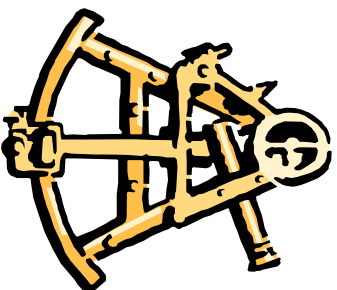


North Port Community
United Church of Christ
3450 S. Biscayne Drive
North Port, FL 34287



THE NAVIGATOR

May 2019

May 2019



**THERE IS JUST
NOTHING LIKE IT!**

I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus. With Resurrection Sunday just behind us I would like to reflect with you on the realness of God's presence in the daily life of the Believer. Pentecost is coming very soon - the presence of God's Spirit is with the Christian now and every day.

Just the other day I was reminded of an experience that I had while I was on a Medical Mission trip to Eastern Europe in 2002. It was our last day before returning to the States. We had some meetings in the morning in Budapest and in the afternoon, we had time for sightseeing in the city before getting ready for our trip back. I did some last-minute shopping and just walked through the city. Walked by several museums, walked next to the Danube River and meandered through the shopping district right in downtown. Right next to the entrance of the subway station I noticed a lady sitting on the ground with a little sign in front of her. She was asking for support, for money. I felt my conscience crying out- "Help her, give her some money."

It was not a hard decision for I had just spent money on some delicious Hungarian pastry so I put some money in her little paper box and went my merry way.

Later that afternoon I walked by the same spot again and felt the urge to give her more money. I did, and just like before again I noticed that she was stooped down so far with a scarf over her head that you could not see her face. My heart really went out to her. After leaving money in her paper box I continued my stroll. Having walked just a short distance I felt God calling me to go back and speak with this lady. I really didn't want to do that. She was sitting at a very public place. Many people passing by her spot. What are people going to think? Well, I knew better, when God asks do not argue! So, I turned around and went back to this lady, stooped down right next to where she was sitting. We started to talk. She showed me a photo of her husband's funeral. We did have some communication problems for she spoke a different language. All I could do was to point to the sky and say in Hungarian, "Jesus, Jesus, call on Jesus"- That was international sign language we can understand. She smiled and we were able to communicate despite the language barrier.

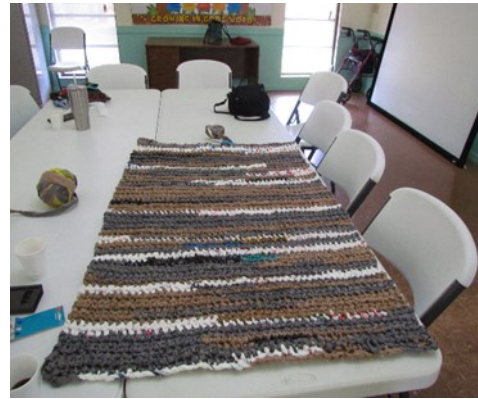
I remember going back to our lodging place very much at peace with the wonderful knowledge that God guides our lives with a very specific purpose. It is up to us if we let Him use us for the building up of people's lives and the furthering of His Kingdom on this earth.

**Watch out for the presence of God in your life today!
Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so
doing some people have shown hospitality to angels
without knowing it. *(Hebrews 13:2)***

**We just started a new Mission outreach to Homeless
families. Right here at the NPCUCC. Initiated by Mrs.
Mina Sundeen.**



More photos of our new project.



(04-18-2019)



**Please keep our
German Language
Ministry Outreach in
prayer. Thank you to
ALL who make it
possible. Every 4th
Saturday of the month
at 3:00p.m.**

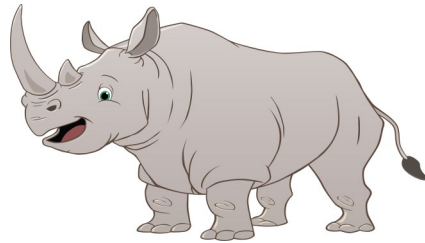
(03-23-2019)

**Together in Mission:
Pastor *Attila Szemesi*/NPCUCC**

Please note: In order to give Pastor Attila plenty of time for his sermon. Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude with the Lord's Prayer, whatever time that may be.



