

Month of December

Norriton Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2020

Happy Advent!

I can honestly say that I am glad that December is here! Usually it sneaks up on me but this year I was ready for its arrival. I am ready for 2020 to be over with its unique challenges that we all know, and can list quite readily, thank you very much. I am ready for new, healthy and Christmas—but wait....

We have Advent, still.
We have Advent. Be still.
We have Advent!

It would be so easy to rush Christmas this year. Sing carols, decorate to the hilt, and overspend on gifts. It would be so easy to skip the pages of the story and get to the happy ending. It would be so easy and yet...it will not fill the empty places of lives lost, it will not hide the poverty of our neighbors who are unemployed, and it will not quiet the cries of our hearts.

Only waiting and pondering and living through all of our days will give us resources to prepare fully for the Christ child. Advent gives us the pause that we need in order to prepare room for hope, light and promise. Hope beckons us to see God in the little things. Light reminds us that the darkness will not and cannot overcome us. Promise reminds us that we are never without in the palm of God's hand.

Celebrate Advent. Be patient with yourself and with others. Show the world what God has done, is doing and will do in the days to come!

We have Advent! Be still. It's our promise and our hope.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori



Visit our website: norritonchurch.org



Eagle Project Honors Our History

Scott Shaffer, member of Norriton Scout Troop 416, completed work on creating a spot to honor "the rock"! The rock, that George Washington stepped on as he visited his troops who were hospitalized in Old Norriton, is now in a small garden to the left of the entry wall into the Old Norriton space. As people of faith, we celebrate our story past, present and future. We are grateful to Scott and his team of volunteers for their work in developing this new addition to our property.

Zoom Weekly Opportunities



Sunday Morning Worship

***9:30 AM with time for fellowship after**

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

**Mon., January 25, 7 PM
"Educated" by Tara Westover**

in person and on Zoom (unless there are further restrictions)

(Prep your snacks and join us - Zoom instructions will be sent via



email)

Mission Project News

Thank You!

We are grateful to God and to all of you for the abundance of winter coats, hats, scarves, mittens and gloves that were collected for distribution to our neighbors in the Norristown and Collegeville areas! Outreach House families will have their Christmas sweetened by our 100 candy mugs; Women's Bridge will be distributing 15 gift cards on our behalf; Coatesville Veterans will receive over 250 signed cards for their residents, along with a check for their needs; and the Salvation Army in Norristown will be getting warm winter clothes.

The ripple effect of your love spreads light and love this Advent!

Thank you from the Mission Committee!!

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**

Redner's 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!*



A note of thanks:

Our church family has had many losses this year and the families of Molly Bracht, Doris Menard, John Wilson and Harry Alderfer have expressed gratitude for the cards, flowers, sympathy, prayers and follow-up calls, etc... We are truly blessed to have known the folks who passed and to support their families in any way we can.



Financial Update

Below are the figures for October 2020

Total Income: \$ 9,728.08

(of that total, \$1,665.00 was from rentals)

Total Expenses: \$ 9397.30

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

(The per capita amount for 2021 remains at \$30 per member.)

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, sliced bread and assorted soups would be most welcome!!!** BUT any non-perishable foods are gratefully accepted, too. *Also - plastic grocery bags and now egg cartons are very appreciated.*



Norriton Youth Count Program

December 13 at 12:30 PM

We will be filling and wrapping the candy mugs for Outreach House **AND having fun doing a "Nativity" escape room.**

Come join us!

**note: please text Pastor Lori at
267-252-9806**

**by
the Thursday before each event**

*to let me know if you are attending

Hope you can join us! Bring a friend!

-Pastor Lori

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 (*Susan Titze and Bill McMullen are newly elected*)

Deacons

Class of 2022: Ken Miller, Susan Titze

Class of 2021: Cheryl Yost (*Toni Allebach and Ann Lint are newly elected*)

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

Clerk of Session: Bill McMullen (*Mary Johnston newly elected*)

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.**

December

Birthdays

- 8 Christina Johnson
- 11 Kelly McMullen
- 14 Joshua Miller
- 24 Shirley Alderfer
- 30 Steve Alburger



Anniversaries

- 6 Gary & Cristine Farrer
- 20 Linda & Ron Kraft

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 - thanksgiving for full recovery following her fall
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 healing and a good rehab following a fall and hip surgery
Sue Wilson's friends, Judy and Grace, struggling with terminal diagnoses
Refugees, worldwide, caught in the chaos of situations not of their own making - for help
Caretakers - of all kinds - for patience, strength and safety
All those many affected, in any way, by Covid 19
The 3 yr old daughter of Dave Turner's colleague, battling leukemia - for strength
Jim Sayne, with thanksgiving for improvement

And we add to the list:

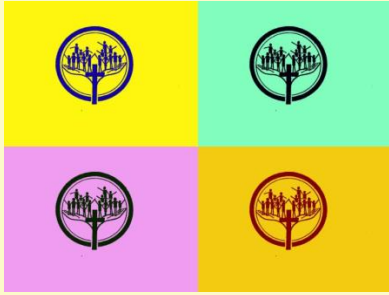
Harry Alderfer, Jr - for strength and healing while undergoing chemo and radiation for inoperable throat cancer
Helen Surman for complete healing, following eye surgery
Lynne Dzwil's Mother, Millie, now in rehab - for strength and healing
Jonathan Alburger, congratulations for his engagement to Jess, and settlement on their house
Those who need extra prayers at this difficult time of year
Toni Allebach's niece, Stephanie, who lost her mother yesterday - for comfort for she and her children, Kayleigh, Malia, and Samaj
Those waiting for test results



Mark your calendar

Wed., Dec. 16 - **Prayer Circle**, on Zoom, 7:30 PM
Sun., Dec. 20 - **Longest Night Service**, 7 PM - for those who find this season difficult, or are just looking for a time of peace amidst the chaos.
Thurs., Dec. 24 - **Christmas Eve Services**, 7 and 11 PM, both in our sanctuary and on Zoom (not in Old Norriton this year)

****If you'd like to attend in person, please contact the office by phone or email so we can ensure numbers safety protocols. Thank you***



*"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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