



NORTHMINSTER
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Annual Report For 2019



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Senior Pastor

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

I love this passage for many reasons. It speaks to our cause to rejoice. God is good and doing good in the world. Therefore, we always have cause to rejoice. It speaks to our relationships with other people, that we should be gentle with them and with ourselves. And it speaks to God's understanding that these things are sometimes hard to do. Why would we have to be told not to be anxious, unless we're anxious? It's difficult to not be anxious, and sometimes it seems near impossible to rejoice.

2019 was a challenging year. It is a tense time in our nation, and people look to their church as being the place of comfort. For some this church has not been that comfort, that place of recognizable security. We have been engaged in discussions around sexuality and what it means to welcome anyone and everyone into the life of the congregation. Those discussions have stirred up emotions across the board. On top of that, people are grieving the departure of Charlie Boone, our Music Director of 30 years. It has not been an easy year.

I believe there is hope amid this tension. We are a purple church (meaning some of us are conservative and some of us are liberal). There is no doubt about this. We don't all agree on political, social, or theological issues. We cancel out each other's votes at the polls. And yet, we still manage to gather around the one thing that holds us together: our common faith in Christ and his mercy.

God is doing amazing things in this world. It may be difficult to see at times, but it remains true, and it is in that work we find our hope. And we do have cause to rejoice. We celebrate the work we are doing with Ministry Architects, building a stronger foundation for our children and youth. We give thanks for God's timing that has brought Brian Ward on staff to serve with us as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. We are grateful for Jim Wingate's ministry with us and his willingness to lead our music ministry during this interim period. We baptize babies and welcome strangers into our family of faith. We tend to one another in times of need and continue to reach out to "the least of these."

We are a family of faith. And we will move forward together, striving to be gentle with one another. Striving to do the work Christ is calling us to do on this corner and remembering that we do this work out of gratitude for all Christ has done for us.

Do not be anxious. Be gentle, with others and with yourselves. And watch for what God is doing. It is amazing.

Peace,
Patrick Day

Dear Friends,

"By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: that you have love for one another."

John 13:35

Dear Hearts,

Every single day of our lives in 2019, our ears have taken in the language of outrage, of uncompromising stands, of fear and might. The world, it seems, is living with fists raised and arms crossed, and people are so very lonely.

We cannot help but carry that in on us as we enter the front door of our church, as surely as we trail in drops on our coats when it's raining, or pollen in springtime, or leaf-dust on the bottom of our shoes in the fall. We are covered in the isolating and polarizing language of our day.

How courageous it is, then, that you continue to gather on this corner. What a hope-filled act of faithfulness it is. You may hold different opinions on some important issues, yet you continue to turn to each other each week to share the Peace of Christ. You teach each other's children in Sunday School. You tend the ill and dying and suffering among us with tenderness – a squeeze of the hand, a heart-felt card, a warm meal, the offer simply to sit in silence together. You offer yourselves and your resources to walk with one another and to serve in the world.

And all along, you are hearkening together... listening for *the new song* God is asking us to sing.

Last April on Maundy Thursday, a night when we remember the hard and solemn truths about betrayal and scattering, we enacted practices that Jesus offered his cherished friends. We washed and dried each other's hands, reminding each other, "You are a beloved child of God." Then, seated around tables, we served each other bread and cup, saying "Bread of life *for you*, Cup of salvation *for you*."

We will always need to be cleansed, reminded of who we are and to whom we belong. We need the regular sustenance of bread and cup. And most of all, we need to continue to *gather in community* around the Word, trusting that the God who calls us together will work through us to welcome all who seek a word of hope, and to go into the world as those who bear light.

Thanks be to God.

Grace and peace to you,
Nancy

2019 has been a wonderful year of making connections with children and families! NPC made a serious commitment to children and youth through our partnership with Ministry Architects. Through the last year, we've gained insights into our ministry that resulted in making changes, laying a stronger foundation, and looking to the future. Through the deep commitment of countless volunteers, we have shared the story of God whose love knows no end through worship, Sunday School, Worship & Wonder, VBS, workshops, play dates, and more!

Each Sunday, we provide children the chance to hear and learn about God and God's people so that we can know more about God and experience the joy of life in Christ! As I look to the next year in children's ministry, I hope and pray that we will continue to find new ways to teach and nurture our children and youth to grow in their faith in God. I am deeply grateful for the dedication and commitment that so many of you have to the nurture and care of our children!

Grace and Peace to each of you!

Jennifer Filpi
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Spiritual Growth Committee Annual Report 2019

Continuous learning is one of the core tenets of the Presbyterian church. The Spiritual Growth Committee, with the assistance of countless volunteers, staff, and guests, provides rich and diverse programs that provide a variety of learning opportunities across all ages. Additionally, the Committee is responsible for nursery services, supporting the Northminster Day School, and coordinating our annual Sunday School launch event. The Committee works closely with the church staff including Jennifer Filpi, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, and our Pastors.

Additionally, throughout the year, the Spiritual Growth Committee has been very involved with Ministry Architects and the ongoing work with our Children's and Youth Ministry. While there are dedicated teams working directly with the hired firm, the committee has been very involved throughout the process since the expected outcomes will have a direct impact on much of the committee's responsibilities. As the year ended, the committee was helping address the newly defined goals working on Core Competencies for Children and Youth and reviewing key milestones each will reach on the faith journey.

