

Month of September

Norriton Presbyterian Church

Greetings in the Name of Christ,



As we begin another autumn season, I look at the majesty of God's creation, I am grateful to be living on this earth. To experience God's beautiful creation and our human life is such a wonderment of gratitude and love. As people walking the journey, we are called to look at our world through God's eyes. Take a minute to reflect on life through our Creator's eyes

"God is all knowing." God gives us the gift of free will and we, in our humanness, have made choices. Sometimes we have to learn the hard way. We make mistakes, we are stubborn and sometimes we have all the answers. Yet through faith in God we can let go of our egos and learn from our mistakes. We can thank God every day that he has the gift of patience with us and our humanness. As I ponder the challenges and mystery of life I realize we are never done until we are back in God's presence.

"God is all forgiving." Even way before we are able to forgive ourselves, God has already forgiven us. In our humanness we are all handicapped in many ways. We can learn so much by releasing hurts, pain and resentments, and giving them to God. Remember when you hold a grudge against anyone you only hurt yourself. We must first learn to forgive others if we are to be forgiven.

"God is all loving." So many of us on our journeys have experienced all different ways in which we envision the Creator. As we see God as love we can become bridge builders to other cultures and perspectives. The ultimate commandment is, **"To love God with your heart and soul and to love your neighbor as you would love yourself."** Once again we are being asked to be spiritual people. Our purpose on our life's journeys is to take the time to keep discovering who we are. It's our responsibility to love ourselves, to honor and respect ourselves and to care about ourselves. Only then can we share the gift of ourselves with others. As we invest in our spiritual life Christ's love will naturally reach out to others. We are each other's teachers.

Pain and struggle are part of our journeys. Our faith gives us courage and tools to face our struggles and try to look at them in a positive way. We are called to remember that when we feel pain and powerless we can surrender our need for control to God as we seek guidance in prayer and study. God speaks to the world through us. It becomes our purpose to be those who stand for what is just and good in God's sight. Throughout history we have watched societies, countries, and empires come and go, reminding us that there is only one constant through it all—God's abiding love and hope for all creation.

Fall is a time for change. Through our life's journey we are all being guided by the Creator. Live life each day with gratitude and love, and pray to be open to the lessons of each day. We are all God's creatures on a journey. Enjoy the ride, learn the lessons and pass them on to others. Take advantage of the opportunities (see the rest of this newsletter!) we are offering to expand your journey and strengthen your ability to love in Christ' name!

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

Visit our website: norritonchurch.org



Zoom Weekly Opportunities

Sunday Morning Worship

**9:30 AM with time for fellowship after, until 11:00*

Tuesday Morning Check-In (weekly)

**10:00 AM til 11:00 AM*

Wednesday Evening Prayer Circle

**7:30 PM til 8:30 PM 1st & 3rd*

Details on how to join these options will be sent via email with information attached.



Book Group on Zoom

September 28, 2020 at 7 PM

Summer Reading Share Time!

*(if we can be together safely
we will let you know!)*

*(Prep your snacks and join us -
instructions will be sent via email)*



"Norriton Nights"

Come for real conversation!

We've had "Norriton Nights" with acceptable physical distancing and we'll try it again! ***Real faces are so much better than digital ones.***

**The next one is scheduled for
Wed., Sep. 9 at 7 PM**

(we're going a little longer into the year because it's something to do)

*please bring your own snack, chair, and drink to the church lawn under the trees, (might include a campfire) or if it's too hot we will gather in fellowship hall in the AC



A Thank You from WBRC

Dear Norriton Congregation,

On behalf of all our student clients, I want to thank you for your school supplies monetary donation. This is a very different school year for all, and most of our students will be learning remotely. We will use the money to purchase gift cards which then allows the students to buy what is on their required list. Hope you are all staying safe and thank you again!

Sincerely,

Fran Snyder, Director Women's Bridge Resource Center

A few new ways to connect:

A "Youth Count" on 2nd and 4th Sundays,
12:30 to 2 PM - beginning 9/27

"First *Friday* Kids Count" for 1st-5th grade,
7 to 8:30 PM - beginning 10/2

Book Study (*Blindspot: Hidden Bias of Good
People" by Banaji) *
Tuesdays at 7PM - beginning 10/6



*books available on Sundays or call the office to
make arrangements for pickup - \$10 each

Do you shop at Redner's or Giant?

