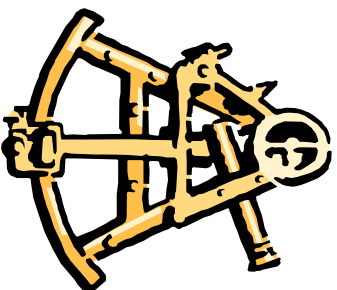
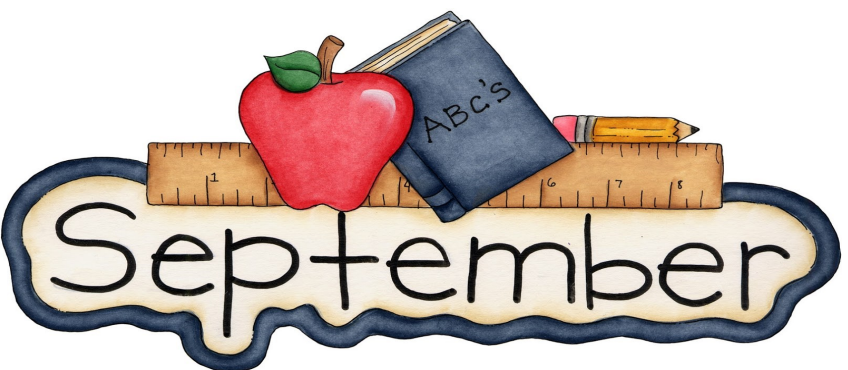


North Port Community
United Church of Christ
3450 S. Biscayne Drive
North Port, FL 34287



THE NAVIGATOR

September, 2019



September Navigator

**“My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:2)**

Dear Friends,

Just today I came across this familiar passage as I was pondering on some life circumstance people have to struggle with. Looking for comforting words to offer to individuals I encountered it as a much needed reminder. It is in the midst of ‘unusual’ times that we can know and experience the power of our GOD. Think about it! GOD who created the heavens and the earth is the One who supplies you and those you love with what you/they need in life.

I will share with you the story that I myself heard today and being inspired I thought it will bless you as well. It is the story of David who is a quadriplegic. His wife left him after a car accident. He now ‘survives’ on government benefits. Every weekend he orders the public access van so he can attend Church. He lives in a small apartment.

Who helps you with dinner he was asked? I use my power wheelchair to go down to the Pizza Hut not far from my home. The Lord always provides someone to help. Sometimes it is a waiter on break or a guest at the restaurant might offer help. I can feed myself; but do need some assistance to place the slice of pizza in my hand at a certain angle in just the right way. Then David continues... all this helps me to depend on the LORD-really depend on Him.

This story brought tears to my eyes when I heard it. At the same time it blessed me to know that our GOD in Jesus Christ is our ROCK we can and need to stand on. The LORD our Savior knows where we are in life and He is taking care of us. We trust Him one circumstance and situation at a time. Let's do that together!

Please enjoy the following selected images from recent events here at the NPCUCC.



Ingrid Massaro & Team providing generous Hospitality during fellowship and coffee hour after each German Service here at the NPCUCC. (2019)



**Surprise Birthday Party for Shirley Alvarez
Happy Birthday Shirley
(07-13-2019)**



Remembering Diana Master (07-14-2019)

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

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

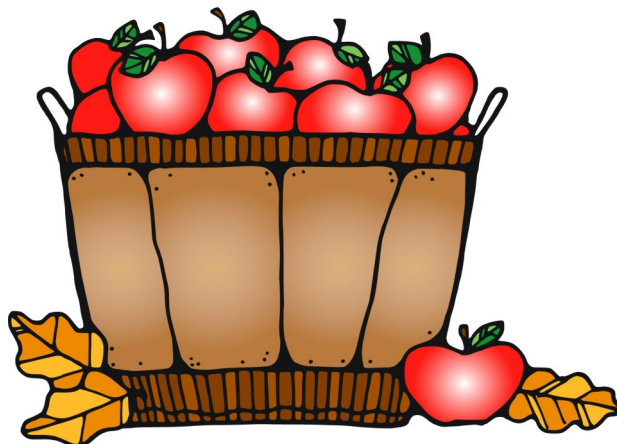
**Email:
npcuccpastor@frontier.com
Please Visit our Website:
www.npcucc.org**

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.



Singles Dinner Group

**Next Gathering will be
5:30 p.m. on September 12th at
Cracker Barrel in Port Charlotte.
Check the bulletin board in
Fellowship Hall to sign up.**



Spiritual Retreat

**North Port Community UCC
3rd Annual Faith Builder's Retreat
March 12-14, 2020
Day Spring Conference Center, Parrish, FL
"A Sacred Place set Apart..."**

Deposits are now due:

**Deposit of \$60 is due September 15th.
Final payment is due January 25th.
Checks should be made payable to
"NPCUCC Retreat".**

Good news: This year we will have more rooms which have private bathrooms included.

Flyers are in the Narthex—if you haven't signed up yet, it's not too late—call the church office.



