

#### **NSPC** Connections

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REV. DR. JEANNE THOMAS—PASTOR

JANUARY 2023

#### From Your Pastor

Dear Friends,

A new year always brings a fresh start; a chance to begin anew. For some, there may be a milestone on the horizon: a graduation, wedding, a special birthday or anniversary. For others, it may mean the



breaking of a bad habit; the start of a new routine; the setting of a new goal. But regardless of what the New Year holds for us, with it comes an opportunity to write a new chapter in the book of our lives. There are dreams to be dreamt. There are choices to be made.

A lot has changed in the life of NSPC during the past year. There have been milestones and losses, goodbyes and fresh starts. Yet through it all, we have faced the challenges head-on and embraced the future with hope and resolve.

What are *your* hopes and dreams for NSPC during 2023? Is it time to take another step forward in faith? What can you do to contribute to NSPC's future?

Like the shepherds, our lives are filled with responsibilities. Like the innkeeper, we're often busy and preoccupied. Like the Magi, we search for meaning in the heavens and earth around us. Yet all the while, we venture forth into the New Year with the confidence that the same God who came to us as a babe in Bethlehem goes before us to prepare the way.

My wish for you, my wonderful family of faith, is to take a moment this day and give thanks for the gifts God has given us, and then to give thanks for this wonderful body of Christ that we serve together.

(Continued on page 2)

#### Sermons for the Month of January

1/1 1st Sunday of Christmas Isaiah 43:15-19; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 "New Year, Fresh Start" Sara Boninu, preaching WORSHIP ON ZOOM

1/8 Baptism of Our Lord Matthew 3:13-17; Romans 6:1-4 "Raised to New Life" Sara Boninu, preaching

1/15 2nd Sunday after Epiphany John 1:35-46

"Come and See"
Reading of the Necrology

1/22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany Luke 5:1-11

"The Greatest Catch"

1/29 4th Sunday after Epiphany Mark 1:21-28

"A Teachable Spirit"

Annual Meeting and Lunch Immediately After Worship

Worship Service 10:00 AM
Join Us!

#### (Continued from page 1)

I wish you a blessed Christmas, and look forward to seeing each and every one of you in the New Year.

With blessings and love, Jeanne

P.S. On Christmas Eve, I invite you to join us at 5 PM for our children's pageant and at 8 PM for our Service of Lessons & Carols. Both will be livestreamed. Then, on December 25 at 10 AM, join us for a Zoom Christmas Service of Worship. We will sing a few carols, light the Christ candle, enjoy special music, and I will read a Christmas story that will appeal to all ages.

## SAVE THE DATE: January 29, 2022 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Following worship on January 29, 2022, there will be an annual meeting of the congregation in the Gathering Room. We will enjoy lunch and fellowship together before hearing a recap of 2022! More details to follow in a bulletin insert in mid-January.

Come and hear the highlights of 2022 and the goals and objectives for 2023.

We are all a part of what makes this congregation such a wonderful community of faith!



We remember our members who are now with our Lord and offer prayers for their families:

01/08/2022	Nancy Roney	08/21/2022	Jim Biddle
01/24/2022	Ruth Richman	10/11/2022	Janet Bentley
03/19/2022	Jane Williams	10/19/2022	Jack Niggeman
06/22/2022	Sandy Cox	10/24/2022	Ellen Jackson
07/23/2022	Mary Jean Clark	11/13/2022	Joel Sanders

The necrology will be read during worship on January 15, 2022.

## Music Ministry

Dear Friends,

It has been a busy time at NSPC! On December 4<sup>th</sup>, Joann Mitchell played the flute with our offertory "Redeemer". And the following week, Jerry and his student David Marshall played some lovely trombone duets for the worship service.

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, we hosted the second community concert, "Holiday Favorites". About 80 people attended the concert! Our drummer, Griffin Harrison, added so much to the program. Hopefully, we can continue to increase our audience from the community at future concerts.



Our "Christmas Around the World" cantata during worship on the 18th was a great success! A large group of returning and new singers participated. I took a risk of choosing the wildest music for the program and was thrilled to have received so many congratulations from so many of you. I sincerely appreciate all your support. Hopefully I can live up to your expectations for the next one. I'm so grateful for everyone in the choir, who went on this crazy journey with me! Looking forward to the Christmas Eve service with you!

