

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

October 26, 2025

Prelude Come, Thou Fount

arr. Kim

Jinhee Shim, organist

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Debbie

Call Worship

Ephesians 1:3-6

Nicole & Ava Bley

Hymn #350

Tell Out, My Soul

Woodlands

**Opening Prayer** 

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:7-14

Paul Rabe

## **Prayer of Confession**

Sue Wenger

Blessed are you, oh God, King of the universe, and Lord of this church. How do we so easily forget that this is **your** church, not ours, and we are **your** treasured possessions – not the other way around? Forgive our self-centered hearts, merciful God, and remind us – as many times as is takes – that our life, our worth, our sense of self – are gifts from you, our Creator, and our only King. We ask in the marvelous Name of Jesus, whose life and death show us what the truly God-pleasing life is, and who invites us to share in it, amen.

Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

**Worship Songs** 

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior Leaning on the Everlasting Arms Holy Forever NPC Worship Band

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**Pastor Debbie** 

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Just a Closer Walk/Abide with Me

David Baker, guitar

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-19

Anne Barr

Message

**Identity Crisis** 

Pastor Debbie

Song

Is He Worthy?

Benediction Pastor Debbie

Postlude March Hill Jinhee Shim, organist

Prayer Ministry Linda DiLullo

## An Update from Session to Our Church Family

Dear Church Family,

After prayerful consideration and deep reflection, Elders Jie Cai, Jay Field, and Simon Hauger have resigned from Session. While we are sorrowful at their departure, we send them with gratitude and blessing for their years of faithful service and care for our congregation.

The Session continues to take meaningful steps toward healing and reconciliation. This past week, we met with Pastor Dorington ("Dori") Little, who will be guiding us through a process of reconciliation for our Session, Deacons, and staff, and coaching us on ECO church governance. We are encouraged by this opportunity for growth and renewed unity.

Pastor Little and Pastor Enns also assist ECO churches in selecting transitional and permanent pastors and provide coaching for ECO pastors across the denomination. They will work with our Session, Deacons, and staff November 21–23, and plan to worship with us on Sunday, November 23. We also anticipate ongoing leadership coaching from them in the weeks and months ahead.

In addition, Christina Severinghaus will lead a weekend of *Peacemaking Training* for the Session, Deacons, staff, and congregation December 6–7. This ECO course will include both teaching sessions and group discussions. Please stay tuned for more information as these plans are finalized.

Our current Session includes Linda Behmke, Diane Chen, Jack Comstock, Susan Costantino, Jim Hornung, Jan Kennedy, Brint Nicolai, Mark Wenger and Katie Kennedy -- all of whom remain committed to leading with grace and are available to answer any questions.

We are deeply thankful for your prayers, encouragement, and faithfulness in this season of life at NPC.

With hope in Christ and love for you, The Session of Narberth Presbyterian Church



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Men's Breakfast:** Join us on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30am in the Parlor for hot food and great fellowship. The format is loose and all men are welcome!

**Souper Sunday is November 2**<sup>nd</sup>! – Warm your heart and fill your bowl! Join us for a delicious time of food and fellowship directly following worship. If you would like to sign up to bring a soup, please contact Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org).

GriefShare: "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 called GriefShare. The sessions specifically 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, and the sessions will be led by Alice Antonelli and Gerri Wismer. This is a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first GriefShare session will meet on Monday, September 15th from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the Parlor and will continue into December (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website (see link in the Friday newsletter). Reach out to Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

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).

Notes From Justice and Mercy: Loving Our Neighbors comes naturally to Jennifer Bonovitz. The ministry to families in North Philly has become even more important because of cuts in food stamps and rising food prices. We are now providing food and clothing to more than 60 families and individuals. Generous donations have been a great help, but we never have enough. Donations of cereal, canned goods (tuna, chicken, vegetables, fruit, juices), toilet paper, household cleaning products and toiletries would be greatly appreciated. We can get food, toiletries, and clothing to our brothers and sisters living on the street via the Project Home outreach team. Jennifer partners with the Mitzvah Pantry to provide food to families who come from West Philadelphia. Please pray that, with colder weather approaching, there will be ample donations of food and warm clothing. Contact Jennifer if you can help with driving or large donations. You can place donations in the blue bins outside the Windsor Ave. doors. Jennifer thanks you for your ongoing support.

