

May 2019



News & Views

A newsletter of Northminster Presbyterian Church



Lutumika family update
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Pastoral Ponderings

Most of you are aware of my primal attraction to water and sun. I find them to be not just relaxing but also healing and renewing. Floating in the water feels like an opportunity for re-birth, washing away the past and opening to the future.

I suppose that is why I usually spend my birthday at the beach or near water. Ever since I had cancer (20 years ago) I really like to indulge in celebration around birthdays. Every year

feels like a wonderful gift deserving of an appropriate amount of gratitude. Big years, those ending in 0 or 5, deserve even more of a celebration. This May is a big one. So, don't be surprised when I disappear for a few weeks of vacation this month. I plan to return a little older, a little browner, a lot wetter, and ready for the gift of another year.

Cheers,
Pastor Teri

Worship in May

Sunday, May 5th, is the third Sunday of Easter. We will explore the story of Peter's vision in Acts 10. Communion will be served at both services.

Sunday, May 12th, moves us on to the story of the Apostle Paul in Acts 13 and 14.

Sunday, May 19th, is Heritage Sunday. We will welcome David Gambrell from the General Assembly Office of Theology and

Worship. He will help us explore our heritage as Presbyterians and our worship traditions.

Sunday, May 26th, is the sixth Sunday after Easter. Carol McDonald will be back with us to lead in worship and preach. Come at 9:00 and you'll still make the start of the race.

Sunday worship begins at 9 & 11 am. Everyone is always invited!

Education for All Ages

Poetic Faith

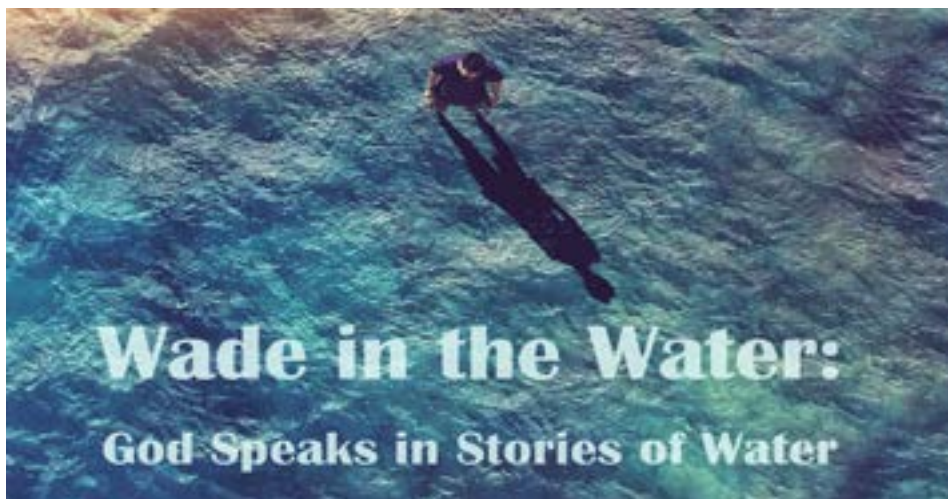
We'll be discussing faith in works of poetry, led by Professor Bill Dynes. Sunday mornings, 10:00 am in the Board Room, **May 12th and 19th**. All adults are invited.

Explore the Book of Confessions

A new Adult Ed class will be offered in June and July. Explore the Book of Confessions and the heritage of reformed theology with Master of Theology student, and NPC member, Kyle Trowbridge. We'll read through the documents that have formed and reformed our faith tradition, during the 10:00 hour on **Sundays from June 2nd – July 21st** (no class June 16th) in the Board Room.

All levels of theological expertise are welcome, and a copy of the syllabus can be found online or with the purchase of books from the office. Learners are encouraged to sign up for the class and pick up the material early. Each session will explore a different confessional document discussing their context contribution to church doctrine. Reformed tradition is an important aspect of our daily life in faith, even if we don't always recognize it, so leaders, elders and deacons of the church are encouraged to attend.

To sign up for this class and receive your books, contact the church office (317-251-9489 or office@northminster-indy.org) before May 27th.



