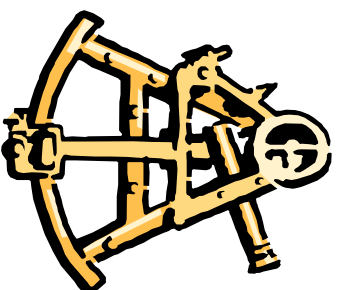


North Port Community  
United Church of Christ  
3450 S. Biscayne Drive  
North Port, FL 34287



# **THE NAVIGATOR**

## **June/July Summer, 2018**

*From the  
Pastor*



June/July 2018

Isaiah answered, “This is the LORD’s sign to you that the LORD will do what he has promised: Shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or shall it go back ten steps?” “It is a simple matter for the shadow to go forward ten steps,” said Hezekiah. “Rather, have it go back ten steps.” Then the prophet Isaiah called on the LORD, and the LORD made the shadow go back the ten steps it had gone down on the stairway of Ahaz. *II Kings 20:9-11*

Dear Church Family,

One worship song declares: “What A Mighty God We Serve”. Yes we do and the brief account from II Kings is a proof. We do not just serve any God, but we serve the God of heaven and earth. We, even if we tried, could not make happen what took place in the story above. In essence, to command the sun to do this or that and it obeyed.

The amazing part here is what we read about Isaiah, he just prayed, and it just happened. It seems such a simple fact. Yes, we on the other hand cannot stop being amazed that Isaiah prayed and such a tremendous miracle occurred-JUST LIKE THAT!

Our GOD can do anything!

**We have been praying for the children who participated in our VBS last year. For an entire year, you have been praying faithfully for them. VBS is here once again. The children we are praying for will be back soon.**

**Watch and see how God will move in amazing ways in the hearts of those who serve during our VBS and the children who attend our VBS.**

**We just returned a short time ago from our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NPCUCC Retreat. Thank you to all who attended and made it possible.**







**We missed you this year please make plans to attend next year (February 28<sup>th</sup> - March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019)**

**Haiti Mission Trip 2018: November 11-17.  
For details and to sign up please call the church office:  
941-426-5580**



**We will build a new home for a family in need. Join us and let's make a difference in the name of Christ.**

**Trip to Israel in 2019: September 20-30<sup>th</sup>.  
Please call the church office for details:  
941-426-5580**



**On this trip to Israel  
we will have the  
opportunity to be  
baptized in the Jordan  
River, where Jesus  
was baptized.**

**Together in Mission:  
Pastor *Attila Szemesi*/NPCUCC**





**Pastor Attila will be on vacation this summer. He will be back in the Pulpit on August 12th.**

**If a Pastoral Care Emergency should arise, please notify the church office at 426-5580. Pastor Ralph Burton will be leading our worship services and assisting us with pastoral care emergencies while Pastor Attila is out of the office.**



**The Church Office  
will be closed on  
Wednesday July 4th**



## **Singles Dinner Group**



**Singles are invited to meet for dinner at the Olde World Restaurant on June 14 and July 12 at 5:30 p.m. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call Louise Hall at 941-423-2213 for reservations or info.**



### **Jingle Bell Pens**

**The Jingle Bell Committee still has some pens. They will be back on sale in the Fall, but in the meantime if you need one, see Boo Vance. Proceeds from the sale will help purchase a new tree for the sanctuary.**



**The new church year rolls around each May! Have you wanted to serve the church as a greeter/usher and didn't know how to go about it? Give me a call or see me in church and we can set up date (s) for you. It is a great way to meet other parishioners and be part of the church service at the same time. You can also contact Terry in the office and she'll let me know. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you! Cindy Minich- 860-918-3095.**



## **Hurricane Policy**

**It's Hurricane Season, so REMEMBER: Our church policy for closing the church in the event of a storm is—**

**Anytime hurricane conditions are predicted for a Sunday morning, including the possibility of winds high enough to prevent emergency workers from being on the roads, services will be canceled. So.... If on Saturday night, hurricane conditions are being predicted for North Port, you may know that Sunday services are canceled—even if conditions are improved on Sunday morning.**

**“When possible” our calling committees will make phone calls, but please do not rely solely on a phone call. Bottom line: Be Safe!**



**Need a place to go during a Hurricane?  
Do You have a Plan?**

**- hurricane -**

**Be sure to fill out an application for “Sarasota County People With Special Needs”. Copies are available in the church office and also included with this newsletter. The time to make a plan for where to go in the event of a hurricane is NOW, not when one is just a few days away. This will give you and your family peace of mind knowing that you have a plan should the need arise.**





**Shipwrecked VBS**  
**June 18-22, 2018**  
**8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**VBS will be here and upon us before we know it!!! First and foremost, please pray for our VBS staff and for the children whose lives we will touch.**

**Thank you to all who have helped with our VBS Wish List—you have done an amazing job—as always. You are the best!**

**VBS staff is being finalized. Staff Orientation will be held on Monday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. In addition, we will have individual meetings with Tour Guides and Site Leaders as needed.**

**Decorating!!!! Set up will begin on Sunday, June 10th following Coffee Hour and official Decorating will happen each day that week between 8:00 and 4:00. Come lend a hand.**

**New this year—Come to our Music Workshop on Tuesday, June 12th from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Thanks to Kim Campos being a year-round employee we are able to bring back Music as one of our rotations. Woohoo!!! Do you want a head start on learning some of the music? Come on the 12th as Kim helps us learn some of the words and the motions.**

**Then...On June 18th we will open our doors to the children of our community and provide them with a wonderful opportunity to learn how we all will be Rescued by Jesus~**

**As always....Thank you for your prayers and support!**



**Don't forget to send your thoughts about people and events that have made the first 50 years of our church so special. Memory items may be mailed or left at the church (50th Committee, 3450 S. Biscayne Drive, North Port, FL 34287).**

**The recollections (emails or videos) may be sent to [northportucc@juno.com](mailto:northportucc@juno.com). Send one or send several (as you think of them).**



**Sign up now  
For our September 2019 trip  
To Israel!**

**Call the church office for  
More information.  
Cost of the trip is approximately  
\$4,000 per person.**



**The Charlotte Stone Crabs are offering COMMUNITY FREE SUNDAY HOME GAMES this season. There is NO CHARGE for parking OR for SEATS! This will go on for all SUNDAY home games this season. It is sponsored by North Port's own KING PLASTICS CORPORATION.**

**The Free Sunday Games are listed below. Games start at 12:35 p.m.**

**May 27  
June 10  
July 1**

**August 12  
August 19  
September 2**



**We received a lovely letter from Esther Sanborn just last week. The letter is hanging on the bulletin board in fellowship hall for all to read. The great news is that she will be visiting the North Port area in June and will be here to worship with us on Sunday, June 17th. We are really looking forward to seeing her that day. She has now moved to Clinton, CT. If you don't have her address and would like it, please feel free to call the church office. See you soon Esther!**



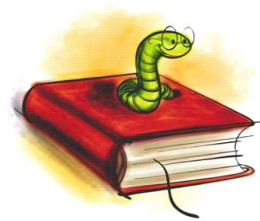


***“Susie and Me Days: Joy in the Shadow of Dementia”*** by Susan L. Garbett is a candid and intimate relationship between father and daughter as they journey through the murky haze of dementia. This book is an invaluable addition to the literature

chronicling the progress of memory. Thanks to Mary Ann Anderson for this book.

Thanks also to Barbara Mervine for the gift of a large print Bible to the collection. The Library committee will be doing an inventory of the collection this summer.

We have been given the collection of the ***“Left Behind”*** Series by Tom LeHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins. This collection will be shelved by the door to Decker Hall.

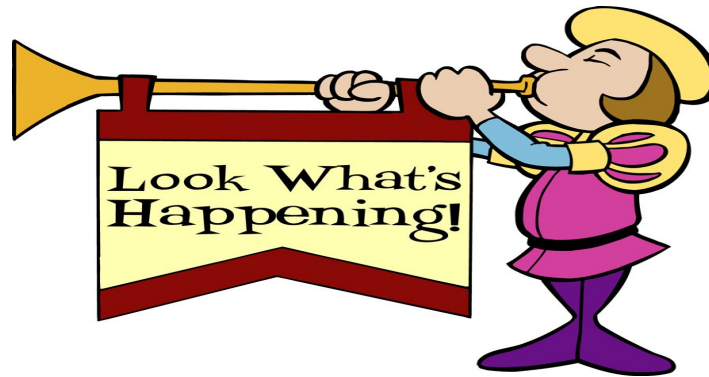


Happy summer reading!

