by hosting, this is a tremendous ongoing help to provide things like care management, first month's rent, and more. It really makes a difference too, as the City just produced our quarterly outcomes report that showed 88% of families who left our shelter for housing in the past 2 years still had housing on 12/31/18. You all made that possible and we thank you so much! Gratefully, Mike Chapuran, Director."

(See IHN article, page 7.)

Calling For Creativity: Holy Week Celebration of the Arts

This year Northminster once again invites you to express yourself through the arts by participating in the Holy Week Celebration of the Arts.

If you are a photographer, visual artist, a poet or digital designer – if you are a quilter, knitter, fabric artist or fingerpainter – your contribution is needed. Calling all potters or play dough sculptors, all composers or doodlers – your gifts are welcome! Your art may reflect the themes of Holy Week, the joy of Easter or your own faith journey. All submissions will be displayed throughout the church during Holy Week and the two weeks following Easter.

Don't consider yourself an artist? Two workshops will be offered for those who don't consider them-

selves artistic. If you can tear, cut and glue you are invited to join others on Saturday morning March 9 from 10:00-12:00 or Sunday March 24 from 12:15-2:15 (snacks provided!). Three beautiful but easy art projects will be demonstrated and you will likely finish your creation before you leave. Youth 12 and

older and all adults are invited to participate.

Watch for more details on how to get involved!

Please register so we can plan for supplies. Call 317-251-9489 or at: <http://bit.ly/HolyWeekArtsNPC>



Mission Team Check Presentation

Mission team member Debbie Grush (left) presenting check to Catherine O'Connor (right), President/CEO of The Julian Center in December 2018. The Julian Center empowers survivors of domestic and sexual violence and creates a community where every individual is safe and respected. They are proud to be the largest organization of its kind in Indiana. Since 1975, they have assisted more than 66,350 people and educated over 365,750 others on the causes and effects of domestic and

sexual violence and its impact on our community. Every day they assist hundreds of individuals and

families in their quest to live a life free from violence.



If we stop printing news and views and only shared it online would you miss it?

Please let the office know by phone (317-251-9489), email (sglant@northminster-indy.org) or put a note in the offering plate.

Education and Discipleship Opportunities

Book of the Month

Are you a reader? Do you need someone to read the book and tell you about it? Either way ... join us at 12:15 pm in Calvin Hall for pizza and conversation led by Parish Associate Carol McDonald.

Sunday, February 24

Everything Happens for a Reason by Kate Bowler

Bowler is a professor at Duke Divinity School with a modest Christian upbringing, who specializes in studying the prosperity gospel, a creed that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of



God's disapproval. At 35, everything in her life points toward 'blessing.' Then she is diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer. *Everything Happens for a Reason* tells her story, offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations on dying and the ways it has taught her to live.

Sunday, March 17

Not Just Black and White by Anni K. Reinking, Ph.D.

In Anni Reinking's world, even the smallest occurrence of everyday life raises new questions and reflections, involving sociology, anthropology, religion, and psychology. This is Anni's emotionally and intellectually moving memoir

of her life as a white mother raising a black son in multiracial America – but it is much more than that. It's about an extraordinary journey towards awareness and learning. Anni shares her family's story and is open about her own stumbling as a mother through cross-racial experiences in which she has discovered how much she has yet to learn. This book was released on January 8, 2019, and is available in hardcover and in paperback. It should also be available at your closest neighborhood library.



Sunday Morning Adult Ed

Bill Dynes: Exploring "*Cycle Plays*," February 3rd at 10:00 am.

Mark Moore: *New York Times & the Bible*, February 10th at 10:00 am.

Children and Family Ministries

Nursery care, Preschool and Church School classes are available for children during Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am services. On the first Sunday of the month, children grades K-5th remain in worship to participate in Communion.

Questions?

Contact Maureen Wilson, Director of Education and Youth Ministries: mwilson@northminster-indy.org or 317-251-9489 ext. 18.

