News from Northampton

Northampton Presbyterian Church
539 Buck Road, Holland, PA 18966

SEPTEMBER 2021

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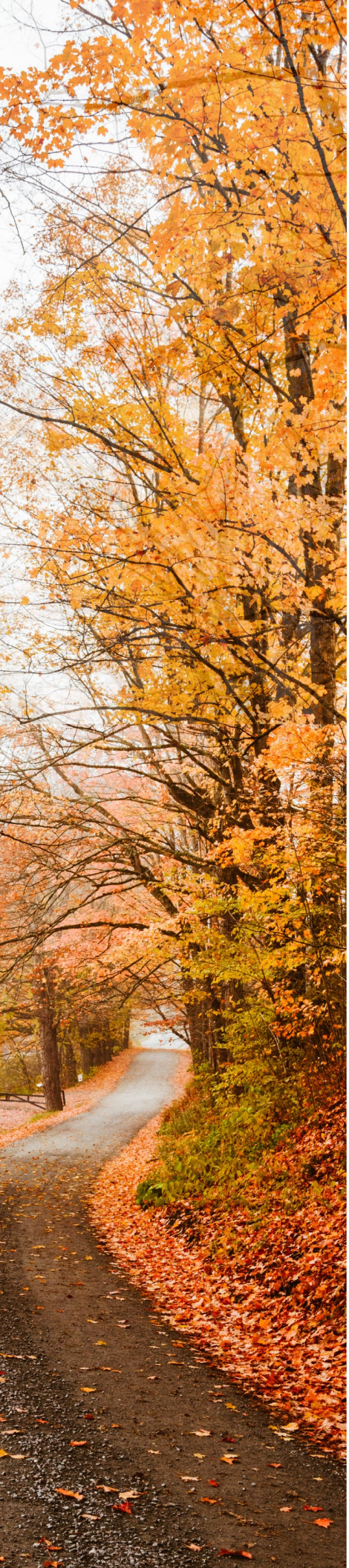
PNC Update

By Dana Winslow, Pastoral Nominating Committee, Chair

I just finished reading Homer's *The Odyssey*, a glorious poem about the return home of Odysseus, a strong, courageous leader on a voyage of more than 20 years at sea. His perils were epic but he persisted with a single minded goal of returning to his wife and son and defeating a legion of suitors that were attempting to seduce his wife in his absence and presumed death. When he finally arrived to his homeland, he disguised himself strategically so that he could identify his countrymen that had remained loyal to him throughout his absence, only revealing his true identity at the very climax of the story.

Well, we are coming to the climax of our journey to locate a Pastor for Northampton Presbyterian Church and we too are going to reveal the identity of our candidate at just the right moment. Each of you will have both sufficient time and sufficient information so that when the candidate preaches to the church on **Sunday, October 3rd** you will be prepared to cast your ballot in the congregational meeting immediately following the service. We will host an informal **Meet and Greet** session with the candidate on **Saturday, October 2nd** so that you have the opportunity to introduce your self and chat a bit "up close and personal". We in the PNC



are both excited and confident that you will join us in our belief that this candidate is the one that God has preselected to walk with us over the coming years.

While our journey has not been as epic or fraught with peril as Odysseus, we have worked hard for more than a year screening candidate backgrounds, listening to sermons from candidates across the country, and conducting first, second and third interviews with people we thought had potential. Several times we were close to selecting someone to present to you, but each time God intervened, letting us know that we weren't there, not just yet. Until this last time. We were fortunate to be able to conduct our final interview with this candidate at the church (almost all of our other interviews were conducted via Zoom), and thus be able to share the beauty of our church and grounds with the candidate, and see just how the candidate looks and feels to us standing in our sanctuary. All came together in a final vote, just as will be the case for the full congregation and as a result we can now reveal the identity of our candidate—just as Odysseus did. At just the right moment…

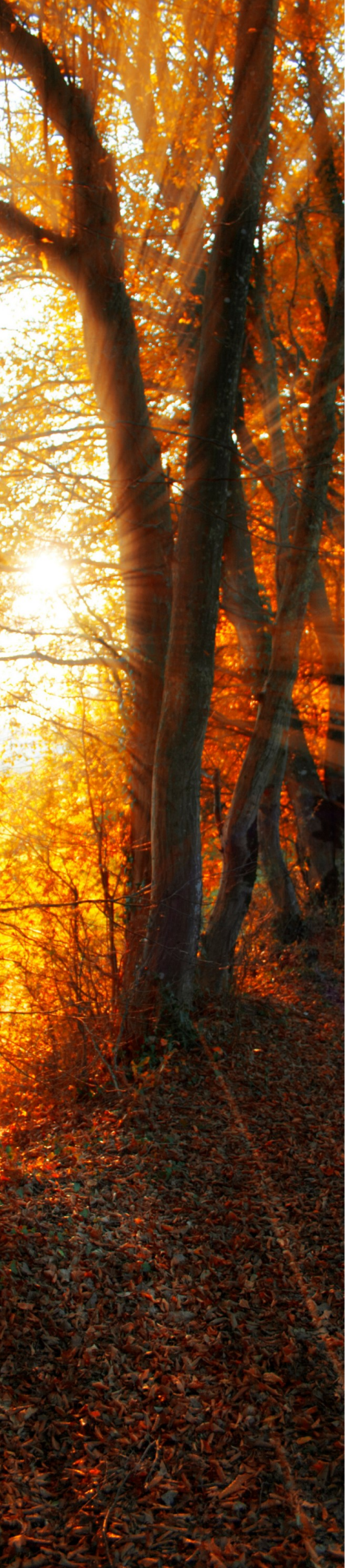
- Dana

Communion Schedule

Upcoming Communion Services. Be sure to secure your elements, if you will be joining in communion at home. Pre-packaged elements will be supplied to those worshipping in-person.

