

# NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

## JUNE, 2023 NEWSLETTER

“The Greatest of These Is Love”  
- 1 Corinthians 13:13



### *From the Minister...*

**CROP WALK THANKS!** Wow, everyone, what a great year for hunger relief locally and around the world! We had our best Farmington/Farmington Hills/West Bloomfield Walk ever, with about 200 walkers and online fundraising of \$53,680.07 – as well as more not yet totaled from cash and check contributions! Our North Church Team raised \$2,870 making us the number 3 fundraisers! There’s still time to make a donation by going to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/north-congregational-church-farmington-hills-mi> As the outgoing Chair of the Walk for the past 23 years, I’m so proud of our church and our community for all the good we’ve done via the local agencies, national, and international partners.

**TUESDAYS WITH THE BIBLE – NOW WEEKLY, 1:00 PM Tuesdays** on the North Congregational Church Facebook Page. Join me for a weekly (usually pre-recorded) class answering questions about the Bible and offering tips on how to get the most from your Bible! In June, we’ll be continuing a look at the different genres of the books of the Bible and how they relate to each other and us. You can add your Bible questions to the comments section to be taken up in future sessions! And don’t forget **WEDNESDAY INSPIRATION weekly at 3 pm** on Wednesdays also on the FB page – a mini worship service of about 20 minutes with scripture, message, music and prayer – this summer the theme will be the Psalms of David.

**NO FACEBOOK ACCOUNT?** You can still access the page by using the Facebook link at the bottom of the home page of our website [NorthCongregationalChurch.org](http://NorthCongregationalChurch.org)

**TAKE NORTH CHURCH WITH YOU THIS SUMMER!** Wherever you go this summer, you can still take part in the worship services and weekday posts. All links can be found on our home page, so current and past videos are available by clicking on the Facebook or YouTube links.

Finally – Stay Safe! Wear Sunscreen! And take time each day to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God.

Faithfully,

*Rev. Mary E. Biedron*

## *Moderator's Notes...*



As you are now aware, I will be the new Moderator at NCC for the upcoming program year. I am looking forward to continuing the excellent work that our past Moderator, **Kevin Gromley**, was able to provide our church. His leadership on Executive Council and other boards and committees has been and is invaluable. Thank you again Kevin for everything you did and will be doing!

Our annual program meeting was held this past month with a new slate of officers and board members. The new/continuing Officers are **Tim Sirovy, Moderator, Judy Campbell, Clerk, Danny Hawkins, Treasurer, and Dan Beardslee, Asst. Treasurer.** We also have 5 new chairpersons who will represent their Boards during Executive Council meetings. Congratulations to everyone who has volunteered their time and talents for the upcoming year.

Along with voting in the new slate of candidates, the annual meeting reviewed all of the great work that Executive Council and individual boards and committees accomplished during the last year. Please take the time to review and thank the board members for their hard work. Our church is truly a better place because of the efforts that each member puts forth year after year.

I am looking forward to the challenges ahead of us as we prepare for Mimi's retirement along with other personnel changes to North Church. Our Search Committee, led by **Kevin Gromley**, has been meeting regularly and working with the National Association on the process of hiring a new Minister. Additional information will be forthcoming as this committee and the personnel committee make decisions on the direction we will be going in the future.

We are currently working on our programming for the 2023-24 year and are excited for our upcoming theme which will be revealed later this summer.

Thank you for your support in everything we do and please contact any officer or board member with your ideas or questions at any time.

**Tim Sirovy,**  
Moderator



## **JUNE MEETINGS**

Executive Council Meeting – Monday, June 5, at 7 p.m. (Zoom only)

Diaconate Ministry Board – Tuesday, June 13, at 7 p.m. (Zoom only)

Worship & Education Ministry Boards - Sunday, June 18, at 11:45 a.m. (Hybrid)

Fellowship Ministry Board - Tuesday, June 20, at 7 p.m.

Missions Ministry Board – TBD

Asset & Resources Ministry Board – TBD

## **NORTH CHURCH ARTICLES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **WORSHIP & EDUCATION MINISTRY BOARDS**

#### **TUESDAYS WITH THE BIBLE**

Every **Tuesday at 1 pm**, Rev. Biedron will post a short (15-20 minutes) Bible study on Facebook Live; in June we will be working on the genres and history of the books of the Bible. This session will be pre-recorded for the most part, you are encouraged to add your questions or reflections in the comments, as well as suggestions for other Bible topics.

### **DIACONATE MINISTRY BOARD**

#### **COMMUNION**

We will celebrate Communion on **Sunday, June 4th** during worship.

#### **PILGRIM POSTAL PALS**

The Diaconate's June recipient is **Matt Shand**. He graduated on May 6 with a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Lawrence Technological University. Cards will be available on **June 4** and **11** (if there are any left). They are addressed and stamped and all you need to do is pick up a card, add a personal note and drop it in the mail. We know Matt will appreciate having our congratulations!

## **MISSIONS MINISTRY BOARD**



### **MISSION BENEVOLENCES *for the month of June***

Days for Girls, Cass Community Social Services, Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Michigan, Farmington YMCA, Common Ground Sanctuary

### **JUNE CROSSROADS CHILDREN'S LUNCH**

Our Mission's Ministry Board will serve a hot dog lunch and a suncatcher craft for as many as 75 children at Crossroads on **Thursday, June 22, 10am-2pm**. If you are interested in helping at this event, contact **Lori Rhode** or **Sara Lange**.

