



**ENDING  
HUNGER**  
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

### ALL FAITHS AND NORTHMINSTER JOIN FORCES!

Did you know that the zip code in which Northminster resides is home to one of the largest populations of “working poor” in Sarasota? Women and men, single parents, grandparents raising children are among those finding it very difficult to make ends meet, and literally, put food on the table every day. This has been especially challenging during the pandemic, when many faced the loss of jobs or reduced hours. Friends, our neighbors are hungry. We have known this, as we have been faithfully providing some food items daily in our humble Blessings Box, located next to the bus stop out front. But now we can do more.

Northminster has been invited to partner with All Faiths Food Bank in their “Ending Hunger” program by becoming a food pantry/distribution site. All Faith’s Agency Relations Manager, Peter Casamento, made a compelling presentation to the Missions Committee. Moved to action, the Missions Committee presented the possibility to the Session.

Last month the Session UNANIMOUSLY and ENTHUSIASTICALLY voted to become an agency that will distribute not just a few non-perishables to a handful, but to distribute hundreds of pounds of non-perishables and other staples to hundreds of households every month, right from our campus.

Initially, we will be open once a month on the 4th Friday from 5 pm to 7 pm to serve working people. The first distribution is planned for June 24th.

It gets even better! For the remainder of the year, All Faiths is waiving the fee for all the food that we will select and order every month; three other churches want to pro-

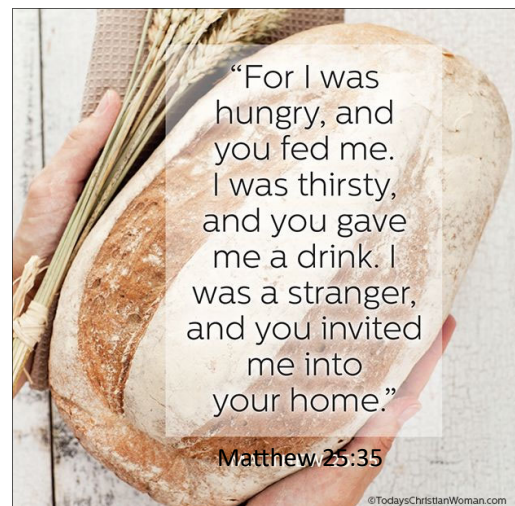
vide volunteers; one church is purchasing shelving for us; we will be inviting DeSoto Acres neighbors to join us in distributing food.

Were you aware that our friendly neighbors in DeSoto Acres have already been donating food for the Blessings Box? We have a team of 7 right now from NPC who can’t wait to get started!

How can you help? First, pray. Pray that our new Food Distribution Team plans well for all the logistics needed for the drive-through pantry - the ordering, unpacking, and bagging of food, registering guests, and distribution. Pray for volunteers to join the team to help launch and serve once a month. Pray for generous hearts to donate resources to support the potential future costs to administer the plan. Lastly, pray how *YOU* might get involved – there’s room for everyone to feed the poor.

It is such a joy to be serving NPC for such a time as this, as we strive to feed the least of these among us. Please contact Bonnie Kiger, David Gleeson, or the office if the Lord is leading you, or you want more information. I will be serving right alongside you.

Love in Christ,  
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)

**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**

# Financial Update

## OPERATING FUND

	<b>Mar. 2021</b>	<b>Yr-to-date</b>
Income	\$ 45,117	\$ 107,977
Expenses	\$ 40,165	\$ 96,340
Net Income	\$ 4,952	\$ 11,637

## OPERATING FUND

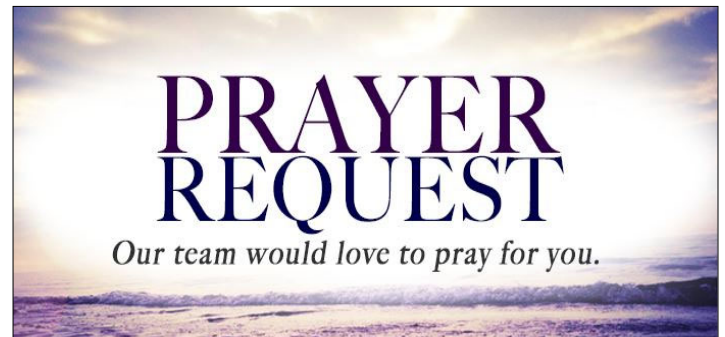
Iberia Bank	\$ 97,385
PILP Money Market	\$ 23,060

