

Good Tidings

Northminster Presbyterian Church † Sarasota, FL

July 2020

JULY SERVICES

Sundays at
10:30 AM

Rev. Wally Johnson

Once again,
in our sanctuary -
also continuing
online at
Facebook.com/
NPCSarasota

July 5

*I've Fallen and
I Can't Get Up*
Romans 7:15-25a

July 12

No Condemnation
Romans 8:1-11

July 19

John Frazee
Guest Speaker

July 26

Dick Murphy
Guest Speaker

PASTOR'S CORNER

In my mind, July signals the official beginning of summer. Now, I know that in Florida it seems like summer most of the year. But still, July brings fireworks, picnics, hot dogs, apple pie, and of course, ice cream (preferably homemade).

Yet, I know this July will be different. There is that word again, "different." We grow weary of hearing it – after all, will it ever be normal again?

However, in dealing with different, we continue to be the church. I am grateful that we will have the opportunity to partner with Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in a Day 4 Hope. We have done this in years past with other churches, but I am excited to partner with Bee Ridge this year. See more about this effort on page 3.

Pray with me as we seek new ways to better connect with each other and the community around us. This is a vital part of kingdom living.

Please keep reaching out to each other – keep sending cards and notes, keep making phone calls. This is more important than ever in these days.

I have also spent much time in prayer for our nation as I grieve and lament the reality of evil and its manifestations in our society. I know you share those same concerns.

My heart is heavy for our society where we have lost the value of life and have no concept of the Imago Dei - life made in the image of God. The fruit of the Spirit is "love, joy,

Continued on page 2



**BEE RIDGE &
PRESBYTERIAN**

**NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN**

day4hope

Help us assist
local school children

**SPONSOR A BACKPACK
\$25/BACKPACK**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE**

August 1, 2020

Children will receive a backpack filled with school supplies, and a \$25 gift card for clothing. The families will receive a box of food containing dry goods and produce.

Pastor's Corner continued

peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (Gal. 5:22,23)

A year ago, I shared these words with you from one of my colleagues, "You can't go through life sowing seeds of hatred and expect to reap fruits of love. You can't go through life sowing

seeds of fear and expect to reap fruits of joy. You can't go through life sowing seeds of war and expect to reap fruits of peace. You can't go through life sowing seeds of animosity and expect to reap fruits of kindness. You can't go through life sowing seeds of meanness and expect to reap fruits of generosity."

Pastor Wally



Day 4 Hope 2020

Day 4 Hope is organized by Hope 4 Communities, which matches schools with churches to provide much needed services and supplies to homeless and in-need children in Sarasota County. If ever there was a time when hope was needed, it is now.

NPC has joined with Bee Ridge Presbyterian to host a Day 4 Hope on **August 1, 2020**, for 100 children from Ashton Elementary at the Bee Ridge campus.

Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the structure of this year's Day 4 Hope will look slightly different. It will be a drive-thru distribution of

backpacks, filled with school supplies and a gift certificate for school clothing.

Please help us reach our goal of funding 100 backpacks. Each backpack is \$25, and donors may contribute in any amount with which they are comfortable. Donations can be made online, or via check made out to Northminster Presbyterian with Day 4 Hope written on the memo line.

There will also be a need for volunteers to stuff the backpacks, control traffic, and staff the tents for distribution. Please contact **Joyce Johnson** if you are interested in volunteering: joycejohnson918@gmail.com or 941-387-6604.

If You Have Been Blessed, Leave One...

Something amazing has been happening at the Blessing Box during these past few weeks! Once or twice a week, the familiar red box have been stocked, chock full, by our neighbors.

NPC members come by the office frequently, to drop off water, breakfast bars, and canned goods. But this is different. Bags of dried beans, packages of noodles, boxes of cereal, bread, and fresh fruit have all been appearing.

Our original emphasis was on food that a person could eat easily, on-the-

go. Clearly, the type of food that is appearing (and disappearing) indicates that these gifts are being used by more than casual passers-by. There are so many people out of work now looking for food. Normal food distribution systems have been strained and are sometimes not easily accessible. Families are looking for food wherever they can find it.