### **DONATIONS FOR CHILDREN'S SUMMER LUNCH & CRAFT**

Do you have old compact discs that we can use for a craft project? The Missions Ministry Board needs them for a suncatcher craft project for as many as 75 children and their families **Thursday, June 22 at Crossroads**. The discs will be decorated with summer-themed stickers and bling following the lunch the board will prepare and serve. We need about 8 people to prepare and serve lunch and supervise the craft project. Again, members who are interested in helping should contact **Sara Lange or Lori Rhode**.

The board is also collecting packs of sidewalk chalk and small containers of bubble soap to send home with the children at the end of the event.

A collection bin for the items will be located near the office through June 18.

### **KROGER COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM**

The Kroger Company Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just be a part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. We thank you for being such an important organization in our community.

If you would like to participate, helpful instructions may be found on the link provided: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. Community Rewards is easy to use, the more your shop with us, the more money your organization - North Congregational Church - will earn! Eight North Church households, between February 1 and April 30<sup>th</sup>, raised \$26.45.

We are committed to carefully protecting our customer's personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well.

Thank you for being such an important organization in our community,  
Kroger Community Rewards Staff

# Samaritan Counseling Center's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Charity Golf Outing



Please join us for a day on the greens and support Samaritan Counseling Center's Client Assistance Fund

**Friday, June 9, 2023**

at

**Tanglewood Golf Course**

**22805 Country Club Drive, South Lyon, MI 48178**

**(Check in and Warm up is at 7:30; Event starts at 8:00 a.m.)**

## **CONTESTS:**

Long Drive Contest

7-Night Resort Stay Putting Contest (*Donation Required*)

\$100,000 4-Player Shootout

\$10,000 Hole-In-One Contest

3 Additional Hole-in-One Contests for a Scotty Cameron Putter, Yeti 75 Hard Cooler, and Apple iPad

## **\$165 OUTING FEE INCLUDES:**

Driving Range warm up

18 Holes of Golf with Cart

Beverages and Snacks

Cocktail Hour and Cookout

Silent Auction and Raffle

For more information call 248 474-4701, or, to learn more or register online, visit [www.sccgolf.org](http://www.sccgolf.org).

## **FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY BOARD**



### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Please be sure to join us on **Sunday, June 4th** after worship for the NCC Ice Cream Social. We will provide a variety of ice cream treats for you to enjoy in Fellowship Hall or take with you. Dairy free options will be available. Looking forward to seeing you then!

### **RENAISSANCE VOICES CONCERT**

**Renaissance Voices**, a 21-voice women's ensemble directed by G. Kevin Dewey, will present its annual Alumnae Concert on **Sunday, June 4, at 4:00 p.m.** at North Congregational Church. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Renaissance Voices will perform works by César Alejandro Carrillo, William Dawson, G. Kevin Dewey, Ēriks Ešenvalds, Elaine Hagenberg, Morten Lauridsen, William Mathias, Ron Nelson, Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, and Robert Young. The concert will also feature Jacqueline Csurgai-Schmitt on piano and John Hartwick on trumpet.



The women of Renaissance Voices enjoy performing the finest in treble choral literature. The group, based at Henry Ford College in Dearborn, has taken four overseas concert tours and released three CDs, all recorded at North Church.

Tickets at the door are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors/students. North Church members may purchase tickets in advance for \$10 (please contact **Nancy Scott**).

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**

A group of North Church Men meet every other Tuesday for breakfast at Moe's on Ten, at 9:00 a.m. They will be meeting this month on **Tuesday, June 13th** and **27th**. If you would like to join them, please contact **Tom Modick** at [moto126@aol.com](mailto:moto126@aol.com).

### **LIFE LINE SCREENING – Friday, June 16, 2023**

There is a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions.

These painless screenings go beyond your regular checkup to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable, and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor.

Life Line Screening, will be on site **Friday, June 16th** at North Church to conduct these valuable screenings. Pick up one of the pink flyers on the table in the Narthex for more details and how to register.

## BOOK GROUP



The North Church Book Group will be meeting on **Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** at **1 PM** in person and on Zoom, to discuss The Sentence by Louise Erdrich.

From Amazon Reviews: A rather unusual multi-layered, haunting, and perceptive book that combines a lighthearted ghost story with that of a woman rebuilding her life after being freed from prison. The onset of Covid and social unrest in the summer of 2020 form a backdrop of reality and a shifting political world. At its heart, this is a story that embraces literature and the healing power of books. Come in person or contact **Rev. Biedron** for the zoom link and join the conversation!

Book Group will take a break in July, and return on **Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>** to discuss the Pulitzer Prize winning novel Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. Creatively transposing a Victorian epic novel – David Copperfield - to the contemporary American South, Barbara Kingsolver enlists Dickens’ anger and compassion, and above all, his faith in the transformative powers of a good story. *Demon Copperhead* speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can’t imagine leaving behind. (Amazon Review)

It's a big book, and it'll be a great discussion!