Dearest Church Family -

Thank you to each and every one who helped with the receptions and Celebrations of Life for our dear Jean Grim and Dorothy Hewes. The Board of Deacons is forever grateful!



New to the church library is “***Christian Music; A Global History***” by Tim Dowley. This book encompasses all eras, regions, and varieties of Christian music. The range of music is from its Jewish origins, through medieval chant and hymns, to gospel and rock. The author offers a skillful narrative and fascinating insights from music history specialists.

For those who are interested in America as the land of liberty, there is a 5 disk DVD set titled “***Monumental***”, a 12 lesson Training course on restoring America as the land of liberty. The good news is that we can do something to solve our problems and follow the blueprint that the Founders of the nation gave to us. This course is the ideal means of providing you and your family and friends with the ideas necessary to live in Christian liberty.



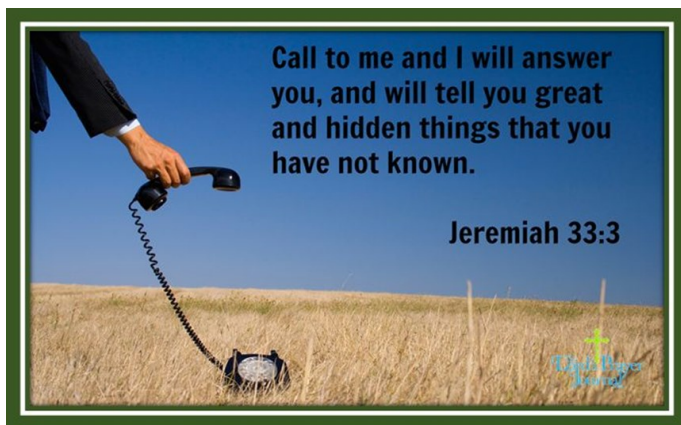
**HAVE YOU MADE A WILL?
DID YOU REMEMBER
YOUR CHURCH?**

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

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



All women are invited to join together for breakfast on Wednesday, September 4th at Olde World Restaurant at 8:30 a.m. Check the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall for more details.



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

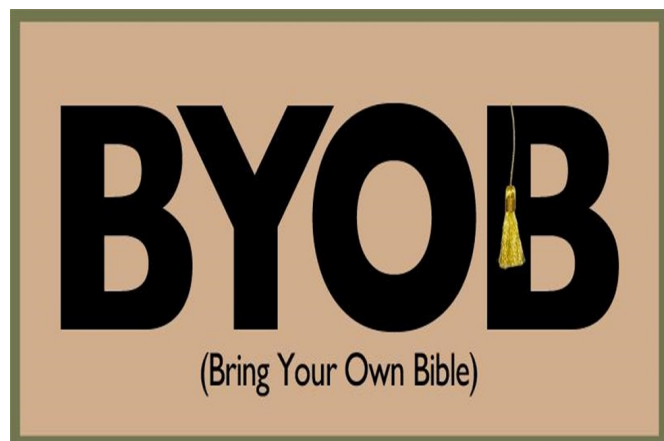
Jeremiah 33:3

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

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

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

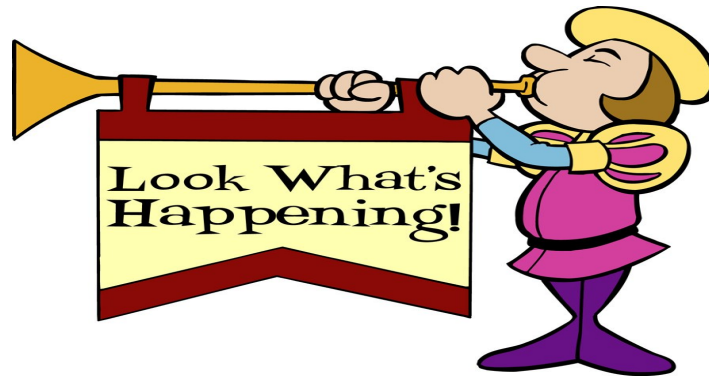
**Bible Study
Every Tuesday
11:00 a.m.**



*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!

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| September 8 | Rally Day |
| September 20-October 2 | Israel Trip |
| September 29 | Kick off Operation Christmas Child |
| October 9 & 10 | Soup and Sandwich fundraiser |
| October 12th | Pumpkins Arrive!!! |
| October 13—31 | Pumpkin Patch is Open |
| October 16 | UCCW meetings resume |
| October 18 | Pork Chop Dinner |
| November 10 | Fundraiser Lunch after worship |
| November 15-16 | Rummage Sale |



Safety in our Church

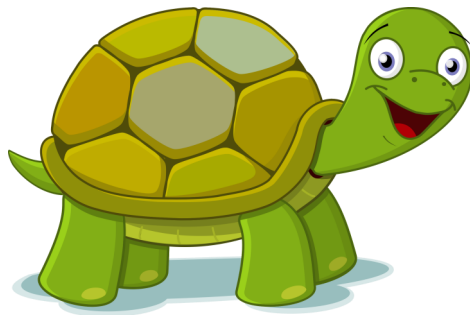
The Safety Team continues to make steps forward in our efforts for Church Safety.

