



# NORTH LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Web: <http://www.northlibertypc.org>

209 N. Liberty-Plain Grove Rd., Grove City, PA 16127

June 2021

Vol. 50 : No. 6



## THE RETURN TO ORDINARY TIME & MORE “ORDINARY TIMES”:

Brothers & Sisters,

In the chorus of his 1989 song “We Didn’t Start the Fire,” singer/songwriter Billy Joel observed:

We didn't start the fire || It was always burning, since the world's been turning ||

We didn't start the fire || No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

To many of us, these words sum up both our sacred and secular experiences of 2020–21. Pandemic, social and political crisis and strife, economic dislocation, anger, pain and even despair have marked our seasons and our days. And yet a new day is breaking dawn and new hope emerges. And this is significant for all of us, but especially for us a Believers in Christ Jesus, God’s Messiah.

As you get this month’s newsletter, we will be celebrating the closing of the yearly celebration of the Church’s calendar of fasts and feasts that mark the Advent – Pentecost cycle. Trinity Sunday, the last Sunday of this cycle closes out Pentecost and moves us back into Ordinary Time, which continues until Christ the King Sunday in late November which looks for Christ’s eternal reign following His Return and the establishment of the New Heavens and New Earth.

Now, while all of that may seem like quite the proverbial “mouthful,” please bear with me for a moment because all of this is quite significant for us at this juncture in world history.

We are now beginning our emergence from 16 months of either lock-down or near-lock-down caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. It has been almost a year-and-a-half of great consternation, dislocation, frustration, delay and heartbreak directly or indirectly affecting nearly everyone on the planet. We have all dealt with the economic, physical, political, religious and social complications, difficulties and questions presented to us in real-time. Virtually no one has been immune — unless they have lived a hermit’s life.

We, however, have a new prospect before us. We can truly begin to RE-experience the life of Pentecost as we come into the Season of Ordinary Time with an approach to more ordinary times .

After a year-and-a-half of the “world burning” because of disease, political and social meltdown(s), racial incitement and violence and their ensuing chaos, we Christians are, or at least should be in a unique position to provide a “spiritual vaccine” to the destruction, hurt and pain around us that coincides with the physical/secular effects of the COVID-19 vaccines. We are now to the point in time and the place where we can emerge from our “upper rooms” of despair and doubt and step into the light of a post-Pentecostal moment of grace enacted,

exhibited and delivered to the community and world around us by the words and acts of our Testimonies of faith in Christ.

We have been restricted in our ability to fully-deliver parts of this testimony, but we have never given up on our attempts to do so. Now, we have a renewed opportunity before us to do so. Let us join together with the boldness of the earliest apostles and other members of the Body of Christ and share and show the Love of Christ for the world He came to seek and save. As we reopen to ourselves and to the world around us, let us be bold in re-engaging the ministries in which we have already been engaged and also find new ways particular to the changed and changing world in which we find ourselves. And, as we do so, let us bathe every thought, word and deed in deep prayer for us to discern & see those existing and new opportunities with clarity and purpose.

Praise God from Whom ALL blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures, here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

Jesus Christ IS Lord to the glory of God the Father! Even so, Lord Jesus, Come!

Grace & Peace to you in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Rusty+



## SESSION

SESSION HELD THEIR REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 AT 6:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT THE CHURCH, AND VIA ZOOM.

Pastor Rusty opened the meeting with prayer.

Allen Fleming reported for the Deacons. If anyone that has a need, let Allen or another Deacon know.

Mike Novotny gave a written report for the Trustees. Getting quotes for cement steps and boiler repairs.

Deb Hartman gave an oral as well as a written Treasurer's Report. We are financially stable at present. If you can't attend church services, you can send your offering gift to Deb through the mail.

Session reviewed COVID safety, we still have hand sanitizer, masks available if you need. We are thankful most people have had their COVID injections and pray that continues even more. The congregation has started singing and hope to have the cushions back on the Pews soon.

Presbytery meeting is May 25, 2021 at Grove City College, Joyce Youshock will be the Delegate. Susan Black will be Installed as Vice-Moderator of Presbytery. CONGRATULATIONS!