Children & Youth Ministries

Worship Bags

Worship & Wonder

Way Cool Sunday School

Youth Sunday School

Confirmation Program

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

The Children's programs provide learning through music, arts & crafts, cooking, science and movement keeping everyone participating. The content follows the lectionary or Sunday School curriculum. Some of the programs are offered during worship; Sunday School classes are offered during the school year in between worship services.

Youth programs include Sunday School classes in a dedicated Coffee House and an annual Confirmation Program. The Sunday School curriculum is bible based and focuses on discussing how to live a faith oriented life during an important and challenging time of life. The Confirmation Program targets 8th graders and builds to a personal faith statement presented to the Session followed by becoming a church member in front of the congregation.

One of the highlights of every year is VBS. Once again in 2019, we hosted over 100 children for a full week. Children learn bible stories and participate in a variety of activities. The program is coordinated by Jennifer Filpi and scores of volunteers.

Adult Education

Today @ Ten

Discovering the Bible

NPC Connections

NPC offers three unique Spiritual Growth programs for adults. Today at Ten offers a speaker led class that addresses a wide variety of topics. Often guest speakers are brought in to provide expert commentary on a topic. In the spring of 2019, we had special guests including Fahed AbuAkel, Ramsey Baroud, and Stephanie Bishop leading several weeks of discussion around the Middle East and Gun Violence. That was followed up in the fall with guests and topics about What Animals Can Teach Us and Stewardship of God's Earth.

The Connections Class ended the year with relationships called Enrich led by Rev. Patrick Day. Finally, the Bible Study Class provides in depth study and discussion of different books or passages of the bible. The spring of 2019 concluded a full year study on Acts. Dave Fry, retired pastor, lead the class through an interesting look at Adam and Eve before starting a study on David.

All of the Sunday School classes are offered during the school year in the hour between services. There are additional Spiritual Growth programs offered for different adult groups that are ministries of different committees. These include Presbyterian Women, Bible Study, Men's Group, and Prime Timers.

Additional Ministries

Nursery

Advent Workshop

Lent/Ash Wednesday Workshop

Northminster Day School

The Committee works to provide different services and programs throughout the year. The nursery is provided each week for both worship services and during Sunday School. Additionally, nursery services are offered for special events and programs. The committee is responsible for the hiring and scheduling of nursery attendants.

Two multi-generational workshops provide arts and crafts activities to highlight the Christmas and Easter season. During Advent and at the beginning of Lent, there are a variety of projects that allow families and individuals to create symbols that act as active reminders to the season. This past year the two workshops hosted over 100 participants.

Like all committees, nearly all the ministries are lead and staffed by volunteers. There were over 130 different individuals that volunteered in Spiritual Growth programs in 2019. Without their enthusiasm and dedication, we could not provide the quality or quantity of the programs.

Peace,

Charlie Kelly, Chair 2019 Spiritual Growth Committee

Group Email: spiritualgrowth@northminster-at.org

2019 Annual Report Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is involved in all aspects of worship and could not operate without the able assistance of all the members who participate. George Copenhaver and Susan Lawrence have continued in their long time role of supporting the Worship Committee Chair, and changing the paraments and setting up communion. In other ways, they are behind the success of the Worship Service as well. Along with these two dedicated members, there are others who constantly add their talents to different aspects of worship.

- Sue Farrell has organized the communion servers and continues in that role
- Cheryl Cundy organizes the lay leaders each service
- Daniel Montgomery continues to coordinate the soundboard volunteers for each service
- Nancy Wade has continued in her role as coordinator of the Northminster Wedding Guild

Ushers are another important element of the worship service and the committee would like to thank all those who provided their assistance as an usher over the year of 2019, including those who stepped up as lead usher. This is an area where all members can participate in passing out bulletins and collecting the offering.

The music program continued in 2019 to delight us with the addition of the handbell choir on a more frequent basis and the adult choir who provide such a meaningful addition to the worship service. Thanks to all who offer their time and talents in the music ministry of Northminster.

The Worship Committee would like to thank all of those who volunteer in all aspects of the worship service. Consider adding your name to that list of volunteers in 2020. We are so blessed by the willingness of all who participate in all the aspects of the worship service.

The Worship Committee 2019

George Copenhaver
Susan Lawrence
Christine Zierau
Sue Farrell
Cheryl Cundy
Patrick Day

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Smith
Chair of Worship

Group Email: worship@northminster-atl.org

2019 NPC Youth Committee Annual Report

2019 Themes: **Called to**..... (act, help, heal, lead, follow, serve, love) and **Be the Change**

In December, Brian Ward was hired as NPC's new Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries! We are so excited to have Brian and his wife Carrie, and two daughters, Avery and Adi! Brian has brought new life to the youth ministry and we are excited to have him at NPC.

In the interim period, Pastor Patrick led the program. We were privileged to have him step in. We could not do without the weekly dedication of the following adults who volunteer their time and energy **every** Sunday evening. The adult leaders are: John Cronley, Charlotte Cronley, Melanie Stewart, Stacy Bowers, Clay Boyles, Ralph Cimperman, Cheryl Cundy, Ed Reeder, Trevor Bragg, and Tricia Williams.