Have a restful holiday! ~Ting Ting Director of Music



## NSPC'S MUSIC ENHANCEMENT FUND NEEDS YOUR HELP!

At NSPC, cantatas and guest musicians throughout the year are funded from a music fund that is separate from our general fund. Our quartet is included in our operating budget, but additional musicians are not. We have enjoyed string quartets, guest soloists, and other guest musicians as a result of this special,

restricted fund. However, the fund balance has diminished significantly over the last several years and we need to replenish it! Please consider making a separate donation to our music fund to continue the wonderful music program at NSPC! Please write "music fund" on the memo line on your check.

#### **Community Concert Series**

We held our second community concert "Holiday Favorites" on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. The music was both beautiful and festive! We had over 100 attendees come out on the rainy evening to enjoy some music and refreshments. Thank you to all Session, Deacons,

and some members at large for providing food and financial support for the two Community Concerts. Your help was

most appreciated.

## Stay tuned for the next concert in 2023!



















Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Last month, our youth hosted a bingo fundraiser and raised \$1,252 to offset the cost of attending retreats. Thank you for attending and donating prizes/raffle baskets/baked goods! We also had a Christmas party, complete with a scavenger hunt, games, and a gingerbread house contest. Finally, 40 children and youth told the story of Christ's birth at our Christmas Eve Pageant through scripture reading, music, and sign language.

Special thanks go to Kristin Adams, Frank Boninu, Rebecca DiPersia, Meg Hess, Heather Impriano, Meghan Kazanjian, Joann Mitchell, Rev. Jeanne Thomas, and Ting Ting Wong helping to make the pageant extra special this year.

~Sara Boninu, Director of Youth and Family Ministry





















# Schedule

January 13-15: Winterblast Youth Retreat

January 22 @ 4 PM: CPR Class (12 y.o. & up)
\$20 to attend OR \$50 to be certified

These pictures were taken at our dress rehearsal on December 18th. Updated pageant pictures will be in our February newsletter.





#### **Church School Chatter**

#### ...from Christian Education

Many, many thanks to all those who helped us celebrate this Christmas season with wonderful music, fellowship, and a beautiful sanctuary which brightens our hearts as we rejoice in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It has been a very trying time during the past several years. Our church has been a beacon of light, a place for reflection, renewal, and hope as we continue to worship together and support each other. We are deeply blessed for the leadership of Pastor Jeanne Thomas; Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Sara Boninu; Director of Music, Ting Ting Wong; and Office Manager, Heather Impriano. We are also fortunate for all of those who serve on Session/Board of Trustees, the Board of Deacons, and the many committees and commissions. A church is not a building but the congregation who attend and support each other.

And now we
Welcome the New Year
Full of hope, love,
And faith
In Jesus

~Nancy Gingras, Sunday School Superintendent



Sign-ups for weekly chancel flowers and fellowship hour for 2023 are available. Please consider signing up for one of these wonderful missions.

You can sign up using this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0949AFA629A5FE3-flowers1 or contact Heather at nspc3600@gmail.com to signup for a date. Thank you!



#### WEEKLY FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL:

The flower arrangement will be delivered from the Media Florist and placed on the Chancel prior to Worship. The cost for donating the flowers for one Sunday is \$20. Please make all checks out to NSPC and write "Chancel Flowers" in the memo section. You are welcome to take the flowers home with you or donate them to someone in our congregation who is feeling under the weather. The Delivery Deacon will ask you.



#### FELLOWSHIP HOUR COFFEE/REFRESHMENTS IN THE GATHERING ROOM:

Following Worship, coffee, cold beverages and light snacks are provided in the Gathering Room. This is a short but very worthwhile activity as NSPC friends gather to greet each other and have friendly conversation. Hosts can share the duty and provide this time of refreshment.

Thank you from the Deacons of NSPC!



## MEMBERSHIP



**Carolyn Suchan** is a retired Obstetrician/Gynecologist. She specialized in caring for women carrying "high risk" pregnancies. She and her husband (Rich Suchan) live in Newtown Square. They have two grown sons—Rick and Steve. Rich and Carolyn enjoy traveling and meeting new people.

After many conversations with Bob and Sue Bechtold, Carolyn was drawn to NSPC by the outgoing spirit of the people and by the phenomenal music program. She is thrilled to be a new member!



Marisa Jacobs comes to NSPC from the Hudson Valley of New York. After graduating with her pharmacy doctorate, she moved to Pennsylvania to work as an educational medical writer. Her older sister, Lauren, moved to Pennsylvania a few years prior, and the sisters look forward to joining a community orchestra together. Marisa lives in Wynnewood with her boyfriend, Matt, and her tortoiseshell kitten, Coraline.



**Kevin Hua** lives in Broomall, PA. He was first introduced to Christianity as a college freshman and started attending NSPC in November 21. His favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13.

