



NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**February
2018**

We seek to be an open, diverse congregation, reaching out so that hearts and lives are nurtured and transformed through the power of God's amazing love.

Saturday, February 3		Impact Seventh Day Adventist Church (every Saturday)
Sunday, February 4	9:45	Ministry Team meetings
	11:00	Worship (every Sunday)
	12:00	Fellowship (every Sunday)
Monday, February 5	12:30	Lectionary Bible Study at the Feldman's (every Monday)
	8:00	AA (every Monday)
Tuesday, February 6	7:00	Caduceus (every Tuesday)
	7:00	Impact Seventh Day Adventist church (every Tuesday)
Wednesday, February 7	7:00	Chamber 4 Change Concert at Northside PC
Sunday, February 11	9:45	Choir Rehearsal (every Wednesday)
	9:45	Sunday School (every Sunday)
	9:45	New Member class
	11:00	Baptism of Eli and Sparrow Tinaya
	3:00	Guests for Celebration of Chinese New Year
Tuesday, February 13	6:00	Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper
Wednesday, February 14	6:00	Imposition of Ashes Service as Lent begins
Sunday, February 18	9:45	New Member class
		Following fellowship – Confirmation class
Monday, February 19		No School/Office Closed (Presidents' Day)
Wednesday, February 21	6:00	Lenten Prayer series
Thursday, February 22	7:00	CCA vocal department in a Black History Month Choral Concert at Metro Tab Church
Monday, February 26		Newsletter Deadline

Those Serving in February

Ushers and Communion Prep: Bill and Sara McDonald
Communion Servers: Janet Giddings, Judy Knight, Lynne Shockley

	<u>February 4</u>	<u>February 11</u>	<u>February 18</u>	<u>February 25</u>
Liturgist	Lynne Shockley	Rachel Lesler	Courtney Brown	Ryan Brown
Fellowship	Giddings	Tinaya/K/C Brown	R/C Brown	Feldman

Church Staff and Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Laura Becker Music Director: Dr. Lonnie McCalister
Pianist: Allie Stafford Bass: Jay Banasiak Clerk of Session: Janet Giddings Treasurer: Beth Miller
Session: Sheena Boran (2018), Kevin Brown (2018), Ryan Brown (2020)
Wanda Hunt (2019); Bill McDonald (2019); Susan Martin (2020); Rachel Tinaya (2018)

Northminster Presbyterian Church

4791 Hal Drive Chattanooga, TN 37416
423-894-3773 office@northminsterchatt.org www.northminsterchatt.org

ON-LINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE. SEE CHURCH WEBSITE FOR THE LINK.



February 2	Aubree Carpenter
February 7	Ron Feldman
February 11	Eli Tinaya
February 11	Sparrow Tinaya
February 17	Bao Miller
February 25	Keith Boran
February 28	Wanda Hunt



FEBRUARY Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

The Children's class will be exploring the weekly lectionary text through story-telling and crafts.

The Adult Sunday school class will continue in the study of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, as we see how these three books connect to one another and explore the return of the exiled Israelites to their home.



2018 Financial Summary

Annual Budgeted Giving - \$137,152.00
Received for January - \$10,112.45



Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras, February 13, marks the end of Epiphany with a pancake and sausage supper in the Fellowship Hall at **6:00 PM**. Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday" reflecting the practice of the last night of eating rich, fatty foods before many would fast during the Lenten season. Join us for your evening meal and a joyous celebration leading into Lent. If you have not filled out a reservation form during worship, please call or email the church office with the number attending. If you have food allergies, please indicate.

There is no charge, but a love offering will be accepted for the Hope House.

We will begin Lent with our **Ash Wednesday Service, February 14 at 6:00 PM** in the sanctuary.

It is designed as a quieter, more reflective service, as we pray, sing, hear words of scripture, and reflect in silence. Everyone will be given the opportunity to be marked with ashes, a sign of repentance, as we are reminded that from God's beloved dust we have come, and to God's beloved dust we shall return.

Come as you are. Come and be still in the presence of God.

Child Care will be available.

Lenten Prayer Opportunities at 6:00 PM in the Frances Room on Wednesday nights during Lent, beginning **February 21**. Lynne Shockley will be leading these sessions on a variety of prayer practices to help us better connect with God in our daily lives.