**Join us at
ROAR VBS**



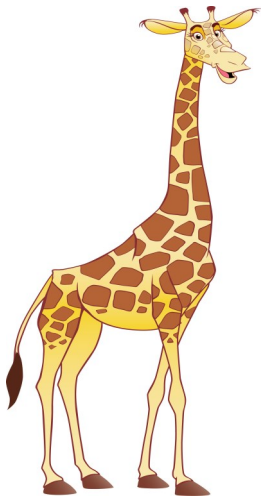
**June 10-14, 2019
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**North Port Community UCC
3450 S. Biscayne Drive
North Port, FL 34287
941-426-5580**

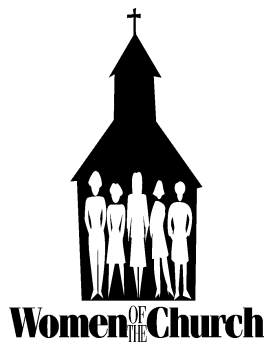
Email: northportucc@juno.com

Ages 5-completion of grade 5

**Stories Cool Crafts
Yummy Snacks Fun Games
Lively Music**



**Call for a Registration form!
Space is limited. Registration Closes When Full.**



Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser May 8 and 9

**Last meeting until the Fall
May 15 at 10:00 a.m.**

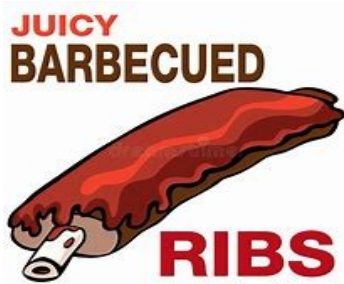
New Officers for 2019/2020

President:	Arline Hughes
Vice President:	Kathy Stysick
Secretary:	Maureen Frederick
Treasurer:	Rona Hunnisett



**The church office will be Closed
Monday, May 27th
In observance of
Memorial Day**





Dinner and Entertainment
May 19, 2019
3:00 p.m.

**Barbecue Ribs, Baked Potato, Cole
Slaw, Beverage and Dessert**

**Musical entertainment by
Kimberly Campos**

**Pastor Attila is in the office
Monday — Thursday
To schedule an appointment,
Call the office—426-5580**

**Email:
npcuccpastor@frontier.com
Please Visit our Website:
www.npccucc.org**

Singles Dinner Group



**Singles are invited to meet for
dinner May 9th at
5:30 p.m. at Alvaro's**

**Check the bulletin board in
Fellowship Hall to sign up.**



**Bus Trip to Savannah, Georgia
March 23-27, 2020**

**\$75 deposit is now due.
Check out the information on the flyer
that is included with this newsletter or
pick up a copy in the church narthex.
It is a great price and has a great itinerary.
Check it out today and send your
deposit to Margaret Cook to hold your space.**

Desks for Sale



We have three desks that were in the Narthex before our recent update and renovations. Two are smaller oak desks that would be great as a writing desk or used for a laptop. The third is a typical office desk in a darker pecan color. If you have an interest in purchasing any of these desks, please call the church office at 426-5580.

**Start your day with
Breakfast, Friends
And good conversation!**



**All women are invited to join together for breakfast
on Wednesday, May 1st at Perkins at 8:30 a.m.
Check the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall for more
details.**



**Head up!!....
Some new changes are here...**

**Regarding the PowerPoint
for our Sunday morning
worship service. Any videos,
photos, etc. to be included in**

**our Sunday morning PowerPoint are to be turned into
the church office no later than 9:00 a.m. on Thursday
morning—no exceptions.**

**Items brought on Sunday morning and changes
requested can no longer be accommodated.**

**This applies to guest speakers as well as our own church
members, committees, etc. So, please plan ahead and we
will be able to accommodate your request. Thank you
for your cooperation.**

Personnel Committee



Sunday, May 12th

Spiritual Retreat

**3rd Annual Faith Builder's Retreat
March 12-14, 2020
DaySpring Conference Center, Parrish, FL**

A list has been started in the office for those who want to be sure to go next year. Prices for 2020 will increase just slightly. \$210 for double occupancy; \$285 for single occupancy. Deposits will come later, but if it makes it easier for you to pay a little at a time throughout the year, we can set that up for you. Questions? Call the office 426-5580.

JOURNEY OF *Faith*



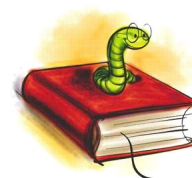
Remember -
our fallen heros.
They are the reason
that we are free.

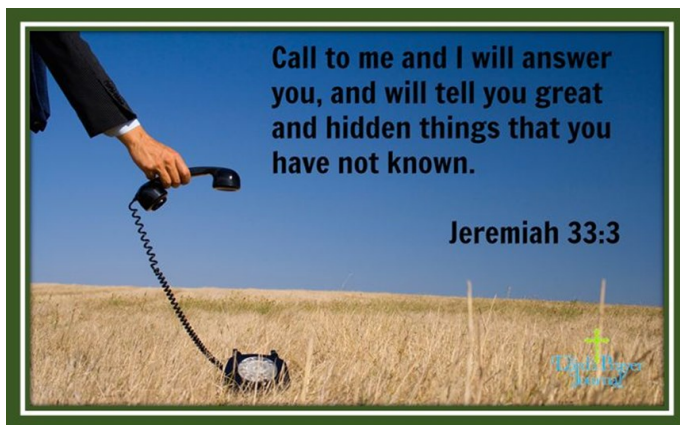


New to the shelf is ***“That Good Night: Life and Medicine in the Eleventh Hour”*** by Sunita Puri. Does modern medicine reckon with the friction that exists between our desire to survive at all costs and the fact of our life’s finitude? Dr. Puri turns to palliative care, a new specialty to end of life care, turning what matters most to patients in the face of serious illness into medical-care plans that reflect their goals and priorities.