Six persons attended the August 6th Safety Workshop in Englewood and received more valuable information that is needed to continue with the formation of our North Port Community UCC Safety Team.

A formal Safety Team will be proposed to the Trustees and then to Council for approval on September 10th.

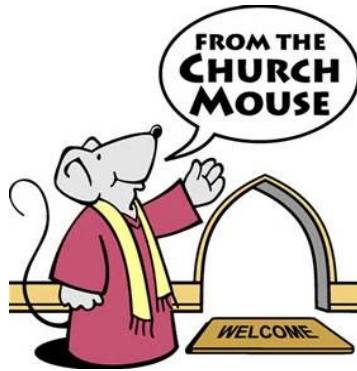
Plans are being developed for Sunday Services, special services, Sunday school, and all meeting and activities that take place at NPCUCC on a regular basis. Each group will be hearing more about this in the near future.

We will continue to keep you updated on our progress.



Remember.....

**“Your speed doesn’t matter, forward is forward!”
So we continue to move forward.**



From the Church Mouse.....

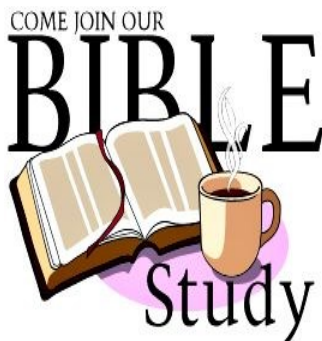
Summer has just about come to an end and we are starting to see some of our friends returning from time away. The guys in the back have been busy fixing things that had problems after our Florida thunder and lightning storms. Pip and I have had to hide many afternoons when things get a bit wild outside. We are starting to hear more and more about the Pumpkins. We're looking forward to them coming. It's nice to have all the people come to visit and see the pumpkins. Remember to Smile.....it's contagious!

**Ye Olde Church Mouse
and Pip**



NEW CHURCH EMAIL

The office is slowly changing over to a new email. Please start sending emails to northportucc@gmail.com as we phase out our juno email. We thank you for your cooperation.



In Home Bible Studies....

There will be no Home Bible Study in September. Watch your Sunday bulletin for more details on the next gathering.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl group members are slowly returning to Florida. Watch the Sunday bulletins for information on when we will be starting back up again.



Dine to Donate!

Please continue to take your vouchers to Perkins each time you dine there or purchase items from their bakery. Perkins will collect the vouchers and quarterly send us a check donating 10% of the subtotal of every purchase. A win/win for everyone.



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.

September Birthdays:

Sept. 7	Mary Ann Anderson
Sept. 15	Mia-Rose Dougherty
Sept. 17	David Nickerson
Sept. 20	Grace Padalik
Sept. 21	Pastor Attila
Sept. 22	Colleen Cederholm
Sept. 22	Marilyn Miller
Sept. 24	Karen Knudsen
Sept. 25	M.R. Clapper
Sept. 30	Joan Peters



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

We have no Anniversaries in September.



**Join us for Rally Day
Sunday, September 8th
for the official kick off of the
new Sunday School year.
Children will go to Sunday
school following the children's
message. Christian Ed will
provide "make your own
sundaes" for the children
following Sunday School.**

September

ALTAR FLOWERS:

September 1

September 8

September 15

September 22

September 29

Marilyn Miller

Patti and Mike Bourque

Becky Rooney

Izak Kolodny



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:

July 2018—92

July 2019—112



Hurricane Policy

**It's Hurricane Season, so
REMEMBER: Our church
policy for closing the church
in the event of a storm is—**



Anytime hurricane conditions are predicted for a Sunday morning, including the possibility of winds high enough to prevent emergency workers from being on the roads, services will be canceled. So.... If on Saturday night, hurricane conditions are being predicted for North Port, you may know that Sunday services are canceled—even if conditions are improved on Sunday morning.

“When possible” our calling committees will make phone calls, but please do not rely solely on a phone call.

Bottom line: Be Safe!



New Church Directories

The long awaited new church telephone directories have finally been finished. Copies are available in the Narthex or the church office. Please pick up a new one with the hot pink cover and be sure to throw away any old ones you may have around. We thank you for your patience.

Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

If you are over 70 1/2 and have an investment plan, you are required to withdraw a percentage, determined by the IRS, every year by December 31st. If you take this as income it is a taxable event to you.

A great way to avoid taxes, and to fulfill your church pledge, is to donate this, or a portion of it, to North Port Community United Church of Christ. This can be simply done by contacting your broker.

**Regards,
Douglas Minich, Board of Trustees, Chair**



**Coming Soon!!!
4th Annual
Pumpkin Patch....**



**Save the dates:
Pumpkins Arrive
October 12th**

**Patch open daily
October 13-31
11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Plan now to volunteer
2 hour shifts**





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@gmail.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