## PRAYER INFORMATION

## Please Remember in Prayer

Missions: Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International (PRMI) Located in Black Mountain, NC, PRMI supports Christians of all denominations who are committed to Jesus Christ and to fulfilling the Great Commission, by becoming equipped in the power of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses to Jesus Christ. One of PRMI's ministries is Dunamis Fellowship International, which provides fellowship, accountability, and prayer connections for people who have completed some or all of the Dunamis Project.

It is a Spiritual Fellowship of people who have been born again, are focused on the fulfillment of a common vision, committed to following Jesus Christ, and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Dunamis Fellowship International is a unique combination of a missionary society, a seminary faculty, and an intentional prayer community. Please pray for them as they seek to meet the challenges of working for renewal and advancing the Gospel in the world today.

# INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**Prayer Warriors NEW Sunday School Curriculum** – Children will become Prayer Warriors this fall! Everyone will also receive a new prayer journal that we will use during this time together.

**NPC Nursery** – Our youngest are growing their faith with a new curriculum called "*Jesus - My Friend*". Join Miss Sharon and team for Bible, Play and Music each Sunday in RM 107. The NPC Nursery is best for infants through Pre-K.

**Kids Praise is back** – PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to the Choir Room each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00pm for music fun! Join us for songs, instruments and friendship. We hope to see you there.

**Trunk Or Treat at NPC** – All children are invited to the NPC parking lot for a fun Trunk OR Treat on Friday, October 31st from 10:30 – 11:30am. Please RSVP to Danielle if your family is planning to attend.

**Children's Christmas Pageant** – Please save the date for our annual Children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. The pageant will take place in the sanctuary following the message. More details soon!

# INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

Parkway Ministry Service Project – Join us in Sunday School on October  $26^{th}$  as we make lunches for our friends on the Parkway. All Youth  $(6^{th} - 12^{th})$  will meet in the gym kitchen this week.

**Middle School Youth Group** – All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us for Youth Group! *We will meet on November 5<sup>th</sup>*, and November 19<sup>th</sup> this fall. Hope to see you there!

Mentors & Tutors Needed at Hunting Park Christian Academy – Looking for a meaningful way to serve after school? Join our mentoring/tutoring team at Hunting Park Christian Academy! We're seeking teens and adults who can come alongside students on weekdays from 3:30 – 5:30pm. You will help with homework, encourage good habits, and – best of all – share your special interests (art, sports, tech, music, reading and more). Your steady presence can make a real, lasting impact in a child's life. Please contact Abby McGrew (abby.mcgrew@gmail.com) with questions or if you're ready to jump in!

**Young Life Fall Retreat** – Calling all high school students! Western Philadelphia Suburbs is heading to Lake Champion in Glen Spey, NY for the Fall Retreat! Many of our NPC Youth are already registered. If you want to join them, please use the link in the Friday Newsletter for more information and to register.

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

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.

"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 (every other Wednesday) – All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us for Youth Group! We will meet on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and November 19<sup>th</sup> this fall. Hope to see you there!

# **BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST**

## Sunday, October 26

8:15am Adult Sunday School, parlor

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

#### Monday, October 27

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Parlor 8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel

## Tuesday, October 28

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor 7:00pm Missions Meeting, Parlor

#### Wednesday, October 29

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

7:00 – 8:00pm Grace in Chaos, Chapel

7:00 – 8:00pm Grace (Video Study), Parlor

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Choir Room

#### Thursday, October 30

11:30am Preschool Halloween Parade

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

7:00 – 8:15 pm Men's Bible Study, Copy Room

#### Friday, October 31

10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Bible Study, Parlor 10:30 – 11:30am Trunk or Treat, Parking Lot

### Saturday, November 1

7:30am Men's Breakfast, Parlor

#### Sunday, November 2

8:15am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

9:30am Worship Service In-person and livestream

"Souper Sunday" Fellowship in the Gym directly following the Worship Service

## 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

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## On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org twitter.com/narberthpres facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

#### Church Staff

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry Sharon Shallow, Nursery Coordinator Jinhee Shim, Organist

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