

NEWS FROM NORTHAMPTON

Northampton Presbyterian Church
539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966

MARCH 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ***NPC Stucco Campaign Update***
- ***Congregational Life Offerings for Lent***
- ***Sharing Sessions***
- ***Retreat for Women at Lehman UMC***
- ***Lent Events & Services***
- ***VBS: Save the Dates!***

Livestream Information:

All "livestreamed" messages are broadcasted from our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/northamptonpresby

Sunday Worship Services are additionally posted on our website: www.northamptonpresby.com/sermon-videos

A Word from the Pastor

By: The Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

*"Best of any song
Is bird song
In the quiet, but first
You must have the quiet."*

("Sabbath Poems" by Wendell Berry, 1997, 1.)

We are in that quiet season of the church year when we wait. We wait to hear birdsong; we wait to see the signs of new life springing from the ground. We wait for friends and loved ones to come back to us from snowbird sites and wait for warmer weather. We wait for the strong March winds to lie low and for April's rains to water the earth. We wait for One whose resurrection foretells our own.

In this season of waiting, we have not been sitting still. The stucco project is on the verge of being completed, with a beautiful result! Applications for funds that will enable us to better secure our building and improve safety needs have been filed. We have held a hugely successful blood drive that brought over 40 people who have never been here before into our building and the ingredients of life to those in need. We are studying the causes and effects of food insecurity in our nation and right here in our own community (You can learn more about that on March 23 at 1 pm when staff members from our school district will be here to address the face of hunger in Northampton).



Our preschool registrations for next year are almost full! What a privilege it is to offer parents a quality preschool program for their children! Scout troops have blossomed and we are hosting young people and their troop leaders several nights a week. The Newtown-Yardley Ministerium held its monthly meeting in our space and now knows where NPC is! Did I mention that our choir has been singing every Sunday under the leadership of our awesome Music Director, and that our AV Tech (who is so much more than that!) has made our livestream a tool of ministry we cannot do without?

Yes, much happens in quiet seasons. But we cannot hear the “happenings” without the quiet. And we cannot receive what blossoms there without being ready to take it in. As we look ahead and plan for new initiatives, our Session will be taking a “pause” to retreat for a day. They will consider what it means to be ready for a new thing to bloom and how best to help us identify and prepare for that new thing. They may even take some time to walk outdoors and listen for singing birds!

If those roaring March winds are keeping you indoors in this season of contemplation, why not join us to hear some glorious singing on Sunday mornings? Better yet, bring a friend who needs to hear the sound of Good News as we journey toward Easter. Listen for the whisper of Lenten melodies familiar and new. Feel surrounded by the love of a wonderful community of warm and caring people who call Northampton Presbyterian Church their spiritual home. Let the songs of your heart come back to life as you discover new ways to be in, and for, the world.

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

May the peace of this season make melody in your hearts.

- Pastor Judy



NPC Stucco Campaign Funding Update and Next Steps!

By: Jessica Stehr

If you've had a chance to look around the NPC property as of late, you will have noticed and can be proud of the fantastic progress O'Boyle Stucco is making to ensure the integrity and lifespan of our building. This will allow us as NPC to provide meaningful programs and impact to the community for years to come.

As of February 27th, we have received the \$75,000 loan from the Presbyterian Church USA for our Stucco Project. Also in February, the Philadelphia Presbytery reiterated their commitment of a \$25,000 grant. We are grateful for the terrific progress of O'Boyle, the commitment of the PC(USA) and the local Presbytery! It is now up to us to build on this strong trajectory and generate our 10% in donations to fund the project.

We as NPC are up to the task! And . . . we are off to a strong start! We need to provide \$35,000 in member giving for NPC's portion of the stucco project. To date, members have donated over \$16,000 in dedicated funds.



Just as our homes periodically need significant investments to maintain or upgrade windows, roofs, and siding, so does the NPC building. Please prayerfully consider a recurring or one-time gift to the stucco campaign in person during worship or online (Have you seen NPC's cool "stucco giving tile" located on our online giving site?) www.northamptonpresby.com/online-giving.

Every gift helps. Your involvement and financial gifts will ensure our building can continue to support our missions and programs now and in the future!



www.northamptonpresby.org

NPC Stucco Capital Campaign

Every gift helps! Your involvement and financial gifts will ensure our building integrity for missions and programs for now and the future!

