



# Narberth Presbyterian Church

August 31, 2025

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

August 31, 2025

**Prelude**     *And Can It Be with How Deep the Father's Love for Us*     *arr. Page*  
Jinhee Shim, organist

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Pastor Debbie**

**Giving Announcement**

**Ruth Ellen Patterson**

**Call to Worship**

**Claire Woods**

Creator of the cosmos, of eternity and time:

**Be with us in this time**

Savior of the world, healer of the nations:

**Be with us in this place**

Breath of all that lives, of people near and far

**Stir within our lives**

Creator-Spirit-Son

**God of the here and now:**

**Be present in our worship,**

**that we may find new ways**

**to be present in your world.**

**Hymn #50**

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

*Mit Freuden Zart*

**Opening Prayer**

**Pastor Debbie**

**Scripture Reading**

**Genesis 1:1; Psalm 19; John 1:1-5**

**Mickey Doherty**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Brint Nicolai**

In moments like this, with swelling music and many voices gathered, we willingly sing your praise and bless your name. We ought to do this in all the circumstances of our lives, but sometimes we forget. Forgive us, Lord, for forgetting that you are always with us; that our lives are in your hands – and in nature, in scripture, in people – all around are reminders of your goodness. Help us see you, God – to follow your lead, and bless you all the days of our lives. We pray in the strong, beautiful name of Jesus, who shows us how, amen.

**Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon**

*The psalmist cried out to God for mercy, because of God's unfailing love, and affirmed that the Lord heard his cry and accepted his prayer. Hear the good news for all who turn to the Lord, seeking his forgiveness – in Christ, the embodiment of God's goodness, we are forgiven. Amen!*

**The Peace**

Worship Songs	<i>Lord Prepare Me To Be A Sanctuary How Deep The Father's Love For Us Father, I Adore You</i> NPC Worship Band	
<i>Children &amp; Youth dismissed to Sunday School</i>		
Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer		Brint Nicolai
Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	<i>Let It Be A Hallelujah</i> Jennifer Fisher, vocals, Linda Pilacik, piano	<i>Daigle</i>
Doxology and Prayer of Dedication		
Scripture Reading	Revelation 21:1-2,23; 22:1-5	Brint Nicolai
Message	The Goodness of God's Word; God's World	Pastor Debbie
Hymn #48	<i>God of Creation, All-Powerful</i>	<i>Slane</i>
Benediction		Pastor Debbie
Postlude	<i>Come, Thou Fount</i> Jinhee Shim, organist	<i>arr. Osterman</i>
Prayer Ministry		Jan Kennedy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NPC's Volunteer Fair** – Mark your calendar for NPC's 4<sup>th</sup> annual Volunteer fair taking place on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> in the gym. Come out to see all the many Ministry Areas of NPC and find out how you can get involved! Snacks and Drinks provided! Please contact Sara Mahoney (smahoney@narberthpres.org) for more information.

**Church Courtyard/Playground Renewal:** During the month of August, the Church Courtyard and Playground will be closed. We have re-seeded grass in that area and need time for it to begin to take root before Preschool begins using it regularly in September. It is also being watered daily and will be a messy environment until watering can be cut back. Please join us in allowing this precious resource a chance to be renewed.

**The Discipleship Committee** would like to identify all active small groups at NPC. If you currently facilitate or participate in a small group, please email Diane Chen (dianegchen@gmail.com) and let her know. We appreciate your response!

**Nominating Committee** – the 2026 Nominating Committee, co-chaired by Jan Kennedy & Jack Comstock is looking for Elder and Deacon Nominations. See p. 8 & 9 of the bulletin for more information. Fill out the form or email office@narberthpres.org to submit a nomination.

**Board Game Nights at NPC** – Mark your calendar and get your “game” face on! Join us for fun, fellowship and board games on **Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30pm!** Bring a snack to share and your favorite board game. Children are welcome but must remain in the Parlor for games. Please reach out to Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) with any questions.

**Men's & Women's Bible Studies:** Join us for a new Bible study series on the **Book of Romans**, beginning Thursday, September 11, 2025. Together, we will explore Paul's powerful letter to the Romans, a book that has shaped Christian faith for centuries with its deep truths about God's grace, salvation, and the life of faith. This study is open to all, whether you're new to Bible study or have studied Scripture for years. Martin Luther called the Book of Romans “*the soul's daily bread*,” and said “*It can never be read or meditated too much and too well. The more thoroughly it is treated, the more precious it becomes, and the better it tastes.*” Invite a friend and be part of this journey with us! We meet on Thursdays at 7:00pm (women meet in parlor; men meet in the copy room). Questions? Contact: Ken Eng (K\_Eng@msn.com); Lalitha Naveen (lnaveen@temple.edu); or Tim Neilson (mytn1122@gmail.com).