The Youth Group meets on Sunday nights during the school year. The schedule includes dinner together at 6:00 pm, games, music, programs, and small group time. We sometimes enjoy guest speakers on Sunday night (including some NPC members!). During the summer, the high school students enjoy an annual trip to the Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina. The middle school students enjoy a trip to Tennessee for the Montreat Middle School Conference.



The Youth enjoy time together but are also a big part of NPC church life by participating in missions and activities such as: Easter Egg Hunt, Family Promise, VBS, Live Nativity, Rise Against Hunger, sponsor the Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday, and NPC Day School events. You'll see our youth helping during the service being a liturgist or passing the offering.



Youth Highlights – 2019

Fall Kickoff Retreat

The Youth program kicks off with a retreat in August. This year, the youth and adult leaders gathered at Glisson Camp in Dahlonga to spend the weekend together. It was a great time swimming in the lake, making s'mores by the camp fire, strengthening relationships, playing games, and worshipping God.

Youth Sunday

The youth lead and plan all aspects of the church service(s) on Youth Sunday in February. On this day, the high school seniors deliver their senior sermons. We spend many hours planning the service which incorporates the yearly theme, includes the youth choir, and gives the whole group a chance to participate!

Senior Dinner

In April we celebrate our high school graduates at our annual Senior Dinner. This dinner is a progressive style dinner where the seniors are chauffeured to different houses for appetizers and dinner. The lower classman are invited to join the seniors to socialize and celebrate. After dinner, the seniors are gathered in the Fellowship Hall with family for cake and a slide show.

Trunk or Treat

In October, the youth host a TRUNK OR TREAT in the parking lot. This fun event includes the NPC Day School and provides an outreach opportunity to include the community. We usually host over 100 people! The kids love the costumes, games, and cake walk.

You'll see our youth in the Narthex in November selling wreaths, garland, and centerpieces for the holidays! Profits from the sales are used for our annual toy shopping event. All the toys purchased are donated to the Giving Tree (NFCC).

In 2020, we look forward to the new events/adventures that Brian is already creating for the group. Come join us!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Cronley, Elder
Youth Committee Chair 2019

2019 Committee Members:

Clay Boyles
Patrick Day
Tricia Williams
Ty Cundy,
Cam Ussery
Tim Cundy
Stacy Bowers
Melanie Stewart
John Cronley
Sarah Belknap
Charlotte Cronley

Group Email: youth@northminster-atl.org

NPC PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

2019 Annual Report

The Personnel Committee of Northminster Presbyterian is a group of experienced and devoted members who are dedicated to making sure our staff have what they need to perform their jobs and feel well cared for in their roles. Following are some of the highlights of the year.

STAFF GOAL SETTING

The reviews for 2019 are complete and the final recaps are being finalized as of this writing. The staff will participate in a planning session to finalize the goals that all the staff will work to complete in 2020.

YOUTH GROUP

Our Children and Youth Pastor left our church to become an interim Minister which left a large hole to fill with the leadership of our youth groups. Pastor Patrick immediately jumped in and took charge. NPC hired a group called Ministry Architects to help develop a long-term plan for our youth group programs. NPC contracted with this group for an 18-month program. The first part of the program was to help us find and hire a new youth leader. After working with our Youth leaders and developing a long-term plan, an extensive search process began to find a new youth leader. In December, Brian Ward was hired and started later the same month.

The youth leaders and the NPC staff continue to work with Ministry Architects to implement the goals and objectives that were defined during the initial planning effort.

MUSIC PROGRAM

The Personnel Committee has had meetings with several members of the choir, members of the congregation, and with the staff to develop a long-term plan for our music program. We have secured temporary help through the Easter season. A search for the music program position(s) will begin in February.

2020

In 2020, the Personnel Committee will continue to support our staff and structure their goals and objectives to align with those developed by the Head of Staff.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Many thanks to the members of the Personnel Committee and their dedication. The members are: Chris Lee, Clint Johnson, Dave Jones, Lori Elwood, Ralph Cimperman, and Debbie Fry.

Submitted by:
Roger Bennett, Chair

Group Email: personnel@northminster-atl.org

2019 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BFMC

Northminster continues to enjoy a strong financial position which provides flexibility to support mission and ministry efforts. Through the generosity of members and friends of the church, mission and endowment funds were established. We also have been able to make needed repairs and improvements including upgrading the parking lot lighting, establishing handicapped access, and renovation of the Fireside Room. Additionally, cash reserves have been moved to interest bearing accounts to provide a greater financial cushion.

The Pastoral Staff and the Session are committed to applying sound financial management principles to ensure all church resources are used wisely and effectively to support God's work. As it has over the past several years, the Session has adopted a balanced budget for 2020 which will require the church to live within its means and operate in a sound fiscal manner.

The Session also wants to ensure that NPC's financial information is transparent and available to the entire church family. The financial information distributed with this report shows a summary of actual and budgeted revenues and expenses for 2019. Overall, NPC ended 2019 with income and expenses of approximately \$833,000 including an approximately \$28,000 contribution from the On This Corner (OTC) initiative. The remaining OTC balance is approximately \$158,000 as of January 1, 2020. Those remaining OTC funds are included in the cash asset balances reflected on the NPC Balance Sheet along with the church's mission and endowment funds and certificates of deposit.