Food Pantry Partnership Update

The Mission Team would like to thank all the volunteers who worked at Second Presbyterian Church Food Pantry and to all those who contributed bags to the pantry in 2018.

NPC Food Pantry Coordinator John Reed writes, "I would like to share a comment that appeared in the Let It Out section of The Indianapolis Star a few months ago: 'You will see Christ in many Christians if you just visit a food pantry and watch the volunteers there. Or better yet, stay and work.'"

If you have any questions or would like to sign up to volunteer for Northminster Day at the food pantry the second Tuesday of every month, get in touch with John Reed by phone (317-919-6505) or email: bjjkreed@comcast.net. Or chat him up the next time you see him in church. By the way, when you do see John, he deserves a pat on the back for his tireless efforts in coordinating schedules, recruiting new volunteers, collecting bags and getting them to the Food Pantry, not to mention his own work hours.

Thanks, John!

2019 Italian Night - Youth Fundraiser

Italian Night is **Saturday, February 23rd from 6:00 – 8:30 pm** in Calvin Hall. Join us for an evening of food, faith, trivia and fellowship to support Youth Ministries.

All ages of Northminster members and friends are invited to come and enjoy the evening. A delicious pasta dinner is served at 6 pm. There are games for the kids to play, and a silent auction too!

Italian Night fundraising enables Northminster to subsidize and provide financial scholarships for youth (6th grade to college-age) to

attend Mission Trips and Spiritual Conferences, including this year's trip to Triennium. These conferences have a huge impact on the faith of our youth and help them to build lifelong friendships.

Please consider contributing to our silent auction, or volunteering for the evening. Signups can be found in our weekly emails, bulletin or on the Northminster website.

Questions? Please contact Maureen Wilson at mwilson@northminster-indy.org. Cost: Free-will offering. No reservations necessary.



Youth Group in February

February 3

Super Bowl Party, time and location TBD

February 17

Youth Group 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Northminster

February 22

Italian Night set up 4:30 – 6:30pm

February 23

Italian Night 4:30 – 9:00 (event is 6:00 – 8:30)

Health Support Group

This group provides encouragement to those who are fighting or coping with cancer or any chronic illness. Meets every month on the 2nd Monday, 7 pm, at Northminster. Contact either Jim Mann (317-753-3163, jmann@saintlawrence.net) or Terri Hubbard (317-627-2521, tandchloe@icloud.com).

Caregiver Support Group

Open to all caregivers. Dates in February: Monday, February 4th, at 6:00 pm, and Wednesday, February 6th, at 1:00 pm.

Rosalynn Carter Training for Caregivers

Tuesday, January 22nd at Irvington Presbyterian, and Saturday, January 26th at Northminster Presbyterian.

3B Exercise

Join us every Monday and Thursday at 2:30 pm. Chair Yoga has now been added on an every two week basis on Mondays, February 4th and 18th, March 4th and 18th.

Grief Group

This support group is for those who have lost a parent, and is provided by InTouch Bereavement Community Health Network.

Thursdays, March 3rd - April 11th, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, at Irvington Presbyterian Church (55 Johnson Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219.)

Questions?

Contact Denise Harrington, Senior Ministries Coordinator: dharrington@northminster-indy.org or 317-509-7085.

Gleanings from Recent Prayer Survey

Early in December, a short survey about prayer was completed by people on two Sundays during the 10:00 Gathering Hour, and at home in the first two weeks of the month through an online link. What we learned from the 35 respondents is that:

- 94% believe they have a call to pray - much, a lot, or that it is their main job.
- Respondents report praying: daily (57%) weekly (8%) and on special occasions (17%).
- 43% would like the groups they are involved with to include more time for prayer.
- Types of prayer practices used include: intercessory (30%), meditation (43%), music (22%), art (9%), and other (8%).
- 56% pick up a copy of the prayer list at church weekly or occasionally. 83% thought including tips for prayer would be useful.
- 57% would participate in prayer awareness study opportunities in order to increase their knowledge and experience with different types of prayer.
- Sunday (41%) vs a weekday is the best time to participate in a prayer group.