Intergenerational Vacation Bible School
Wade in the Water: God Speaks in Stories of Water
June 17th – 19th 2019
6:00pm – 8:00pm at Northminster

Light supper provided, beginning at 6:00 pm, followed by stories, games, crafts and mission projects. Nursery and Preschool care provided. Activities for grades Kindergarten – Adult. Adult educational opportunity will be offered. Sign up forms will be available soon in the church office and online. Contact Maureen Wilson: mwilson@northminster-indy.org

Niagara Foundation - Abraham's Tent Events

Food brings people together and with this simple idea in mind, the Niagara Foundation is thrilled to introduce Abraham's Tent Events. This initiative aims to provide space for people of differing religious and cultural traditions to get-to-know one another in the cozy intimacy of each other's homes.

Abraham's Tent seeks to build community through interreligious sharing between members of the many faiths in the Greater Indianapolis area. With the kitchen and living room as the place of encounter, Abraham's Tent meals connect people within their local community and facilitate one-to-one relationship building.

Bring your story, your questions, and an open heart to the table. It's amazing how a little food and casual conversation can bring us a little closer together.

To sign up to attend an Iftar Dinner, go to <https://goo.gl/HJ4iya> or scan the QR code to access sign up forms.

For more information and questions contact cenk@niagarafoundation.org



Lutumika Family Update 2019

In January 2018, Nunda, Salima, François and Helené Lutumika arrived in Indianapolis courtesy of the Exodus Refugee organization. They were admittedly nervous, excited and more than a little apprehensive at entering an unknown land and a world completely apart from what they had known. They were promptly introduced to our Indiana winter, complete with snow and frigid temperatures, and to the Northminster family.

The year or so since has unfolded in new experiences, friendships, and community as their Christian faith has held them in God's hands and His good grace. Guided by a dedicated group from NPC, coordinated by member Connie Coleman, the Lutumikas have been baptized in the ways (and forms) of health insurance, employment and school applications, and many other steps along the "paper trail". Both Salima and Nunda are currently employed at Telemunda. François is enrolled at Ivy Tech Community College and working towards earning his GED. His goal is to attend IUPUI. And Helené loves being a student at North Central High School while also working as a part-time child-care provider at nearby Jordan YMCA. All four are in the process of applying for their green cards, with the ultimate goal of becoming U.S. citizens. Oh, and Nunda and François have both obtained their driving license; and they are proud owners of their own family auto.



Above: Lutumika family's first Christmas ornament, "Indiana."

Every week brings each one new discoveries, improved communication skills, and greater independence and autonomy.

The Lutumikas' concern over not having other Afrikaner families nearby turned out to be short-lived. Their residence is perfectly located within a broad connected complex of refugee families. Home is their own Gathering Place, constantly filled with neighbors passing by and stopping in to visit.

And we at Northminster are filled with gratitude and honored that the Lutumikas have chosen to join our NPC family as members, the first refugee family to do so. The next time you see Nunda, Salima, François or Helené, congratulate

them on their accomplishments and acclimation into our world, our community, and our church family. We are blessed by their presence every day in every way.

"19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone." Ephesians 2:19-20 New International Version (NIV)

Update Provided by Connie Coleman. Written by Carrie Savage-Zimmerman.

More photos, next page.



*Photo at left:
Christmas gathering with Lutumika
family and Circle 3.*

*Photo below:
Salima and Helene, reading
holiday greetings with Circle 3.*

*Cover photo:
Helene's favorite activity is baking!*



Congrats to the Confirmation Class

Have you had a chance to say “Hello” to Northminster’s newest members? If not, be sure to congratulate (names) on their successful completion of the 2019 confirmation class.

Each student participated in the class, worked with their mentors, wrote and presented their own faith statements to Session and served as a Worship leader on Sunday, April 28th.

Visitors were pleasantly surprised by the gifts of our young leaders sharing their musical abilities, prayers and stories of faith with the congregation.

Confirmands were received by the church and are looking forward to stepping into new roles of leadership at Northminster.

Next Confirmation classes will begin January of 2021 and will be open to youth grades 7th and up.

