



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

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Northminster News

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April 2018

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Northminster Family,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! This greeting expands far beyond Easter Sunday. It is a sentence that helps us to face the future with kindness, to strive towards hope, and to hold firm in our darkest hour. It is helpful to remember that this greeting was first shared in the earliest underground churches that faced oppression and marginalization. In the face of their struggle, these young Christians found small and concrete ways to offer hope. This greeting their most hopeful proclamation.

I have been thinking a great deal about hope lately. In some ways it can feel futile, even unrealistic. To look into a world that is not only hurting, but is dealing with crucial and complex issues, and to say “it’s going to be OK” can feel a bit like denial or escape. No wonder that many folks feel that the church has lost its pulse on reality. Often Christians are perceived as people that have so much faith in the after life, that they are nonplussed about the weight of life on the ground. However, the hope of the Christian message, the hope of Christ risen - is actually a message for those who live on the ground. It is a hope that plants itself right in the here and now and claims that in this time and this place, the cross and resurrection will take root. Hope looks into the dark days of winter and plots a garden. Hope takes an abandoned warehouse and turns it into a community gathering place. Hope does not deny that darkness exists, it simply denies that darkness will have the last word.

This is why this early Christian greeting matters. It was spoken in the darkness. When the early Christians whispered to each other, Christ is risen, they were not saying “see you in heaven!” They were saying, “hope has prevailed!” This claim offers us the courage and clear headedness that we need in the times that we now live. While others are tempted to see faith as mere mythology or escapism, we see it as the very lifeblood of our activity.

So, I believe that this Easter season is a time for hope. Not a saccharine hope that white washes our reality, but a firm, living hope that stands in the darkness without fear. When we proclaim that greeting on Easter, let us allow the reverberations to shake into our very core and our into our lives! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Warmly,
Dani

News Editor

Ally Pexa

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www.northminsterpres.org

“look for us on facebook!”

Community Night Schedule

April 4th: Egg salad potluck

April 11th: No community night —Spring Break!

April 18th: Soup or pizza dinner

April 25th: Regular potluck and last community night of the year!!

Field Trip to Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue

One of the highlights of confirmation last year was the various field trips which allowed for interfaith dialogue and a deeper exploration of our own faith. This year, the confirmation field trips are open to anyone interested in joining. Our final field trip is on Friday, April 6th to Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue. We will be participating in their Shabbat service. RSVP to Ally if interested.

SAVE THE DATE!!!
JUNE 23- 24TH, 2018

NEIGHBORHOOD



HOSTED BY NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

STAY TUNED TO OUR WEBSITE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
DURING WORSHIP FOR MORE DETAILS!

Movie Night

April 20th, 7pm



Join us for a
viewing of
Disney Pixar's
"Coco" on
April 20th at
7pm. All are

New Member Sunday and Celebration of Confirmands

April 29th, 2018



Bret and Nephew Nate tapping trees



Bret lectures at UNH



Bret can still fish!

A Note from the Wirtas

Trisha and I flew back to New Hampshire recently. We visited family and friends in my hometown of Sunapee. My mom, Evelyn, is doing great in her assisted living facility. I helped my brother tap sugar maple trees on his 300 year-old farm. We went ice-fishing and Trisha landed her first catch through a hole in the two-foot thick ice. While there, I was a guest lecturer at the University of New Hampshire hospitality program. I spoke to the strategic management class at Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics. It was an honor to be invited to speak at my alma mater, but the best part of the trip was knowing I could still ice-fish.

Bret and Trisha



Tisha lands her first fish

Wednesday Bible Study

Resumes on April 25th

10am in the Library

The Book of Acts: The women and men who carried the gospel forward

Centering Prayer Follow-up Class

April 21st

10am-12pm in the library

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS IN APRIL

April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22	April 29
Mark 16:1-8	John 20:11-18	John 20:19-31	John 21:1-14	John 21:15-19

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a village church in the city

7706 25th Avenue NW

Seattle WA 98117

206.783.3402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Library Corner

We honor Elaine Boehmer for her many years of service as the Northminster librarian. She reports that she started working in the library the first week she walked into the church! That was shortly before Dennis Hughes became the pastor in December 1995. Working with books is what she loves doing. One member fondly remembers Elaine's help in tracking down just the right book for bible study and Christian ed. Her previous work included librarian at Sheldon Jackson Presbyterian College in Sitka, Alaska. Before her library jobs, Elaine served as a social worker for the Red Cross. A memorable part of that job was working in Germany.

Be sure and check out the coffee room book display for recently discovered "Library Gems." We recently did an inventory of the collection and these noteworthy titles were rediscovered! Please check your shelves at home for the "lost" books we hope to recover.

Jan Olson