Also new is Max Lucado’s ***“Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World.”*** This book is the source of our Sunday school program currently being offered. Philippians 4:6-7 is the most underlined passage in the Bible. According to this promise, anxiety comes with life, but it doesn’t have to dominate your life. Let’s invite God to reframe the way we face our fears and win the war on worry.

On the fiction shelf is ***“In This Moment”*** by popular author Karen Kingsbury. An inspiring, relevant story about the nuances of religious freedom and how a group of people just might restore the meaning of faith in today’s culture.





Call to me and I will answer
you, and will tell you great
and hidden things that you
have not known.

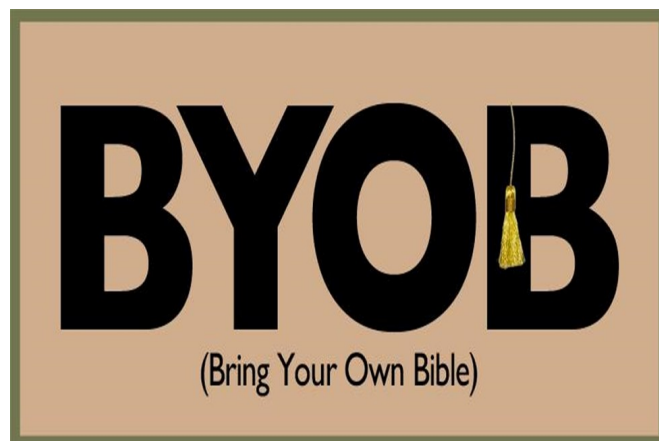
Jeremiah 33:3

**Prayer Line:
941-426-5580**

**(If you get the answering
machine, please call back)**

(*This is not a counseling line but a prayer line).

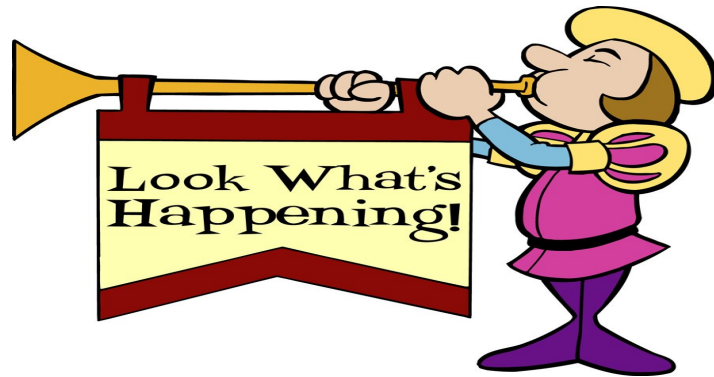
**Bible Study
Every Tuesday
11:00 a.m.
Bring a lunch
If you wish.**



*No Matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are always welcome here!*

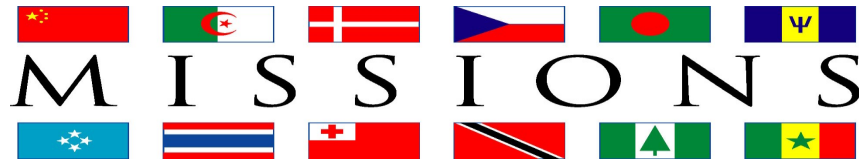


**Join us on Wednesday morning for
Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.**



UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

May 19	Sunday afternoon dinner With musical entertainment by Kimberly Campos
May 27	Church office closed, Memorial Day
June 9	Pentecost Sunday—wear red
June 10-14	Vacation Bible School
July 4	Church Office Closed
July 14	Church picnic or pot luck
August 18	Church pot luck
September 8	Rally Day
September 13	Dinner and Entertainment
September 20-October 4	Israel Trip



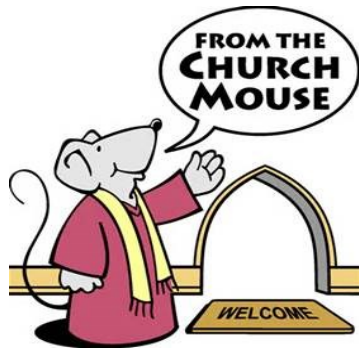
Our chair of Missions, Norma Beach, has stepped aside after several years in that position. We offer our sincere thanks to Norma for the excellent work she and the committee have done over the past years and we are looking for new leadership and additional committee members.