Those of us who work on the BFMC feel blessed to be part of a generous and loving church family. We are grateful for your continued support of NPC's people, programs, and facilities.

Thank you.

2019 BFMC Members:

Natalie Barnes, Roger Bennett, Steve Collins, Patrick Day, Sue Farrell, Cullen Hackler, Ed Reeder and Nancy Thompson

Group Email: BFMC@northminster-atl.org

Communications and Technology Committee CTC 2019 Report

NPC is blessed with a dedicated group of volunteers who served on the Communications & Technology Committee (CTC) in 2019. The Committee is primarily responsible for managing the church's technical infrastructure, social media outlets, and website.

We continued in our partnership with Worship Times to help manage NPC's social media outreach and website. At our one-year anniversary working with Worship Times, we re-evaluated the relationship and found much of it was working well!

There were some adventures with the sanctuary's sound system this year. We replaced Nancy's microphone because it utilized an old frequency that had been designated for cell phones. We engaged with Diversified to troubleshoot intermittent problems with the sound system. They identified a couple of items for replacement, which has remedied the problem. The Committee has recommended BFMC plan to replace the sound system in the next 3-5 years due to the age of the system.

DON'T FORGET! You can support NPC with your Amazon purchases! Simply navigate to Amazon with <https://smile.amazon.com>, search for "Northminster, Roswell", and select it as your charity. NPC will receive 0.5% of the purchase price for eligible purchases.

Please take time to "Like" our Facebook page for regular updates and announcements!
<https://www.facebook.com/NorthminsterRoswell/>

NPC's Facebook group wants YOU to become a member! It is a private group for members and good friends of NPC to gather for prayer, mutual support, learning, and information.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NPC.Roswell/>

Looking forward to 2020, the Committee will be looking for new and exciting ways to engage with the congregation and reach out through social media and the website.

I would like to express a deep gratitude to our Committee members: Ben Bierbaum, Semmes Calvert, Jan Copeland, Ted Hansen, and Ken Wilson. A special shout-out to Daniel Montgomery, who was an honorary committee member for a significant portion of the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ryan Filpi, Elder
2019 Chair

Group Email: CTC@northminster-atl.org

Facilities Annual Report for 2019

Thanks to all the volunteers and committee members who have worked and continue to help maintain and improve the church and grounds.

The Committee members for the 2019 year were: Don Norris, Tom Provost, Larry Williams, Fred Bradley, Carl Montgomery, Bruce Moore, and Sharon Spofford.

Many thanks to Jan Copeland, Natalie Barnes, the BFMC Committee, and the Day School Director, Andrea Bourgeois.

Some of the highlights for 2019:

- Gas line on the large HVAC unit was replaced.
- Lights in the bell tower were replaced
- Spring Cleanup
- Many landscape upgrades
- Large number of trees removed and many more pruned
- Three Sunday School rooms painted
- New sinks and faucets in three Sunday School rooms
- The handrails around the property painted
- The Day School improved the natural playground
- Day School installed a pathway to the natural playground
- HVAC repairs
- Small repairs finished throughout the church
- Weekly lawn maintained
- Opener and Closer schedules

Thank you very much,
Ed Reeder
Facilities Chair 2019

Group Email: facilities@northminster-atl.org

Mission Committee – 2019 Annual Report

Our congregation continues to be very generous in offering their time, talent, and pledges. This past year, we touched thousands of lives in the following ways:

Family Promise – hosted a total of 24 parents and children offering shelter and meals while they await a housing solution. There were 260 volunteers who devoted 1503 hours to this vital mission. With your support, we helped our 3 graduating families by “stocking their pantries” in their new homes!

“Family” Mission Trip – 21 from NPC, of all ages, traveled to Chattanooga for a weekend of mission and fellowship. We spent Saturday at Welcome Home Chattanooga, a hospice house for the homeless. We weeded, planted annuals in flower beds and planters, and created a new butterfly garden for all to enjoy. We also made prayer beads for the residents of Welcome Home and each other that represented the 23rd Psalm. The group tied fleece blankets that were donated to Mercy Community Church. We shared Saturday meals and worship on Sunday morning before heading back. Lots of laughs and sharing with old and new friends ... we came together as a new FAMILY!

International Mission Trip – another inter-generational group of over 20 traveled back to Puerto Rico in June. We stayed with our friends at El Guacio in San Sebastián and worked with Presbyterian Disaster workers in the town near camp. We made new friends and worked with them at a relatively new ministry CAMBU. This location was beautiful, but deep in the mountains which made travels a true adventure. There is still a great need for help and our presence was very appreciated.

Mercy Community Church – joined our friends for worship and provided approximately 120 meals during different luncheons. Additionally, we collected needed items through Yellow Bag Ministry and a \$3000 donation was given to assist Mercy in serving the homeless community with their very special ministry.

HomeStretch – provided financial and family mentors for a mother and her two sons, as they transition to permanent housing. This year was a difficult year for this family with the loss of a job, but with the support from NPC, a better job was found! This family will be “graduating” from the HomeStretch program this coming summer.