Northminster on Stage



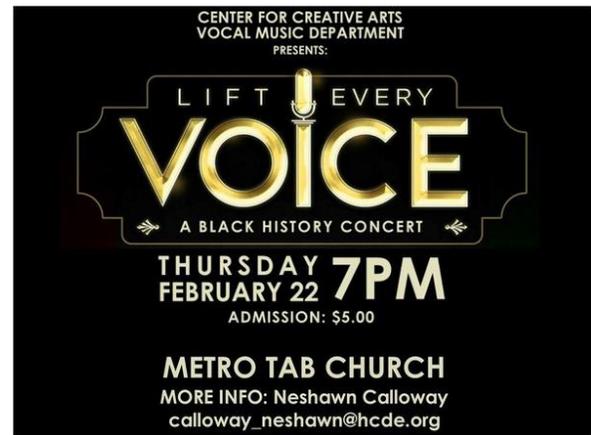
The spring musical at CCA is *Pippin*.
 February 15 and 16 at 7:00 PM
 Main Auditorium
 Tickets available at the Box Office the night of
 the show.
 Come support Julia Becker and her fellow
 classmates.



Fellowship on February 11th will be a
 celebration of Eli and Sparrow Tinaya's
 baptism and first birthday.



Our heart-felt thanks
 to Janet Giddings and Beth Miller who rotated
 off the active Session at the beginning of this
 year. Janet will continue in her capacity as
 Clerk of Session and Beth as Church
 Treasurer. Heart-felt thanks to Ryan Brown
 and Susan Martin for saying "Yes" to the call to
 be active elders in the church. Ryan was
 ordained and they both were installed on
 January 21st.



Come for an evening of wonderful music.
 Julia Becker is a member of one of the choirs.

NEW MEMBER CLASS and CONFIRMATION CLASS

Are you interested in affirming your
 commitment to Northminster by becoming a
 member of our Church? **Join Laura during
 the Sunday School hour (9:45 AM) on
 February 11 and 18** to learn more about the
 Presbyterian Church and what it means to be a
 member. Talk with Laura if you are interested
 in participating.

We are about to begin a **new confirmation
 class** for middle school and high school youth
 who would like to explore their faith and learn
 more about our history and tradition. Laura and
 Jay Banasiak will lead this class through topics
 such as: what it means to be confirmed, the
 Bible, Presbyterian history, what Presbyterians
 believe, worship and sacraments, discipleship,
 and more. **Introduction to the class will be
 after fellowship on Sunday, February 18th
 in the Library.** The remaining class sessions
 will be 12:30 to 2:00 PM on February 25,
 March 4, March 18, April 22, and April 29.
 Confirmation Sunday will be May 20th.

Save the Date – April 14
Welcome Home to Hope: 50 Years of
Feeding Souls and Stomachs
 Hope House Fund Raising Event at The
 Granfalloon on East Main Street - \$50/person
 ...An evening of delightful food, inspiring
 messages, great auction items, and old-
 fashioned fellowship...

Wanda Hunt's Address in South Dakota:

General Delivery
 Wanda Hunt
 205 Oak Street
 Suite 103
 Sisseton, SD 57262

Community Happenings



Chamber 4 Change: Tuesday, February 6, 7:00PM at Northside Presbyterian Church

This chamber music concert is the brain-child of a musician friend of Anna Gibbons, following a significant life-changing trip to India. The offering will benefit 2nd Life Chattanooga, to address issues of human trafficking in our area.

CALEB (Chattanooga in Action for Love, Equality, and Benevolence) is a growing coalition of faith groups, labor unions, and community organizations, formed for the purpose of organizing ordinary people so that they can have a powerful voice about the social and economic decisions affecting their lives. One of CALEB's core objectives is to raise public awareness around the economic disparities that exist in our region, and to increase civic engagement. CALEB operates under the Gamaliel Foundation, a grassroots network of non-partisan organizations working to empower people to effectively build political power and create organizations that unite people of diverse faiths and races.

CALEB is committed to organizing and mobilizing the residents of our community to affect change in the socio-economic and political institutions of Chattanooga and the surrounding region, and to bringing together people of all ages, races, religions, abilities, and economic statuses in order to shape the future of our city for the benefit of all. There are currently about 10 committed member organizations of CALEB, with many more in consideration. Current members include Bridge City Community Church, Eastdale Village Community United Methodist Church, the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, the Ironworkers Local 704, SEIU Local 205, the Unity Group, green I spaces, and Chattanooga Organized for Action.

CALEB's monthly meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be Thurs. Feb. 8th at 6:00pm at First Christian Church, 650 McCallie Ave. The meeting is open to the public. Come find out more about the mission of this powerful coalition and see how you can plug in!