- Sunday, September 12th

- Sunday, October 3rd: "World Communion Sunday"



Minute for Mission: *Food Center at Morrisville Presbyterian Church*

By: Kathie Pisciella

Some of our NPC Mission envelope/online offerings are designated to support the Food Center at Morrisville Presbyterian Church (website: www.mpcusa.org/food-center), as well as non-perishable food donations.

Our church is committed to meeting the physical needs of our community through a strong partnership with the Food Center. We have responded to the increasing rates of those needing food assistance during the pandemic with quarterly food drives, benefiting those in the Lower Bucks County and Trenton, NJ areas. Food banks across the country are serving 55% more people now than before the pandemic.

In addition to the quarterly food drives being held at Northampton Presbyterian Church for delivery to the Food Center, a table and basket are now available in our narthex. Please drop off your non-perishable donations any Sunday when you are attending worship. All items are welcome, but if you would like suggested items to purchase, these are some: canned beans, canned fruit and vegetables, canned meat entrée (stew, chili), canned soup, canned tuna fish, cereal, macaroni and cheese in box, milk (evaporated or shelf stable), pasta, peanut butter or jelly in plastic jar, rice, spaghetti sauce in plastic jar.

The mission of the Food Center is to provide supplemental food assistance to food-insecure families in Lower Bucks County and the greater Trenton area in a caring and respectful manner. They have been doing this since 1997. Any individual or family residing in this service area may visit the Food Center for assistance. The Food Center is entirely volunteer operated and is dependent on donations of food and money from the community. Based on family size, clients receive a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, dairy products, bakery items, personal care items and household items, as well as diapers and pet food.

"Ways to Help the Food Center at Morrisville Presbyterian Church" – National Food Bank Day was Friday, September 3rd. Please offer to bring in donations from friends/family/coworkers who would like to contribute toward National Food Bank Day!

"*Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him*," Proverbs 14:31.

Financial Update

By: Pam Kemper

Dear NPC: We've come to the end of another summer. Along with warm weather and much anticipated vacations, these months always bring a change in church finances and this year is no exception. The numbers below combine both giving and spending information for the three summer months as well as our year-to-date picture.

In some ways, the numbers reflect a normal summer. Giving was lower during the three month period and spending was up due to expenses such as floor/carpet cleaning, taxes and quarterly insurance payments. We generally finish the summer "in the red" overall. However, comparing 2021 to 2020, our bottom line number dropped. This was true, even as the church was able to relax the COVID restrictions in place during 2020.

The news is not all difficult. Thanks to the PPP Loan that was forgiven in June, we have a nice reserve to draw on – approximately two months of normal spending. We also entered COVID with a strong balance in the General Fund to provide a cushion. On my part, I look at these numbers as a reminder that our church programs, mission and congregational life depend on the generous giving our congregation has always provided. As we get ready to welcome a new pastor and plan for an exciting future, this is as important as ever.