Kevin currently works at the Valley Forge Casino Resort as a Human Resource Coordinator. He has a B.S. in Psychology from Penn State University and is currently working on a Masters in Human Resource Development at Villanova University.

His interests include reading, cooking, playing tennis, and playing video games.



We are the **Baradic Family** - Stephen, Aurelie, Jenna, and Lydia. After living in Texas and Maryland we finally decided to make Broomall our home to be closer to Aurelie's relatives. Stephen enjoys being a part of Aurelie's large family and the whole family looks forward to his mom's frequent visits from out west. Jenna loves going to school, playing soccer, and baking with mom. Although Lydia is only 1, she has already become very communicative regarding her likes (and dislikes) including hanging out with her cousins, going to the pool, and climbing anything in sight. Leo, our 10-year-old lab, rounds out the family with his gentle and friendly nature. We are thrilled to be joining Newtown Square Presbyterian Church.

## Mission News





#### **Christmas Joy Offering**

Thank you to Ginni Condo for organizing the Christmas Joy Offering. NSPC participates in this offering yearly and she did a wonderful job with all the publicity, organization and Moment for Mission.

The **Toy Drive for Gemma** was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated towards the collection for the \$200 to pay off the bill for the \$800 worth of toys which had been purchased at the 75% discount. Thank you also to everyone who helped make the box in the Gathering Space "overflow with your donations." The children will benefit from your generosity.

Thank you to Marg MacDonald for delivering all the donations plus the sale purchases to Gemma. Marg made a drop off appointment, packed the van in the rain and delivered the wonderful donations to Gemma Services in Plymouth Meeting. Thank you to Ginny Berman for delivering some last minute gifts to Gemma as well! Thanks to Bob Bechtold for moving all the items to the church drop off room.





#### **Ronald McDonald House**



Please save the pull tabs from pop-top cans (sodas, soups, etc.) Look in the Gathering Room by the Mission Table for the big jug. The flip tops can be  $\widehat{ ext{RONALD}}$  MCDONALD placed in the jug and then, when we accumulate a large quantity, they will be delivered to the RMH in Philadelphia. Thank you for your continued participa-

tion in NSPC and NSPC-PW mission efforts. Every little bit makes a world of difference.



Our donations to the Food Bank are needed year-round. As we begin the New Year perhaps a NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION could be added to your list. Please consider donating something nonperishable each week to the food baskets in the Gathering Room. One item weekly from NSPC friends will really add up. This food is then picked up by Rev. Nancy Holt and delivered with the Wawa donations in our freezer to Food Banks in the area. Thank you for your help.



Thank you to all who donated to the many Christmas Mission Projects. We appreciate the help to cover the cost of the toys for Gemma, Cradle to Crayons, Food Bank and the 12 Christmas Dinners for Garrett's Way.

Thank you also for the Christmas Joy Offering and Christmas Card Tree donations to the Youth.



Thank you to those who participated with cards for the Christmas Card Tree.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to NSPC friends from: Bob and Sue Bechtold Ginny Berman Lois Peck Jim & Jeanne Thomas Nancy Gingras

The Impriano Family Frank & Sara Boninu Bernice Eder

#### **Christmas Turkey Dinners**

Thank you all for your donations toward the cost of the turkey dinners and turkey donations. It was a cold blustery day on Monday, December 19. Five people gathered at NSPC to go "COLD TURKEY" and deliver 12 Christmas dinner baskets to Garrett's Way for needy families.

Newtown Square Presbyterian Church generous members helped fund this yearly project. We've lost count of the number of years that our church has provided 12 dinner baskets. Over 15 years for sure.

Thank you very much for all donations, all shopping, and delivery. Shopping was done by Bob and Sue Bechtold, funding was from NSPC members, and delivery was Bob and Sue Bechtold, Terri McCarthy, Marg Mac-Donald and Stevan Gottlieb.

Thank you, thank you.









I am so moved by our giving community here at Newtown Square Presbyterian! Every month, our Cradles to Crayons hamper is full and ready for a trip to their drop off location in Radnor! We have given new winter coats, gently used shoes, tons of books, and about a dozen bags of clothing to this incredible organization.

To answer some frequently asked questions, Cradles to Crayons accepts new AND gently used children's books, clothing, outerwear, and shoes. They only accept NEW socks and undies. Also, donations made to Cradles to Crayons go right back into the greater Philadelphia community.

One thing I remember clearly about getting bags for my clients during December and January is just how strong the need was. December was a naturally hectic time for Cradle to Crayons! And as a result, the "Giving Factory" (the wonderful warehouse where Cradles to Crayons houses their donations) was in need of some serious restocking come January! So if you are cleaning out closets after the holiday season, consider Cradles to Crayons for your books and clothes!