Please prayerfully consider a recurring or one-time gift to the Stucco Campaign

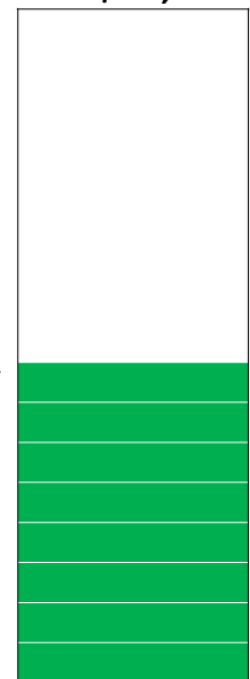
- in person during worship
- online (www.northamptonpresby.org) or via the QR code below

(Check out NPC's cool "stucco giving tile" located on our online giving site.)



Goal: \$35,000

Achieved 46% of
our goal!
\$16,171

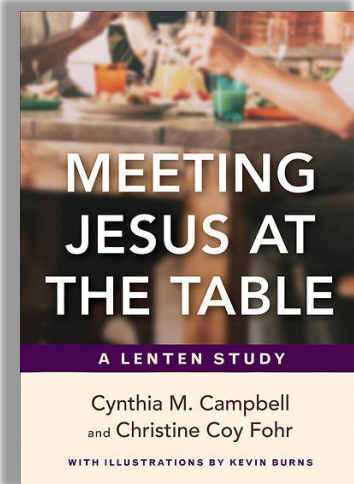


As of Feb 2023

Congregational Life Offerings for Lent

Christian Life Groups: **Sundays at 11:30 AM**

During Lent CLG's will engage in a Lenten study called **Meeting Jesus at the Table** by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. This study of food insecurity and how churches can meet this need is described below:

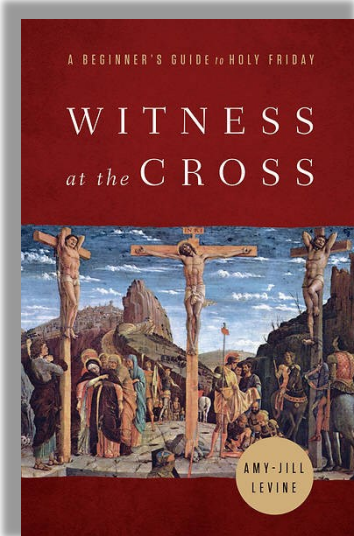


The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus sharing meals with disciples, friends, even tax collectors and Pharisees. Whether multiplying bread to feed a whole crowd, relaxing with his inner circle, or telling curious elites stories about even greater banquets, Jesus imparts wisdom as he shares the wine and grants forgiveness as he distributes the fish.

This eight-chapter resource provides biblical insights along with thought-provoking queries regarding our own time, such as whom should we invite to Sunday dinner and who is left out and left behind in our culture today.

Preaching will coincide with the chapters each week.

“Bible Study for Everyone”: **Tuesdays at 10:30 AM**



We will continue to study Amy Jill's work using her short book, *“Witness at the Cross: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Friday”*

3/7, 3/14, 3/21 and 3/28.

SHARING SESSION

LIFE ON TWO WHEELS

"O the Places You Can Go and Things You Can See on a Bicycle"

WITH JOHN DWYER



SHARING SESSION (large conference room)

Wednesday, March 15th at 2 PM

"Life on Two Wheels: O the Places You Can Go and Things You Can See on a Bicycle"

A look at some of the places in the US, Canada, Switzerland, and Holland that John Dwyer (and Judy) have seen while cycling.

If you missed any of our Sharing Sessions, they have been recorded and posted on the "Special Events" playlist of our YouTube channel. You can find a link to this at the top of our Sermon Videos webpage: www.northamptonpresby.com/sermon-videos

If you have a hidden interest or talent you'd love to share with us, please call Pastor Judy to schedule a day and time to present.

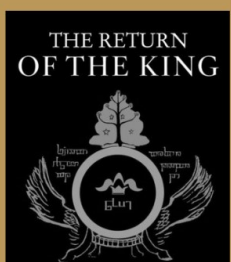
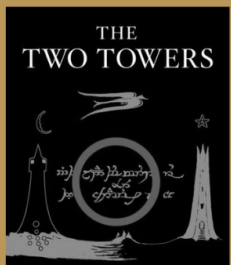
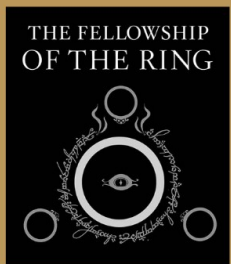
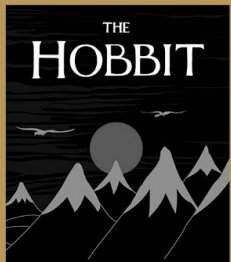
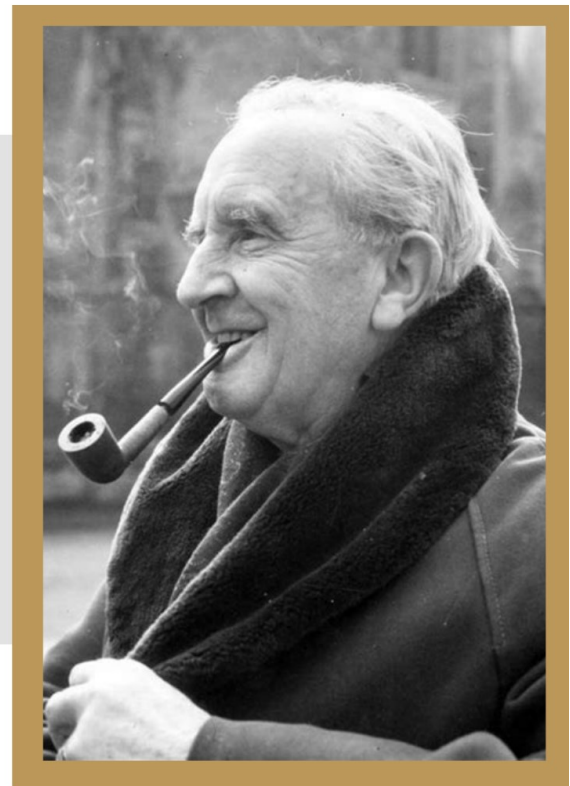
SHARING SESSION

The Work and Faith of

J.R.R. Tolkien

with Corinne Kauermann

- *Part One:*
Tuesday, March 21st at 2 PM
- *Part Two:*
Tuesday, March 28th at 2 PM



Pastor Judy will be leading a
RETREAT FOR WOMEN
at Lehman Methodist Church
in Hatboro on

Saturday, March 11th
from 8am - 3pm

The day opens with a continental
breakfast, and lunch will also be
served. All women of faith are
invited to attend!

Topic:
THE SPIRITUAL ACT
OF
Saying No




*"...But let your
"Yes" be yes and your
"No" be no, so that
you may not fall under
condemnation,"
James 5:12.*

Registration

Registration is \$15. Checks should include
"For retreat" on the memo line.
Registrations can be mailed to the church at:

Lehman Memorial UMC (attention: Jo Hovis)
300 South York Road, Hatboro, PA 19040

www.lehmanumc.org



Palm Sunday
April 2nd - 10 AM

Maunder Thursday
April 6th - 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday
April 9th - 10 AM

LENT

Services

& Events

In-Person &
Livestreamed



Save
THE
Date

VBS 2023

Led by our experienced
PRESCHOOL STAFF!



WHERE JESUS
CARES "FUR" YOU

JUNE 27-29
6 pm - 8 pm

For kids who have completed
Nursery - Grade 4



NORTHAMPTONPRESBY.COM/VBS

March



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5</p> <p>10 AM Communion Worship Livestream & In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6 PM Cub Scouts (Bears #1)</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2320</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:30 AM Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>7 PM Memorial Gifts Committee</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Robin Hood</p> <p>10 AM In-Reach/ Outreach Com</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8 AM Retreat for Women at Lehman UMC</p>
<p>12</p> <p>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Tigers #2)</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Webelos #3)</p> <p>7 PM Facilities Com</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:30 AM Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>7 PM Worship Com</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 AM Esther Circle</p> <p>2 PM Sharing Session (John)</p> <p>4 PM Women's "Digging Deeper" Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2545</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts Committees</p> <p>7 PM Cub Scouts (Lions #4)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:30 AM Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>2 PM Sharing Session (Corinne)</p> <p>7 PM Session Mtg</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9 AM Women's Breakfast at Manny's Deli</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Tigers #2)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person</p> <p>11:30 AM CLGs</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scout Troop 2320</p> <p>6 PM Boy Scouts Seabase '23 Mtg.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:30 AM Bible Study for Everyone</p> <p>2 PM Sharing Session (Corinne)</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Apr 1 Session Retreat</p>
<p>2 PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6 PM Cub Scouts (Bears #1)</p> <p>6 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2320</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4 PM Women's "Digging Deeper" Study</p> <p>4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop 2934</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Lions #4)</p>	<p>6 MAUNDY THUR</p> <p>6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Com- munion Service</p>	<p>7 GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Tigers #2)</p> <p>6:30 PM Cub Scouts (Webelos #3)</p> <p>7 PM Facilities Com</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 PM Worship Committee</p> <p>7:15 PM Boy Scouts & BSA Girls Troop</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Robin Hood</p> <p>10 AM In-Reach/ Outreach Com</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7 PM Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>