Baseball Outing

Spend an evening at the ballpark on Thursday, May 9th, when the Flying Chanclas (San Antonio Missions) take on the New Orleans Baby Cakes. Tickets are $11 for adults and children for reserved infield seats. It is dollar night at the ballpark which means soda, hot dogs and adult beverages are all only a dollar. Start time is 7:05 p.m. See Janina Cleveland for more information and to purchase tickets.

Give Bees a Chance!

Give Bees a Chance! The children will once again be participating in the annual Lenten fish bank special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing. This year we are hoping to raise $240 in funds for the OGHS beekeeping project. Beekeeping provides farmers in places like Guatemala with a supplemental income that can help when seasonal crops might not generate enough annual revenue to support their families. Selling the honey from these hives benefits the individual beekeepers, and the placement of hives supports the health of crops in the region. We hope you will support our kids by dropping your dimes and quarters into their banks! Please contact Sara if you have any questions!
A Year of Biblical Womanhood

Adult Sunday School is offering the opportunity to join Jessica Cassell as she leads a conversation on Rachel Held Evans’ book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. This memoir is an easy read, framed with both humor and biblical perspective. The reader is given an opportunity to think about bigger questions such as, “What does God truly expect of women?” and “Is there really a prescription for biblical womanhood?” This class will meet weekly throughout Lent in the old choir room at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Copies of the text are available from Sara Holland for $10.

Immersion Study: 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles

Each Sunday during the 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Hour throughout Lent, Bill Strautman will be leading a class using the Immersion Bible Study series. This class will be tackling the Old Testament books of 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, and 1 & 2 Chronicles. Written by Timothy Cargal, this study gives readers the opportunity to look at the full scope of the stories of Samuel, David, Solomon and other Old Testament kings. Participant books are available from Sara Holland. Please contact Sara with any questions.

Kids’ Night Out

We have a Kids’ Night Out scheduled for Friday, March 22! Planning has already begun for our evening where we will talk about what it means to work in community to serve God. The highlight of the evening will include solving our own escape room here at the church! We look forward to having you join us from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Mark your calendars and plan to drop your littlest loves (ages 1 - 5th grade) off here with Sara. There will be dinner and plenty of time to play with your church family! See you then!
**This Week at Northminster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 3/22</strong></td>
<td>Kids Night Out - 5:30 p.m.</td>
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| **Sunday 3/24** | Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.  
Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Fellowship - after worship  
CE Ministry Meeting - after worship  
Church Growth Ministry Meeting - via email |
| **Monday 3/25** | Monday Morning Group - 10:30 a.m.  
Line Dancing - 7:00 p.m. |
| **Wednesday 3/27** | Bible Study - 6:15 p.m.  
Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m. |
| **Thursday 3/28** | Pastor’s Book Club - 10:30 a.m.  
Prayer Group - 7:00 p.m.  
Pastor’s Book Club - 6:30 p.m. |

**PW Road Trip!**

The Northminster Presbyterian Women (PW) will be touring an olive orchard at The Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard located at 25195 Mathis Road, Elmendorf, TX. 78112 on March 30 at 11:30 am. We will tour the orchard and then enjoy a lunch after the tour at the restaurant. We will be carpooling from Northminster, leaving the church at 10:30 a.m. If you would rather meet us there, the directions are below. Whether you drive, ride with or meet, please RSVP to Pat Halverson at halversonpat441@gmail.com for lunch accommodations. There is no cost for the tour. Each of us will be responsible for buying our lunches and there is a wonderful gift shop with homemade soaps, skin care products, olive leaf teas, pantry items (olive oil, vinegars, prepared tapenades, and spices) and baked goods. There are also olive trees of different varieties for sale. All of these products make excellent gift ideas. Please visit their website for more information at [https://www.sandyoaks.com](https://www.sandyoaks.com).

Directions: Take I-37 South – Exit 122: Left over the overpass and first right onto Mathis Road.

**Prayer List**

Tiffany Calhoun  
Jennifer & Howard Zax  
“Bootsie” - Holly Perry's Mom  
Margie Brown  
Dennis Morales  
Carol Felkner  
Minga Ybarra  
Jeff Koch  
Charles Tenneflos  
Mr. North  
Jack Lappeus  
Linda Hillyard  
Mother of Carl Barber  
Karen Currie  
Abel & Celia Campos  
John Salazar  
Anita Pankake  
Christian Peters  
Deanie Bluschke  
Amelia Hinojosa  
Family of Sam Young  
Family of Stephanie Cape  
Aaron Schendel  
Marsha Schendel

If you have any prayer requests, please feel free to notify pastor Elise by email, phone 304-376-0979, or in person. Or feel free to use the tear-off portion of the bulletin to write your request and place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning.
Pastor Elise’s Book of the Month - April
March’s selection for the Pastor’s Book of the Month is The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kid. This is a remarkable novel about divine female power, a story that women will share and pass on to their daughters for years to come.

