

# NORTHMINSTER NEWS

**Proclaiming God's grace, creating community, serving our neighbors**

## JANUARY AT A GLANCE

**Bible Study Resumes**

January 8th at 10:00 AM

**Theology on Tap**

January 8th at 7:00 PM

**Adult Education**

January 12th at 9:00 AM

**Community Night**

January 15th

**Adult Education**

January 19th at 9:00 AM

**MLK Prayer Breakfast**

January 20th

**Annual Meeting**

January 26th

## FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

**Adult Education**

February 2nd at 9:00 AM

**Community Night**

February 5th

**Friendship Luncheon**

February 12th @ 11:30 AM

**Community Night**

February 16th

**Ash Wednesday**

February 26th

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

The move into January and February can be challenging. While the holidays are sometimes unwieldy, they have a gravity that pulls us forward. Once they have come to a close, we can wonder, now what?

Our theme for 2020 is Blessed and Blessing. How easy it is for these words to become trite, saccharine, and even easily mocked. The Hebrew image for “to bless” is the posture of kneeling. It comes from the ability to become humble. The wonder is that it is from this place that we are able to bless others.

As we walk alongside the folks from SHARE/WHEEL, as we walk alongside our friends and neighbors, as we walk alongside the others in our congregation, in 2020 we will be continually practicing what it means to be blessed to be a blessing. As we follow Jesus, and lean into the Spirit of God, we will discover that even in the midst of deep uncertainty and doubt, there is still room for blessing.

On every Sunday, and every other day in between, let us remind each other to ask, how are we blessed, and how can we be a blessing?

Warmly,

*Rev. Dani Forbess*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dani Forbess, Pastor

Rev. Jeny Carlson, Associate Pastor of Formation

Rev. Zac Calvo, Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach

---

## BEAUTY IN THE SANCTUARY: AN ART INSTALLATION BY LISA SNOW LADY

Local visual artist, Lisa Snow Lady shares her work in collage. Her travels have led her into many sanctuaries across the world. Lisa is captivated by the beauty of these sacred spaces and reflects her own posture of wonder in her work.

### ADULT EDUCATION

Join Pastor Jeny for Adult Education in January and February! Using Rev. Nadia Boltz Weber's book "Shameless" as a launching point we will explore how the messages we learned growing up about sex, gender, and sexual orientation impacted our faith, our relationships, and our human development. Books available for \$15 in the church office. Classes will be held on January 12th, 19th, and February 2nd in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 AM.

### MLK PRAYER BREAKFAST

Join Northminster's table for the 8th annual MLK prayer breakfast on January 20th from 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM. We will have the opportunity to hear keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, pastor of Plymouth Church. Please get in touch with Pastor Dani at [dani.forbess@northminsterpres.org](mailto:dani.forbess@northminsterpres.org) before January 13th to reserve a spot.

### COASTLAND COMMONS GATHERINGS

Join Coastland Commons on the second Monday of each month from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM for a shared meal, conversation, and exploring creative practices. We will be gathering for a night to engage our creative selves on January 13th through liturgy, writing, and art, and on February 10th we will learn more about queer theory and theology. Visit [www.coastlandcommons.org](http://www.coastlandcommons.org) to RSVP.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Join us on January 26th after worship to get an annual snapshot of the mission and work of our congregation. We review the budget that session has approved, and we also review the compensation of the pastor. All members are encouraged to attend and vote!

### MISSION PARTNER UPDATE

Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen will be returning soon from South Africa. As our partners in the Mennonite Mission Network, we continue to pray for them in their transition back to the Pacific Northwest. Please join us on Sunday, January 12th to have an opportunity to hear from them about their work.

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

Join Pastor Jeny for drinks, dinner and conversation on the intersections of theology and current events on the second and fourth Wednesday evening of the month at Brother Barrel pub on Lake City at 7:00 PM. For more information, you can reach out to Jeny at [jeny.carlson@northminsterpres.org](mailto:jeny.carlson@northminsterpres.org)

### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study Starts on Jan 8th at 10am on Wednesdays in the Library. The Winter Theme is The Incarnation: Discovering the Wonder of the Early Church of Emmanuel, God With Us. We will be looking at Ephesians and Colossians.

### LIBRARY UPDATE

Free books are available in library via the Book Exchange! Check out the book shelves by the coffee table. People have donated an interesting variety of titles for your reading pleasure. Feel free to take one and donate your best if you wish.

---

## LECTIONARY

**1/5**

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

**2/2**

Micah 6:1-8  
Matthew 5:1-12

**1/12**

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Matthew 3:13-17

**2/9**

Isaiah 58:1-9  
Matthew 5:13-20

**1/19**

Isaiah 49:1-7  
John 1:29-42

**2/16**

Psalms 119:1-8  
Matthew 5:21-37

**1/26**

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Matthew 4:12-23

**2/23**

Exodus 24:12-18  
Matthew 17:1-9