## PRAYER INFORMATION

### Please Remember in Prayer

**Missions: Quilts for Comfort** Every other Thursday morning, a group of women gather in the NPC Parlor to craft quilts for people undergoing chemotherapy. The quilters, some seasoned, some beginners, all work with care and a lot of goodwill, so that each quilt will provide not only physical warmth, but a reminder that there are others who know and care and are praying for them. Please join in those prayers for comfort, encouragement, and health – for those who receive the quilts, and for those who make them.

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**Bible & Bingo** – Join us in Sunday School this August for a favorite Bible story and a game of Bingo! And prizes!

**Blessing of Students and Educators** – On Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> we will bless all students and educators at the front-part of worship. This is a very meaningful time as we begin a new school year and program year at NPC.

**Pencil-Palooza** – All families are encouraged to attend a fun event with a point on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> directly following worship in the gym. Journey to pencil-themed stations, collect Pencil Prayer Prompts, enjoy food and have fun! Please RSVP to Danielle ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) by August 25<sup>th</sup>. You won't want to miss it!

**Praise Party** - A NEW program year begins for Sunday School on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> and we are going to celebrate with a special praise party! Music, craft, bible fun and more. Hope to see you there!

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

**High School Sunday School** – HS Sunday School meets each Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) in the Youth Room. All rising 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us.

**Middle School Sunday School** will be spending the month of August in the book of Judges! Come and explore the stories of Judges from the Old Testament! See you there!

**Youth Pool Party** – Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:30pm as we kick-off a new program year with a fun party. All Youth (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) and their families are invited for food and fellowship. Look for more details in your email. Please RSVP to Danielle ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)).

**Chalk the Walk** – All Teen Girls (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) are encouraged to help chalk the Windsor Ave sidewalk with scripture and notes of encouragement for our NPC Preschool teachers, students, and families on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> following service. Please RSVP to Danielle.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

**Regular Wednesday Night programming begins on September 17<sup>th</sup>! Join us for a church family supper starting at 5:45pm followed by the following offerings which begin at 7:00pm:**

**Grace in Chaos: *Biblical Hope for the Hard Days of Motherhood*** – All moms, with children of any age, are encouraged to join this 8-week study led by Sarah Boccasini. This study is designed to strengthen you with a biblical, gospel centered vision of motherhood. Do you ever feel overwhelmed as a mom—struggling with anxiety, despair, or comparison? This study is for you! The study includes weekly reflections around the themes of hope, peace, anxiety, control, and comfort. This is designed to be a supportive community for moms, where we can study scripture together, pray, and equip you to teach your children about the Bible. Each week will conclude with simple take-home ideas for you to practice spiritual disciplines with your children. Please reach out to Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpresbyterian.org) if you plan to join this class. There is a book that goes along with it and we are asking for \$8.00 to help offset the cost.

**Hebrews Study** – Pastor Mark will begin an expositional study through the New Testament book of Hebrews. The class will be fully in-person. Note taking outlines will be provided at each class. You will be challenged and blessed studying one of the Bible's greatest doctrinal and practical presentations of the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**“Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine”** is a 7-week video/discussion-based study by Max Lucado, which focuses us in on how God in his grace, offers to change our hearts, our very lives. Come discover what God tells us about this grace, that is not in any way wimpy, but is a grace that emboldens and grabs us, calling us to life that is turned upside down in the best way possible! All are welcome to this study, for as few or as many of the sessions as you can attend!

**Kids Praise** – Music fun is back this fall! All children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade) are encouraged to join us as we sing, create rhythms, play instruments and have fun! Hope to see you there!

**Middle School Youth Group** - All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited for Bible study, games and snack. Friends are welcome to attend with you!

# THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

At our best, Elders and Deacons seek by the grace of God to be examples of Jesus Christ and models of the quality-of-life which God desires for the whole church. It is a great privilege and responsibility – we welcome your prayers!

## Elders

As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament Church provided persons with particular gifts to share in governing and ministry. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world.

It is the duty of elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge. Together with the pastor, they should encourage the people in the worship of God, equip and renew them for their tasks in the church and for their mission in the world, visit and comfort and care for the people, with special attention to the poor, the sick, the lonely and those who are oppressed. They should inform the pastor and the session of those persons and structures that may need special attention. They should assist in worship. They should cultivate their ability to teach the Bible and may be authorized to supply places that are without the regular ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Those duties that all Christians are bound to perform by the law of love are especially incumbent upon elders because of their calling to office and are to be fulfilled by them as official responsibilities. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))

## Deacons

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office.

It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people, and assisting with the Lord's Supper. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))



The Nominating Committee is receiving recommendations for the offices of Elder and Deacon to begin in January 2026. It is not necessary to obtain the permission of the person you are suggesting. It is preferable for the Nominating Committee to make the initial contact should this person be nominated.