Both hard and digital copies may be purchased here.

Member Spotlight - Brian Harding
We’re relatively new to Northminster, having only arrived in San Antonio in 2016. We had just completed a military move and were looking for our new church home when Casey found Northminster’s website. It wasn’t too far up the road so we decided to try it out. The biggest thing that stuck with us was the welcoming sense of community and family. People sought us out on Sunday, learned our names, and greeted us like old friends each Sunday. It wasn’t long before we decided to become members.

Looking back, I have always been involved in the church in some way. I grew up in Awana (a youth-based ministry) and various youth groups, always plugging into a local church after each move. Eventually I was teaching Sunday school to elementary school-aged children. After I joined the Air Force, I stayed involved with the various Protestant chaplains programs. It has been interesting to see where God leads me and how He challenges me to grow.

I have been humbled to be an elder here at Northminster for the past year. Working with the Worship, Music and Arts Ministry team has been an honor and a blessing, and I look forward to the years to come.

Northminster Revenues Update
Northminster’s total revenue for the month of February was $20,974, which was $5,607 less than the planned revenue of $26,581. Year-to-date total revenue is $45,936, which is $9,727 less than planned revenue of $55,664. The good news is pledged offering so far this year is slightly ahead of plan ($44,467 actual versus $43,150 planned), and ahead of last year’s pledged offering to date. The shortfall is in other income, primarily non-pledged offering. You can help Northminster bridge the total revenue gap by helping attract new members to the church, and/or by increasing your pledge giving. The Finance and Personnel Ministry greatly appreciates your pledges and contributions to date, as they are funding greatly needed enhancements to the operation of the church.

From Leslie
I will be out of the office this week. If you are planning on stopping by the office please call ahead to make sure someone will be available.
What Are The Liturgical Colors?

Liturgical colors can orient us to the season of the church year and help to engage the sense of sight in worship. White and gold symbolize days and seasons of joy and mark pivotal events in the life of Christ. Red symbolizes the work of the Holy Spirit and the sacrifices of martyrs. Purple (and sometimes blue, in Advent) designates a season of penitence and preparation, such as Lent.

This was not always the case. For the first thousand years of the church’s history, little thought was given to liturgical color. White vestments were most common, with more elaborate garments and paraments (of whatever color) reserved for important festivals. The 12th through 16th centuries brought localized experiments with liturgical color, but no standard practices prevailed until 1570, when the Roman Catholic Church established a normative sequence of colors to accompany the church calendar. Calvinists in the sixteenth century eschewed these rubrics, however, preferring black vestments. The past two centuries have seen a resurgence in the use of liturgical colors, propelled by a new appreciation for the aesthetic dimensions of worship, as well as the marketing efforts of church supply stores.

Here is a typical schedule for the use of liturgical colors:

- Advent: purple or blue
- Christmas (12 days) to Epiphany (Jan. 6): white and gold
- Ordinary Time (Jan. 7 through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday): green, with the exception of Baptism of the Lord and Transfiguration of the Lord, both white
- Ash Wednesday through the first five weeks of Lent: purple
- Palm / Passion Sunday: red and/or purple
- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week: purple
- Maundy Thursday: purple (until the church is stripped bare)
- Good Friday: no color; church remains stripped bare
- Easter Season (including Ascension of the Lord): white and gold
- Day of Pentecost: red
- Ordinary Time (Monday after Pentecost through Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent): green, with the exception of Trinity Sunday, All Saints’ Day (or first Sunday in November), and Christ the King, all white.
- Additionally, white is used for funerals. Red is sometimes used for ordinations, installations and church dedications and anniversaries. Baptisms, communion services and weddings should retain the color of the season.

Resource of the PCUSA
Blessings Pastor Elise
FEBRUARY 06, 2018, Sharon Lee Song

**Take Time for Breath Prayer**

This simple meditative prayer can bring big transformation.