Rise Against Hunger – young and old worked side by side on a Saturday afternoon in September packaging 28,512 meals that were sent to Eswatini, Africa, supporting children’s attendance at school by providing nourishment to children and their families, as well as education, skills training or health services that support the difficult journey out of poverty.

Kids Hope USA – children are paired with mentors who met weekly with a focus on the child’s emotional, social, and academic needs. We currently have 14 child/mentors supporting the children at Northwood Elementary School. One child, one hour, one church, one school, working in partnership to make a positive change in the lives of children in our community.

YMCA Summer Lunch Program – distributed sack lunches and books to over 100 children, throughout a week in July, in a local apartment complex, who might otherwise have gone hungry. We enjoyed playing games with them and drawing beautiful pictures on the sidewalk with colorful chalk on that warm summer afternoon.

At our NPC Lenten and Advent Workshops, we bagged lots of beans and rice, as well as diapers for the families supported by NFCC.

Each month, you filled the Yellow Bags with a variety of items for the benefit of individuals and families in our community. Those items included things such as: first aid and health/hygiene products, paper goods, cleaning materials, snacks, pantry items, school supplies and lots of clothing. Your generous donations for the “Christmas in July” and Angel trees in December helped local children start the school year off right and have a special something at Christmas.

We provided financial support for these organizations:

- **Montreat** – a retreat in North Carolina where our youth journey annually for spiritual growth and renewal.
- **Redeemer** – a community church serving the Vine City neighborhoods of Atlanta
- **Family Promise of North Fulton** – works with homeless families to tailor individualized plans to help them take the necessary steps toward lasting independence. Families rotate on a weekly basis between congregations, with congregations hosting for one week a quarter, up to four times per year.
- **North Fulton Community Charities** – serving our community. We have committed support to their initiative over the next five years, which will allow them to continue to support the growing needs.
- **The Drake House** – providing short term crisis housing for single mothers and their children.
- **Team Rubicon** – veteran service organization supporting disaster response to the recent hurricane damage in the Bahamas.
- **Welcome Home of Chattanooga** – provide shelter, healing, and compassionate end of life care for those in need and have nowhere to go.
- **Street Grace** – a faith-driven organization providing a comprehensive path to end the sexual exploitation of minors.

One of our Committee’s goals in 2019 was to identify new and relevant programs in our community to also support. These local organizations are dedicated to addressing issues of addiction, domestic child trafficking, and homelessness. As we look forward to 2020, we will continue to look for new ways for NPC to make a difference in the lives of people in need and in our environment.

I am grateful for our congregation’s dedication, time, and talents in supporting the Mission Committee. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Patterson, Chair

2019 Mission Committee Members:

Melanie Babel	Nancy Campbell	Leslie Jones
Sherri Bozardt	Patrick Day	Darlene McDonald
Sharon Bradley	Susan Harper	Jeanne Patterson
Debbie Branscomb	John Harper	Tom Provost
Kathy Brown	Lisa Hubbert	Andrea Vandervort

Group Email: mission@northminster-atl.org

Annual Report Outreach Committee 2019

Primary responsibilities of the Outreach Committee for 2019 was to organize the Easter Egg event and the Live Nativity.

The Easter Egg Hunt included a petting zoo, craft stations, and refreshments. Thanks to the youth for stuffing eggs and leading the hunt. Thanks to Spiritual Growth for putting the crafts together. Thanks to Fellowship for providing refreshments!

The Live Nativity was well attended this year thanks in part to wonderful weather. We had the petting zoo again and, of course, the main attraction ~ Obadiah the camel. Special thanks to Cullen and Stewart Hackler for providing the audio and lighting for the production. A big thank you to all the children, young and older, for bringing the Nativity to life. Again, Fellowship Committee stepped in to provide refreshments, thank you!

Outreach also provided support and volunteers to other committee activities throughout the year.

Thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents with these activities.

Jennifer Hansen
Outgoing Chair for Outreach

Group Email: outreach@northminster-atl.org

Prime Timers

We are a social and a service group of folks over 55years old, enjoying fellowship with our fellow NPC members and hoping to get to know each other better!

We try to meet on a monthly basis, usually for lunch – always looking for new places to try and revisiting many of the favorites that we have enjoyed before. The Olde Blind Dog, for instance, in Milton, is a favorite that we revisit around St. Patrick's Day each year and all seem to enjoy. With our group, the More THE Merrier, is appropriate, and we cherish getting new church members to join us. We have an annual Christmas Luncheon and try to find other events to enjoy together.

Other favorite past events have included a Historic Trolley Tour of Atlanta and a visit to the Oakland Cemetery, appropriately enough, at Halloween time. We have attended several musicals, too. We plan to do more of these this year. *We certainly would love some suggestions.* Some of the restaurants we visited this past year are Houcks, Altobeli's, PF Chang, Egg Harbor Cafe, and the Thai House.

Service-wise, we sponsor the Angel Tree a couple times a year which funds gifts and school supplies benefiting North Fulton Charities and HomeStretch. We had the opportunity to put up and decorate two new trees this year and they seemed to attract more donations.

