

# NORTHMINSTER NEWS

DECEMBER 2019 | VOLUME LX, NO. 10



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

## DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

### **Friendship Luncheon**

December 4th

### **Community Night**

December 11th 6:00 - 7:00 PM

### **Christmas Pageant**

December 15th

### **Alternative Christmas Faire**

December 8th & 15th

### **Neighborhood Holiday Party**

December 15th

### **Christmas Eve Service**

December 24th @ 8:00 PM

### **Choir on Hiatus**

December 29th

## SHARE/WHEEL DATES

### **Community Talk Back**

December 11th @ 7:00 PM

### **Shelter Opening Day**

Mid December TBD

## COMING UP

### **Wednesday Bible Study**

January 8th

### **Community Night Resumes**

January 15th

### **Congregational Meeting**

January 26th

## NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

How does your family share traditions over the winter season? The talk about traditions is important, because its through these repeated actions that we practice our beliefs. It remains my great joy to learn about the traditions of Northminster.

Did you know that Northminster was one of the only Presbyterian churches in the Seattle presbytery to create an ecumenical shelter? Did you know that one of our previous choir directors went on to become a Cantor in the Jewish Tradition? It is important to pass this story on - while noticing the ways in which we have returned. Our Neighborhood Holiday Party is a new tradition that carries the strength of the past.

During Advent, we return to our traditions. And as we return, we remember the ways that we received the gospel story. Then, we look for the ways that we are passing it on. With all that is happening at Northminster right now, I give thanks. We have received the story, and we are passing it on! On December 15th from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, we will host a chili feed benefiting Northgate Elementary, open up a large alternative gift faire, make holiday crafts, and offer seasonal carols.

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

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## FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON

Our Christmas luncheon is a special gathering of friends and fellowship! Come on December 4th at 11:30 AM for Pastor Dani's cooking, Leslie's special seasonal dessert, and Pastor Zac providing music.

## MESSAGE FROM PAT FRENCH

My family and I want to thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits and hugs given to me during Del's recent illness and death. We appreciate it all very much. When they first told us his diagnosis and prognosis, Del said to me "Don't worry about me. I know where I'm going." We had great sorrow, and still do, but for Del it was glory and we are thankful that he has arrived at that place he was going. Thanks be to God, and also to you.

## DEACON UPDATE

Help us make Christmas a joyful event by purchasing grocery store giftcards \$20-\$50 for Mary's Place. Please return your unwrapped cards no later than Friday December 13th. Also, thank you for your generous contributions to the deacon fund! We hope to continue to exceed our goals.

## BUDGET AND FINANCE UPDATE

We are still collecting pledge cards! If you haven't had an opportunity to fill one out to help us plan for our next budget year, there's still time. Pick up a pledge card in the narthex or get in touch with Stacy Kern.

## COASTLAND COMMONS GATHERINGS

Join Coastland Commons on Monday, December 16th from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM for a light dinner and Christmas caroling in our neighborhood. We will set out on foot, so be prepared to walk a few miles over the course of the evening. Visit [www.coastlandcommons.org](http://www.coastlandcommons.org) to RSVP.

## CELEBRATE ETHEL HAMILTON

Join us after worship on December 15th in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate Ethel Hamilton's 100th birthday!

## CHRISTMAS EVE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for volunteers to usher and set up for cider and cookies after the service. Email [info@northminsterpres.org](mailto:info@northminsterpres.org) to sign up.

## FAREWELL FROM ERIC JOHNSON

I am writing with regret to say that I have been invited to the position of organist at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church; I will begin there in mid-December. I feel very sad to leave your joyful, engaged church family and hope you will be able to forgive me for doing so.

I want to thank you all for including me with such kindly graciousness in your community, expressing so much interest in the program notes, and other writing, and for listening. From 4th grade on I wanted to be an organist, to share the spirit of the Lord with others. Thank you for listening with such focus and attention.

Please know that Dani, Worship and Music, Personnel and I are working together to make as seamless a transition for you as possible. We will make sure that the decades-long tradition of wonderful music at Northminster will be continued with vigor, sensitivity and joy. Each of you, all of you, will always remain in my heart. Thanks again for our wonderful time together.

## CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC

This Christmas Eve will feature beloved carols by late-Renaissance composer Michael Praetorius, a German composer who was instrumental in the development of Protestant music. Some favorites include 'Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming' and 'In Dulci Jubilo.'

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## LECTIONARY

**12/1**

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Matthew 24:36-44

**12/8**

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Matthew 3:1-12

**12/15**

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

**12/22**

Isaiah 7:10-6  
Matthew 1:18-25

**12/24**

Psalm 33  
Luke 20:27-38

**12/29**

Psalm 42  
Luke 21:5-19