



F Y I

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NORTH PARK CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2022

**BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE,
KINDNESS, GOODNESS,
FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS,
SELF-CONTROL AGAINST SUCH
THINGS THERE IS NO LAW.**

GALATIANS 5:22-23

WHAT'S INSIDE

2

**Did You Know?
History Corner
Snow Removal
Giving Update**

3

Family of the Month

4

**Youth Group Schedule
Stephen Ministry Minute
Prayer Ministry**

5

**Questions to God
Trekks**

6

Memory Verse

7

**Ladies Craft Group
Gingerbread House**

8

**Women's Christmas Tea
Coffeehouse Christmas**

8

**Thanksgiving Gravy Donations
New Hope Christmas Store
Educatio**

10

Birthdays & Anniversaries

NPC FEATURES

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that **ROBBY & JOEY BROWN** has recently become confirmed members of our church....that **RAY & JANE BRITTNER** also became members of our church....that they are **KELLY LAIRD'S** uncle and aunt....that onions actually have no taste at all, only odor....that **KEVIN SANDERS** won the recent Shooting Clays competition....that **GERRY RICHARDSON, BARB BUIRGE, AND DIANE GLANCY** recently provided a dinner meal for the elders and their wives....that, at birth, 270 opossums, taken together would only weigh one ounce....that we will hold a Thanksgiving service, with communion and open-mic sharing on Sunday November 20 at 6:30 P.M....that **EVAN KOVACS** just journeyed out west to San Fran and for a wedding in Seattle....that an animal epidemic is called a epizootic....that **CLIFFORD & GWENDY BAKAH** both work at the VA Hospital....that **DEB HOLT'S** mother has moved into High Point at Rebecca, where **TIM HOLT, THE LENGELS, AND THE LABARRES** all live....that "Hang on Sloopy" is the official rock song of the state of Ohio....that **THE YODERS** are just back from a Mediterranean cruise....that **KATE SHRIVER** recently visited Iceland....that **THE BROOKS** took a train through the Rockies, but got sick....that the airplane in which Buddy Holly died was named "The American Pie"....that Costco makes a good pumpkin pie....that those who read the FYI eat 7% less pie than those who do not? Did you know these things? I thought you should.

HISTORY CORNER



History is vital to our human existence. To have no story is, almost, to have no life. People suffering from amnesia can live and function, but they lead pitiable lives because they have lost contact with their own story. Christians should have a considerable interest in history precisely because they are people of a story. While Christianity surely has a personal element, it is never, strictly speaking, personal. Despite their individuality, Christians find their true identity firmly rooted in a collectivity. We are not alone in this life but members one of another. The kingdom, as we say in the language of faith, has come, is present, and is yet to come. And our collective membership in that kingdom rests on a common affirmation of a story. Christians are Christians not solely because they made a "decision for Christ" but because they became "members incorporate" of Christ's Body. If anybody, then, should be interested in history, Christians should.

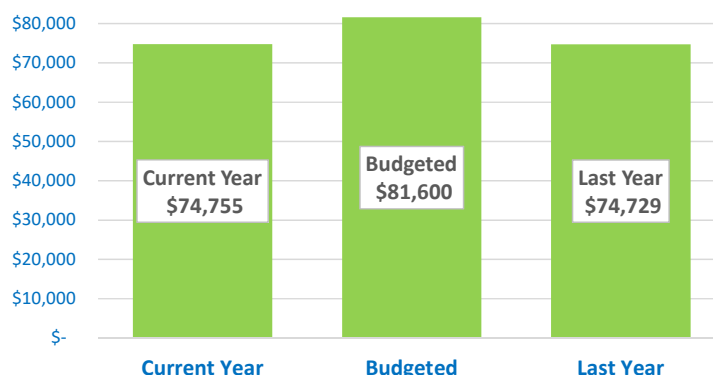
Ronald A. Wells

History Through the Eyes of Faith,
1989



SNOW REMOVAL

It's that time of year again. We're in need of your help shoveling snow for Sunday mornings. Contact Doug Reed (dsreed@pitt.edu) if you're interested.