Come join us! And bring some new ideas for fun and companionship with a bunch of "old folks" here at NPC.

If you have any questions about our Prime Timers group, please email Don Norris at dgnor93@mindspring.com.

Group Email: PrimeTimers@northminster-atl.org

NPC Congregational Care Committee 2019

The **Congregational Care Committee** is charged with offering love, care, and support to the members of our congregation as well as to members of the community beyond our church family. We accomplish this mission through a variety of programs designed to meet many different needs. Each of our ministries is listed below. It is our desire to review each of these programs periodically, to make adjustments as necessary, and to continue to assess the needs of a growing and changing congregation. We welcome all to be a part of this important ministry.

We worked tirelessly to get our congregational members signed in to **Realm**, the website to enable communications within the church. Pictures were taken, information updated, groups formed, all to better the written conversations and, hopefully, spoken conversations with our church family. Our member services manager, Natalie Barnes, refers to it as a private Facebook, which just explains it so well.

Card Ministry – This ministry, led by Guina Bixler, sends cards of congratulations, encouragement, sympathy, etc. to members and others on the Prayer Vine. 225 cards this year were sent in support of those needing uplifting and support.

Funeral Care Ministry – Susie Wald coordinated, along with help from many others, several funeral receptions in 2019. This ministry provides a necessary and memorable celebration for the family and friends of the deceased. It is a blessing to this congregation to have such a caring and dedicated group of volunteers to provide comfort, and help honor, the family of the deceased.

Homebound Visitation Ministry – This ministry matches volunteers with members that express an interest in receiving visitors at their home. Based on information from the Touchpoint Deacons and others in the congregation, Nancy Kinzer approaches members that might benefit from visits to determine their interest in receiving visitation. Volunteers are then identified to visit the homebound members.

Meal Ministry – Tom Provost continued to organize meals for those in need of temporary assistance. Having grown to a large ministry, over 25 volunteers in the congregation prepared around 54 meals for over seven families this year.

The Congregational Care Committee assembled bereavement bags in 2018 containing various supplies a family may find helpful following a death. The bags are delivered to the family by one or more Touchpoint Deacons along with messages of support and comfort.

Several of the bags were distributed during the year 2019 also and they were appreciated by the recipients. This is now an ongoing service of the committee. Thank you to the organizers of the ministry.

Many of the Northminster congregation participate in the care of this ministry. Some may not even realize it, but when we reach out to our seat mates at church, fellow members of groups to which we belong, then we are doing God's work and caring for others.

The Committee extends its thanks to Nancy Kinzer and all those who work tirelessly preparing for funeral receptions, preparing meals, sending greeting cards, making phone calls, providing transportation, making visits, and all the other things you do to show God's love.

2019 Members:

Nancy Kinzer, Karen White, Tom Provost, Susie Wald, Guina Bixler, Nancy Campbell, Susan Lawrence. Many others have participated wholeheartedly through the work of the ministries listed above.

Group Email: congregationalcare@northminster-atl.org

Submitted by:

Arlene Bennett,

2019 Chair of Congregational Care Committee

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee's goal is to strengthen the bond among the membership of Northminster through time spent together in a wide variety of events. These events are inclusive to all and are aimed at varying demographics and interests. We are always looking for input from the congregation for new events to bring us all closer together as we head into a new year.

The annual Chili Cook-Off luncheon was held in early February in Fellowship Hall. There were 10 pots of chili entered this year, along with other snacks to enjoy, and prizes were awarded for first and second place.

There was a large reception held on February 24th in the Narthex to celebrate the relationship between Northminster and the Day School families, teachers, and staff. Volunteers brought a variety of snacks to share for this event. There was a highly charged energy to the event, with 270 in attendance.

The Kelly family hosted the Annual Mardi Gras Party for adults at their home in early March with King Cake, beads, and a plentiful menu of Cajun dishes. 28 members attended the event.

There was a small group that attended the Atlanta Gladiator's hockey game on March 17th to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in fellowship.

The Fellowship Hall was full on April 14th to celebrate Charlie Boone's 30th anniversary as musical director at Northminster, and his birthday as well. We all enjoyed a roasted turkey dinner with mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, and deviled eggs. More than 100 members gathered for this tribute.

In April, we held an Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship provided cupcakes, juice, cookies, and handed out ring pops and bubbles to the children as the church youth scrambled to make this an inside event when the weather changed at the last minute.

Easter Coffee was served in the Fellowship Hall the next day with several breakfast casseroles, orange juice, and an assortment of snacks.

When school let out at the end of May, we held the Blessing of the Pets outside and the Fellowship Committee provided animal crackers, Goldfish crackers, drinks, and dog biscuits.

In June, the Fellowship Committee, along with Pastor Nancy, hosted a guided walk along the Chattahoochee with a Forest Ranger. We all enjoyed learning more about the river that plays such a big role in our local environment.

In July, Fellowship hosted a "beat the heat" afternoon of bowling at an alley in Norcross. The highlight of the afternoon was Mark Adams rolling games of 245 and 260.

At the end of July, we held the annual VBS luncheon in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate the children and all the volunteers that make VBS such a success every year. Grilled chicken Caesar salad and hot dogs were served along with other snacks donated by Fellowship Committee members and other volunteers.

