

# Northminster News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NORTHMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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THE NORTHMINSTER NEWS SHARES INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST, AS WELL AS NEWS AND MILESTONE EVENTS IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHURCH AND LARGER COMMUNITY.

Tell me something good

Lent 2026 Schedule

Northminster  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday  
Hosted by First Pres Troy  
February 18 at 6 pm with Soup Dinner

Lent 1  
February 22 at 11 a.m.

Lent 2  
March 1 at 11 a.m.

Lent 3  
March 8 at 11 a.m.  
Pastor Chris's Last Sunday

Lent 4  
March 15 at 11 a.m.

Lent 5  
March 22 at 11 a.m.

Palm Sunday  
Combined Service with CCB  
March 29 at 10 a.m.

Good Friday  
Hosted by Central Woodward  
April 3 Time TBD

Easter Sunday  
Combined Service with CCB  
April 5 at 10 a.m.

# WHAT'S NEW

## WELCOME BABY RONAN!



Ronan was born on March 12, 2026 at 11:33 am. He was a wonderfully healthy 8lb 15oz. We are so excited to welcome the newest member of the Northminster community!

# QUICK NOTE

## FROM THE WORSHIP WORKGROUP

Hi everyone,

Please accept sincere thanks for your understanding and flexibility during this time of transition while Pastor Chris is on maternity leave. Your support, patience, and willingness to adapt have made a meaningful difference in helping everything continue smoothly. Because Martha Babcock is also on a short leave, members of the congregation have stepped in to handle hosting guest ministers/preachers AND signing up to be Worship Leader. This has eased the workload for Becky Pocisk in recruiting worship leadership.

It's been encouraging to see the community come together—whether through stepping in to lead, hosting, sharing messages, or simply showing up with grace and openness. Your commitment reflects the strength and spirit of our church. Special recognition to Teresa Sweet as she has seamlessly navigated different tasks and assignments every week (so far) and to the Finance team for making sure honorariums are on hand for our guest clergy people.

Thank you again for your kindness and cooperation during this season. It is truly appreciated.

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## Fellowship

Coordinator Julie Sigler

Our next Sharing Dinner is TBD. Join us for an enjoyable evening of food and fellowship. Sign up sheets are on the podium and bulletin board. Contact Karen Joy ([kjoy37@yahoo.com](mailto:kjoy37@yahoo.com)) if any questions.

Men's Luncheon is on April 21<sup>st</sup> (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month) at 12:30 pm at Crumpets in Somerset Inn; for more information contact Gary Pocisk.

Women's Luncheon will meet on April 27<sup>th</sup> (4th Monday of each month) at 12:00 pm; for more information, contact Judy Lewis or JoAnn Williams.

Mama's Coffee House (at UU Church). Next scheduled date is April 18. See Gary Pocisk for more information.

We will visit the Underground Railroad Living Museum at First Congregational Church (33 E. Forest Ave., Detroit) on Saturday, May 2. We can carpool down and will go somewhere nearby for lunch. Cost is \$15/person. Details will be on a sign-up sheet. See Ruth Turner for details.

Upcoming plans for summer include a tour of the Detroit Zoo with Dave Love as our guide, a visit to a lavender farm, and a golf scramble planned by Gary Pocisk.

## CCB Invitation

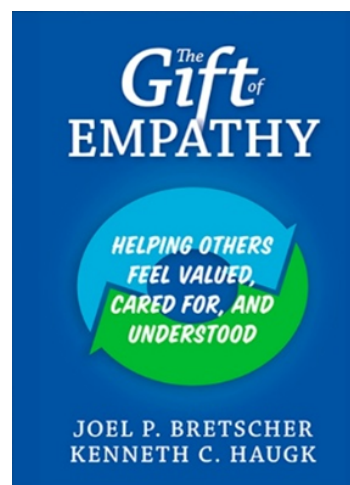
CCB has a couple of projects that they are inviting Northminster members to join their congregation in:

Spring Adult Education Session at CCB will focus on the book, *The Gift of Empathy: Helping others feel valued, cared for, and understood*, by Joel P. Bretscher and Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D.

Imagine a world where everyone's go-to way of relating is empathy. Our upcoming group study of Stephen Ministries' book *The Gift of Empathy* aims to make that a reality for our church and community, equipping participants to relate in ways that make a difference in the lives of those around them.

There will be Wednesday morning in person classes at 10:00 am -11:30 am in the Arlund Room at CCB, 1000 Cranbrook Rd, Bloomfield April 8, 15, 22, & 29.