OUR NPC GIVING THROUGH 9/30

Unified Giving of \$74,555 for our church year was similar to the prior year and 8% below our budgeted amount.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH: ALBERTI

Have you met the silver haired woman who uses a rollator and sits up front in the middle right section? Yes, the one who always has a beautiful smile on her face and wants to hug everyone that comes over during the greeting time.

DeAnne was born in Buffalo, NY just over 90 years ago. She grew up in a Catholic family with 4 brothers and 1 sister. She married Anthony Alberti the only love she has ever known. They moved to Washington, DC for a few years where Tony worked for a cookware company, Renaware, and DeAnne was a dance instructor with Arthur Murray. When their son David was born they moved back to Buffalo to be with family.

The marriage soon included infidelity and abuse from Tony. When David was 2 ¼ years old DeAnne took her son and went to live with her mother and sister in Oxnard, CA. There she had a short career at the local theater as a lead singer and actor in "Music Man" and then "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter." After only three months in CA, Tony and his uncles came and "stole" David and took him back to Buffalo. DeAnne would follow and sue for divorce and custody. The court did not grant a divorce. Tony agreed to counseling and to move to California. Seeing the Grand Canyon on the way back and the magnificence of God's creation gave them both hope for a better future. Repentance and a good counselor provided healing for a while.

After 5 years in CA, they decided to move back closer to the family in Buffalo but not too close. They moved to Pittsburgh and bought the house 53 years ago where DeAnne still lives. Tony found a job with a Medical Supply company with a territory of PA, OH, and KY. Unfortunately, they did not live "happily ever after." Tony would relapse to his broken lifestyle and there were periods of separation. David's childhood was traumatic. After graduating through North Allegheny schools David went to military school in VA and joined the army. Later he married his wife Patti and they have given DeAnne 3 Grandchildren and 5 Great Grandchildren which are great joys in DeAnne's life.

DeAnne would help with her husband's family temporary help business for a while but she became more independent during her 32 successful years in real estate with Westin, Hosack and Northwood. Her estranged husband Tony died from diabetes complications and a weak heart when DeAnne was 69. Soon after that DeAnne fell and broke her hip and real estate sales became too difficult. Life was lonely and upkeep on the house was difficult. Her neighbors brought a suit against her for long unkempt grass. She went to McCandless Township to see if someone could help her.

DeAnne is a good example of all three of the goals of NPC: Making disciples of Jesus who **WORSHIP** God passionately, **CONNECT** with each other in caring community, & **IMPACT** the world through word and deed.

As a result of a good relationship NPC had with McCandless Township, they recommended she go to NPC and ask if they could help. She said, "I'm a Catholic why would they help me?" She didn't know that God had laid it on Stacy Tessaro's heart to pray for her that very day. Janie Koska, as our receptionist greeted her kindly and connected DeAnne with Bruce Allison, NPC Outreach Coordinator at that time. Bruce and Rich Van Newkirk arranged to have a lawn service go to her home to cut her grass. That was the beginning of her connection with a caring community that would impact her life with love and deeds. Janet Allison invited her to church. When Stacy greeted her in church she knew immediately that DeAnne was the person God had placed on her heart. Adele Radacsy and Gail Nelson also felt called to help her and still do. Denny Koska and Dan Sherwin fixed things around her house. Five different people give her rides to church. She would soon grow and mature through Dan's sermons, Brooke's passionate worship style, and Community Bible Study. Her 90th birthday party in North Park's "Blue Room" was an outpouring of love that she will never forget.

Pets have always been important companions for DeAnne. Her rescue dog Andy died just last year and she still has two cats, Lilbit and Chrystal. DeAnne has come to realize that she needs to move into an apartment with less maintenance. She requests prayers that with the help of Gail Nelson and her social worker she will find the right place.



Ask her how and when she became DeAnne because her name at birth was Dorothy Anne Schlageter.