In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for **Elder**, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

**For the office of Elder:**

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

*(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)*

In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for **Deacon**, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

**For the office of Deacon:**

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

Name:

Reason for recommendation:

*(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)*

Please put this form in the collection plate or drop off in the church office.

# 2025 CHURCH OFFICERS

## THE SESSION

Mark Gende – Moderator

### Class of 2025

Linda Behmke  
\*Jack Comstock  
\*Jan Kennedy  
Simon Hauger

### Class of 2026

\*Jie Cai  
Diane Chen  
\*Brint Nicolai  
Mark Wenger

### Class of 2027

Susan Costantino  
\*Jay Field  
\*Jim Hornung  
Katie Kennedy

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

### Class of 2025

Karen Pappas  
Ann Sattel  
Rashmi Vyas  
\* Sandi Wray

### Class of 2026

Lorraine Hoffner  
Chang Liu  
Rick Plummer  
\*Gerri Wismer

### Class of 2027

Kevin Cope  
Suzanne Morrison  
\*Donald Vangore

\* serving second term

## 2025 MISSIONARY CAUSES

### Mission

Amnion Pregnancy Center  
 Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. – N. Ireland  
 Chosen People Ministries– Paul Cruz  
 Cornerstone Christian Academy  
 CRU City – Brindleys (Unite Philly)  
 CRU International–Leah Darwin  
 Development Associates International  
 Disciple Makers – Rebecca and Dan Hall  
 ECO Church Planting and Global Missions Funds  
 Esperanza Health Center  
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes – Kasey Dougherty  
 Global Horizons – Cephas Tushima  
 Habitat for Humanity –N. Central Philadelphia  
 House of His Creation  
 InterAct Ministries – Dan & Bev Mayerle  
 Interserve-USA – Jan Kennedy  
 Kingdom Connect – Ben Duffy  
 Neighborhood Crusades Inc.  
 New Horizons/Amoenitas – Scott Todd  
 Olney Christian School  
 Presby's Inspired Life (Human Good)  
 Rancho Del Rey  
 REAP Granada-Scott Esposito  
 Redeemed For A Cause Outreach – Sakinah Love  
 Save a Life – Nadia Gordynsky  
 Servant Partners – Dan & Denise Anderson  
 The Antioch Partners – Haugens  
 The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Standing Rock)  
 The Philadelphia Project – Rev. Ray Garcia  
 The Welcome Church – Schaunel Steinnagel  
 United World Mission – Nick & Ginny Woodbury  
 World Link – Jack Nelson  
 Wycliffe Bible Translators – Al & Barb Shannon  
 Young Life (Western Philadelphia Suburbs)

### Ambassador

Alice Antonelli  
 Danielle Kauffman  
 Jennifer & Tim Roykouff  
 Joyce Lewis  
 Tom & Alyson Burnett  
 Kathy McLean  
 David Fraser  
 Bob Moore

### Open

Julie Fernandez  
 Ashley Reed  
 Scott Todd  
 Linda Behmke  
 JoAnne Kaplan  
 Marilyn Reed  
 Jesse Kennedy  
 Ken & Sally Kapner  
 Marilyn Reed  
 Marilyn Reed  
 Ann Sattel

### Open

### Open

Charlie Choi  
 Sally Kapner  
 Faithe Hornung  
 Faithe Hornung

### Open

Ashley Reed  
 Dave Bellamy  
 Jane Murray  
 Rob & Sandi Wray  
 Kim Ishmael

### Open

# BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

## ***Sunday, August 31***

8:15am Adult Sunday School, parlor

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

## ***Monday, September 1***

*Labor Day*

Holiday – Church Office Closed

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Parlor

## ***Tuesday, September 2***

12:15 – 1:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

## ***Wednesday, September 3***

## ***Thursday, September 4***

7:00 – 8:15pm Women's Bible Study, Parlor

## ***Friday, September 5***

10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Bible Study, Parlor

## ***Saturday, September 6***

## ***Sunday, September 7***

8:15am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

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

## ***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: [jlmpsych910@gmail.com](mailto:jlmpsych910@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](mailto:office@narberthpres.org)**

CCLI # License #387124

## **Church Staff**

Mark Gende, Senior Pastor

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor

Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry

Claire Woods, Director of Youth Ministry

Sharon Shallow, Nursery Coordinator

Jinhee Shim, Organist

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, Director of Preschool

Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian

Larry Lubchuk, Weekend Custodian



## **On the Web:**

[www.narberthpres.org](http://www.narberthpres.org)

[twitter.com/narberthpres](https://twitter.com/narberthpres)

[facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian](https://facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian)