LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 10, 2023

Prelude Fantasia on "Veni Emmanuel"

Rowley

Jinhee Shim, organist

*Hymn #166

While by the Sheep We Watched

Jungst

Welcome and Family News

Danielle Kauffman

Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:6,7

Peter & Virginia Phillips

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Debbie

Lighting the 2nd Advent Candle (PEACE)

The Mehdi Family Omar, Gina, Nathan, & Joshua

Advent Scripture Reading

Isaiah 2:2-5; Matthew 5:9

Declaration of Peace: Prayer of St. Francis (Unison)

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

The Peace

As God has given us peace through Christ, let us pass the peace to one another. The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

"Great Joy" – NPC Choirs (See p. 4)

Children dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Sing We Now of Christmas

Adams

Pam Fleming, violin, Jinhee Shim, piano

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading	Luke 1:26-38	Pastor Farrar
Sermon	Mary	Pastor Farrar
*Hymn #152	Angels We Have Heard on High	Gloria
Choir Blessing	The Lord Bless You and Keep You	Lutkin
Benediction		Pastor Farrar
Postlude	Toccata on "Veni Emmanuel" Jinhee Shim, organist	Carter

Prayer Ministry

NPC's Annual Meeting: Join us TODAY directly following the worship service as we hold our Annual Congregational Meeting All are invited to participate, especially members. Childcare and extended Sunday School are provided through 5th grade.

Our meeting will include a time of memorial remembrance for members and loved ones who have entered the Church Triumphant in the last year. We will also elect new Elders and Deacons, give an overview of our ministries and mission causes, and discuss the budget for 2023.

Surviving the Holidays – Help and hope as you navigate the Christmas season without your loved one. Are you wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Christmas? Are you dreading this holiday, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated? The *Surviving the Holidays* seminar is for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to discover hope for your future

Our *Surviving the Holidays* event is scheduled for **TODAY at 3:00pm** and lasts approximately two hours. Light snacks and dessert will be provided. For more information, please contact Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com).

Clara Louie

^{*} Please stand as you are able

GREAT JOY - NPC CHOIRS

Linda Pilacik, director, Pastor Debbie, narrator

Luke 2:8-12

The First Noel
Sanctuary Choir

Arr. Rouse

Luke 2:13,14

They Rejoiced with Exceeding Great Joy

Wolfe

Sanctuary Choir joined by Sarah Comstock, vocals, guitar, Colin Comstock, percussion, John Furlong, Bass, & Jinhee Shim, piano

Childrens' Message - Danielle

Through a Child's Eyes

McDonald

Sanctuary Choir with Childrens' Sunday School Choir

Angels Watching Over Me

Raney

Sanctuary Choir with Childrens' Sunday School Choir

Luke 2:15-18

Silent Night

Gruber/Rentz

Emil Pilacik, trumpet, Linda Pilacik, clarinet

Luke 2:19,20

Great Our Joy

Wagner

NPC Bell Choir

Matthew 2:9b-12

Christmas Day in the Morning

Shakley

Mixed choirs joined by Emil Pilacik, trumpet & Colin Comstock, percussion Congregation to join in at Lind's direction for 4th verse of O Come All Ye Faithful

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sunday December 10 Second Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as the Choir presents "Great Joy," an intergenerational presentation of music and scripture. We will also light the candle of Peace. Stay for the NPC **Annual Meeting following the service** with childcare provided.

3:00pm Surviving the Holidays Seminar (see p 3).

Sunday December 17 Third Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as we celebrate the season with our Children's Christmas Pageant at the end of the service. We will light the candle of Joy this week. **7:00pm Found Wandering Concert:** a fun and festive concert to benefit one of our mission causes, **Well-Rooted.**

Thursday December 14
10:00am Pre-School Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary

Friday December 16

1:30pm Adult Christmas Carol Sing and Tea: All ages are welcome to join us in the Parlor for this annual event which is sure to get you in the Christmas spirit! Refreshments will be provided. Music will be provided by Linda Pilacik and all who attend! Why not bring a friend!?

Sunday December 24 Fourth Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve!

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as we light the candle of Love.

4:00pm Children's Candlelight Service This shorter service is designed for families with young children. Battery-operated candles will be used to conclude the service.

5:30pm Family Candlelight Service (live streamed)

8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service



ELDER & DEACON NOMINEES

Elders

Diane Chen Born and raised in Hong Kong, I grew up in a Lutheran church, attended an Anglican school, accepted Jesus as my personal Savior, was baptized at 11, and confirmed at 13. Since coming to the United States in 1980, I remained active in two non-denominational Chinese-American immigrant churches, as well as a Presbyterian church in Berkeley, Boston, Los Angeles, and, for the past 19 years, here at NPC, while teaching at an American Baptist seminary. In all these expressions of Christian community, my faith has been steadily nurtured, and I have deeply appreciated the wonderful diversity within God's family. I look forward to the opportunity of serving on Session again after a six-year hiatus.

Jay Field As young as I can remember I grew up in the church with both of my parents being involved in leadership responsibilities. I came to Christ at a young age and was heavily involved with Youth for Christ in High School and Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship in College. Over the years I have served in a variety of church positions with the latest as an Elder at Wayne Presbyterian Church along with teaching Sunday School for several years. I have had a renewal of the Spirit since joining NPC 3 years ago and I have a passion and desire to serve in a role of which I can contribute for being so blessed by Our Lord and Savior. Church leadership is a critical component of the church's success. I hope to contribute solid biblical ideas to NPC.

Mark Wenger I grew up as a Christian and member of a Lutheran church; I was the kid who was curious about my faith and asked a lot of questions in my confirmation class. In college I stopped attending church regularly for a couple of years but then decided to commit to fostering my faith in a church environment. Since college I have been trying to be more consistent in living out my faith in Christ, and I have had a number of leadership roles over the years in Young Life, youth and adult Bible studies, small groups, and now the adult discipleship committee. I have been very blessed to have been at NPC for 27 years, experiencing the love of Jesus here often through others, and also the hope and healing in our church community. I'm still curious about my faith and would like to continue learning more about what God is teaching me and the rest of us. I'm honored and excited about the opportunity to serve as Elder and I'm looking forward to a bright future for our church.

Deacons

Chang Liu I was first introduced to our Lord Jesus Christ by my mom, who became a Christian in the 90's. She taught me many New Testament stories, and in particular the Lord's prayer. After college, I came to the U.S. to attend graduate school at the University of Iowa. I was invited to a gospel camp in Columbia, Missouri. At the camp I felt God's calling and formally confirmed my faith in Jesus Christ and was baptized. Being a free spirit and "critical thinker" at the time, I didn't know the importance of church attendance and membership. Around 2005-2006, my life went through many transitions, my husband and I started to regularly attend Cherry Hill Baptist church, went to Bible studies and fellowships. We came to NPC in 2015 when we moved to this area. We have experienced much growth in our faith in this loving community of fellow Christians. I am blessed to be nominated as a Deacon, and to serve the congregation in the coming years.

Lalitha Naveen I was born and raised in a very loving Hindu household in Chennai, India. I went to a Catholic school (Convent of the Good Shepherd) and learned the Lord's Prayer and many Christian hymns (which the whole school would recite/sing every single day), but that was the extent of my Christian education until I met my (future) husband at age 18! I have been attending church with him for over 28 years now, but it wasn't until some years ago that I felt the pull of God at a personal and deep level. I have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. Every day, I feel Him nudging me gently but firmly to seek him out. My husband and I have been at NPC for over 8 years now – indeed, I was baptized at NPC a few years ago – and we feel fortunate to have discovered this welcoming church. I feel honored to be nominated to be a Deacon and I look forward to serving this wonderful congregation as best as I can.

Rick Plummer Hi! I'm Rick Plummer. I live in Belmont Hills and have since 1980. Some of you know me as Sue Carter's husband but most of you do not know my past. I was a troubled youth and enlisted in the army at 17. I believe that was God's intervention. God turned me around and realized I could not make it on my own. And now I am honored to serve the Lord and this congregation as a Deacon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

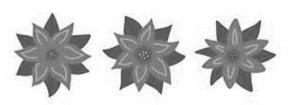
Pastor Nominating Committee Update: The search firm, Shepherd Staff, was here last weekend to get to know us, including attending our Sunday worship service. They met with staff, elders and deacons, other ministry leaders, and the PNC. They presented a summary of their findings to the PNC and will begin presenting us with candidates for our consideration around mid-January. While that process plays out, the PNC continues to accept submissions from our job postings. We are currently evaluating three candidates, two of whom have already had a first round interview. Please pray for discernment as we meet on Monday evening. As was shared in our Congregational update on Nov 19th, we have prepared a FAQ sheet that you can pick up at either exit of the church. Also, please feel free to ask a question to any of the members of the PNC: Linda Behmke, Diane Chen, Jack Comstock, Lisa Hoffman, Katie Kennedy, Sean McGrew, Omar Mehdi, Nina O'Connor, Ashley Reed, Jonathan Rogers, or Sue Wenger. Please continue to pray for stamina for the PNC and for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

November Giving Update: Ministries at NPC were busy in November, however, the pace of giving slowed. Through last Sunday, we have received gifts and tithes covering just over 70% of our budget for the year, for which we are grateful. This means we need just short of \$350,000 by the end of the year to meet our 2023 budgeted expenses. In the past NPC members and friends have given a larger percentage of their gifts and tithes in December, but this is a larger gap than we usually see. *What can you do?* Please remember that gifts made through December 31st help to cover our expenses already incurred in 2023; gifts made later are still appreciated but do not help to meet the 2023 budget. Please prayerfully consider if you can help meet this gap and allow NPC to finish the year strongly. -NPC Finance Committee

Redemption Housing Bike Drive Do you have a bike that takes up space in your garage or shed? Want a good cause to donate it to? I am happy to pick up your bike and deliver it to Redemption Housing which houses men that are re-entering society from prison. As you can imagine, they don't have any wheels to get around, and a bicycle is a good first step. Just let Alice Antonelli know at arichardson1@gmail.com.

Notes From Justice and Mercy On November 18th Redeemed for a Cause held their annual Thanksgiving dinner event but this year was a Friendsgiving Community Feeding. Traditional Thanksgiving food was served not only to the circle of people touched by human trafficking but to everyone in the community. As usual they had a great turnout and served many people. All the donations and volunteers were endlessly appreciated. Please pray for the ministry of Redeemed for a Cause as they seek to build up the community with positive messages that shield them from a vulnerable mindset that makes people more susceptible to being trafficked. To this end, they are always happy to receive donations of grooming and personal hygiene products. See Sally Kapner to help.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



During the month of December, the Chancel and Sanctuary is again fully decorated for Christmas. The poinsettias will be displayed on the 17th. After morning worship **on December 24, 2022,** the poinsettias will be delivered to members and friends of the congregation. Most will be given to those who were not able to attend the service, but ALL will be given to say **WE LOVE YOU!** If you're able to deliver a plant or two, please sign up below.

The Memorial Plants will be \$12.00 each. This is a lovely way to remember loved ones, and to add to the congregation's enjoyment of the season. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office as soon as possible. Thank You! Please make checks payable to Narberth Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please pray for patience and discernment for the PNC. Please also pray for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

Missions: This week, please pray for Isabel Lally (Pastoral Visitor), our Volunteer Youth Team, Danielle Kauffman (Director of Intergenerational Ministry), Virginia Davis (Director of the Christian Pre-School), and everyone who participates in these ministries to both ends of the age spectrum. Isabel visits, sends cards, makes phone contact, coordinates our Cream of the Crop "TO GO" and "in-person" meals, and is happy to help people over and under 75, if they need a ride, a prayer, or another form of help/encouragement. Our volunteer Youth Team members look to help build up our youth in their connections and service to the Lord, each other, and neighbors; Danielle continues to shepherd our children and care for their families, and now helps us be more deliberately interactive across the generations, aided by Sara Mahoney; and Virginia is always serving the Staff, families and students of our Pre-School with positivity and joy. This week, let's thank the Lord for all of them, and pray that they, too, will receive energy, enthusiasm, and joy, as they share God's love with people of all ages, with imagination and love.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

Sunday School for K-5th - Children are working on their Christmas Pageant during our Sunday School time. All are welcome to participate!

Kids Praise – Wednesday, December 13^{th} is our last evening of Kids Praise! We meet in the choir room from 7:00-8:00pm. Come and make a joyful noise!

Children's Christmas Pageant is Sunday, December 17th— Come celebrate the joy of Christ's birth in a Nativity story told from the innkeeper's perspective. Our pageant will take place at the end of worship in the sanctuary.

