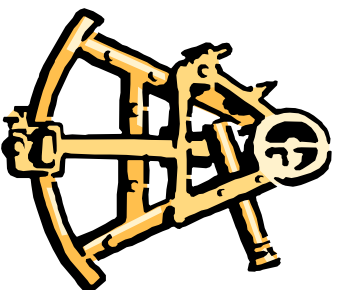


North Port Community
United Church of Christ
3450 S. Biscayne Drive
North Port, FL 34287



THE NAVIGATOR

September, 2016

*From the
Pastor*



September, 2016

**“And I will show you what to do!”
(1 Samuel 16:3)**

Dear Church Family,

This scripture from the pages of the Old Testament is simple, short and to the point but it hits right at the heart. Samuel the prophet was in a difficult situation and he needed direction in order to find (identify) the next *King (*David) of Israel. Surely an important task and not something to be taken lightly. God in his providence speaks these wonderful life giving, encouraging words to Samuel. These words must have been to him like water on a dry and weary land. I do believe God is speaking these words to you and me today, tomorrow, next year and always.

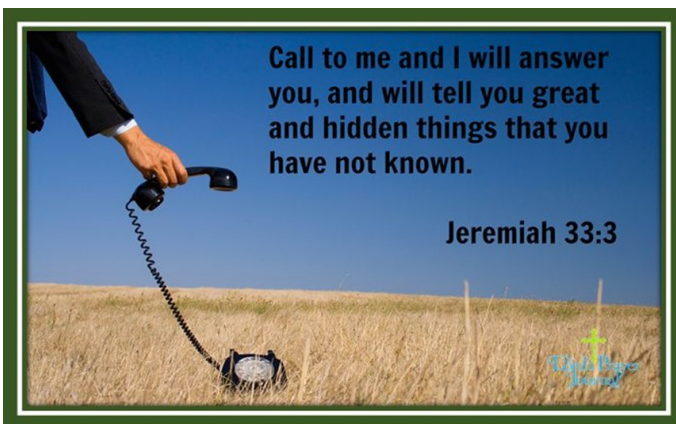
Decisions, decisions we make them daily. So many of them that we would probably be surprised how many, if we would count them. Some of them are routine. Which way should I take to work? What restaurant should I eat at? Others bigger, should I sell my home now or wait till another time? Should I marry this person or not? Should I forgive him or her? Should I go back to school or should I go to this or that hospital to have my surgery and on and on. I don't know about you but isn't it marvelous to think that we can live daily life in conversation with God and have Him be our steadfast, trustful and trustworthy guide?

How often has it happened to you that you had to click on a license agreement when you downloaded new software on your computer? If I would have all the time in the world I would possibly read them all and then place my mark on “I agree”. However, since I don’t, I usually don’t read it but still place my check mark in order to use the software... No matter how I look at it, it carries risks because I agreed to something I have limited knowledge about. I know the basics at best.

When I look at the statement given to Samuel by God I am so confident that I can agree to it because I know the one who made it has our best interest in mind. On that we can build!

“And I will show you what to do!”
(1 Samuel 16:3)

We have started a NEW ministry here at the NPCUCC. We now have a *PRAYER LINE, you can now call in with your prayer request every Wednesday morning from 8-9 a.m. We love to pray with you. Everything is handled confidentially.



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

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

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

***Photo taken at a recent visit with Mrs. Ruth Adams.
(*Used with permission)**



THANK YOU for all your support and care. We could not do ministry without you. God Bless you and your family.

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



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

**Email:
npcuccpastor@verizon.net
Please Visit our Website: www.npccucc.org**



**Join us
Sunday, September 11**

**For
Rally Sundae
Kick off of Sunday School!**



**Sunday School
For Children Ages 4 and up begins
10:00 a.m.**



**Pot Luck Luncheon
Following worship
Bring a dish to share.**



**It's a
Pumpkin Patch!!!!**

**Coming to NPCUCC
October 8—31**

**Our Fall Backyard Bashes were a
lot of fun but rather than
doing what we've already done,
We're trying something new.**

**We are hopeful that the Pumpkin Patch
Will grow and become an annual event
Here at NPCUCC.**



**Pumpkins will be
Delivered on Saturday,
October 8th around 1:00 p.m.**



**We will be needing volunteers to man our Patch each day
from October 8th—the 31st. A schedule will be set up with
2 hour shifts. The Pumpkin Patch will be located on the
grass area right out in front of the church. Workers may
sit in the Narthex where it will be cool while waiting for
customers or out under the oak trees.**

**We will need lots of help, so
when asked—please sign up to
help. Proceeds will go to our
General Fund. Any questions
see or call Patti Bourque.**





Pictorial Directory

A few weeks back Esther Sanborn announced that our church will be having a new Church Pictorial Directory with pictures and addresses in the spring of 2017. It has been 8 years since our last one.