Mission: Abbey Novotny, reported for Mission, a work weekend at Camp Lambec is 5/22-23. She advised the Kids Mission project for the summer to collect aluminum pop cans, tabs. The income from the cans will order something from Presby Mission Catalog, tabs income goes to kids on dialysis.

Worship: Janice McElhinny reported for Worship, the Choir will be on vacation from June until first of Sept.

May 30 Trinity Sunday with Communion,

Aug. 22, Camp Sunday at Ball Field with a picnic following worship

Sept. 19 Tractor Sunday Oct. 10 at 6:30pm Dan Schall Ministries.

House: John Hemmerlin presented four requests for use of the church facilities by members, which were approved by the committee. First June 4,5, Michelle Bonnici for piano recitals, June 12th Gretta Pierce for Graduation Party, July 10, Joyce Youshock for girl's Bridal party getting ready, another one for July 10, Terry Pizor for Baby Shower.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Rusty advised he has done more visitation with some COVID restrictions being lifted and more people receiving the injections. He still does telephone calls. If you know of anyone that needs visitation, please let him know.

Next regular Session meeting is June 10, 2021 at 6:00pm No Meeting in July unless necessary and then it will be scheduled.

Joyce Youshock Recording Clerk

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

Our sympathy goes out to Evelyn Koprivnikar, Kim, Karen and Tom on the May 17 passing of their dear husband/father, John Koprivnikar. The Lord blessed John with 90 years of life and he will be missed by many including all of us at North Liberty. The PW was honored to serve dinner to 43 friends and family members following the funeral service. Thank you to committee members Diana Stiles, Becky Dunkerley, Dena Uber, Susan Black and Pastor Rusty.

Our next circle meeting will be June 3rd when we will be studying Lamenting Life, lesson #5. Sometimes it is life, rather than death, that is cause for lament.

It may have been a “long cold lonely winter” but “smiles [are] returning to the faces..... Here comes the sun and I say, "It's alright.”

the Beatles

Secretary, Terri Pizor



## LEARNERS' FELLOWSHIP

On Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 2020 the Learners' Fellowship class was welcomed into the home of Tom and Nina Cooper. Tom opened the gathering with prayer. The class and their guests shared a ham dinner complete with ice cream, cookies and chocolates for dessert.

Dinner was followed by devotions, prayer and fellowship.

Class members in attendance and their guests were: Tom and Nina, Dean Kildoo, Beverly Uber and her guest, Don, Jackie Bowser, Melissa McClymonds, Nancy and Joe Baker.

## MEDNAUL SCHOOL

Dear Pastor Rusty,

Hello! I'm writing to convey our deep gratitude for the gift your congregation recently sent to us. As the Chaplain of this increasingly diverse community, it is the relationship with the Presbyterian Church, that grounds me in our shared heritage of the Reformed faith, as I strive to guide the spiritual life of the community. Please pass on our gratitude to the good people of North Liberty Presbyterian Church.

I am always happy to share the update on our school life;

May God continue to bless your ministry.

In Christ,

Rev. Takako Terino





Thank you for your support of God's work in South Sudan.  
May Jesus, the light of the world, continue to shine through each of us.

Dear friends at North Liberty Presbyterian Church,

Easter tide greeting to you! We want to thank you again for your faithful prayers and support of our ministry. Your partnership means a lot to us, and we are grateful also for your involvement with Sudan & South Sudan through Shenango Presbytery.

We praise God that churches have been planted this year, leaders trained and healing & reconciliation work continues in South Sudan, despite the challenges of the pandemic. God is at Work!

We have been in the U.S. this year due to Covid-19, but we hope and pray to return in July to Juba. We pray often for your church, and always love to hear from you. Please let us know if you have questions or want to hear more.

In Christ,  
Bob & Kristi

**PRAYER WARRIOR:** A deeply religious man was perched on his roof loudly praying while floodwaters licked at his feet. His pastor came by in a boat and said, "Get in!" The religious man replied, "No, I'm up here praying, and I know God will grant me a miracle."

Later the water was up to his waist, and another boat floated by and that rescuer yelled for him to get in. The pray-er responded that God would answer his prayers and give him a miracle.

With the water chin high, a helicopter threw down a rope ladder and told him to climb to safety. He again turned down the offer. "My prayers will be answered."

Finally he gulped his last breath and found himself at the gates of heaven. With broken faith he cried to St. Peter, "I thought God would grant me a miracle. He let me down."

