

By Pastor Lyn Olson



Last week I walked to the Blessings Box next to the bus stop in front of the church, to fill it with food. It had been empty for a few days now. On this particular day I had been really busy, and was anxious to get home, so I rushed to the box hoping to complete the task

quickly. On the way, I noticed 4 Walmart shopping carts scattered in front of the church. Our resident homeless friends were settled at our front doors. When I reached the bus stop, there were banana peels on the bench and pistachio nut shells strewn all over the ground. Why can't people put their trash in the can? Why do they just leave their carts on our doorstep? I admit – I was irritated.

Until I learned that Jesus hangs out there.

The banana peels and nut shells had been left behind by a woman waiting for the bus whose hands had been burned off in a fire, her face disfigured and barely able to speak. She wasn't able to pick up the banana peels. While she was sitting there, a neighbor from nearby, who knows this woman comes to the particular bus stop, brought her a lunch. Then Alan came to catch the bus. As I was filling the box, he told me he puts things in there from time to time – last week 6 boxes of macaroni. He told me with a smile revealing a missing tooth, that God had blessed him so much. And he blessed me.

And then when I pulled out to go home, someone had removed the shopping carts and I discovered it was one of the homeless fellows who wanted to tidy up our property. I don't know where he took them, but they were gone. Humbled, I suddenly had eyes to see – Jesus at the bus stop.

Jesus was seen after the resurrection by over 500 people – proof that He lives. And before his death, he hung out with homeless and women and people with no teeth – the maimed and discouraged, and he brought them hope and healing. He fed the poor, he healed the sick, he befriended the outcast. And after he rose from the dead, he continued to appear in the most unlikely places for the Messiah: the beach, on a road headed away from the religious, to the ordinary and in the ordinary.

Jesus appeared at the bus stop. May you find him in your most unlikely places, and join him there. And if you want to join me at the Bus Stop, call me.

- Pastor Lyn





SALLY KIRBY (class of 2023)
Clerk of Session, Christian Education Chair

JAN CORY (class of 2023)
Worship Committee Chair

MARK GOSLIN (class of 2023)
Personnel Committee Chair

NORM JATHO (class of 2024)

DAVID MESSENGER (class of 2022)

CYNTHIA MURPHY (class of 2023)

BOB PRICE (class of 2022)
Finance Co-chair

BOB SILVER (class of 2022)
Finance Co-chair, Mission Ministry Chair

SANDY STILES (class of 2024)
Tech support, website, constant contact

CLAUDE THOMAS (class of 2024)

STEVE THOMPSON (class of 2023)

VALERIE WILDE (class of 2024)



If your last name
begins with

Your Deacon is

A

Barbara Austin

B

Mary Smith

C

Judy Konen & Betsy Lange

D, E, F

Marilyn Thompson

G

Marlys Miinch

H

Dottie Herndon

I, J, K, L

Judy Rhodes

M

Barbara Austin

N, O

Donna Bagnall

P

Neva Low

Q, R

Helen Healy

S

Robin Sutcliffe

T, U, V, W

Sherry Hendry



OPERATING FUND

| | Feb. 2021 | Yr-t0-date |
|------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Income | \$ 41,239.00 | \$ 62,860.00 |
| Expenses | \$ 31,251.23 | \$ 56,174.90 |
| Net Income | \$ 9,987.77 | \$ 6,685.10 |

OPERATING FUND

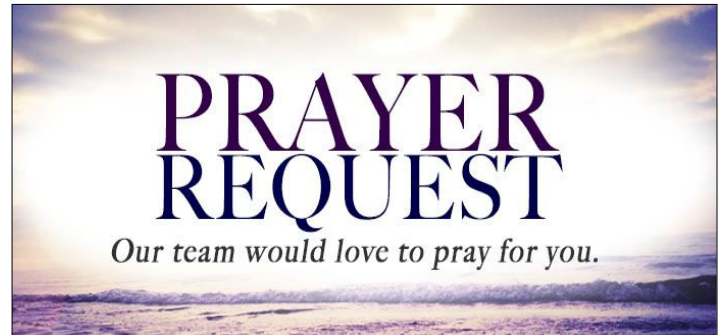
| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Iberia Bank | \$ 88,434.80 |
| PILP Money Market | \$ 23,045.33 |
| | \$ 11,480.33 |

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

PILP Building Fund \$6,254.04

CORNERSTONE FUND

Charles Schwab \$ 135,525.83



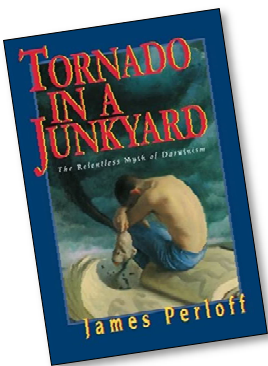
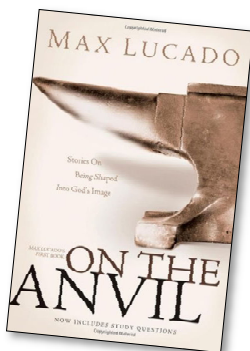
Please contact Jeanne Peters or the church office if you'd like to join the team or if you have a prayer request.