These findings and other sources of information will be used to continue promoting prayer within the Northminster family.

In John we are reminded that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. If we remain in him and he remains in us, we will bear fruit; apart from Jesus we can do nothing. In many ways prayer is the nourishing sap that allows healthy growth, strong branches, and vibrant vines to be produced and sustained. As individual Christians, our prayers nourish the growth of our relationship with Jesus and with one another; they support the Northminster community of believers; and they sustain a vibrant witness to the power of God's love, mercy, and justice.

Weekend Food for Kids

Volunteers Needed for Gleaners "Backsack" Project

On **Thursday, March 14**, The NorthStars fellowship group will again sponsor a Northminster workday at Gleaners Food Bank. Volunteers will work the assembly line which stuffs bags of food for school kids who are known to lack nutritional food at home. Gleaners distributes 10,000 of these bags every Friday through schools in central Indiana.

This year our work shift will be from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. They have standing and sitting work stations to accommodate individual needs. We will meet at Gleaners at 11:30 am for lunch and orientation before starting our shift. Box lunches will be provided for \$5.00 each. Carpooling will be available, leaving the church at 10:45 am.

This is the 6th year that Northminster will supply a minimum of 30 workers. Gleaners relies on over 21,000 volunteers each year to collect, assemble and distribute over 2 million pounds of free food to 21 counties in central Indiana. Please consider joining with other Northminster friends for this rewarding project.

Contact Cheri or Bob Gudgel @ 317-844-7139 to reserve your place on the assembly line!

February Calendar Highlights

2/1	5:00 PM	Pokagon Weekend begins
2/3	10:00 AM	Exploring Cycle Plays
2/5	7:00 PM	Team Meeting Night
2/6	6:00 PM	Wednesday Christian Doctrine Class
2/10	10:00 AM	The Bible and the New York Times
2/10	10:00 AM	Confirmation Class - Meet Mentors
2/10	12:00 PM	Chancel Choir Lunch/Rehearsal
2/11	6 & 7 PM	Stephen Ministers
2/11	7:00 PM	Health Support Group
2/12	4:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
2/12	6:00 PM	Deacons Meeting
2/15	7:00 PM	Sound & Spirit -Lonesome River Band
2/18	2:30 PM	3B Exercise - Chair Yoga
2/19	7:00 PM	Session Meeting
2/23	6:00 PM	Italian Night
2/24	12:15 PM	Book Discussion: Everything Happens for a Reason
2/25	9:30 AM	Stephen Minister Leaders
2/26	9:00 AM	Newsletter Assembly
2/28	1:30 PM	Stephen Minister Leaders

See the complete calendar at northminster-indy.org,
click on **Menu** and then **Calendar**.

February Birthdays

Terri Hubbard	2/1	Margaret Collins	2/16
Lawrence Church	2/2	David Young	2/16
Norma Wilson	2/2	Kaitlyn Boller	2/17
Patricia Freije	2/3	Susan Hardesty	2/17
Kathryn Bulloff	2/5	Thomas Hubbard	2/17
Carol Frohlich	2/5	John (Lex) Cavins	2/18
William Freije Jr	2/7	Betty Bowers	2/19
Steve Keltner	2/7	Susan Holewinski	2/20
Blake Schlabach	2/8	Mary Boris	2/21
Weimer Hicks	2/9	Mark Yohn	2/21
Mary Beth Riner	2/9	Robin Litel	2/22
Kathryn Clayton	2/10	Jill de las Alas	2/23
Linda Furuness	2/13	Kathryn Goncalves	2/23
Joni Hughes	2/13	Jon Constable	2/25
R. Kent Jackson	2/13	Elizabeth Cornelius	2/25
Gabriel Boris	2/14	Susan Hedrick	2/25
Sherri Pankratz	2/14	Frances Barrows	2/27
Mary Kask	2/15	Wesley Lancaster	2/28
Mary Lisher	2/15	William Lord	2/28

IHN / Family Promise

Starting the week of **March 10**, Northminster will once again open our doors for families in need for Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN).