Community Organizing Training

CALEB will be hosting a one-day organizing training on Saturday March 10th, 9:00am-3:00pm at the Iron Worker's Hall, 2715 Belle Arbor Ave. Chattanooga, TN 37406. This event is free and includes lunch, with a suggested donation of \$10 to cover costs. The training is a fascinating, participatory look at techniques the Gamaliel Foundation uses to teach people how to grow their organizations. Allie attended the one-day training held back in Summer 2016. She says, "I heard about this Community Organizing training and decided to go. I had no idea what to expect, but it was incredibly interesting. It sparked some great, stimulating conversations with people I had never met. It was very memorable and potentially valuable. I guarantee you will not regret taking a few hours out of your Saturday to experience this training." Mark your calendar for March 10th and check it out for yourself!

Hospice of Chattanooga is sponsoring a memorial service on Sunday, February 18, 2018 at First Christian Church at 2pm for anyone who has gone through the death of a loved one and wants an opportunity to honor the memory of a deceased person who was significant in their life. If you can not attend the memorial service please help to spread the word in the community about this important service that helps people in the midst of their grief process. Again, this service is for ALL in the community regardless of whether their loved one died under hospice's care or not. The service will begin at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary at First Christian Church (650 McCallie Ave, Chattanooga). A reception will follow the service. Please arrive by 1:45pm for registration. Please contact Christy

Bonner at christy_bonner@hospiceofchattanooga.org or 423-326-9001 if you have questions.

STEWARDSHIP and MISSION REFLECTIONS

Kevin Brown shared these words with the congregation in January, and we wanted all to have the opportunity to hear them....

Last year, rather than simply hand out the budget with all of its columns and numbers (you can tell I'm an English person here, that my days of being a math major are long behind me), I came to the congregation to talk about what we value at Northminster. This year, in our discussions about the budget both in Session meetings and in various houses around our area, we shifted our discussion even more, as Laura and Bill, on behalf of the Session, presented a narrative budget, a new way of thinking and talking about money in our congregation.

In doing so, we talked about the three areas we think are worthwhile: welcoming, partnering, and renewing. We laid out, as you'll see in a minute, the percentages of where we think our finances go, according to those areas. Not surprisingly, those categories line up with what we talked about last year around this time and what we talk about on a regular basis when we talk about why we want to be here at Northminster.

When people have talked about coming to be a part of the community of Northminster, they've talked about reading our mission statement and seeing how inclusive it is or simply coming to church one Sunday and seeing people who were both like them in some way, but also people who were different than they were, all together in love, respect, and support. We are all here because, on some level, the people here remind us God's radical inclusivity; we feel welcomed as part of the family of God, sometimes for the first time in our lives.

We don't want to keep those feelings to ourselves, though, so we find ways to reach out into the community and the world, and so we partner with other people and organizations to do the work of God. We help Hope House create another place of welcome for college students who are looking for a meal and a place they can be themselves. We provide Bridge Refugee Services with a place they can call home, so they can help others find a new home where they will be safe from the suffering they have had to escape. We work with Lakeside Academy and the Newton Center to give children, parents, and teachers in the community more support as they strive to learn more about themselves and their world. We cannot be the body of Christ everywhere, so we partner with those who can be God's hands and feet in other places.

We come here to Northminster to find the strength to do this work God has called us to, to be renewed time and time again. Whether it's through the music on special occasions, such as the Christmas cantata or celebrating Lonnie's ten-year anniversary or singing hymns in a brewery, or the challenging and encouraging sermons Laura and others communicate week after week, or the stories we tell one another through formal talks from the pulpit or in the hallways or at fellowship, or the discussions in a Sunday school class or at the lectionary Bible study, or the questions we ask one another, or the food we provide in times of need and times of plenty, or other support and conversations that happen outside of anyone's sight, we leave here with more light in our lives, more love in our hearts.

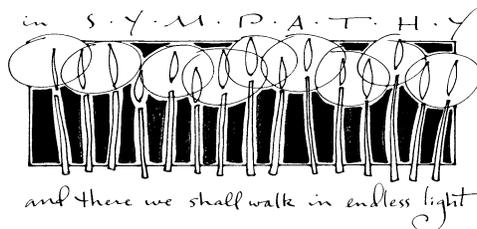
And what we value shows up in our budget. We set aside money for the people who do so much of the work of our congregation; we pledge money for those groups we partner with (or take much less in rent than we could ask otherwise, as a way to truly partner with a group like Bridge); we

find ways to make this place more hospitable. Because we value these ideas, these truths, we as a Session have been hesitant to cut them. We have trusted that we will all find ways to make them happen.