Each new church year the Council appoints a Mission Committee. It is now time to do this. We are looking for persons who have an interest in Missions and would like to be a part of this committee. Members of the committee can be year round, or seasonal. They can be church members or friends of congregation.

We are looking for persons who have a heart for mission.

It doesn't matter if you serve on other committees. This committee only meets a few times each year. Please see our Moderator, Sandra Van Bergen, or call the church office to let us know you are interested in this important committee.

**Habitat for Humanity
Looking for volunteers and donations
Call 493-6606**

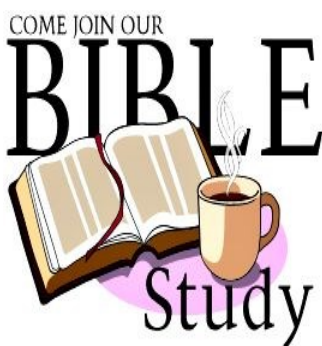


From the Church Mouse.....

Lots of those snowy birds have been saying good bye every week. We are sad to see them go, but know they will be back again when things get too cold wherever they go. Hear folks talking about things slowing down a bit, but then others are talking about lions that ROAR and elephants and giraffes—even Meerkats! Pip and I hear drums coming from the rooms in the back. Whoever it is, they need lots more practice. Perhaps Pip should give it a try. Had our cousin mouse come visit over Easter. She brought us some pretty flowers. See you soon.



**Ye Olde Church Mouse
and Pip**



In Home Bible Studies....

The May Home Bible Study will be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:00 p.m. the location is yet to be determined. For more info please call Delores Edwards at 876-3376.

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you know someone who is in need of a Prayer Shawl? Perhaps someone who is not feeling well and is in need of a lift? Or someone who just needs some cheering up? Call the church office to request a prayer shawl for your friend or loved one and we'll handle the rest.

The Prayer Shawl group will be taking a break for the summer. Please watch the newsletter and bulletin for when we will be starting back up again in the fall. Enjoy your summer.



Dine to Donate!

Please continue to take your vouchers to Perkins each time you dine there. Perkins will collect the vouchers and quarterly send us a check donating 10% of the subtotal of everyone's bills. A win/win for everyone.



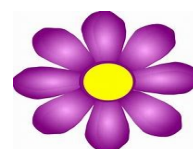
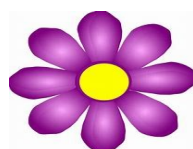
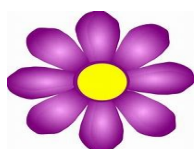
**Food
Collection**

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Remember the 2nd Sunday is our Collection of Food for those who are hungry. Donations alternate with one month going to Face of Hope and the next month to New Hope Church.

May Birthdays:

May 1	Becky Rooney
May 4	Andrea St. Onge
May 5	Carolyn Perkins
May 7	Jean Grim
May 12	Larry May
May 12	Merle Ramsey
May 13	Ed Boger
May 16	Shane Dougherty
May 16	Chris Harris
May 17	Lindsay Louke
May 19	Sharon Swierczynski
May 27	Jill Kelly
May 29	Donna Swanson
May 31	Larry Luther



The following members and friends will be celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in May.

May 5	Wes and Marge Bates
May 16	Tom and Darlene Phillips
May 22	Dick and Norma Beach
May 22	Randy and Margaret Cook
May 25	Gene and Mary Maples
May 26	Alden and Sharon Miller

May

ALTAR FLOWERS:

May 5	Louzan and Delores Edwards
May 12	Ed and Patti Boger
May 19	Lorraine and Bill Wuolo
May 26	Donna and Larry Swanson

**Thank you to:
North Port Natural Florist
Your "Green" Florist
13632 Tamiami Trail
North Port, FL 34287
426-1197**



For providing us with our flowers every Sunday.

**Our NPCUCC Vision:
"NPCUCC is a welcoming
congregation that
celebrates the diversity of
our members but focuses
on what we as Christians
have in common in order
to nurture growth and
healing."**

**Average monthly
attendance:**

**March 2018—184
March 2019—177**

**Large enough to serve you;
small enough to know you.**



**HAVE YOU MADE A WILL?
DID YOU REMEMBER
YOUR CHURCH?**



NORTH PORT COMMUNITY U.C.C.

Rev. Attila Szemesi, Pastor

3450 S. Biscayne Drive

North Port, FL 34287

Phone: (941) 426-5580

Fax: (941) 426-7370

E-mail: northportucc@juno.com

******CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE******

www.northportucc.org

Visit us on Facebook

Check us out on You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZOJIYvzmRjXqkRjYki-Gpw>

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday-Thursday

Closed on Friday

Patti Bourque, Office Manager

Terry Hong, Office Assistant