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

PILP Building Fund	\$6,258
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## CORNERSTONE FUND

Charles Schwab	\$ 143,756
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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

Betty M.	Gail C.	Matt S.
Bob G.	Jay G.	Melissa M.
Cynthia M.	Jerry L.	Michelle and family
Don S.	Joanne B.	Richard H.
Elinor M.	Kara	Susie S.
Gaelle S.	Linda Harvell and family	

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS MAY 20TH

This is an invitation to participate in the study of the **“Five Points of Calvinism and the open invitation of salvation through Jesus Christ.”**

Classes **begin Thursday, May 20, 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and every Thursday thereafter through the month of August.** Sign up is appreciated.

Led by Dick Murphy with spiritual guidance by Rev. Lyn Olson.

The Five Points of Calvinism are doctrinal beliefs of the Presbyterian Church USA and most reformed Christian churches on the subject of “salvation”. Calvinism reveals God’s Scriptural truths as to how you were chosen to be saved for all eternity. Even so, some reformed churches struggle with certain tenets within the five points. Thus, there is a degree of controversy among Christian churches which is still debated. The “Five Points of Calvinism” are (1) total depravity, (2) unconditional election, (3) limited atonement, (4) irresistible grace, and (5) perseverance of the saints. ***Do not let the topics scare you. We will unpack their meanings and how they apply to us, and address the mysterious precepts of predestination, double predestination, reprobation, and preterition.***

The study will also address some Biblical issues that are contradictory, confusing, and antinomous, and yet absolutely true. Two simple Biblical examples are (1) you must seek God to be saved, and yet the Bible says no one seeks God. And (2) God is totally sovereign over everything man does and yet man is totally responsible for what he does. This study will lead us to a better understanding of how we are saved by a loving and merciful God who is beyond our comprehension and understanding.

This study will be beneficial for mature Christians who want to go deep into the theology of God’s salvation doctrines. However, nothing that we will learn in this study will change how we are saved through Jesus Christ. Many Christians have never heard of the issues we will discuss, and that is okay. Having knowledge of them or even accepting them will not affect one’s salvation. Yet, God has made these issues known within the Bible in order for us to have a greater appreciation of His omnipotence and omniscience. Indeed, they showcase that His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. Thus, even as we study them, we must understand that we will never fully comprehend the mind of God and His ways accept to say that they are perfect because He is perfect.

We respectfully request that all in attendance have received their immunization shots against Covid 19 out of concern for all attendees. Masks are optional. Please sign up in the Sanctuary Lobby or email Dick Murphy at [rwmcem@comcast.net](mailto:rwmcem@comcast.net).



The following member joined the church triumphant during April. Please keep the families in your prayers.

