



Sharing the Good News from Newton Presbyterian Church PC (USA) Summer Edition, August 2018



We are a PC(USA) church, located at 75 Vernon St, Newton MA 02458, Tel. (617) 332-9255

A Prayerful Start

Ephesians 2.11-14 “¹¹So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" — a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.”

So frequently in today’s culture, we find divisions. Whether it’s politics, religion, or the various culture wars, there are many things that pull people in different directions. But Christians are different. The letter to the Ephesians constantly reminds us that Christ has called us and broken down every barrier that separates us. That is always the reason for our hope.

- *Rev. Ward Holder*

Welcome from Newton Presbyterian Church! We are a PC(USA) church, and we gather for service every Sunday starting at 9:30am during the summer. We will return to our regular time of 10:15 beginning on Rally Day, Sunday, September 9th.

Happenings

Welcome New Members!

Please join us in welcoming new members to the NPC family. Each completed the New Members Class taught recently by Rev. Ward Holder. Theirs and other member photos will soon be available in a photo album – member directory. Come and get to know us!



Esther Tambe
Muriel MacDonald Carlo

Susan Barnes
The Tabi family:
Ethan, Gerald, Arianna,
Magdalene, and Briella

223rd General Assembly

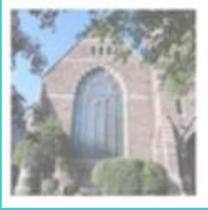
Ruling Elder Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri (Presbytery of Tropical Florida) and the **Reverend Cindy Kohlmann (Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England)** were elected Co-Moderators of the 223rd General Assembly (2018) on Saturday evening, June 16.



In other actions involving Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) leadership, the assembly:

- Confirmed the election of the **Reverend Diane Moffett** as president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.
- Confirmed the reelection of the **Reverend Tom Taylor** as president of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation.
- Confirmed the election of **Alton B. Pollard III** as president of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

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Members in the News



*Dancers were an integral part of worship at Synod School
(Photo by Duane Sweep) -- including NPC members
Allison and Natalie Penn.*

Lakes and Prairies Synod School draws more than 600

Weeklong Synod School puts successful 65th year into the books

by Duane Sweep | Special to Presbyterian News Service

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from an August 7th, 2018 article that can be found on the website www.presbyterianmission.org

STORM LAKE, Iowa — Marking its 65th year, this year's iteration of Synod School, the midsummer ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, drew more than 600 for a week of worship, classes, fun and fellowship on the campus of Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.

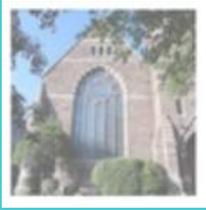
Synod School 2018, which ran July 21-27, featured more than 70 classes, convocation addresses by Jason Brian Santos, worship services led by Jana Childers, and the music leadership of Hans Peterson and Nelson Morlock.

While participation in Synod School is usually measured by the number of participants from a presbytery, this year a single church contributed 29 attendees. "There were 29 of us, counting me," noted Lance Loveall, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Kenosha, Wisconsin.

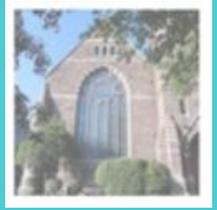
Loveall said the group included "four kids, 10 youth and 15 adults." Loveall and his wife, Paige, "have been talking about Synod School since we started coming seven years ago," he wrote in an e-mail.

Grandparents started bringing grandchildren. "In the meantime the grandparents that came spread the word of how awesome Synod School is and recruited people of that generation as well," Loveall noted. This year's group include 16 first-timers, including one man who attended for the first time with his wife and grandson, another grandchild with his grandmother, a couple, a single adult, and four families with children.

"To the person, everyone reported having a good time," Loveall wrote. "Whether it was a class or classes, the worship, or [Santos], or a combination thereof, they all reported having fun, learning, being spired, having thoughts about our congregation, and having wonderful conversations about spiritual development and the church."



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COMMITTEE CORNER...

NPC hosts three committees: Nurture, Mission, and Stewardship. In this edition, we feature news from the Missions Committee which is provided by Elder and Chair, Anita Ulloa

Missions (9.37 Book of Confessions) - The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity.

Through missions we have a wonderful opportunity to create relationships as a church family with organizations reflecting our Christian values and the teachings of Jesus Christ. We want to find out which organizations NPC members and friends are already involved with and any new ones you would like to propose our church family support. To assist us in making decisions to support a mission, we have developed the following criteria.

The criteria for Newton Presbyterian Church to support a mission includes:

- A mission should help us follow the teachings of Jesus Christ
- Organizations should reflect the beliefs of Newton Presbyterian Church
- Missions should be primarily focused on local communities
- Organizations should have a clear need which NPC can meet
- The organization should be able to provide an explanation of how financial support will be used, monitored and reported

To make a proposal, please complete a Mission form which is now available on our website at <http://www.newtonpresbyterianchurch.org>. You may complete it electronically or let us know if you would like a printed copy.

The following is a list of current local missions that NPC supports, along with the NPC congregant who proposed it to our church family: **Boston Rescue Mission**, longtime mission of Newton Presbyterian Church; **Newton Food Pantry** proposed by Ken MacDonald; **Change for Change** to support The Community Day Center in Waltham proposed by Kathy Barnes

Pastor's Corner



Susan and I got out for some camping and hiking recently, and it reminded me that Jesus frequently fortified himself with time away. Maybe he needed time alone, or he needed time to pray. A big part of me bets he wanted some time away from the disciples' questions. But whatever the reason, the scripture records that our Lord took time to watch out for his spiritual health.

As these summer days go by, and we experience the longer days, it's worthwhile asking the question – what am I doing to look out for my soul? Am I praying? Am I reading the Bible? Am I reading spiritual books that cause me to strengthen my faith? I encourage you all to take some time for your selves, and to contemplate what you might want to do to become stronger. And if a thought comes and stays with you, why not share it with a deacon or an elder? Maybe others are having the same thoughts and needs.

See you in church,

RW



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Items of Note

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

August Events:

August 11th @ 10:30 am

Special Service of Dedication
 Clinton Presbyterian Church
 175 Chestnut St, Clinton, MA

August 29th @ 6-8pm

Presbyterian Church in Needham
 has invited NPC members to a
 summer barbecue!
 1458 Great Plain Ave, Needham

September Events:

Sunday, September 9th

Rally Day at NPC!
[Services begin at 10:15 am](#)

Tuesday, September 11th

Joint Session – Deacons Meeting
 To be held at NPC @ 7pm

Saturday, September 15th

Women’s Life Group Gathering
 at Kathy Barnes’ home

Sunday, September 23rd

Special Worship with
 Eliot Congregational Church
 Luncheon immediately following
 To be held at NPC

Monday, September 24th

Meeting of the Presbytery
 of Boston
 6:00pm - 9:30pm
 To be hosted at NPC

Inspiration for the Days Ahead

John 6.24-35 “²⁴So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."