The Fellowship Committee organized 7 "Supper Club" groups that meet roughly once a month. New groups are formed every year, and there is always space for anyone interested in joining.

The Annual Fall Kick Off luncheon was the first weekend in September in Fellowship Hall and around 120 members were in attendance. Roast pork, mushroom gravy, and mashed potatoes, and Caesar salad were served along with a sheet cake.

In October, Fellowship hosted a brunch to thank all who have donated their time and talents to the church on Commitment Sunday. Several types of breakfast biscuits, yogurts, juice, and breakfast casseroles were served.

November 10th was the Kirkin' o' the Tartans Sunday luncheon to celebrate the origins of the Presbyterian Church. Brisket, mashed potatoes, salad, cake, and trifle were served in Fellowship Hall and donations collected that day were put toward the purchase of new formal tablecloths.

Along with many volunteers from the congregation, Fellowship hosted a reception for Keith Thompson's ordination on November 17th in Fellowship Hall.

Cupcakes, cider, hot cocoa, and other snacks were provided for those who came out for the Live Nativity on December 15.

Coffee donations made in 2019 were used to purchase flocks of chickens for villages in less fortunate parts of the world through Heifer International. Utilizing double and triple giving matches, we were able to donate a total of 9 flocks this year with a total estimated output of 36,000 eggs!!

Thanks to all the Committee members and volunteers who helped make 2019 such a successful year for Fellowship!

Lad Dalburg (Fellowship Committee Chair), Lisa Sills, Doug Hollowell, Daniel Montgomery, Sheri Mastin, Marline Kelly, Mary Lindner

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Membership Committee Annual Report for 2019

The Membership Committee's purpose is to glorify God by facilitating the process of:

- Creating a welcoming and inviting environment for visitors enabling them to discern if they want to make NPC their church home.
- Connecting with regular visitors and encouraging membership in the church family
- Reviewing and updating the membership roll and Realm directory

An overview of the activities of the Membership Committee during 2019:

- The **Greeter Ministry** continued to provide volunteers to greet members and visitors at both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services each week, as well as the 10:00 a.m. service during the summer months.
- The **First Time Visitor Ministry** provides first time visitors with a warm welcome to NPC. This welcome includes:
 - Providing follow up contact with the visitors to welcome them and ask if they have questions.
 - Providing a "Blue Bag" for visitors with a NPC mug, candy, and information about NPC.
 - Baking and delivering pound cakes to first time visitors when contact info is provided.

The Membership Committee encourages all members to look for anyone carrying a blue bag on Sunday mornings and to make them feel welcome.

- **Discover NPC Classes** – Several classes were held throughout the year to give visitors an opportunity to meet with various members and a pastor and learn more about the church. After these classes, the participants may join the church and are hosted for lunch with several members to help them begin to feel part of the congregation.
- **Membership Roll** – The Membership Committee ensures the membership roll is updated and kept current. Activities include communicating with the families of adult children who have moved away, etc. to ensure they are comfortable with our removing them from the roll and a regular rotation of letters to inactive members.
- **2020 Goals** of the Membership Committee for 2020 are:
 - Improve the welcoming of all visitors and encouraging them to join when ready.
 - Review the Membership Rolls and ensure they are updated and accurate.
 - Increase participation in Realm, particularly the membership directory.

Active members at the end of 2019 were 391, a net decline of 36 members. There were a total of 51 deletions from the roll, of which 43 were removed with Session approval for inactivity. In the past year, 15 new members added to the roll.

Your 2019 Membership Committee

Carla Ussery
Claudia Ludlow
Kathy Thomas
Wayne Edwards
Bruce Moore

Group Email: Membership@northminster-atl.org

Tuesday Night Men's Group

Each Tuesday evening during the school year, a group of men gather together to spend an hour or so discussing a variety of different topics – our Faith, our denomination, our politics, current events, the arts, our adventures, our social interests, and many other things involving our faith. Together, we openly discuss how we feel about these many different topics and what we can do to make them better – but rest assured, there's no pressure.

Generally, we meet at someone's home near the church. We start with a short social time to catch up with each other and then we take about an hour and jump into one of the many topics. If you are interested in being a part of this kind of group and are interested in helping us trudge through the many peaks and valleys of life, then you should join us.

It's once a week. Those that currently attend say it is an uplifting and thought provoking event they really look forward to. Please join us. Contact Ben Rogers, Greg Bragg, Gary Bixler, Roger Bennett, or Dave Jones or ask any of the men in the church for info. They can direct you to someone that is involved with the latest information.

Group E-mail: TuesdayMG@northminster-atl.org

NPC Men's Thursday Morning Breakfast Group

The Northminster Presbyterian Church Men's Breakfast meets from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. each Thursday morning for fellowship, breakfast, and a devotional. We have been described as aggressively unstructured and have "low expectations" as we discuss current events, book reviews, scripture, or a relevant TED talk. We are a group of men who "care and connect" with each other weekly. Please come and join us! If you would like to be added to the distribution list for notifications of our meetings, please contact NPCThursdayMensGroup@northminster-atl.org.