Don't forget to save and turn in your Redner's receipts*. You must use your "Save a tape" card with your purchase. Those valuable receipts earn the church a percentage of the total and may be put in your offering envelope or just dropped into the offering plates. AND Judy Stayton has Giant gift cards for purchase. The cards earn 5% of the card cost for the church. It's an easy way to supplement our budget. ****Please note - if we get receipts with the "save a tape" total cut off, they are no good for the rebate. Please make sure the total shows.** Thanks very much!



Financial Update

Below are the figures for July 2020

Total Income: \$ 11,732.94

(of that total, \$1,400.00 was from rentals)

Total Expenses: \$ 6,832.48

Thank you all, so much, for your continued support of the budget during our "virtual" phase!!

(FYI - gym rentals have not started up yet.)

We would be very grateful for any donations you would like to make to offset the cost of our air conditioning project!!

Food on the First



Working for good in our community.

Thank you all for your help with our many mission requests! Our "Food on the First" collections are so appreciated by the folks that are served at the Interfaith Food Pantry. ***There is an ever-present need for personal care items such as shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, bandaids, bath soap, feminine hygiene products... Currently, assorted soups would be most welcome!!!*** BUT any non-perishable foods

are gratefully accepted, too. Also - plastic grocery bags and egg cartons would always be appreciated. ***There is a bin outside the front church doors for your donations.*** Thanks very much!!

Your slate of Elders and Deacons is:

Elders

Class of 2022: Chris Alburger, Jo Shockley

Class of 2021: Janet Detweiler, Cathy Miller

Class of 2020: Mary Johnston

Deacons

Class of 2022: Ken Miller, Susan Titze

Class of 2021: Cheryl Yost

Class of 2020: Kristen Scanlon (*head*), Pam Flood

Clerk of Session: Bill McMullen

Financial Secretary: Ted Menard

Treasurer: Mary Johnston

*Please keep these folks in your prayers as they strive to support this congregation, and as always - if you have questions or concerns about anything at Norriton, please feel free to speak to Pastor Lori or any one of your elected officers, at any time.

September



Birthdays

4 Judy Stayton

14 Ann Lint

Alan Behrer

20 Bill Titze

22 Jim Sayne

Anniversaries

5 Lynne & Jay Dzwil

16 Kendra & Seth Clayton

19 Pam & Mark Flood

24 Jill & Henry Hilles

28 Lauren & Frank Rizzo

29 Sharon & Jeffery Jenkins

Prayer Chain



If you know someone who is sick or facing a crisis situation, or celebrating a special occasion, Norriton's prayer chain is willing to offer prayers. Call your Deacon, call or email the office with your request.

Our prayers continue for:

Cristine Farrer for continued good health

Cristine's mother, Raun, struggling with her cancer journey

Elaine Werkheiser, in care facility - for continued healing following a fall

Shirley Alderfer, for improvement for her back problem

This congregation, as we search for opportunities to serve our neighbors in a positive way

Those who fight addictions and those who struggle with mental illness; and their families

Jean Cochran, for strength and healing

Sue Wilson's friends, Judy and Grace, struggling with terminal diagnoses

Steve Alburger's brother, Dave, for strength and healing during prostate cancer treatment

Refugees, worldwide, caught in the chaos of situations not of their own making - for help

Caretakers - of all kinds - for patience, strength and safety

The many unemployed

The family of Eileen Waldeck following her death, for comfort and peace

Racial divides, that we find a better way

Detweiler's friend, Carol, struggling with health problems, for a full recovery

Mark Stayton, for continued improvement

Karl Watkins for strength, healing and a good rehab following shoulder surgery

And we add to the list:

For the three year old child of a colleague of David Turner who is battling leukemia - for strength and hope

Michael Keller, Helen Surman's brother, anticipating a third surgery on his knee, for a complete recovery and good rehab

Shirley Alderfer and the extended family for comfort and strength following Harry's death

All those affected by the fires in California and Hurricane Laura, for hope in the face of those huge disasters



*"Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers and sisters dwell in
unity! For there the Lord commanded the
blessing, life for evermore."*

+ Psalm 133:1-3

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