Thank you to all who have continued to support the Blessing Box. Remember all types of food staples are welcome and water is always appreciated, especially as we move into the deep summer heat.



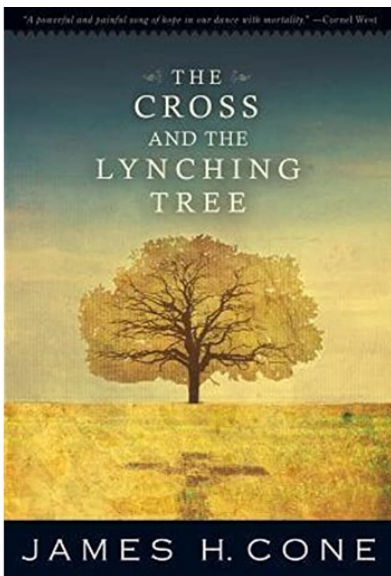
A Look into the Library

If you listen to the local Christian radio station, The Joy FM at 88.1, you've probably heard broadcasts by Max Lucado. Currently the pastor of Oak Hills Church in Texas, he is also a bestselling Christian author who claims he "writes books for people who don't read books." Evidently there are a lot of folks like that out there, as he has written 127 books to date. We have ten of his books in our church library including He Still Moves Stones, 3:16 The Numbers of Hope, Next Door Savior, A Gentle Thunder, Let the Journey Begin, and Just Like Jesus. So, if you're one of those folks who don't like to read books, why not give one of these a try this summer. They'll be on display to make it easy for you to find.

Bonnie Kiger, Librarian



The Cross and the Lynching Tree



Are you interested in a conversation about race and religion in America?

James Cone, author of The Cross and the Lynching Tree, is regarded as one of the most influential theologians in America. Rev. Dr. James A Forbes, Jr. said, "This is a book that doctors of democracy, justice, and compassion have prescribed to help us deal with our country's malaise of anger, violence, and amnesia. It forces us to acknowledge the horrors of the past and to see more clearly the mutant forms of racism in the present. Then, it shows us how Grace upstages disgrace though the power of the Cross. It points a way toward forgiveness, reconciliation, and the restoration of the beloved community."

Wally was so moved by this book that he gave it to all his children, for Christmas, two years ago.

Joyce Johnson will be hosting a Zoom conversation on **Thursdays, at 11:00 for six weeks, beginning July 2**. Discussions will be centered around one chapter per week (five chapters), with the final week for conclusion and actions.

The book is available on Alibris.com for \$17.99, plus shipping. It is also available on Amazon and on Kindle.

Please let Joyce know if you are interested in participating in the discussions. Contact her at **941-387-6604** or **joycejohnson918@gmail.com**.

HAVE A HAPPY, SAFE, SOCIALLY-DISTANCED, FOURTH OF JULY!





The Church with the Red Roof, Again!

If you've driven by Northminster over the past several weeks, you might have noticed a new red roof being installed on our Sanctuary. Unfortunately the original roof had faded badly, and we had become the church with the pale pinkish-orangey roof.

Thanks to the diligence of **Jim Christie**, we have secured a new roof **under warranty**. We are the Church with the Red Roof once again! Our out-of-pocket cost for this will be around \$2,500, which we have taken from remaining building funds. None of this money came from our operating budget, and it will not hinder our ability to continue our Mission.

What Is PPP & What It Means to NPC

In March, the Session of Northminster decided to apply for the Payroll Protection Program. This is the program where employers can apply for a loan, which is forgivable if it is used for payroll and utilities.

We had to demonstrate that we had been adversely affected by the Pandemic. At the time we applied, we were facing severe shortfalls. The program only lasts eight weeks and we received \$36,000. We will deplete all those funds by the middle of June.

This program and your generosity have allowed us to weather this storm, for the time being. We fully expect to continue to experience shortfalls in

revenue, as a large part of our budget is built on the loose plate giving we enjoy in more normal times, especially during Season and our Easter Service.