Presbyterian Women Annual Report for 2019

The Purpose of Presbyterian Women (PC-USA):

***Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
We commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study;
To support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace;
And to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens
The Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.***

Presbyterian Women (PW) is a national, local, and church-based organization of women devoted to growing our faith through study, mission, and fellowship. Northminster Presbyterian Women (NPW) develops programs and activities for ALL women who want to learn more about God and to support one another, the church, and the community as decreed by the Presbyterian Women PC-USA purpose above.

“Nurture our Faith through Prayer and Bible Study”

Monthly Circle Meetings – PW Circles meet once a month in the Fireside Room and include a Bible study, mission projects, and fellowship. There are two Circles that meet once a month at NPC: Rebekah Circle (Tuesday evenings) and Ruth Circle (Wednesday mornings).

Wednesday Morning JOY Bible Study – This group meets on Wednesday mornings, approximately bi-weekly in the spring and fall.

“Support the Mission of the Church worldwide, (and) to work for Justice and Peace”

Monthly Missions – NPW sponsors monthly mission projects through our Circles from September to May.

- Send Valentines to NPC college students and homebound members
- Provide lunch to the NPC staff during Clergy Appreciation Week
- Support various local, national, and international missions including Thornwell Home for Children and HomeStretch

Worldwide Missions – NPW collects special offerings throughout the year for programs sponsored by the National Presbyterian Women Organization.

- **Fellowship of the Least Coin:** NPW takes up a collection of the smallest, or least, coin that each woman has in her possession at our monthly Circle meetings. The accumulation of these “least coins” from Presbyterian Women all over the world is used to provide funding for ecumenical mission projects around the globe.

- **Birthday Offering:** NPW takes up this annual offering at the May PW Birthday Gathering. The proceeds are donated to predetermined projects selected by PW's National Church-wide Creative Ministries Offering Committee.
- **Thank Offering:** NPW collects this offering each fall to support women's health and education ministries throughout the world.

Benevolences – NPW contributes monetary donations to the Colombia Friendship Circle, to Mission Haven, and to the Atlanta Presbytery PW. Each Circle makes a donation to one recipient of its choice.

“Build an inclusive, caring Community of Women:”

NPW is a diverse group of women that encompasses a variety of age groups and backgrounds. Our programs are designed for ALL women of faith – membership at NPC is not a requirement to attend PW events. Friends, neighbors, and family are always welcome to participate in PW events. While Bible study and mission outreach are vital components of what we do as Presbyterian Women, we feel that fellowship is also important to creating community within our church. Several NPW fellowship activities are sponsored throughout the year, including:

- **Annual Women's Retreat:** This weekend-long retreat in March provides an opportunity for women to gather for spiritual growth and renewal, as well as fellowship. Full and partial scholarships are offered.
- **Birthday Gathering:** NPW hosted its annual “birthday party” in May. The program consists of dinner and dessert, and the installation of new officers.
- **Fall Gathering:** Our annual kick-off event was held in September. After socializing and a delicious dinner and dessert, the women attending heard a brief overview of upcoming events and an introduction to our Bible studies.
- **Christmas Gathering:** Our annual Christmas dinner was held at the Roswell Country Club in December. A number of women turned out to enjoy dinner and good fellowship.

Group E-mail: PresWomen@northminster-atl.org

2019 Annual Report Northminster Day School

2019 Northminster Day School year is much to be celebrated. Andrea Bourgeois began her 6th year as Director of NDS. The current school year began the 35th Year of Northminster Day School. We currently have a full enrollment with a waiting list for most offerings. NDS is blessed to have 170 families and 192 children in fourteen classes and a staff of thirty teachers. The Day School offered four weeks of summer camp for our registered families. A once a month Parents Night Out is also offered as an affordable opportunity for the NDS parents.

We celebrated the Day School at our February 23rd Worship Service with our first annual Northminster Day School Sunday at NPC. It was well attended and brought a high level of energy to our Worship Service. A Pasta for the Playground fundraiser was hosted in April. The Spiritual Growth and Day School Board, along with the staff of NDS, served dinner to the families of this sold-out event. Funds were raised to add to the amazing Natural Playground and the new entry way leading from the building to the playground.

The 4th Annual Fall Festival was held November 9th, a beautiful fall day with a record turnout. This is an amazing event which allows our Day School families to enjoy along with Grandparents and extended families. Spiritual Growth, Youth, and Outreach volunteered with food preparation and games.

The Day School continues to contribute to help maintain our building. This year, they helped to provide updates to five classrooms. The classrooms and hallways were painted, sinks replaced and cabinets were refaced, which were much needed renovations. New sand and commercial grade playground mulch was added to the playgrounds along with professional landscape services for the playgrounds and carpool areas ensuring much appreciated beautification.

The Day School Board is a sub-committee of Spiritual Growth. It is comprised of the following people:

- Carol Coulter – Chair & Spiritual Growth member
- Susan Hardee – Member NPC
- Cullen Hackler – Member NPC, Business Management representative
- Beth McKay – Day School Parent
- Loren Akin – Day School Parent
- Natalie Barnes – Staff
- Jennifer Filpi – Staff
- Andrea Bourgeois – NDS Director
- Jen Bunnell – Day School Staff
- Laura Grabow – Teacher Representative