NPC WORSHIP

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

While we will be communicating all of this to you in the weeks to come, here is a succinct overview of what is happening in youth group for this month.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 4-6

We have 50 students signed up to go to Ligonier Camp for the weekend. Our special speaker will be Eric Tucker whom many students know from last summer's mission trip in Appalachia. The bus will leave from NPC parking lot on Friday, November 4 at 6:00 P.M. and return Sunday, November 6 at 1:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER 6

NO Youth Group due to the Fall Retreat

NOVEMBER 13

6:30-8:30 P.M. | Youth Group
Pastor Dan Guest Speaks

NOVEMBER 20

7:00-8:30 P.M. | Thanksgiving Service
7:30-8:30 P.M. | Game Time

NOVEMBER 27

NO Youth Group due to Thanksgiving

NPC PRAYER MINISTRY



ARE YOU STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER?

We have two ways for you to let others know your prayer requests:

- The Emergency Prayer Chain
- The Weekly Thursday Prayer Letter

Contact mercy deaconess Michele Moir at (412) 983-3560

ARE YOU A PRAYER WARRIOR?

Michele will gladly add you to the list of faithful intercessors! Requests are kept confidential unless told otherwise. It is a privilege to lift others in need before the throne of grace. - **CAROL DUPEE**



STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE

Do you remember the 3 Circles Pastor Ben talked about in his recent 2 part sermon?

Circle #1 - God's design

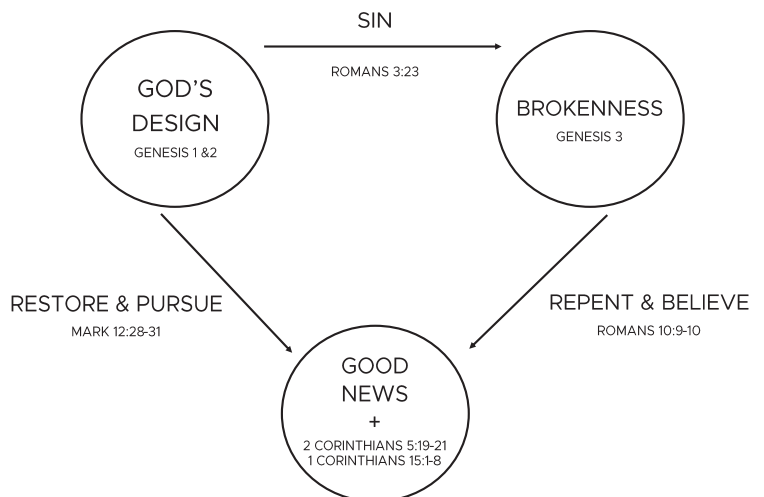
Circle #2 - Brokenness

Circle #3 - The Cross



These circles (or tools) are important to remember as you listen and share with others who don't know Jesus. As we PRAY for opportunities to BLESS and share JESUS with others Stephen Ministry will be coming alongside you with a Sunday School class in the Spring. We want to add to your toolbox by sharing more about Caring Evangelism. So, look for more information regarding this class in the near future. We look forward to serving you through this class.

— **THE STEPHEN MINISTRY TEAM**





QUESTIONS FOR GOD

In Kids' Worship, we are intentional to have kids set aside time each week to talk to God, to ask Him questions and start developing a relationship with Him, early in life. Here are some of the things on the minds of seven and eight-year-olds lately:

- Oh God, I am afraid of storms.
- Dear God, please help me to have energy.
- When are you coming back?
- Why is the sky blue? I love you, God!
- God, please help me to remember to pray when I am scared.
- Why are trees green? Why did you make them?
- Please help me to go do good in Math.
- How do you make my body move?



TREKKERS SCHEDULE 2022-2023

Trekkers meets once a month.
Join us for one our meetings on:

November 13
December 11
January 8
February 5
March 12
Apr 16
May 7

TREKKERS

Trekkers is in full swing, with our 3rd, 4th & 5th graders meeting once a month. This year, we are learning about TRUTH - defining what TRUTH IS and how we can KNOW THE TRUTH! Each month, 18-22 children attend along with a handful of teen helpers who assist our five leaders: Chad & Beth Morley, Jonathan & Kim Mycyk and Frank Librich. We have also been feasting on meals provided by some families in our congregation. Trekkers is FUN! If you haven't tried it yet, come on out this month and bring a friend! Enjoy some shots from October's meeting!