We have trimmed expenses and are living well within our budget and we will continue to hold the line on expenses. We must not give up on our mission and we must not fail to reach out beyond our walls. This is who we are called to be by the Lord of the Church.

Thank you for your generous giving. I am not worried about the future of Northminster because we are the Lord's in life and in death. I look forward to an exciting future!



Financial Update

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	
	May 2020	Yr-to-date
Income	\$ 39,736.67	\$ 174,854.27
Expenses	<u>\$ 26,430.21</u>	<u>\$ 147,757.55</u>
Net Income	\$ 13,306.46	\$ 27,096.72
PPP Transfer	<u>\$ 16,428.70</u>	<u>\$ 26,239.11</u>
NET w/PPP	\$ 29,735.16	\$ 53,335.83

<u>Operating Fund Balance</u>	
Iberia Bank	\$ 62,427.90
PILP Money Market	<u>\$ 22,981.85</u>
	\$ 85,409.75

<u>Capital Campaign Fund Balance</u>	
Ameritrade	\$ 100.20
PILP Money Market	<u>\$ 587.18</u>
	\$ 687.38

<u>Cornerstone Fund</u>	
Charles Schwab	\$ 60,732.07

Mortgage Balance \$0

Bob Silver, Treasurer

Office Notes



OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 9:00 - 3:30
 Fri: 9:00 - 2:00

The office will be closed on Friday, 7/3/20 in observance of Independence Day

Social distancing is practiced; wearing a mask is appreciated.

GOOD TIDINGS DEADLINES

Please submit all articles, reports, and announcements for the August newsletter by **Wednesday, July 15.**

“SIGN-UP SHEETS”

Please call Isabel, at 941-355-4729 sign up for either of these.

Flowers for the Sanctuary: Our beautiful arrangements are purchased by members and friends of the church and can commemorate a special date or honor a loved one. There are still dates available for the month of June and throughout the year. Each arrangement costs \$35.

Golf Cart Drivers: Help fellow congregants, who have trouble walking, get from their cars to the front doors. Drivers needed starting in August.

DIRECTORIES & UPPER ROOM

Our new LifeTouch Picture Directory is here! Anyone who wants a copy can swing by the office to pick it up. If you don't want to come in, give me a call and I'll leave it outside for you. We now have copies of the July-August Upper Room available, too.

Isabel Oake, Office Administrator

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Vicky Urban | 14 Marge Rowe |
| Rose Harkness | 17 Dee Sosnowski |
| 2 Helen Healy | 20 Dick McGuire |
| 3 Mary Ann Landis | 22 Lorayne Ohlson |
| 6 Gavin Litwiller | 26 Larry Brown |
| 9 Harry Wilde | 29 Carol Brown |
| 10 Jim Stoltie | |



Northminster Presbyterian Church
“Called by Christ. Sent by Christ.”

STAFF:

- Rev. Wally Johnson**, Pastor
pastorwally@npcsarasota.org
- Isabel Oake**, Office Administrator
office@npcsarasota.org
- Sally Kirby**, Clerk of Session
clerkofsession@npcsarasota.org
- Edward L. Stiles, Jr.**, Music Director
music@npcsarasota.org
- Gail Ofterdinger-Ledgister**, Organist

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30 a.m.
 Also online on Facebook

OFFICE HOURS:
 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM Monday -Thursday
 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Friday

PHONE: 941-355-4729
WEBSITE: www.npcsarasota.com
E-MAIL: office@npcsarasota.org



The Church with the Red Roof
Northminster Presbyterian Church
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Sarasota, FL 34243-2542

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

CURRENT RESIDENT

PLACE LABEL HERE

In-person Sunday Worship resumes on July 5! What's new?



Social distancing: seating in every other pew and space between families.

Masks will be required. We have some for those who do not have their own.



Avoid hugs and handshakes.



Offering plates will be placed at the door, not passed during the service.



Pre-packaged, sanitary, communion elements will be used - or you can bring your own from home.