Summer Camp Financial Aid

Scholarships are now available for children and youth attending faith-based camps or conferences this summer. Heading to Massanetta, Montreat, or PYOCA this summer? Excellent! We have financial aid available for you! If you are interested in learning more, contact Maureen Wilson at mwilson@northminster-ind.org

Support for these scholarships come from donations to the Youth program and largely from the proceeds from Italian Night. Any student grades 1st -12th involved

in Northminster ministries is eligible for assistance. We are able to offer a subsidy for ½ the total cost of the program. If more is required, additional assistance may be offered on a case by case basis. The deadline for summer program aid is July 22nd.

Congregation members are encouraged to hold our young members in prayer as they spend their summers learning and growing in faith. Have additional questions? Contact Maureen Wilson: mwilson@northminster-ind.org.

May Youth Group Dates

May 5 – Youth Group at NPC,
5:30 – 7:30 pm.

May 19 - Youth Group at NPC,
5:30 – 7:30 pm.

Opportunities for Summer Youth Activities will be coming soon!

Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference

**June 20-23, 2019,
Harrisburg, Virginia**

Students who have completed grades 5-8, wishing to participate, contact Maureen Wilson ASAP: mwilson@northminster-indy.org.

True Cost: \$375 per person. From the support of the congregation and proceeds from Italian Night we are able to cover 1/2 the cost for Northminster students, making the price per student \$187.50 (this may decrease depending on lodging).

Dear Jesus: A Prayer

Dear Jesus,
I am thankful for my food.
I am thankful for the love.
I am thankful for my family.
I am thankful for music.
I am thankful for art.
I am thankful for school.
I am thankful for my friends.
I am thankful for my teachers.
I am thankful for my life.
I am thankful to be alive.
I am thankful for you.
- XOXO Mary

(Written by a Northminster Presbyterian Church School child, age 8.)



Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow: Feeding Hungry Children

Offering of Letters

Sunday, May 5



Please join us on May 5 at 10 am and noon in the Gathering Place for our annual Offering of Letters. We will be writing letters to our Senators and Congressmen to urge them to support legislation that will increase funding to reduce global malnutrition. Paper and pens, sample letters, and more information will be provided.

If you are unable to join us on May 5 or prefer to write your letter at home, go to <http://bit.ly/OfferingOfLettersExamples> to get specifics about the exact focus of the Offering of Letters this year. A basket marked “Offering of Let-

ters” will be in the Gathering Place through May to collect the letters. All letters from NPC will added to other letters written from members of congregations from all over the state of Indiana and hand-delivered to Congressional offices in June. The community is invited to write letters with us!

Keane’s Underwear and Diaper Collection for Interfaith Hospitality Network

I am Keane Ricchiuto and I am in 5th grade. You may know me from HOSTing on Sunday mornings or Peace Choir. Volunteering for IHN is my favorite mission activity. I learned that often families come to the Day Center with only the clothes on their backs. For my school exhibition project, I am collecting new underwear (men, women, childrens – all sizes) and diapers (all sizes) for the Family Promise Day Center. Please bring donations to the big yellow bin at church or we can pick them up from you. **Last collection day is Sunday, May 12.** Thank you for your generosity!



Did you know?

Northminster Presbyterian is the most generous church donor of Bread for the World in the State of Indiana! That’s a lot of dough—and an abundance of letters to our leaders requesting on-going support of the hungry throughout this planet.

Keep it going by stopping by the Gathering Place on Sunday, May 5th, to write your letter of support for Bread for the World.

(See article, above.)

May Calendar Highlights

5/3	10:00 AM	Spiritual Directions/Mary Beth Riner
5/3	10:00 AM	Deacon's Plant Sale Pick-Up
5/4	10:00 AM	Chancel Choir/orchestra/rehearsal
5/5	10:00 AM	Offering of Letters
5/5	4:00 PM	Sound & Spirit: Bach and Mozart
5/6	6:00 PM	Caregivers Support Group
5/7	6:00 AM	Voting/Primary Election
5/7	6:00 PM	Organ Task Force
5/7	7:00 PM	Team Meeting Night
5/8	9:00 AM	Spiritual Striders
5/8	1:00 PM	American Village Bible Study
5/9	7:00 PM	Estate Planning
5/12	10:00 AM	Poetic Faith
5/13	6:00 PM	Stephen Ministers
5/13	7:00 PM	Stephen Ministers
5/13	7:00 PM	Health Support Group
5/14	4:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
5/14	7:00 PM	Deacons Meeting
5/19	10:00 AM	Poetic Faith
5/19	12:00 PM	New Member Brunch
5/21	6:00 PM	Organ Task Force
5/21	7:00 PM	Session Meeting
5/22	9:30 AM	Spiritual Striders
5/22	1:00 PM	American Village Bible Study
5/23	1:30 PM	Stephen Minister Leaders
5/27	All Day	Church Office & Building Closed
5/28	9:00 AM	Newsletter Assembly
5/28	7:00 PM	Circle One

