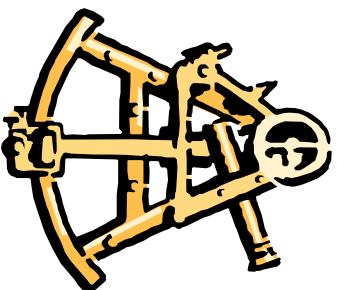


North Port Community
United Church of Christ
3450 S. Biscayne Drive
North Port, FL 34287



THE NAVIGATOR

June/July, 2017



June/July 2017

When things don't work out the way we had planned them...

**Call to me and I will answer you
and tell you great and unsearchable
things you do not know.
(Jeremiah 33:3)**

Dear Church Family,

It is nice to connect to you regularly via our monthly newsletter. We hope all is well with you. How many times have you, maybe even just recently, planned for something and it did not come to pass or turned out completely different? Didn't work out the way you had hoped for. This is hard to swallow and accept and come to terms with at times. We have all been there. By nature of my calling many times I have stood by someone's bedside who was struggling with serious health concerns, praying with them and believing for their healing. At times God granted it and we praised Him for it and at other times God had different plans and so we accepted that from his hands. His ways are above our ways and all we can do is to step to him and in faith believe and trust him with our lives.

I came to think about these things just recently. In gratefulness I look to God and thank him for the ministry he has entrusted me with. Praying with others and ministering to them is a special call and privilege for sure. However as I was pondering about these things I came to

realize that when my father had been ill and passed away very suddenly and unexpectedly in 2002, I could not be there for him, hold his hand and pray for him. I assure you I would have wanted to so very much but there was no time. Let me tell you what, that hurt-deep down! I did ask God “Why it had to happen that way?” To be honest we don’t always receive a clear answer! I would have given anything to see him one more time alive. God however had different plans. All we can do is to trust him with our questions! So, today I want to encourage you in your walk with God. Those things that didn’t work out the way you had planned them or hoped for, just roll out that scroll and that passage of your life before our God and talk it over with the “Great I Am”.

In the process you can see what a marvelous master painter our God is and what he can do with it all! He can take broken things and put them together again, change, heal, comfort, restore and encourage you like no one else ever could. Jeremiah 33:3 is so fitting to read during challenging times of uncertainty. “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.” It is such a marvelous and wonderful invitation to us all. Let’s answer it and respond to it. He doesn’t disappoint, ever!

Please see the calendar for important upcoming events. Thank you for keeping all our churches ministries in prayer! I would like to thank everyone for the giving of your time, talent and energy toward this body of Christ, our community and world missions. We love and appreciate you!

Please see below some selected photos of recent church events. ENJOY!



Visit with John & Sandy (04-26-2017)



Home Bible Study Group (04-27-2017)

Please call the church office (941) 426-5580 to find out more and to get CONNECTED today.



Visit with Lisa Williamson (05-22-2017)

Lisa, Gregory and Annalisa are moving out of State.

They will leave behind a big void in our church.

We will miss them very much. Please pray for them and their new beginning.

Lisa, Gregory and Annalisa this BLESSING is for you as you embark on your journey!

“The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His face on you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26)



Join us for our Pentecost Sunday (June 4th) service as we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the Birthday of the Church.



Several individuals have approached me about Baptism by immersion. We are preparing for such a Baptism Event here at the NPCUCC. Orientation for any anyone who is interested will be held on Sunday, June 11th following our church potluck.

**Together in Mission:
*Attila Szemesi, Pastor***

**Pastor Attila is in the office
Monday — Thursday
To schedule an appointment, Call the office—426-5580**

**Email:
npcuccpastor@frontier.com
Please Visit our Website: www.npcucc.org**



New Phone Directories

Once a year we print our in-house telephone directories. They have been printed and are now available for pick up in the Narthex. Please pick up the new lime green directory. When you get home, transfer any information you have in your orange February 2016 copy to the new one. Then.....be sure to throw away the orange copy so you are using the most current up to date book.



**Pentecost
Sunday June 4**

Wear Red



~~June 1st Senior Seminar~~
3:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Here at North Port Community UCC

This seminar is a Community Service event offered by our church for our NPCUCC family and the North Port community, so invite your friends and neighbors.

Attorney Kevin Russell will present the Fundamentals of Estate Planning.

Kevin C. Cox of Morgan Stanley Wealth Management will speak on prudent financial planning in your retirement.