Each photographed group will receive a free 8 x 10 photo and a directory.

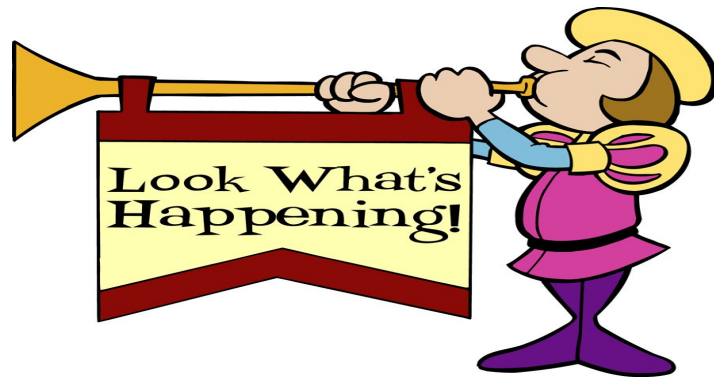
On Sunday, September 18, before and after service—please sign up to have your photo taken. Photographers will be here on Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22. Won't be here on these days in October? We've got that covered—let us know.

For sign up on the 18th you will choose a time that is convenient for you and provide us with your phone number and email address.

It is important that **EVERYONE** who considers themselves to be a part of NPCUCC be included in our directory.

Any questions, please see
Esther Sanborn
Becky Rooney
Barb Mervine
Patti Bourque





UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

September 5	Labor Day—Office Closed
September 11	Rally Day—Pot Luck Lunch
October 9	Congregational Meeting
October 8—31	Pumpkin Patch
October 21 & 22	Directory Photos Taken
October 29	Movie and Dinner
October 30	Reformation Sunday
November 5	Grief Seminar
November 8	General Election Day
November 10—12	Rummage Sale
November 26	Celebration of Life Service/Ruth Long
December 3	Breakfast With Santa



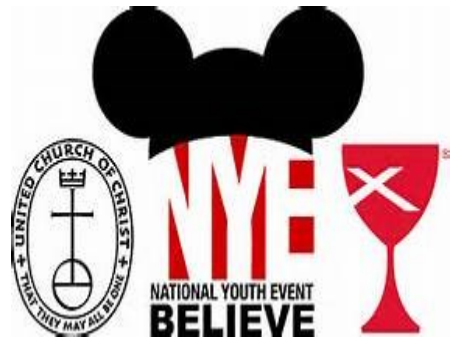
“Turning Point” Youth Group

**“Life is always at some turning point!”
Irwin Edman**

Turning Point is a place where teens can learn and grow through God’s word. In life we will always cross turning points, we will work together to help guide each other through the different turning points in life.

A wonderful time was had at the National Youth Event. On Sunday, August 14, we showed a PowerPoint presentation during the Children’s message. If you haven’t watched it, I invite you to check it out.

It was a wonderful opportunity for us all and we thank you for the opportunity to participate.



The Turning Point youth group and families surprised me with a Baby Shower on August 14th and it was so good to get together again after having been apart for most of the summer.

We will meet again on September 11th and come up with a plan for the fall.

Shane and I are now officially on “baby watch” with Mia-Rose due on or around September 22nd.

**God Bless!
Miss Ally & Turning Point!**



FOOD FOR THE NEEDY



Don't forget to pick up food for the needy when you go shopping. Why not take advantage of the buy 1 get 1 specials at the stores. Keep one—Give one! Many thanks for your

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



All women are invited to join together for breakfast on Wednesday, September 14th at 8:30 a.m. at Perkins. A sign up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.



**Sold here!
See Doug Minich or
stop in the church
office during the
week.**

***Church Office Closed
Monday, September 5th***





UCC WOMEN

Hats Off to Kindness



We announced last month that we're having a "Hats Off to Kindness" contest. We hope you've all been knitting or crocheting your hats. The hats are needed to add to the items given to over a hundred folks through Face of Hope.

The contest is running through November 1st.

Dark colored hats should be brought to church on or before November 1, 2016. Please count and label the bag with your name and count. If you are still north, call Norma Beach with your count and get hats to her before Christmas.

Prizes will be awarded to the top two producers. Hair Design has generously donated a thirty dollar certificate for first place. A twenty-five dollar certificate to the restaurant of your choice is the runner up prize.

Adult hat patterns are available. Contact Norma Beach and she will get directions to those making hats away from North Port. Please grab your yarn and, keep those needles and hooks moving. No one should go without a gift at Christmas.