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

May Birthdays

Tom Stayton	5/1
Eric Mokube	5/2
Will Sibley	5/2
Sara Williams	5/2
Patty Rodenbeck	5/8
Marilyn Wharam	5/9
Krista Wright	5/11
Phil Bristow	5/12
Jon Klinginsmith	5/13
David Neitzel	5/13
Bo Walker	5/13
Kate Brown	5/14
Todd Ellington	5/14
Mary Smith	5/14
Dave Skeels	5/15
Rebekah Ryan	5/16
Grace Drennan	5/17
Rod Mail	5/17
William Boris	5/18
Sue Gleason	5/19
Anne Weinheimer	5/19
Richard White	5/19
Bill Dugan	5/20
Clarice Stegall	5/20
Nan Diehl	5/21
Kent Damisch	5/22
Cathy Robinson	5/23
Teri Thomas	5/23
Rick Melton	5/25
Mark Larew	5/27
Carrie Savage-Zimmerman	5/27
Evan Schlabach	5/27
Mike Austin	5/29
Stephanie Voll	5/31

Spring Work Days – Thanks

Thank you to all of those who helped on the church work days. You accomplished an amazingly great deal and the church looks much better.

- Linda Furuness

Stephen Ministry at Northminster

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them.

- Is life more than you can handle alone right now?
- Are your health, your attitude, or your relationships suffering?
- Are you adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move?
- Would you like to have someone in your life who really cares?

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing.

What is a Stephen Minister?

A Stephen Minister is a child of God who walks beside a hurting person; a caring Christian friend who really listens; a lay person who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care.

A Stephen Minister is NOT ... a counselor or therapist; a problem-solver; a casual visitor.



How does the referrals process work?

- A person - either you, a relative, or a friend - is hurting and in need of Christian care.
- The Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator learns about this need for care from the pastor, the person, or a friend, always with the person's permission.
- The Referrals Coordinator meets with the person to talk about Stephen Ministry.
- With the person's permission, the Referrals Coordinator assigns a Stephen Minister to meet on a weekly basis with the person.

- The Stephen Minister continues to provide distinctively Christian care for the person in strict confidentiality.

Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness. Contact Carol Campbell (clrjcampbell@sbcglobal.net), Teri Thomas (teri@northminster-indy.org) or Ruth Moore (ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org).

What Do Deacons Do?

The Deacons have been busy selling flowers to raise money for their ministry projects.

Thank you to all who have purchased plants, flowers, herbs, vegetables, baskets and planters! **The plants will be delivered on Friday, May 3rd and pick is from 9am – 6 pm** in the south parking lot. See you then.



#FoodandFaith

This group (people 25-45) gathers for lunch and conversation every few months. We are singles, couples, parents, and just plain fun people who like good food and beer. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, May 5th at noon. Place TBD (but probably a Mexican restaurant since it's Cinco de Mayo). We have free childcare at the church and babies in carriers and highchairs are welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Associate Pastor Ruth Moore at ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org so we can reserve tables and childcare. Newcomers always welcome!

Northminster Presbyterian Church Foundation The Legacy Society

Please join us on Sunday, May 5th, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
at Capri Italian Restorante (2602 Ruth Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46240)
for a special event to learn about the Northminster Foundation LEGACY SOCIETY
- a special group of Church members who, through prayerful consideration,
have made a commitment to Northminster Church regarding their
future financial and estate plans.

The Foundation's mission is to support Northminster Church,
and the Legacy Society is an important part of keeping the Foundation
growing and strong for generations to come. We will be providing information
about the Legacy Society, how to join, and also recognizing and honoring
current Legacy Society Members. It will be a great opportunity for prospective
members to socialize with current members about their commitment journey.

Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. Attire: Comfortable, Casual.

Please RSVP to Craig Hittle by May 1st by sending an email to
craighittle@gmail.com or by calling 317-750-5652.



Mini-Library in the Church Office

There is a mini-library in the office of good fiction books that you can borrow. It is behind the front desk.
Please take a book, read it at your leisure and bring it back for others to enjoy. No check-out required.



Estate Planning - May 9 at 7:00 pm

Estate planning is for everyone. Take the burden off your loved ones and plan today!

There are currently 34.2 million caregivers in the US. Caregivers number one concern is that they do what their loved one would have wanted. Without Estate Planning you leave your loved ones wonder-

ing what type of care you would like to receive.

60% of Americans do not have a will or an Estate Plan. Yet aging Americans number one concern is that they are a burden on their loved ones. Without Estate Planning you force your loved ones to make decisions they could have otherwise forgone.

Join Attorney Lisa Dillman, and Thrivent Financial for a discussion on how you can protect your assets, prepare for long term care, and feel a little more organized. Thursday, May 9th, from 7 to 8 pm in Calvin Hall.

Caregiver Support Groups

This support group is for all caregivers. Members and non-members are welcome. May meeting dates are, Monday, May 6, at 6 pm, and

Wednesday, May 8 at 1 pm. We meet in the Conference Room near the pastor's offices.

Health Support Group

The next meeting of the Health Support Group is Monday, June 10, at 7pm, upstairs in the Knox Room.

This support group is for anyone dealing with long-term or chronic illness.

3B Exercise

This FREE exercise class happens each Monday and Thursday at 2:30 pm. Chair Yoga is offered on Mondays at 2:45 pm, May 13th & 27th. Community invited!

Questions?

If you have questions about the events on this page, contact Denise Harrington, Senior Ministries Coordinator: dharrington@northminster-indy.org or 317-509-7085.

Chancel Choir & Orchestra Presents: Bach, Mozart, and More

Sound & Spirit presents the Northminster Chancel Choir, soloists, and orchestra in a performance of two giants in western classical music - Johann Sebastian Bach and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – at **4:00 pm, Sunday, May 5th** in the sanctuary at Northminster. Soloists are David Rugger, Bass; Jonathan Punt, Tenor; Michael Walker, Alto; and Elisabeth Kleinsmith, Soprano.

The two featured works on the program are Bach's *Ascension Oratorio* and Mozart's *Coronation Mass*. Composed for Ascension Day, 1735, the *Ascension Oratorio* was written during Bach's most fruitful period, when he was the music director for two churches in Leipzig, Germany. It follows Bach's two earlier oratorios, the *Christmas Oratorio* and the *Easter Oratorio*. Joining the choir and soloists is

an orchestra comprised of strings, flutes, oboes, trumpets, timpani, and harpsichord. The *Ascension Oratorio* is a jubilant setting, which contains three movements for chorus, two arias – one for soprano and one for alto, and six recitatives which move the story along.

Mozart's *Coronation Mass* (1779) was composed during Mozart's earlier years in the beautiful city of Salzburg, where he worked for the Archbishop. The Archbishop had declared that any mass setting was to last "no more than three quarters of an hour." At 25 minutes, Mozart is able to meet the Archbishop's time restriction by mostly setting the text syllabically (one note per syllable rather than multiple notes per syllable) and homophonically (all voices singing at the same time with the same rhythm). Set in the

bright key of C Major and incorporating horns, trombones, trumpets, and timpani, the *Coronation Mass* maintains a celebratory character throughout.

Separating these two works will be the Northminster Chamber Ensemble in a set that features mostly 21st century choral repertoire connected with the ideas Ascension or Sky. Two such pieces are British composer Jonathan Dove's spacey "Seek Him that Maketh the Seven Stars" and Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo's atmospheric "Northern Lights."

As with all *Sound & Spirit* events, this concert is **free of charge, community invited!** We hope you will make plans to hear this 90-minute concert, **Sunday, May 5, at 4 pm.**