- Pam

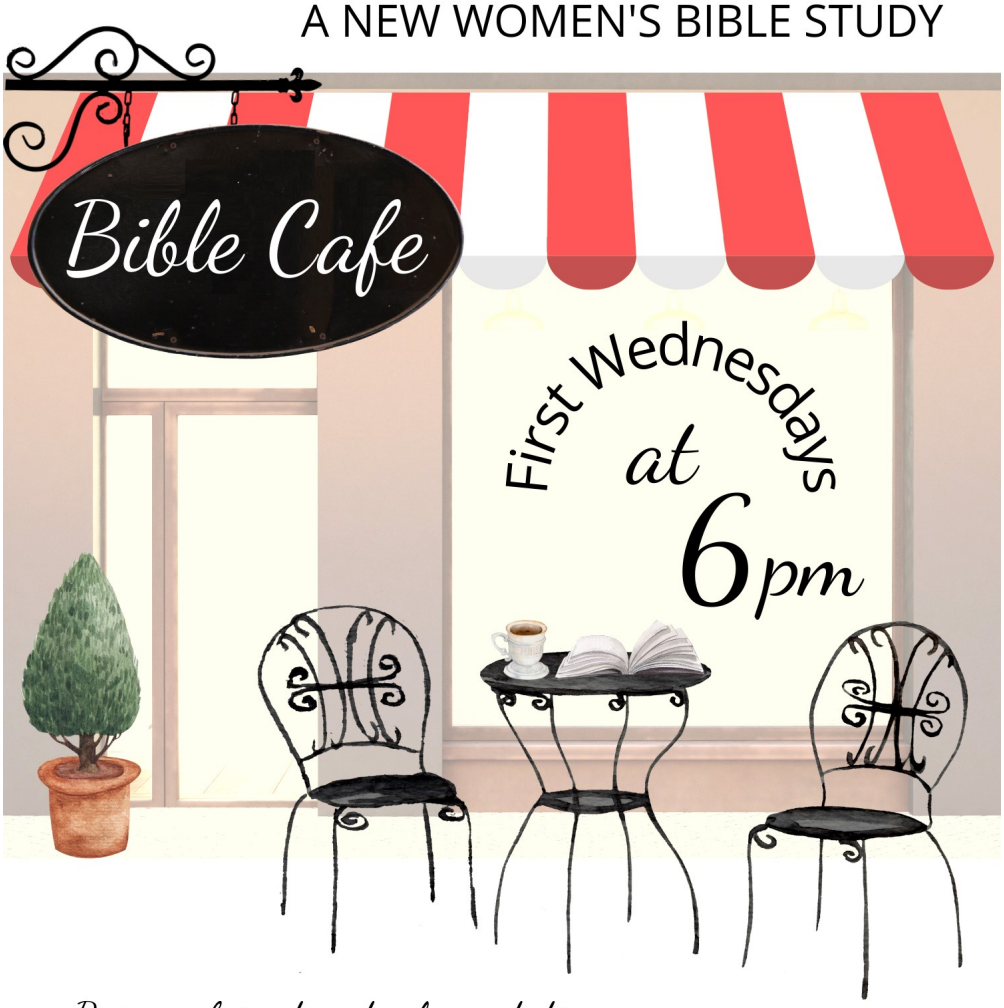
Financial Overview

	Jun-Aug 2021	2021-YTD
GENERAL FUND INCOME	**56,397.77**	**156,844.99**
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES		
PAYROLL	33,573.84	87,412.03
BENEFITS	3,193.26	8,515.36
ADMINISTRATIVE	3,429.40	8,111.99
CHRISTIAN ED		37.10
FACILITIES		
PNC Mortgage	14,115.09	37,640.24
Church Facilities	10,971.53	29,734.38
STEWARDSHIP		254.29
WORSHIP	1,139.02	1,782.37
PRESCHOOL COST ALLCTN	-2,300.00	-7,300.00
Total GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	**64,122.14**	**166,187.76**
NET	**(7,724.37)**	**(9,342.77)**

NEW!!! Come join us this Wednesday Night!

Kick-off Sept 8th

A NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Bring a friend and a bagged dinner
for fellowship, video and discussion in the Adult Ed Wing
at Northampton Presbyterian Church.

www.northamptonpresby.org/women

Join our new evening fellowship Bible study for women, where we will view a video and discuss questions afterwards. Bring a bagged dinner to enjoy during the video. No book is required and there is no homework. Come out any month you are free. Invite friends! New women are welcome to join at any time. We will be meeting in-person at the church in the Adult Education Wing.

Our first video series will be Priscilla Shirer's "Faith and Fire: Elijah."

A seven-session journey through the life and times of the prophet Elijah, discovering how the fire on Mount Carmel was forged in the valley of famine. And how the emboldened, fiery faith you desire is being fashioned by God in your life right now.

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	*2* *7 PM PNC Mtg*	*3*	*4*
5 *10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person*	*6* *LABOR DAY*	*7* *9 AM Preschool Orientation* *7 PM Mission Committee*	*8* *9 AM Preschool First Days* *8:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Robin Hood Restaurant* ***6 PM Women's Bible Café***	*9* *9 AM Preschool First Days* *7 PM PNC Mtg*	*10* 6 PM Boy Scouts Leadership training Weekend	*11* … Boy Scouts Leadership training Weekend Cont.
12 *10 AM Communion Service Livestream & In-Person*	*13* *6:30 PM Cub Scouts Registration* *7 PM Facilities Committee*	*14* *7 PM Worship Committee*	*15* *7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream*	*16* *10 AM Adult Bible Study ZOOM* *7 PM PNC Mtg*	*17*	*18*
19 *10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person* *11:15 AM CLGs* *11:15 AM Deacons Meeting*	*20* *7 PM Preschool Board Meeting*	*21* *7 PM Session Meeting*	*22* *9 AM Women's Breakfast* *7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream*	*23* *7 PM PNC Mtg*	*24*	*25*
26 *10 AM Sunday Worship Livestream & In-Person* *11:15 AM CLGs*	*27*	*28*	*29* *7:30 PM Fireside Chat Livestream*	*30* *10 AM Adult Bible Study ZOOM* *7 PM PNC Mtg*		

Livestream Information:

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

Livestream service bulletins are posted on our website: **www.northamptonpresby.com/bulletins**

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

~Fireside Chats are additionally posted on our website: **www.northamptonpresby.com/fireside-chat-videos**

Zoom Meetings: *(contact npchurch@comcast.net for ZOOM invitations)*

~Thursday Bible Study meets on 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays at 10:00 AM on ZOOM.

Northampton Presbyterian Church

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www.northamptonpresby.org