But the fruit of the Spirit is

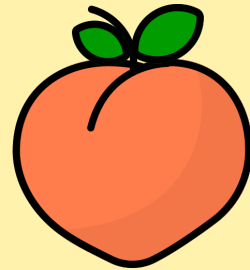
love



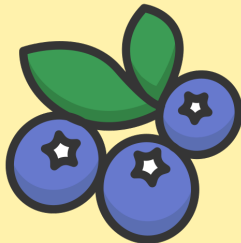
joy



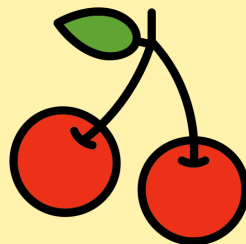
peace



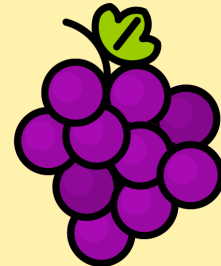
patience



kindness



goodness



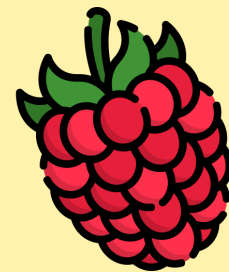
faithfulness



gentleness



self-control



against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

NPC CONNECT

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9
7:00 P.M. | ROOM 111**

Ladies, would you like to add some fellowship to your crafting time? Would you like to ensure that you get some crafting time? Or maybe you would just appreciate some casual conversation with other ladies? Well, whatever the reason, we would LOVE to have you join us! Mark your calendars because we will be hosting our first monthly craft night on Wednesday, November 9. Bring a craft project that you are working on--it's not too early to think about Christmas! or just bring yourself and learn how to knit or complete another craft that we will supply. We hope to have some delicious treats, wonderful conversation and quality crafting time! Please contact Michele Moir (michelelmoir@gmail.com) or Amber Stites (amberstites@northparkepc.org) to sign up.



SAVE THE DATE FOR GINGERBREAD

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
3:00 & 5:00 P.M. | BLUE ROOM**

Go ahead and mark this on your calendar and plan to invite friends and family to join you. This is a great event that brings out families every year, and we look forward to hosting it again in the Blue Room. We will be providing more information in the bulletin and once again looking for candy donations. You can sign up in the lobby once that becomes available or email Pastor Ben (benburkholder@northparkepc.org).



WINTER WONDERLAND: WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 | 6:30 PM | BLUE ROOM

Do you remember what the month of December was like when you were a kid? What were you excited about during the Christmas season? Did you make a Christmas list and anxiously anticipate the presents you'd find under your tree? Did you enjoy making gingerbread houses, going to Christmas parties, and wrapping gifts? Did you have an Advent Calendar filled with chocolate to help you count down the days until Christmas? While these things add to the magical feel of Christmas, we have all learned by now that they are not what makes Christmas truly special. The most precious gift of all, Jesus, can sometimes get lost amongst all the superfluous extras of Christmas, and as adults those extras can create stress rather than excited anticipation. At this year's Christmas Tea, we want to remind ourselves of the joy we felt at Christmas when we were kids, while directing that excitement towards the life-giving gift of God's Son! So, join us at the tea as we marvel in child-like wonder at God's amazing love and generosity!

Invite your friends and family for this special time of remembering the true joy of Christmas. Please bring a Christmas mug and an appetizer or dessert to share! This year, our speaker will be Paige (Stitt) McBride. She just wrote a devotional called "Beauty Not Beheld," which will be available for purchase during the tea. Questions? Contact Amber Stites (amberstites@northparkepc.org).

DECORATIONS NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS TEA!

We are looking for a few more decorations to make the Christmas Tea extra special! If you decorate in a pastel color palette at Christmas, we are talking to you especially! In particular, we are looking for oversized items like lawn decorations, Nutcrackers, vintage toys, teddy bears, and white Christmas trees. If you don't plan to decorate for Christmas until after the tea, we would love to borrow your decorations! If you have anything that might help us evoke the childhood joys of Christmas, please contact Kirstin Lukas (kirstinlukas@gmail.com).