CURRENT PRAYER REQUESTS

| | | |
|---------|-----------|----------|
| Jerry L | Don S. | Karla |
| Larry L | Betty M | Jesse W |
| Susie S | Kathy M | Bonnie S |
| Gerry L | Melissa M | Jimmie H |
| Matt S | Debby M | Elaine H |

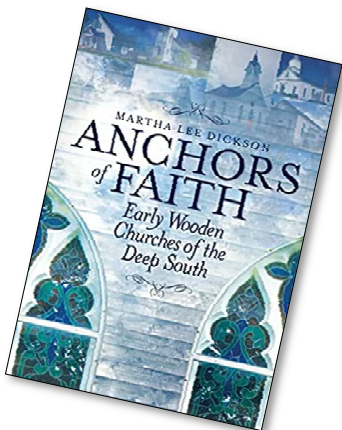
LIBRARY NEWS

The church library has been blessed with the donation of over 50 books during the past three months including 20 Christian fiction novels donated by one my daughter's friend who had accumulated them as a member of her church's book club. Two of the more interesting non-fiction titles received are On the Anvil by Max Lucado that "relates stories of being shaped in God's image" and Tornado in a Junkyard written by James Perloff who gives "a unique presentation of the scientific case against Darwinism informally written for laymen". Christian music lovers will be interested in the autobiography A Grandmother's Prayer written by, GMA Dove award winner, singer and songwriter Chris Christian.



In February a Memorial Book was presented to the library in memory of Tom Latimer. As many of you know, Tom not only served as an Elder at Northminister but was also the church

photographer. The title of the book is Anchors of Faith and author, Martha Dickson, "gives a pictorial overview of 145 late nineteenth century wooden churches located in southern Alabama, Mississippi and throughout Florida" including 22 Presbyterian Churches. Also, she "helps add to the understanding of religious faith in the rural south through the architecture and history of its churches". Not only is a book filled with interesting photos of quaint old churches a fitting tribute to Tom, but the title also reflects his love of boating.



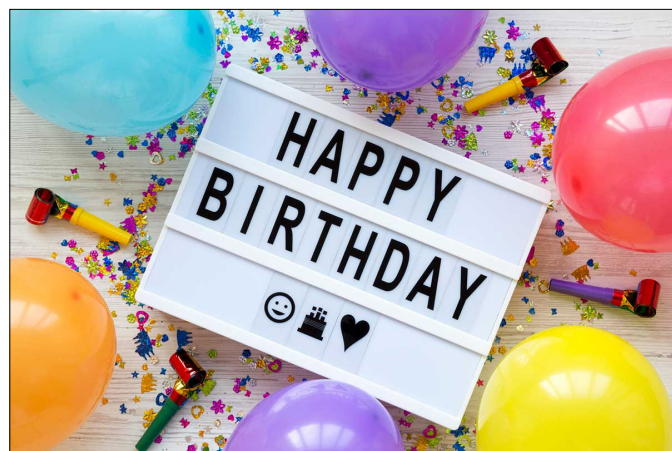
In Memoriam

The following members joined the church triumphant during late February and March. Please keep the families in your prayers.

Carlton Rowe

Jerry Miller

Barbara Walker



APRIL 2ND

Bob Price
Jeanne Peters

APRIL 5TH

Arianne Dahlem

APRIL 7TH

Barry Ladd
Sandy Stiles

APRIL 8TH

Janet Gubrud

APRIL 9TH

Bess Mitchell

APRIL 11TH

Mary Stoltie

APRIL 12TH

Joyce Menk

APRIL 13TH

Sally Hough

APRIL 14TH

Joanne Brainard
Mary Winkle

APRIL 15TH

Susie Smith
Bobbi Messinger

APRIL 19TH

Bob Olson
Jim Pinson

APRIL 21ST

Larry Barnhart
Stephen Thompson

APRIL 22ND

Ed Grep

APRIL 25TH

Betsy Lange

APRIL 29TH

Bob Gubrud

APRIL 30TH

Yummie House



Worship, grow, and serve Christ...

Northminster Presbyterian Church

3131 61st Street

Sarasota, FL 34243-2542

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit #526
Manasota, FL

CURRENT RESIDENT

PLACE LABEL HERE

Northminster Presbyterian Church

"Called by Christ. Sent by Christ."

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 a.m.

Also online on Facebook and YouTube

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 9:00 - 3:30

Fri: 9:00 - 2:00

*Social distancing & mask-wearing
are practiced on the property.*

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E-MAIL: office@npcsarasota.org

STAFF

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music@npcsarasota.org

Gail Ofterdinger-Ledgister, Organist