Save the Date for the 2024 All-Church Retreat! Get out your calendar and mark the dates for the All-Church Retreat taking place on Friday, May 10th through Sunday, May 12th in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. *Rev. Jane Filkin will be our speaker!* To register please contact Danielle Kauffman with your \$100 deposit. Full payment is due April 1, 2024.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events for children:

Sunday, December 24th is Pajama Sunday! Wear your favorite pis and bring your favorite stuffed animal to Sunday School. We will watch "The Star" and eat popcorn!

Thursday, December 28th is Marathon Kickball! Join Miss Danielle for kickball from 3:00 – 5:00pm in the church gym. Snacks and drinks provided! All are welcome!

Sunday, December 31st **is Karaoke and Crafts!** During Sunday School we will sing our favorite tunes and enjoy fun crafts.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY: YOUTH

Teen Girls' Ministry – Sunday, December 10th we will combine with the guys to bake cookies and organize our service project. We will be in the church gym. Our time will conclude at 1:00pm. Reach out to Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) or Lisa Hoffman (Lisa.hoffman1@verizon.net) with any questions. All are welcome!

Guys and Girls Cookie Baking is Sunday, December 10th— Directly following service, teens are invited to the gym kitchen for cookie baking! The is open to guys and gals and sampling is allowed. Please note: those who have been confirmed and are members of NPC are encouraged to stay for the Annual Meeting and then come down for baking.

Teen Girls' Service Project – Teen Girls' Ministry is helping to support the Parkway Christmas Shop and you can get involved by donating new or gently used toys for children and babies. Contact Mia Rogers (mkuniholm@gmail.com) to learn more! **Thanks for all your wonderful donations! We are still in particular need of:**

- Racially/culturally diverse dolls and other toys
- Baby clothes
- Baby toys
- Teen books
- Early reader books
- Christmas Gift bags

The Parkway Christmas Shop – If your Youth (6th – 12th) is interested in helping set up, organize, and run The Parkway Christmas Shop on Sunday, December 17th, please RSVP to Mia Rogers (mkuniholm@gmail.com). This is open to guys and gals! Parents are welcome to serve too. We will leave following worship and return by 3:00pm.

Winter Chill Youth Retreat – Save the date for some time away with our Youth Group at the shore this winter! January $19^{th} - 21^{st}$! Stay tuned for more details.

Youth Sunday School – Please note there is no Youth Sunday School this week.

Middle School Youth Group – Our last Middle School Youth Group is Wednesday, December 13th. We will resume in January.

High School Youth Group - High School Youth Group will resume in January.

CLASSES

8:15am Sunday Class – Please join us – in the NPC Parlor, or via Zoom – for a time of conversation focused on the scriptures for the day's worship service. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Debbie for the Zoom link.

The journey of grief is a painful process; you do not need to walk it alone. We encourage you to come to the video and support group, GriefShare. The sessions address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. GriefShare meets weekly, the content is Christ-centered and biblical. You will find this to be a place with people who understand the pain of your loss. GriefShare sessions meet on **Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the**Chapel through December 11th (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website. Contact Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

Men's Small Group There is an open small group for men looking to connect in a more intimate setting. The Men's Small group meets from 7:30 – 9:00am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month in the Parlor. Donuts sometimes exist, but coffee is always guaranteed! The format of the group is designed to facilitate intimate sharing, prayer, and accountability. While the study of scripture helps to facilitate those conversations, education is not the primary goal of this group. Our purpose is to provide a place for men to deepen relationships with a small cohort of other men and experience what it looks like for "iron to sharpen iron." Contact Justin Crawford (me@JustinCrawford.com / 646.588.9042) for more information.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Wednesday Night Programming ends this week, NOT last week!

Last week of Wednesday Night Programming – December 13th! Join us this week for Church Family Supper followed by a special Christmas video to help get us into the spirit of the season. Children and Youth classes will be held as usual.

After this week, Wednesday Night Dinner and Classes are on break for the Christmas and New Year's Season, and will resume on January 10th, with dinner, and a new season of programming. Stay tuned for the exciting details!

Kids Praise – Join us for music fun! Mrs. Pilacik, NPC's Minister of Music, will be joining us each week for an exciting time of music. Get ready to make a joyful noise!

Middle School Youth Group – we meet on Wednesdays evenings from 7:00 - 8:00pm in the Youth Room.





Join us for our annual

FOUND WANDERING

Benefit Christmas Concert and Livestream

Sunday, December 17, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Narberth Presbyterian Church

205 Grayling Avenue | Narberth, PA | www.narberthpres.org
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Watch online via Norberth Presbyterion Church's YouTube Channel or at foundwandering.com Found Wandering will be performing this year as a nine-piece band, playing a blend of traditional Christmas hymns and current Christmas songs, in a variety of musical genres, such as gospel-folk, indie rock, soul and Americana.

THIS EVENT IS FREE.

A lave offering will be taken to benefit Well Rooted | www.wellrootedpa.org

Well Roated exists to support, nurture and empower young adults and families entering, exiting or existing in the faster system by walking alongside them and connecting them to the relationships and resources they need to thrive.



2023 CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION with Current Ministry Connections

Pastor Steve Weed - Moderator

Class of 2023

*Jo-Anne Kaplan - Clerk of Session, Children's Ministry

*Sue Wenger - Adult Discipleship, Co-Chair of PNC

Brint Nicolai - Chair of Worship Committee

Jie Cai Finance – Committee

Class of 2024

*Linda DiLullo - Prayer

*Pam Fleming - Children's Ministry

*Clara Louie - Spiritual Formation

Jim Hornung - Property, Safety and Security

Class of 2025

Linda Behmke - Chair of Personnel

*Jack Comstock - Personnel, Chair of PNC

*Jan Kennedy - Liaison to Youth

Nina O'Connor - Safety and Security

THE BOARD OF DEACONS with Current Ministry Connections

Class of 2023

Gaby Anik - Treasurer, Deacons' Assistance Fund

Gwen Blessing - Homebound Communications

*Godfrey Louie - Moderator, Deacons' Assistance Fund

Gerri Wismer - Bereavement Care/GriefShare

Class of 2024

Ray Bellamy – Transportation

Katie Kennedy – Deacons' Assistance Fund, College Age Communications

*Dee Knight – Ushering

Donald Vangore - Ushering

Class of 2025

*Mike Boccasini - Clerk, Youth Ministry

Ann Saddel – Missions

Rashmi Vyas – College Age Communications

* Sandi Wray - Deacons' Pantry/Meal Train, Visitation

^{*} serving second term

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 10

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

9:30am Worship Service In-person and live-stream

Choir Presentation: "Great Joy!"

11:00am Annual Meeting, Sanctuary 11:00am Youth Cookie Baking, Gym Kitchen 3:00pm "Surviving the Holidays" seminar, Chapel

Monday, December 11

6:30 - 8:00pm GriefShare, Chapel

Tuesday, December 12

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, December 13

Last Wednesday night programming of 2023!

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper, Gym

Menu:

7:00 – 8:00pm In the Shadow of Herod, Pastor

Debbie, Chapel (Combined class this week)

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Miss Danielle, Choir Room

7:00 – 8:00pm Middle School Youth Group, Youth

Room

Each Week

Christian Preschool – 610-664-8890 x118

2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 12 noon & 12 noon to 3:00pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May

AA meets 12:30pm, Monday-Saturday & Sunday at 4:30pm

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: ilmpsych910@gmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

205 Grayling Avenue

Post Office Box 414

Narberth, PA 19072

Office hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

E-mail: office@narberthpres.org

CCLI # License #387124

On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

Thursday, December 14

11:00am Preschool Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary

Friday, December 15

Preschool Winter Break Begins 1:30pm Senior Carol Sing & Tea, Parlor

Saturday, December 16

7:30am Men's Group, Parlor

Sunday, December 17

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

9:30am Worship Service In-person and livestream Children's Christmas Pageant to

end the service

7:00pm Found Wandering Benefit Concert, Sanctuary

Jesus Christ, Minister

Farrar Griggs, Pastor Cell #: (704) 239-4735

Email: farrargriggs@gmail.com

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor

Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry

Lisa Hoffman, Interim Youth Coordinator

Jinhee Shim, Organist

Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Leader

Linda Pilacik, Minister of Music

Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator Tim Roykouff, Business Administrator

Sara Mahoney, Administrative Assistant Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Manager

Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper

Ruth Ellen Patterson, Financial Secretary

Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor

Virginia Davis, Dir. of Preschool

Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian

Devon Jackson, Weekend Custodian