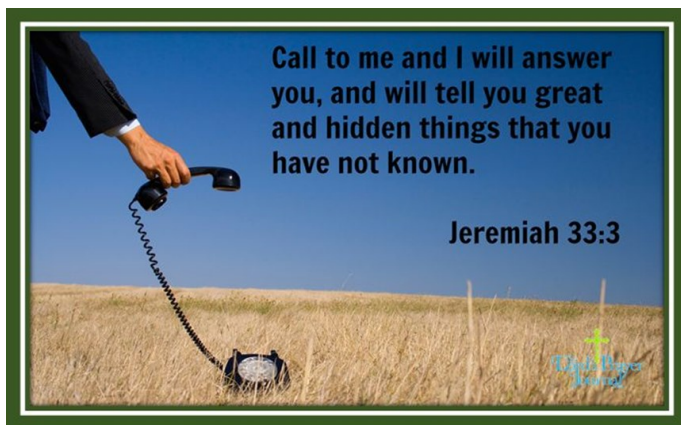
***No Matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are always welcome here!***



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



All women are invited to join together for breakfast on Wednesday, June 7 and July 5 at 8:30 a.m. at Perkins. A sign up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.



Call to me and I will answer
you, and will tell you great
and hidden things that you
have not known.

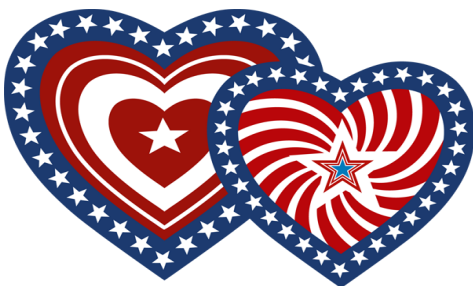
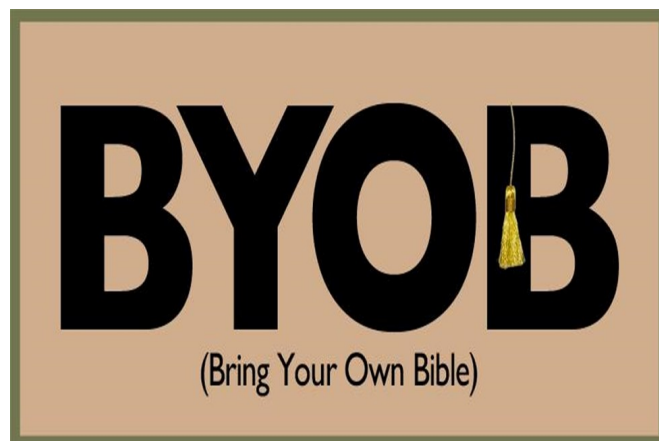
Jeremiah 33:3

**Prayer Line:
941-426-5580**

**(If you get the answering
machine, please call back)**

(*This is not a counseling line but a prayer line).

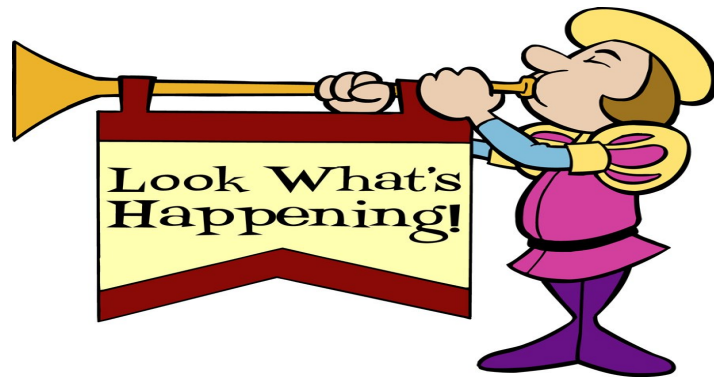
**Bible Study
Every Tuesday
11:00 a.m.
Bring a lunch
If you wish.**



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



**Join us on Wednesday morning for
Morning Prayer
7:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.**



UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

May 29	Church Office Closed—Memorial Day
May 31	Grief Support Group
June 1	Senior Seminar
June 4	Pentecost Sunday
June 5	VBS Staff Orientation
June 5	USF Summer Reading Program begins
June 10	Youth Leader Training
June 18—25	Decorate for Vacation Bible School
June 26—30	Vacation Bible School
June 30	VBS Program and Dinner
July 2	Pot Luck Picnic
July 4	Church Office Closed—4th of July!



**Maker Fun Factory
Vacation Bible School
June 26-30, 2017
8:30 a.m.—12:00 noon
Ages 5—the completion of grade 5
Registration is now open....**

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

Our VBS wish list board is now up in the Narthex. If you are able to help us by picking up some supplies for VBS we would be very grateful.

Our VBS staff is being finalized. Staff orientation will be held on Monday, June 5th at 6:00 p.m. Come learn about this year's program and changes.

Youth Leaders Training (for our teens) will be Saturday, June 10th from 1:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Decorating!!!!!!! Decorating will begin on Sunday, June 18th following Coffee Hour. We will be decorating all week from morning through the afternoon and into some of the evenings. There will be lots of things to be done. Some things easy, some things much harder. Want to know if there's something for you to do? See Patti or Allison.

Then.....On the 26th of June we will open our doors to the children of our community and provide them with a wonderful opportunity to learn about God's love.