**Start your day with  
Breakfast, Friends  
And good conversation!**

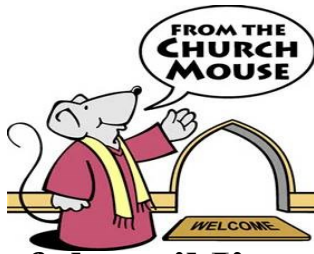


**All women are invited to join together for breakfast on Wednesday, June 6. There will be no breakfast in July. Check the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall for more details.**



## **UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!**

<b>May 28</b>	<b>Memorial Day—Office Closed</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Bible Story Workshop</b>
<b>June 4</b>	<b>VBS Staff Orientation</b>
<b>June 7</b>	<b>USF Summer Reading Program begins</b>
<b>June 9</b>	<b>Youth Leaders Orientation</b>
<b>June 10</b>	<b>Start Decorating for VBS</b>
<b>June 11</b>	<b>Tour Guides Meeting</b>
<b>June 12</b>	<b>VBS Music Workshop</b>
<b>June 18-22</b>	<b>Vacation Bible School</b>
<b>June 22</b>	<b>VBS Dinner and Program</b>
<b>July 4</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
<b>August 12</b>	<b>Pastor Attila returns</b>
<b>September 9</b>	<b>Rally Day Sunday</b>



## **From the Church Mouse.....**

**Pip and I have our sailor hats all ready. Do you? The ship, the ship, the ship is on it's way. I bet if we climb to the top of the sail I'm sure we will be able to see land ahead and find the island that we're all going to be shipwrecked on. But best of all we will be rescued .....by Jesus! How great will that be! The ladies in the office are filling up the place with lots and lots of boxes. We've seen shirts, palm trees and lots of other pretty neat stuff. Very soon the little people will be here learning lots of great things about our very good friend Jesus. Pip and I love this time of year and can't wait to see all our little friends back again. See you on the ship, or on the island very soon!**

**Ye Olde Church Mouse & Pip**



*Prayer Shawl  
Ministry*



## **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

**Attention knitters  
and those who crochet!**

**Prayer Shawls will be taking a break for the summer.  
They will resume meeting on August 14th at 2:00 p.m.**





## **FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**

**Remember the 2nd Sunday is our Collection of Food for those who are hungry. We alternate months, going to Salvation Army and Face of Hope.**



**Join us!  
November 11-17, 2018**

**We are limited to just 8 persons. Call the office to sign up. Cost is \$1,650 per person and includes your expenses and supplies to build a house.**



## **Dine to Donate!**

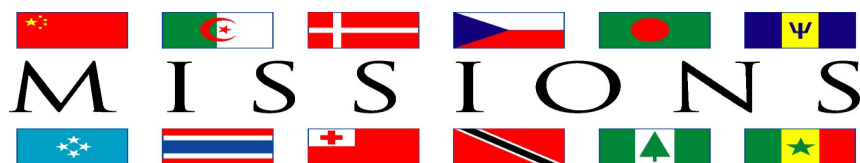
**Please continue to take your vouchers to Perkins each time you dine there. Perkins will collect the vouchers and quarterly send us a check donating 10% of the subtotal of everyone's bills. A win/win for everyone. We appreciate your support of this program.**

**Average monthly attendance:**

**April 2017— 156  
April 2018— 161**



**Large enough to serve you;  
small enough to know you.**



### **A Heartfelt Thank You!**

**The Missions Committee thanks all who participated so wholeheartedly in the ECHO Intern Program project this past year. You, once again, put us over the top in helping us reach our goal! Thank you!**

**The Committee has made some new and exciting plans for the 2018-2019 ECHO mission project. We will be revealing these new ideas soon. So stay tuned! In the meantime, please continue to hold ECHO and it's worldwide efforts and impact in your thoughts and prayers.**