~Meg Hess, Cradles to Crayons coordinator



#### **Helper Needed**

Each spring, NSPC participates in the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. We need a volunteer to organize this offering. De-

tails arrive in the mail which explain the offering and guidance will be given to the volunteer. Please RSVP to Sue Bechtold if you can help. Thanks.



**Did you know you can support NSPC while you shop?** Go to smile.amazon.com and choose Newtown Square Presbyterian Church as your charity. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from all AmazonSmile purchases to NSPC.



The time commitment for each service is about 20 to 30 minutes before the service starts to about 15 minutes after the service ends. You will be provided training to orient you to the role of the usher. The usher team captain takes responsibility for making sure that each of the duties and tasks for that Sunday are handled. If you are interested or have any questions about the role of the usher, please email me at snydergrant12@gmail.com.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

#### **Update From Your Buildings and Grounds Commission**

With the arrival of winter weather, please be careful when visiting or leaving the church and walking across the parking lot. Although we are diligent about making sure that our sidewalks are shoveled and salted and our parking lots and driveways are plowed and salted, it is inevitable that there may be some icy spots. Black ice seems to frequently turn up in shaded areas so please be extremely careful.





#### RISE AGAINST HUNGER

#### Dear Church Family,

food · community · sustainability

Mark Your Calendars...On March 12, 2023 from 3:00-5:00, members, friends and family will once again be packaging meals on behalf of Rise

Against Hunger. In 2021 alone, Rise Against Hunger sent 17 million meals to a total of 29 countries. Their goals are to nourish lives through meal packaging events such as ours, respond to emergencies with in-need resources and empower communities to stand strong and become self-sufficient through education.

**Silent Auction to Benefit Rise Against Hunger.** In late January and early February, the Rise Against Hunger committee will once again be hosting the very popular silent auction in the church lounge. Our auction will be getting organized from now until the auction begins which is the end of January.

Sincere thanks to those individuals who have donated beautiful handmade or gently used items for auction. If you have a vacation home that you would consider allowing us to auction off for a few days or a week, please let us know immediately. An item like this would cause great excitement!

Along with handmade items, antique trains, gift cards and some new items, we are pleased to offer a music area generously donated by Terri McCarthy's father. It will include a record player, sound system, CDs, sheet music, records and a beautiful baby grand piano.

Please consider asking for donations from your favorite vendors for the auction. Bob Bechtold will provide a packet of information to be given to vendors. It is an easy process and he can walk you through your approach to a vendor if you have any questions. In past years (prior to Covid), vendors have been most generous with donations. Their names will be listed and thank you messages will either be sent or hand-delivered to all those who have donated. Vendors hearing the cause and seeing the organizational part seem to be willing to participate, so don't hesitate to ask.

\*\*\*On page 14, please find a sheet that must be completed for each item donated, including your name, description of the item and its approximate value.

One more option for donations is re-gifting. If you happen to receive a gift or have something at home for which you don't have a need in your household, feel free to donate this item to the auction. Contact Bob or Sue Bechtold with any questions. 484-832-8984 or 610 745-0064. Thank you

For more information about Rise Against Hunger, visit www.riseagainsthunger.org

Lynne and Allen Corle & Sue and Bob Bechtold



DESCRIPTION OF ITEM OR	SERVICE: (include any interesting facts)	
VALUE OF ITEM: \$		
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OF	R LIMITATIONS (EX. EXPIRATION DATE	OR MINIMUM BID)
BUSINESS OR DONOR NAM	E:(As it should appear on all printed mater	rial)
ADDRESS:	-	
PHONE:	FAX:	
CONTACT:	EMAIL:	
Feel free to include bro	ochures, publicity, etcto promote your	gift and/or business.

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM AND DONATION(S) by January 23rd

#### THANK YOU!

100% of the auction proceeds will benefit RISE AGAINST HUNGER as we hope to pack over 20,000 meals for starving school children at the Newtown Square Presbyterian Church for the  $6^{\rm th}$  year on March 12th

Please contact Bob Bechtold (610-745-0064) or Lynne Corle (610-563-5355)

#### **MEN'S GROUP — FIRST TUESDAY MORNINGS**

The next Men's Group meeting will be Tuesday, January 3rd at 8 AM. Please join other men of the church for fellowship & discussion.





#### **2023 Offering Envelopes**

Our 2023 offering envelopes have arrived! If you requested envelopes, please pick them up in the Narthex.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

#### **January Women's Meetings**

All women are welcome.

Join us for fellowship, and personal and spiritual growth.



