



**Proclaiming God's Grace,
Creating Community,
Serving our Neighbors**

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Northminster News

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November 2017

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Northminster Family,

November is the time when I start to crave soup. While the fresh vegetables of summer are still found on our market shelves, I begin the process of chopping, dicing, sautéing, and simmering. Soon very simple elements start to change. They take on new hues, new flavors, and they become very nourishing.

Soup making doesn't always require a great deal of time in the kitchen. Sometimes fifteen minutes can put together all the right things for the pot. But, soup making needs a great deal of time to stew and to sit. It takes time for all those elements to come together in the right way. It takes time to soften the root vegetables, and deepen the broth.

Sometimes the community of faith also has elements that come together and need time to simmer. The Human Rights Committee has been listening to what elements need to come together for this season of our church's growth and development. In looking to our history, we have been offered a document that will help pave the way for future ministry and conversations. Some of us have had a chance to see that document, and talk about it in our Adult Education sections. Other have had a chance to read it on our own, and we've offered our own reflections on it. Our session has wrestled and reflected as well and opted to adopt the document, recognizing that it will be a conversation partner and will likely evolve as we put it into practice. For now, it is ready to simmer in the pot. We'll watch it carefully, as it begins to take shape and root within our congregation. Ultimately, its goal will be to nourish and to strengthen us as we travel this portion of our congregational life together.

In soup making, the end result often looks different than all the parts together. What begins as onions, carrots, garlic, broth, and coriander becomes - through time - a smooth orange puree of carrot and coriander soup. The same elements exist, but they have been changed for the sake of the body. Many people have questions about this document - will it result in one thing? How will we ensure another? Will it determine this? What will it mean for that? Truthfully, these are all unknowns for the time being. The reality is that it needs to live in the pot right now. We will need to sit with it, and determine, through time, what will emerge for our congregation.

These can be unsettling times in which we live. It can be challenging for us to find our way to navigate in the midst of truth claims and agendas. We recognize that there is no easy path, and we seek, in all things to follow Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Sometimes following means waiting. This is our season right now. We wait, keep an eye on the pot. We remain aware of each element, waiting carefully to see how it will become part of the whole for the nourishment of the body.

News Editor
Stacy Kern

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www.northminsterpres.org

“look for us on facebook!”

Hike with Goats!

The bible is filled with shepherds wandering with their flocks. So it seemed fitting for half a dozen outdoor enthusiasts from Northminster to spend a day hiking with goats! We gathered on a lovely autumn day at a trailhead not far from Mount Rainier. Donna and her husband Steve, owners of Edelweiss Acres, handed us the tethers to their two pack goats and we headed up the trail.



Our goats carried water and our lunch in their saddlebags. As we wandered through the forest, Donna told us that goats are great as stock animals. They are easier on the trail than larger pack animals and can carry up to 25%-30% of its body weight. Two milk goats can provide all the nutrients a human being needs, except vitamin C. Learn goat husbandry and you can feed yourself almost anywhere including the desert. Perhaps survivalists should be keeping a couple of goats instead of all those guns.

The goats were easy to lead and surefooted on the steep and narrow sections of trail. I thought they were kind of cute.

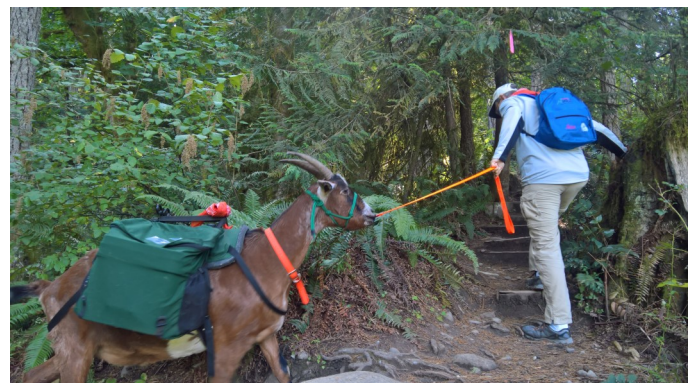
Donna **unpacked** our lunch as we explored Little Mashel Falls. While we enjoyed all of the gourmet food, goats are extremely picky about what they eat and most definitely do not eat tin cans.

As autumn sunshine waned we ambled back to our cars and said goodbye to our friends the goats. Perhaps Northminster should raise our own goats? We could have an awesome Christmas creche!


We enjoyed our hike with the goats and if you're interested in doing the same go to

www.edelweissacresobers.com.

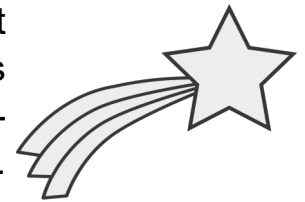
Bret Wirta



Children and Youth Happenings

Breakfast Club:  join us at 8am in the kitchen on November 5th to make breakfast for the Sunday School class!

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals: The Christmas pageant is right around the corner! We will have two Wednesday night rehearsals (in lieu of youth group that week) on 11/15 and 11/29 from 7-8pm. The pageant will be during Sunday worship on 12/3.



Girls group: middle and high school girls group will meet on Sunday, 11/12 afterworship from 12-1:30!

Ally Pexa

Trivia Night

Join the NPC team for fellowship, drinks, and a fun night of trivia at *The Dane* on November 15th. No need to sign up, just come with your \$3 buy in around 7:15 so we are ready to rock and roll at 7:30pm. Feel free to reach out to Ally with any questions. Hope to see you there!

Address: 8000 15th Ave NW

Garden Corner

We are about at the end of flowers from the church garden, so if you still have some blooming in your yard please give me a call. In the next few weeks we will be getting the gardens ready for their winter nap. I am very happy to welcome Kim Wagoner as a helper with this project. That's not all! Signa and I have started the process to put in a rain garden on the south side of the church so watch for the activity there. Also on a sad note we have been advised by an arborist that the Katsura tree in the small corner garden must come down before it tangles with electric wires and totally outgrows the space. Always something going on and I really miss Cora's roses.



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Sheila Striegl

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
Matthew 23:1-12	Matthew 25:1-13	Matthew 25:14-30	Matthew 25:31-46
Philippians 4:1-7	Philippians 4:8-14	Philippians 4:15-23	Ezekiel 34:11-16

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Please notify us with corrections if needed, or if you wish to stop receiving the Northminster News.

Halloween at NPC



Stewardship Luncheon



Choir sings with
Woodland Park Pres.
for Reformation
Sunday