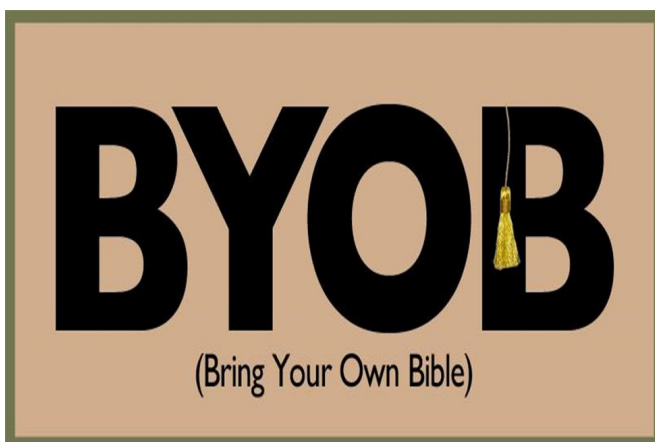
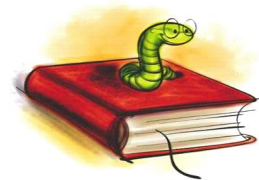
Library Committee

From the Reading for Renewal List is
“The Little Bookstore of Big Stone Gap: a memoir of friendship, community, and the uncommon pleasure of a good book”

by Wendy Welch. This is a story of the little bookstore that could and how two people and thirty-eight thousand books helped a small town find it's heart. This book is for book lovers!

Patti Boger donated *“Finding Me: A decade of Darkness, a Life Reclaimed”* by Michelle Knight and Michelle Burford. A Cleveland school bus driver kidnapped Michelle in 2002 and headlines were made when she and two others escaped. She became a voice for the voiceless and a powerful symbol of hope.

The Library Committee thanks all of you who have donated items to the church library. On the Christian Education shelf, books have been arranged by crafts and games, ideas for Sunday school, and church leadership. Check it out!



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



More About Meg...

Each month we have been learning more about Meg.

Meg, as you remember, is our ECHO intern for the year. This month we share some personal information about her.



Do you know what is the best part about living in Florida for Meg? *“The warm weather and living close to the beach.”*

Do you know what Meg misses most about home? *“I miss my family a lot—especially my 3-year-old and 7-year-old sisters.”*

Do you know what interests or hobbies Meg has outside of work at ECHO? *“I enjoy baking (especially wedding cakes), swimming and doing crafts.”*

Do you know what her favorite Bible verse is? It is Matthew 11:28-30. *“Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”*

Sharon Miller,
for the Mission Committee

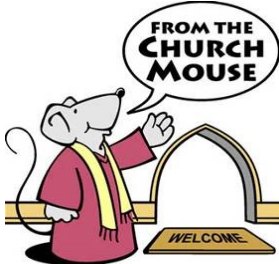


MORE MISSION NEWS....

In August we had Face of Hope. WOW! What a wonderful presentation. 334 people served through their first year in North Port. Finding places for people to live, feeding, clothing, educating—all a part of their mission.

Karmen brought Mike with her and introduced him to the congregation. Mike was homeless for 4 years, living in the woods in North Port. He served two tours in Vietnam. Face of Hope helped to get him placed in an apartment and got funding through the VA disabled Veterans and he now serves Face of Hope daily.


Next month we will hear about Catholic Charities from our own Barbara Miles presenting what they do for our community and how hard they work to help those in need.



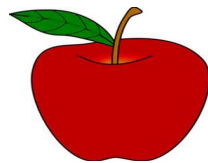
From the Church Mouse

Have you seen Mrs. Mouse lately? She was in the big room and got captured by the lady who makes lots of announcements. The lady heard that we were looking for some mouse sized hats and found one just the right size for the Mrs. So there she is staying in the big room with all the hats (and food). Says they are nice and cozy and warm, so the folks getting the hats will be very happy. If you see Mrs. Mouse, tell her that Pip and I hope she comes home soon and will bring lots of goodies with her. Till next month.

Ye Olde Church Mouse & Pip



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?**

Lay Readers:

**Sept. 4 Betty Van Tassell
Sept. 11 Esther Sanborn
Sept. 18 Lynn Sanford
Sept. 25 Mary Maples**

**Average monthly
attendance:**



**July 2015—94
July 2016—85**

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

**September 2
September 30
October 28**

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

September Birthdays:

Sept. 7	Mary Ann Anderson
Sept. 16	Dorothy Hewes
Sept. 17	David Nickerson
Sept. 20	Grace Padalik
Sept. 21	Pastor Attila
Sept. 22	Colleen Cederholm
Sept. 24	Shirley Heckman
Sept. 24	Karen Knudsen
Sept. 25	M.R. Clapper
Sept. 30	Ruth Adams
Sept. 30	Joan Peters



The following members and friends will be celebrating a Wedding Anniversary during September:

Sept. 29 Richard and Brooke Fisher



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

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.

SEPTEMBER:

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Sept. 4 Dawn Bush
Sept. 11 Dawn Bush
Sept. 18 Dave DeRonde
Sept. 25 Becky Rooney



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.



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

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Attention knitters
and those who crochet!

Join us for prayer, knitting and fellowship. Tuesday,
September 13 and 27th 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