There will be an All Church Book Read discussion of the book on Thursday, April 30, 2025 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent a week in advance.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## Outreach

Jennifer reported they are still waiting to hear from Affirmations, but she will also consider Equality MI Action Network or other groups for conducting a workshop in mid-summer or early fall

Jennifer will also create a list of Northminster's and CCB's ongoing annual activities to facilitate better planning.

## Mission

Coordinator: Jim Hoogstra

Agreed to donate \$1,000 to Littlefield Action for Social Justice and \$500 apiece to Forgotten Harvest and Gleaners, pending Session approval.

The Toilet Paper Drive was a great success! A number of people ferried the packages to Presbytery and to Troy People Concerned. The final count will be reported in the NNotes.

## Education

Coordinator: Karen Joy

Tuesday Bible Study meets weekly at 10 am on Zoom; see our online calendar for the link. *How the Bible Actually Works* by Peter Enns

Grace in Aging group will meet April 16<sup>th</sup> (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) and will continue into the fall and winter.

Tai Chi continues meeting every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

## Monday Book Group:

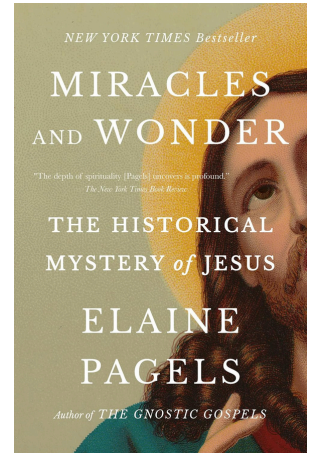
Miracles and Wonder

Our book choice for April is *Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus*. Elaine Pagels, the author, has been a Professor of Religion at Princeton Univ. for over 30 years, and has received many awards for her writing over the years. In *Miracles and Wonders* she sets out to discover how a poor young Jewish man inspired a religion that shaped the world.

The book reads like a historical mystery, with each chapter addressing a fascinating question and answering it based on the gospels Jesus' followers left behind. Why is Jesus said to have a virgin birth? Why do we say he rose from the dead? Did his miracles really happen and what did they mean? In her exploration of these mysteries and others, she also sheds light on Jesus' enduring power to inspire and attract.

We will be meeting via ZOOM on Monday, April 13, at 1:00. Everyone is welcome to read the book and join with us for the discussion, which we think will be interesting to all of us.

Our May 11 choice is Amy Johnson Frykholm's *High Hawk*. Again, plan to join us in reading the book and talking about it.



## SESSION

The next meeting of the Session will be on Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 pm. Moderator will be Rev. Jasmine Smart.

All are welcome to sit in; please submit any items for consideration to a Session member ahead of the meetings for consideration.

## BIRTHDAYS

### Happy Birthday!

4/6 Diana K

4/7 Travis K

4/17 Gary W

## ABOUT NMPC

### About Our Church

Our core purpose is to love God and our neighbors as we seek to understand, respect and celebrate our differences. In recognizing Christ's calling to treat others as we desire to be treated, Northminster Presbyterian Church welcomes all people, regardless of sexual orientation, color, gender, religion, age, politics, social or economic class, ethnicity, nationality or disability. We value all members of the community. We consciously strive to create an environment of mutual respect, hospitality and warmth in which none are strangers and all truly flourish.

3633 W. Big Beaver Road  
Troy, MI 48084

**Website:** [TroyNorthminster.com](http://TroyNorthminster.com)

**Phone:** (248) 644-5920

**E-Mail:** [office@troynorthminster.com](mailto:office@troynorthminster.com)

Our **Facebook page** is Northminster Presbyterian Church – Troy and our private friends group is Northminster Troy

**Pastor:**


Rev. Chris Hallam

**Music Director:**

Dr. Brandon Ulrich



Our very own Motor City Chorale has some amazing shows coming up!  
Stop by, show your support and listen to some amazing music!



## *Music through the Century Vol. 2*

<b>Friday, April 10</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>	<b>Grosse Pointe Congregational Church 240 Chalfonte Ave Grosse Pointe Farms 48236</b>
<b>Sunday, April 12</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Utica United Methodist Church 8650 Canal Rd. Sterling Heights 48314</b>
<b>Friday, April 17</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Cross Lutheran Church 35851 Utica Rd. Clinton Twp. 48035</b>
<b>Sunday, April 19</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Hope United Church 35127 Garfield Rd. Clinton Twp. 48035</b>
<b>Friday, April 24</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>	<b>First Congregational Church 1315 N. Pine St. Rochester 48307</b>
<b>Sunday, April 26</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>First English Lutheran 800 Vernier Rd Grosse Pointe Woods 48236</b>

The Motor City Chorale is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and a Michigan Nonprofit. For more information, please visit our website ([motorcitychorale.com](http://motorcitychorale.com))

*Northminster*

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March 2026 Newsletter