**Sharon Miller, for the Missions Committee**

**June Mission Focus—Salvation Army**

**July Mission Focus—Undy Sunday and Fill A Flatbed  
(socks, underwear and back to school supplies for kids)**



## **June Birthdays:**

<b>June 2</b>	<b>Barbara Chamberlain</b>
<b>June 3</b>	<b>Marilee Taylor</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Sandy McKean</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Enid Scott</b>
<b>June 11</b>	<b>Chris Bermel</b>
<b>June 17</b>	<b>Paul Hong</b>
<b>June 19</b>	<b>Norma Beach</b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b>Rona Hunnisett</b>
<b>June 21</b>	<b>Jan Lytle</b>
<b>June 23</b>	<b>Nick Bonsky</b>
<b>June 25</b>	<b>June Valentino</b>
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Cindy Collins</b>
<b>June 29</b>	<b>Barbara Miles</b>
<b>June 30</b>	<b>Betty Van Tassell</b>



## **July Birthdays:**

<b>July 1</b>	<b>John McKean</b>
<b>July 8</b>	<b>Keyona Skyles</b>
<b>July 9</b>	<b>Louzan Edwards</b>
<b>July 9</b>	<b>Ingrid Massaro</b>
<b>July 11</b>	<b>Ruth Ables</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>Jenny Hagar</b>
<b>July 18</b>	<b>Bob Brown</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>Jim Bonsky</b>
<b>July 25</b>	<b>Diana Master</b>
<b>July 29</b>	<b>Bob Holsinger</b>
<b>July 31</b>	<b>Nadyne Tallman</b>







**The following members and friends will be celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in June and July.**

<b>June 6</b>	<b>Allison &amp; Shane Dougherty</b>
<b>June 9</b>	<b>Larry and Donna Swanson</b>
<b>June 12</b>	<b>Paul and Terry Hong</b>
<b>June 14</b>	<b>Mike and Patti Bourque</b>
<b>June 19</b>	<b>Clint and Betty Van Tassell</b>
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Bob and Marian Holsinger</b>
<b>July 14</b>	<b>John and Sandy McKean</b>



**I was regretting the past and fearing the future. Suddenly my Lord was speaking: “My name is I am”. He paused. I waited. He continued.**

**“When you live in the past with its mistakes and regrets, it is hard. I am not there. My name is not I WAS.**

**When you live in the future, with it’s problems and fears, it is hard. I am not there. My name is not I WILL BE.**

**When you live in this moment, it is not hard. I am here. My name is I AM.”**

**Written by Helen Mallicoat, Cornerstone of Hope**

## **JUNE AND JULY**

### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

<b>June 3</b>	<b>Larry and Donna Swanson</b>
<b>June 10</b>	<b>Paul and Terry Hong</b>
<b>June 17</b>	<b>Clint and Betty Van Tassell</b>
	<b>Barbara Gordon</b>
<b>June 24</b>	<b>Anne Smith</b>
<b>July 1</b>	<b>Paul and Terry Hong</b>
<b>July 8</b>	<b>David Nickerson</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>Ed and Patti Boger</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>?????</b>
<b>July 29</b>	<b>?????</b>



**Thank you to:  
North Port Natural Florist  
Your "Green" Florist  
13632 Tamiami Trail  
North Port, FL 34287  
426-1197**

**For providing us with our flowers every Sunday.**

**Our NPCUCC Vision:  
"NPCUCC is a welcoming  
congregation that  
celebrates the diversity of  
our members but focuses  
on what we as Christians  
have in common in order  
to nurture growth and  
healing."**



**HAVE YOU MADE A WILL?  
DID YOU REMEMBER  
YOUR CHURCH?**



**NORTH PORT COMMUNITY U.C.C.**

**Rev. Attila Szemesi, Pastor**

**3450 S. Biscayne Drive**

**North Port, FL 34287**

**Phone: (941) 426-5580**

**Fax: (941) 426-7370**

**E-mail: [northportucc@juno.com](mailto:northportucc@juno.com)**

**\*\*\*\*CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE\*\*\*\***

**[www.northportucc.org](http://www.northportucc.org)**

**Visit us on Facebook**

**Check us out on You Tube:**

**<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZOJIYvzmRjXqkRjYki-Gpw>**

**Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday-Thursday**

**Closed on Friday**

**Patti Bourque, Office Manager**

**Terry Hong, Office Assistant**