"I don't know why you're complaining," St. Peter chuckled. "We sent you two boats and a helicopter."



- 4 Gary Stoops
- 7 Dotty Atcheson
- 9 Bobbi Jo Barger
- 11 Taylor Barger
- 12 Richard Schultz
- Nicholas Shea
- 13 Bena Novotny
- 14 Kylie Mahaffey
- 21 Reece Coulter
- 22 Erin Stoops
- 23 Karen Carothers
- 25 Leroy Covert
- Ginny McClymonds
- 26 Beth Black
- 28 Sydney Stull
- 30 Sue Nicocletto
- Amanda Petroff

- 1 Tony & Sue Nidoletto
- 5 Jerry & Sue Mahaffey
- 10 Bruce & Joan Dickey
- Brenda & Terry Fedokovitz
- 11 Lisa & Mark Sevin
- 12 Allen & Melissa McClymonds
- Dennis & Joyce Youshock
- 14 Gerry & Dorry Sankey
- 18 Gary & Mary Stoops
- 23 Daniel & Erin Stoops
- 27 Dennis & Jennifer Shea
- Scott & Amy Stringert
- 30 Deb & Dave Kedanis

## GOD'S REWARD

Don't let petty troubles irk you, Cause you anger or distress;  
 Let God's loving presence tell you That forgiveness is the best.  
 If your faith in God is steadfast And you listen to the Lord,  
 It will give you pause for pleasure, Peace and joy be your reward.  
 Dolores Karides

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the North Liberty Presbyterian Church is to *serve Christ*. We seek to *introduce Jesus* as the Christ and *become disciples* so that together we are enabled to *love one another* and *share His love* with those around us.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

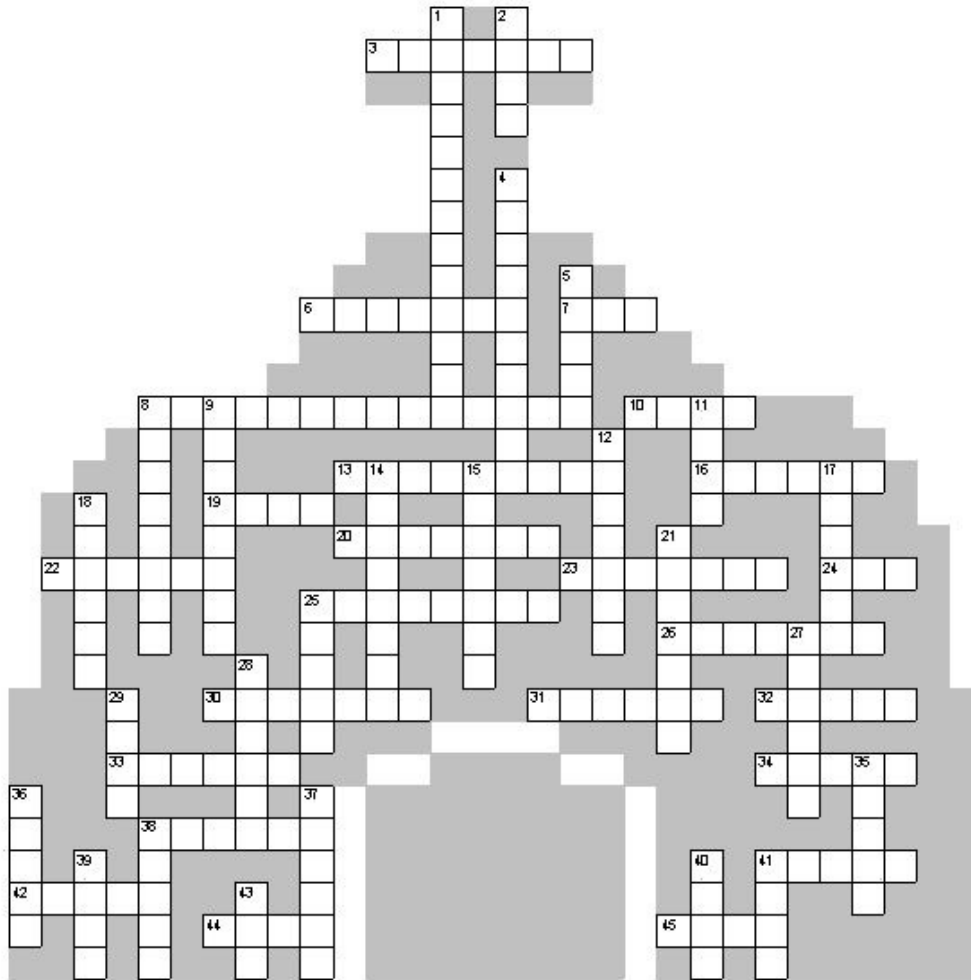
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3 PW Morn 11:00 am Eat 'n Park  PW evening 6:30 pm.	4 P i a n o Recital Practice 2:00-7:00 pm	5 Piano Recital 12:00 – 7:00 pm
6 9:45 Prayer Time 10:00 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Worship	7	8	9	10  Session Meeting 6 pm	11	12 Graduation Party- Greta P. 12 -8 pm
13 9:45 Prayer Time 10:00 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Worship Graduation Sunday	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 9:45 Prayer Time 10:00 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Worship  Happy Father's Day!!	21	22	23	24	25	26  Mary Stoops Fellowship Hall – 1PM-??
27 9:45 Prayer Time 10:00 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Worship	28	29	30			

*Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live.  
Psalm 146:2*

## People of the Bible



- | Across   |   | Down  |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| 3. Title of the kings of Egypt                 | 31. Thrown into the lion's den                | 1. First to see the risen Christ                                      | 27. A doubtful one  |
| 6. Deceives Samson                             | 32. Swallowed up by a great fish              | 2. Killed Abel  | 28. Mary's husband  |
| 7. First woman                                 | 33. Jacob's eldest son                        | 4. The handwriting was on his wall                                    | 28. Had a coat of many colors                             |
| 8. Builder of Babylon; takes Jerusalem captive | 34. A shepherd boy who God chooses to be King | 5. A fisherman who walked on water                                    | 29. Mother of Jesus                                       |
| 10. First man                                  | 38. Destroys Jericho                          | 8. Cupbearer to Antaxerxes I; rebuilds Jerusalem's wall               | 35. The promised son of Abraham                           |
| 13. Father of John the Baptist                 | 41. Betrays the Christ                        | 9. Jacob's youngest son   | 36. Ruth's mother-in-law                                  |
| 16. Queen who helped Mordecai save the Jews    | 42. Led the Israelites out of Egypt           | 11. First murder victim   | 37. Lazarus' busy sister                                  |
| 19. Brother of Jesus                           | 44. Built an ark                              | 12. Son of Abraham and Hagar  | 38. The Christ; the Son of God and Savior of the world    |
| 20. A prophetess and judge of Israel           | 45. Marries Boaz                              | 14. One of the three who survived the fiery furnace                   | 39. Hairy hunter who sold his birthright                  |
| 22. Aaron's sister who leads a victory song    |   | 15. Father of the faith   | 40. First king of Israel                                  |
| 23. Called out of his tomb                     |   | 17. Was transported into heaven in a chariot of fire                  | 41. Wrote the Book of Revelations                         |
| 24. Afflicted by Satan                         |   | 18. Brought Nathanael to Christ                                       | 43. Abraham's nephew; his wife turned to a pillar of salt |
| 25. Saul's son; loved by David                 |   | 21. A tax collector who became an apostle and an author of the gospel |   |
| 26. Paul's young "son in the faith"            |   | 25. Wrestles with an angel  |   |
| 30. A king known for his wisdom                |   |   |   |



## MISSION:

Hi Pastor Rusty & Church Family,

I just wanted to share a couple pictures and a report from Lambec. We had a great time! Weather was perfect for working, too. Mike used a rototiller to start



removing the grass that was taking over the sand volleyball pit (there were requests from campers to bring back sand volleyball). Thankfully, they had someone running a tractor as well, to then fully remove the broken up sod. I was stationed at a huge stack of logs that needed split and stacked for firewood. Mike helped with that too. The kids helped a little but mostly got to enjoy the beautiful open pay space with their grandma.

We also got to see the most beautiful sunset over the lake that either of us has ever seen. The colors were spectacular and such a reminder of God's amazingly wonderful creation!

Thanks,  
Abbey Novotny





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