**Thanks be to
God for His
incredible gift!**
2 Corinthians 9:15



COFFEEHOUSE CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 18, 2022 | 9:00 A.M. (SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR) | BLUE ROOM

The Music and Children's Ministries are collaborating to celebrate Christmas again and this year, it will be a performance of all ages! We are hoping for a little kids choir, an older kids choir, maybe a performance by the Youth Band and many adults too! Think: a coffeehouse feel, with mugs clinking, people chatting, and all of us enjoying some snacks while we listen to folks on stage singing, dancing, playing and reading. If you would like to perform, please contact Brooke Hopkins by the end of November so we can get you on the schedule. Should be fun!

NPC IMPACT



THANKSGIVING GRAVY FOR LIGHT OF LIFE

Light of Life Ministries, who we have supported for many years, is again conducting their Annual Thanksgiving Boxes Outreach. Last year they distributed 1750 boxes of Thanksgiving food (including a turkey and a pie) for a family of four to families in the Northside who do not have the necessary means to purchase food for Thanksgiving dinner.

Last year we provided 1,000 cans of corn to help in this effort. This year we have committed to collecting 500 cans of Turkey Gravy. We will be collecting these cans (NO JARS PLEASE) at the table in the lobby, and they will be delivered to the collection point on Thursday, November 10 for inclusion in the boxes. Your participation in this effort would be greatly appreciated. Questions? Contact Denny Koska (dennykoska@gmail.com). - **DENNY KOSKA**

NEW HOPE CHRISTMAS STORE TREE

Can you imagine what it would be like to face the escalating impact of inflation when the family budget was already tighter than you thought possible? How might that impact your family's experience of Christmas this year? This Christmas season, we have an opportunity to help others remember the greatest gift ever given by approaching this season with generosity.

It is our privilege once again to partner with our sister church, New Hope Church, located on the North Side in the "New Hope Christmas Store" as a part of their neighborhood outreach. Through our church's donations, low-income families on the North Side are able to afford presents for their children that they would not be able to purchase otherwise.

Starting on Sunday, November 20, the New Hope Christmas tree will be in the lobby. Those wishing to donate can take an ornament marked with the age and gender of a child and purchase an appropriate gift. Donations will need to be returned to the church unwrapped by Sunday, December 11. If you are unable to grab an ornament, gift cards and cash donations can also be given towards the purchase of gifts along with new (not used) hats, gloves, and scarves for winter weather. Questions can be directed to Janie Koska (janeckoska@yahoo.com). - **PASTOR BEN**



Memorial Park Church presents:
AN EDUNATIONS BENEFIT CONCERT
FEATURING:

Nichole & Jason Gray Nordeman



DECEMBER 2 @ 7:00 PM

MEMORIAL PARK CHURCH | 8800 PEEBLES ROAD, ALLISON PARK, PA
REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION: EDUNATIONS.ORG/CONCERT





BIRTHDAYS

- 1** Beth Hendley
- 2** Gerry Richardson
- 3** Hannah Hepner
Henry Lish
- 4** Jim Rimmel
- 5** Laura Osmond
- 6** Pat Whitmer
Luke O'Brien
- 7** Selasi Bakah
- 8** Elizabeth Haytock
- 10** Davey Pinkerton
- 13** Nellie Luther
- 14** Susann Pinkerton
- 15** Chad Morley
- 16** Fiifi Kwakwa
- 18** Matt Bender
- 21** Kathy Schadel
- 22** Josh Laird
- 25** Jeffery Buirge
- 26** Edward Nichols
Carl Shoemaker
Anna Warmbrodt
- 27** Diane Glancy
Pat Hargest
Edward Muzyn
Jessica O'Brien
- 29** Autumn Glancy
Rachel Sharpnack
Marge Stauffer
- 30** Carol Dupee
Holly Murphy

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2** Keith & Sandy Garver
 - 5** Kevin & Alison Sanders
 - 12** Matt & Erin Bender
 - 13** Steve & Natalie Karr
 - 16** Jim & Gloria Baldauff
 - 17** Dan & Beth Hendley
 - 20** Mike & Jeanne Safreed
- 