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

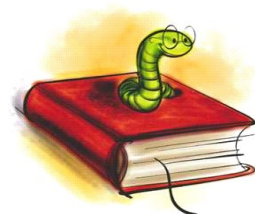


From the Library

New to the shelf is “*When Breath Becomes Air*” by Paul Kalanithi. The author, a gifted young neurosurgeon, is diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. He died in March 2015 while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. The New York Times says, “Finishing this book and then forgetting about it is simply not an option.”

Best selling author David Limbaugh has written “*The True Jesus: Uncovering the Divinity of Christ in the Gospels.*” In this book, Limbaugh combines the four Gospel stories into a unified account and guides readers in a faith journey.

A book from the Sunday School class is “*Prayer: Does it make any difference?*” By Phillip Yancey. Polls reveal that ninety percent of people pray. The author tackles the tough questions, and in the process, comes up with a fresh new approach to this timeless topic.



Sold here!
See Doug Minich or
stop in the church office
during the week.
Great for gifts!

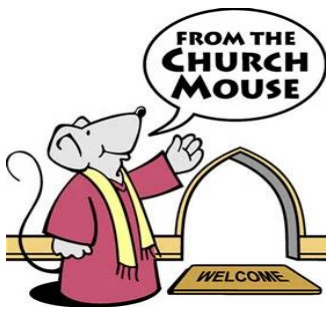


**The church office
will be closed.....**

**Monday, May 29—
Memorial Day**

Tuesday, July 4th

**Wednesday, May 31
Grief Support Group
at 10:00 a.m.**



From the Church Mouse.....

Pip and I just love this time of year. Fun stuff starts popping up all over the place. We are hearing talk about things that make noise, things that move and gears and such. Saw some painting going on and musical things being worked on by girls in the other building. I'm sure there will be lots of places for Pip and I to hide and spy on all the fun stuff that will be happening. Looking forward to all those lively little people coming and having a good time. They always make lots of noise and the big people always give them lots of good things to eat. Yum!!!! Keep cool.

Ye Olde Church Mouse & Pip





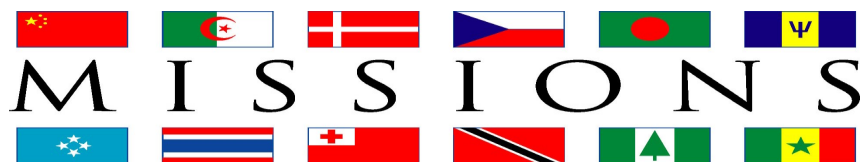
FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

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.



The following members and friends will be celebrating a Wedding Anniversary during June/July:

June 5	Keith & Noreen Feller
June 6	Shane & Allison Dougherty
June 9	Larry & Donna Swanson
June 14	Mike & Patti Bourque
June 19	Clint & Betty Van Tassell
June 26	Bob & Marian Holsinger
July 14	John & Sandy McKean



On Sunday, June 11, join us as we hear about the work that Salvation Army is doing in our Community.



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.”

Average monthly attendance:

April 2016—140
April 2017—156

Lay Readers:

June 4	Betty Van Tassell
June 11	
June 18	Lynn Sanford
June 25	Mary Maples
July 2	Jeanie Doll
July 9	Meagan Gann
July 16	Cindy Minich
July 23	Neville Miles
July 30	Betty Van Tassell

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



RESPITE TIME NEWS

Are you a 24 hour a day care giver for a loved one? Would you like a break or someone to talk to? If so, contact “A Special Time” at (941) 268-4976.

NPCUCC Dates for Respite Time

June 23
July 21
August 18
September 15
October 13
November 10
December 15



June/July Birthdays:

June 1	Sarah Emmi
June 2	Barbara Chamberlain
June 3	Marilee Taylor
June 5	Sandy McKean
June 5	Enid Scott
June 11	Betty Nugent
June 19	Norma Beach
June 21	Joan Bentley
June 21	Rona Hunnisett
June 23	Nick Bonsky
June 29	Barbara Miles
June 30	Betty Van Tassell



July 1	John McKean
July 5	Caroline Szemesi
July 6	Keith Feller
July 9	Louzan Edwards
July 9	Ingrid Massaro
July 11	Ruth Ables
July 15	Jenny Hagar
July 22	Jim Bonsky
July 25	Diana Master
July 29	Bob Holsinger
July 31	Nadyne Tallman



Has a month passed and you did not see your name? Let us know, we'll be happy to add you to the list. Call the church office and let Patti know.



June/July:

ALTAR FLOWERS:

June 4	Marilyn Miller, Dave DeRonde
June 11	Larry and Donna Swanson
June 18	Clint and Betty Van Tassell
	Barbara Gordon
June 25	Barbara Mervine
July 2	Barbara Mervine
July 9	???
July 16	???
July 23	???
July 30	Karen Knudsen



**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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



**Attention knitters
and those who crochet!**

**Join us for prayer, knitting and fellowship. Tuesday,
June 13, July 11 and July 25 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship
Hall. Questions? Contact Nancy Case 423-5618.**



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

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

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: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Monday-Friday

Patti Bourque, Office Manager