Breath prayer has been an important transformative practice for me over the years. For a stretch of time, my breath prayer was, [inhale] “Father, [exhale] love me.” I needed to know the love of a good parent, and God really did answer that prayer for me over time. Breath prayer has been a part of my journey in connecting my heart, mind, body, and soul, especially when I was very disconnected from being burned out from ministry. Practices like breath prayer draw us into simple meditation of who God is and who we are, and provide ways to deepen the connections to God, ourselves, and one another that we all need and long for.

As you think about the coming months, is there a specific invitation that God has for you to deepen these connections to become more holistically who you are meant to be? I am offering breath prayer as a rich exercise that you can do anytime to pay attention and explore that invitation.

**How to Practice Breath Prayer**

Start with practicing taking full, deep breaths (sometimes called belly breathing). Most of us only breathe with our chests, a very shallow form of breathing. Fill your chest, your ribs, and your belly with a full breath. Take 10 full breaths. What do you notice about your body? How do you feel? Maybe you notice that you carry tension in your chest and you feel anxiety. Or maybe you notice that your heart is beating strongly and you feel healthy. Pay attention to what your body is feeling.

Breath prayer links your rhythm of breathing in this way: 1) breathe in, calling on a biblical name or image of God, and 2) breathe out, sharing a simple God-given desire. Here is one breath prayer: Breathe in, “Be Still and Know.” Breathe out, “That I am God.” Breathe this breath prayer 10 times. Breathe slowly, taking your time, there is no rush. Consider these questions:

What do you notice right now?
How easy is it for God to get your attention?
When are you able to hear God’s still, small voice best?
In what ways has God been inviting you just to be with him?
When is God most present with you and you most present to God?
How is God inviting you to be in this posture of being still and knowing that he is God for in the coming months?

There are many examples of breath prayer. Maybe you are drawn to a certain name or image of God, and longing or desire. Take some time to examine what those might be, and perhaps what comes to mind will form your personal breath prayer for a season. It is amazing how simple a practice can bring about so much transformation holistically. As you breathe and pray, may you find new life. [Link to article](#).
From Pastor Elise

During the season of Lent we often find ourselves engaging more and more with the Bible and particular scripture readings that we like or intrigue us. One of the ways in which I often like to engage scripture is through a practice called Lectio Divina. It’s a way of engaging with the scripture by asking God to have a conversation with you in the form of prayer and meditation. I am attaching a brochure that outlines this practice of Lectio Divina so that you might try a new practice and engage with scripture and God in a whole new way. Blessings to you and your family as you continue on this Lenten Journey.

Blessings Pastor Elise

Camp Gilmont

Attached you will find information about Trinity Presbytery Camp held at Camp Gilmont near Gilmer, Texas. There are camps for those entering kindergarten to those graduating high school. Take time to check out this great opportunity.

Beer & Hymns

Make plans to attend Beer & Hymns on Monday, April 1st, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Bobby J’s Burgers on Bandera Road in Helotes. A group from Forest Hills and Northminster will meet to enjoy a beer, sing hymns and make friends. There is a grand tradition within the Christian church of bringing together hymn-singing and pub culture. In the nineteenth century William Booth’s Salvation Army put Christian words to popular music sung in pubs and taverns. In the twenty-first century, the event ‘Beer & Hymns’ has emerged as a not-so-new form of worship. Join us for an evening of fellowship and worship.

Lectionary Readings for the week of March 24th.

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
**Easter Egg Hunt**

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 20th, at 4:00 in the afternoon prior to the dinner and the Easter Vigil service. Bring your friends and family.

**April Youth Activity**

Since the third Sunday in April is Easter, the Third Sunday Youth activity will be moved to the second Sunday, April 14th. Please mark your calendars and adjust your work schedule so that you can attend.

**We Need You!**

We need your help to make the Easter Egg Hunt a success! The youth are accepting donations of individually wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please put these donations in the basket in the Family Room.

**Youth Sunday School**

Our study of *Running with the Giants* continues this week during Youth Sunday School, with the focus on Abraham. Sunday School starts at 9:00. Bring a friend. Breakfast will be served!!
Northminster Presbyterian Church

NPC is welcoming to all who walk through our doors. We are an affirming congregation that recognizes each person’s unique qualities and gifts and accepts everyone for who they are.

Child care is provided for children 2 and younger with qualified nursery staff in our nursery. Children’s worship bags are provided in our family room for children to use during worship. Following the time with the children, Children’s Church is offered for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

We invite you to learn more about our ministry and how you can get involved. You can call our church office to speak with someone during office hours of 8:00am -3:00pm, Monday - Thursday at (210) 680-4825 For more information about our ministries check out our web page www.npcsatx.org