Date — Monday, January 9
Time — 1:00 PM
Location — Gathering Room
Lesson 4—"Sabbath & Surrender"
Study Leader — Lois Peck



#### December 4th Women's Christmas Tea



On Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Women of NSPC donated finger foods for Fellowship Hour and prepared the "famous punch." Everyone seemed to enjoy and mingle. There were very few leftovers so that shows it was delicious. Thank you to all who provided a plate of food and helped serve. Thank you also to Ginni Condo for donating the poinsettias for the Gathering Room.



I/5 — Kristy Ebersole

1/5 — Jennifer Kelly

I/6 — Kim Hewes

I/8 — Cole Robinson

1/8 — Courtney Seltzer

I/II — Jim McCarry

I/I2 — Bernice Eder

1/12 — Kristina Schultz

I/I2 — Sean Smitheman

I/I4 — Lois Ashman

I/I4 — Tami Kliefoth

1/14 — Beth McCarry

I/22 — Pat Deluca

1/19 — Scott Hess

1/24 — Collins Vokhiwa

I/27 — Francis O'Donnell, Jr.

1/28 — Lois Bortle

I/28 — Judy Niggeman

1/29 — Jenna Baradic

1/30 — Ginny Berman

1/30 — Lynne Corle

1/31 — Siobhian Robinson

#### The Last Tuesday Book Club

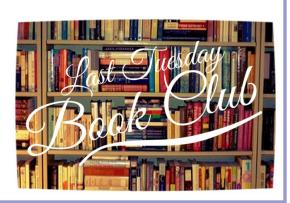
Our next *Last Tuesday Book Club* will take place on January 31st. We will be discussing <u>The Orphan Collector</u> by Ellen Wiseman. It is a novel based on the 1918 Influenza Pandemic. Angie Matt will be our discussion leader.

Our book club is now meeting "In Person" in NSPC's Conference Room. But don't be concerned if you are out of town or unable to come to the church. We will make every effort to continue zooming with those who would like to. Zoom links will be sent to those who reach out to Lynne in advance of the monthly meeting.

Feel free to join us each month or try us out for just one meeting because the title intrigues you. <u>New members are always welcome</u> and feel free to bring a friend.

For more information, contact Lynne Corle at (610-563-5355) or Lcorle217@gmail.com

Happy Reading!





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10 am Worship on ZOOM		8 am Men's Group		6 pm AA		
NEW						
YEAR"S						
DAY						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10 am Worship/SS	10 am Knitting for Peace		7 pm Deacons	6 pm AA	Youth Retreat Weekend	Youth Retreat Weekend
11 am Fellowship	1 pm Phoebe Circle					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10 am Worship/SS	MLK Day		7 pm Session	6 pm AA		
11 am Fellowship	10 am Knitting for					
Youth Retreat Weekend	Peace					
VV CERCING						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10 am Worship/SS	10 am Knitting for			6 pm AA		
11a m Fellowship	Peace					
4 pm CPR Class (12 y.o. & up)						
29	30	31				
10 am Worship/SS	10 am Knitting for	1 pm Last Tuesday				
11 am Annual Mtg & Luncheon	Peace	Book Club				
RAH Silent Auction Begins	RAH Silent Auction	RAH Silent Auction				

#### In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas
Director of Youth and Family Ministry	Sara Boninu
Director of Music	Ting Ting Wong
Church Office Manager	Heather Impriano
Sunday School Teachers	Paige Fiore, Brad Kohlhepp, & Sara Boninu
Nursery Attendant	Jeannette Giovanetti
Co-Directors, Newtown Square Presbyterian Church Preschool	Jane Fioravanti & Meghan Kazanjian
Clerk of Session	Buff Biddle
President, Board of Trustees	Chris Barmes
Treasurer	Dave Sampson
Head Usher	Grant Snyder
The Sacristy Guild of St. Martha	Carol Guest & Buff Biddle
Presbyterian Women	Ginny Berman

#### Plus... all the members of NSPC

#### **SESSION/BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Chris Barmes	Sue Bechtold	Rebecca DiPersia
Ginny Berman	Lynne Corle	Joe Falcon
Joe Marchesani	Siobhian Robinson	Meg Hess
Jerry Schauer	Debbie Weiss	Jim Shea

#### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Moderator: Nancy Gingras** 

Class of 2023	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Ed Arraya	Nicolle Arraya	Betsy Bender
Nancy Gingras	Sara DiGirolamo	Rich Digby
Stacey Kucera	Jennifer Gries	Robbyn Marchesani
Karen Shea	Debbie Villano	Barbara Nicolardi

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