Larry Harvell  
June 29, 1927 ~ April 24, 2021



**MAY 3RD**  
Lynne Fellows

**MAY 5TH**  
Debbie Latimer

**MAY 8TH**  
Judy Konen

**MAY 12TH**  
Lee Anderson

**MAY 14TH**  
Richard Kerr

**MAY 17TH**  
Doug Mitchell  
Robin Sutcliffe  
Sherry Hendry

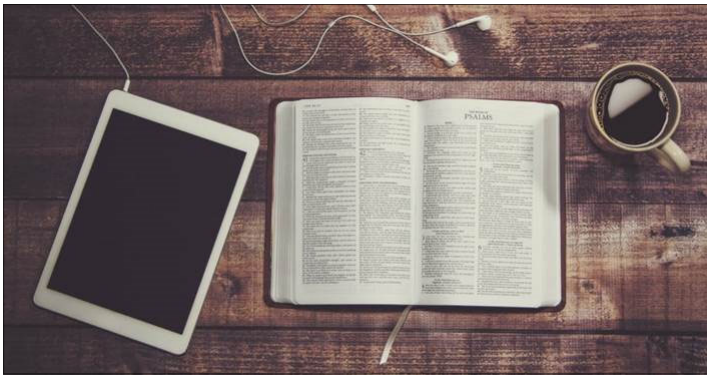
**MAY 23RD**  
Marlys Miinch

**MAY 28TH**  
Dottie Herndon

**MAY 30TH**  
Jan Cory

**MAY 31ST**  
JoAnn Nilsen



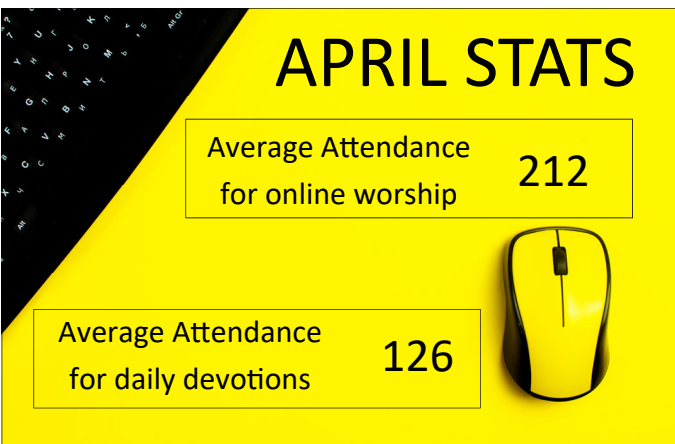


## NPC GOES VIRTUAL TO REACH MORE PEOPLE FOR CHRIST

When the pandemic hit us almost 15 months ago, forcing churches to shut their sanctuary doors, NPC scrambled to produce on-line worship so none of our 165 members and friends would miss worship. With a very limited budget and no experience in streaming, the worship committee purchased I-pads and 1 camera and subscribed to “sling” and streaming services to stream worship to YouTube and Facebook. Pastor Wally and the tech booth had to learn “on the job” how to mix sound, record and stream with the equipment we had. Then we opened the doors again last fall and about 50 returned to in person worship. Wow how time flies!

Since the initial challenges, both Pastor Wally and Isabel retired and our equipment is not keeping up with the streaming needs. Our previous solutions have functioned more as band aids, which haven’t been consistently reliable. But thanks to you, our congregation, new and remaining staff, and the tech team, together, we have proved how flexible we can be as we meet new and unforeseen challenges.

Yet in all this, we have new opportunities. It is clear to the leadership of the church that regardless of how wonderful it is to be worshipping again in person, we will



never go “back to normal.” We now have over 200 people still viewing virtual worship every week online! Pastor Lyn is conducting daily “live” devotionals, and the

numbers of attendees is growing. **We must not forget the new online community that has formed this past year.** Statistics show that many may never return to in person worship, preferring the comfort or convenience of worshipping at home. We’ve also discovered there are people worshipping at NPC online WHO DO NOT HAVE ANY OTHER CHURCH HOME. Consider how many more was can reach with God’s message through streaming Bible studies, special services like we did Good Friday and other events to the public that we could never reach otherwise!

With all that said, your Session has voted to improve the virtual technology infrastructure and secure additional cameras to continue to invest in quality and reliable equipment, software and streaming services, so that NPC can grow virtually, and spiritually. If you have benefited from NPC’s online ministries, and the excellent in person worship experiences, please consider a gift in any amount to the “Worship in a Virtual World” Fund, to support the ongoing needs to enhance our virtual worship capabilities. In this way, *no one* will be lost.

Your Technology Team  
Sandra Stiles, Technology Committee Chair



### MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

On Sunday the 23rd after the worship service, Pastor Lyn will meet with those who would like to join in membership with Northminster Presbyterian Church.

This will be a time to ask any questions about the life church, what it means to be a Presbyterian Christian, and to consider making a commitment to our community through the membership process.

Please join us if you have been considering how you can become more involved at Northminster, especially as we open the doors after the pandemic and look forward to future of new possibilities!

Contact the church office if you would like to join us May 23rd. office@npcsarasota.org or 941-355-4729.

*Worship, grow, and serve Christ...*

**Northminster Presbyterian Church**

3131 61st Street

Sarasota, FL 34243-2542

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage

**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.*

**PHONE:** 941-355-4729

**WEBSITE:** [www.npcsarasota.com](http://www.npcsarasota.com)

**E-MAIL:** [office@npcsarasota.org](mailto:office@npcsarasota.org)

**STAFF**

**Rev. Lyn Olson**, Transitional Pastor  
*[pastor@npcsarasota.org](mailto:pastor@npcsarasota.org)*

**Dawnmarie Daniels-Carsky**,  
Administrator  
*[office@npcsarasota.org](mailto:office@npcsarasota.org)*

**Sally Kirby**, Clerk of Session  
*[clerkofsession@npcsarasota.org](mailto:clerkofsession@npcsarasota.org)*

**Edward L. Stiles, Jr.**, Music Director  
*[music@npcsarasota.org](mailto:music@npcsarasota.org)*

**Gail Ofterdinger-Ledgister**, Pianist & Organist