For one week, we will host several homeless families, and we need your help in extending a helping hand and a smiling face. Volunteers will be needed to prepare meals, drive the van, entertain children and spend the night. Northminster has always faithfully answered the call to serve this program, and we hope you will consider lending several hours of your time.

Sign-up will begin online and in the Gathering Place every Sunday beginning February 10. For questions, please see Dolly Craft or Nancy Jarrell.

Wednesday Nights

Wednesday Night Dinners are available at 5:30 pm. Reservations due on Mondays by noon. Call 317-251-9489.

"Parents with a Passion" group begins at 6:15 pm.

Our children's, youth and adult choirs are open to all, regardless of experience.

Sound & Spirit presents: Lonesome River Band

Friday, February 15
7:00 pm

Since its formation over 36 years ago, the award-winning Lonesome River Band continues its reputation as one of the most popular and influential in Bluegrass music. Whether performing on the famous stage of the Grand Ole Opry or headlining major concert events & festivals, including down the road from us in Bean Blossom, their loyal fans continue to support one of the most loved and most influential acts of our time. Sound and Spirit welcomes them to Northminster, Friday, February 15 for a free concert in the sanctuary at 7 p.m.

Lonesome River Band's vocal and instrumental talents seamlessly come together as they perform their trademark sound that fans continue to embrace. The outstanding lead vocals and harmony by acclaimed singer-songwriter Brandon Rickman (guitar) and the 2017 IBMA Momentum Award Vocalist of the Year Jesse Smathers (mandolin) are pure magic and put over the top by the exceptional instrumentals of fiddle extraordinaire Mike Hartgrove, top-tier bassist Barry Reed, and five-time IBMA Banjo Player of the Year and Virginia Country Music Hall of Famer Sammy Shelor.

The Lonesome River Band received an IBMA Album of the Year nomination for their self-produced Mayhayley's House on the Mountain



Home Music Company label. They dedicated the album to Mayhayley Lancaster, a self-proclaimed "Oracle of the Ages" who handed out "readings" and personal predictions at her home in southwest Georgia's Heard County. The bluegrass tinkers of tradition also dedicated the album to its fans; and, to people who understand that traditions once lost are rarely recovered. The musicianship, song selection and vocals are stellar.

With an iconic Bluegrass sound that preserves tradition on one hand, there's more that has kept the band at the forefront of the genre. Their single, "Wreck Of My Heart," shows why the Lonesome River Band continues to grow followers as performers and recording artists. This bouncy, three-part harmony, "leavin'" song embodies the band's willingness to step into new waters. Described as "traditional-based with a contemporary feel," it's a new song with a classic sound. We hope they bring this along when they come on February 15.

In 2011, the group appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman featuring special guest host Steve Martin. No slouch on the banjo himself, Martin presented Sammy Shelor with the 2nd Annual Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass. Five years later, in 2016, Sammy and Mike Hartgrove performed with actor Martin Short when Steve Martin was honored with the 43rd American Film Institute's Life Achievement Award – the highest honor for a career in film. The award was presented to Steve Martin during the gala tribute in Los Angeles, Calif. and aired on TBS.

From Bach to jazz to bluegrass, Sound & Spirit concerts celebrate regional and international artistry. These concerts are presented free of charge to the Broad Ripple Community and beyond. Funded by supporters and the audience, we accept a free-will offering to maintain standards of future events. For more about this and all future Sound & Spirit concerts, go to: <http://bit.ly/SandS18-19>

Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1660 Kessler Boulevard, East Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46220-2799

www.northminster-indy.org

317-251-9489