Last year, in fact, we came to you with a budget deficit of roughly twenty thousand five hundred dollars, believing that all of us working together would find a way to keep those parts of the church we value, yet still honor our expenses. And we did. Thanks to a serious increase in giving and the Session's oversight of costs, we ended the year with just under a \$3300 budget shortfall. That doesn't include the income we received from the Seventh Day Adventist church who has been using our building, as we set that money aside, not wanting to count on income that could disappear at any point in the year. With that money, we will pay off that deficit and use the remainder of the money to offset some of the costs of paving the parking lot. It is often a cliché to say that we have faith that things will work out, but we did have faith that it would because we believe that we should do what God has called us to do, and we will all work to make sure what we value at Northminster remains a part of Northminster.

This year, as we began discussing the budget, we encountered an even more challenging situation, as our first budget draft showed a deficit of more than \$25,000. However, the Session worked to cut some expenses, and more pledges came in, and we ended up with the budget we'll present to you in just a minute. It still has a budget shortfall of \$12,387, much more than we would like. The Session would love nothing more than to present a budget that shows a clear balance of income and expenses (and more income than expenses wouldn't be bad, either). But we're not worried about this deficit. We will, as we did last year, monitor expenses closely, and we pledge to be responsible with the funds of the church. However, we also know that we need to spend the money necessary to make sure what we believe makes us Northminster remains. We begin 2018 full of hope and faith and optimism and enthusiasm for what lies before us all. We are here because we believe Northminster is doing God's work in the world. With all of our support and faith, we'll discover where God wants us to go this year and beyond.

Newsletter deadline for March is February 26th. Email information to office@northminsterchatt.org.



to the family and friends of
Margaret Craft
Robert Larkin, Jr.
family friend of Rachel Lesler
student of Giselle Palmer
Marilyn Sirard
Elizabeth Spivey's uncle
Terry Knopff

Memorial Gifts

to the Music Fund in memory of

Ernestine Boaz

Bill and Sara McDonald

If you have any updates on a person or situation on our prayer list, please email the church office at office@northminsterchatt.org

In our prayers . . .

- Lonnie, Andrea, and Margie McCalister upon the loss of their sister/daughter
 - Those who are victims of mudslides in CA
 - Those without safe, warm shelter from the cold
 - Victims of the shootings in TX and KY
 - Chris Henry recovering from eye surgery
 - Alyssa Rivers waiting to start chemo for cancer that has spread (Katie Power's sister)
 - Those suffering from anxiety and for society to accept this as a legitimate disease
 - Anna Dupree's grandmother recovering from a fall
 - Guinda Derrico recovering from surgery
 - David Royston placed in Hospice care and for his wife Jan (sister of Kevin Brown)
 - Mariko Tinaya's Aunt Lita who has been diagnosed with breast cancer
 - Housing issues for Aubree Carpenter's mom
 - David Chaffin recovering from a stroke (Dana Feldman's cousin)
 - First Presbyterian, Cleveland as they search for a new pastor
 - Unspoken prayers
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- Those suffering with mental illness and/or addictions; those struggling financially; those seeking employment; those in abusive situations; people in troubled relationships; **those suffering with depression**; those dealing with infertility and pregnancy loss; citizens in the midst of fighting around the world
 - Those dealing with cancer and treatments: Angelina; Jario Barboza; Betty; Amber Blair; Michele Bostick; Drew Braddock; Amal Brown; John Butler; Risa Carroll; Patti Carter; Tommy Cash; Jill Cavan; Trish Cooper; Randy Deacon; Curt Demming; Drew; Christy Edmundson; Emmeline; Kathleen G.; Kevin George; Kristen Hayes; Jack Holley; Anita Johnson; Jackie James; John; Josiah; George Kilgore; David Kyle; Linda Lundy; **Randy Lesler**; Bette Malone; **Jane Meek**; Mike S.; Gracie Moore; James Panky; Art Paul; Pat Ramsey; Grier Richards; David Royston; Jim Scolet; Gail Sissom; Sissy Skipper; Mark Steele; Steve; Kathy Sykes; Linda Wheeler; Emily Wilson; Bill Younger
 - Continuing prayers: John, Emily and Ginny Barr; Barbara Becker; Griffin Carpenter; Connie Condra; Andy Coradini; Sydney Craven; Jake Fulmer; Forest Gentry; Asher Giddings; Alice Gilreath; Hannah Grant; Lucy Hardin; Ray and Erica Hauer; Steve Heron; Justin Hunt; **Wanda Hunt**; Paul Hyde; Zach Jenkins; Martine Kendall; Andrea McCalister; Rachel McDonald; Mercy Junction; Gene and Beverly Norris; Fredrick Pinkard; **Gene Sirard**; Sue and King White; Rob and Jean Williamson; the Woodmore school and community; Austin Young
 - Homebound: Barbara Lesley; Margie McCalister; Martha Russell