



*We exist to introduce people to  
Jesus Christ  
and strengthen lives through Him!*

**Pastor Brendan  
Van Gorder  
November 2022**



## Seeing and Hearing Above the Noise

[Luke 19:1-10](#)

When we hear that Zacchaeus is a chief tax collector and rich, we already have some pretty strong opinions about him. I bet he cheated his way into wealth! How could he sleep at night while he was taxing and taxing such a poor people? We also imagine what he might need to do to make it into the kingdom of God. He's got to do a complete 180! He's got to give everything away and promise not to tax collect anymore, considering that it was such an oppressive tax system that was being put on these poor peasants. I'm glad Jesus doesn't see us like we see Zacchaeus. In fact, both Zacchaeus and Jesus seem to be seeing and hearing above the racket of the judging crowd.

Zacchaeus didn't accept that he was just going to miss Jesus. He was short and no one would make room for him in the front because he was a sinner, he was an oppressor, he was the last guy you'd want to see at your door on the first of the month. Zacchaeus wasn't listening to what his Roman bosses were telling him about the traitorous threat of a Jewish Messiah, or about the rumors spreading in the community about a strange Jesus fellow. Zacchaeus would not take anyone's word for who this Jesus was. He had to see and hear for himself. Zacchaeus was willing to climb up on a tree so that he could take a measure of this Jesus for himself.

At first, that was all Zacchaeus did. He made a BOLD gesture, climbing a tree, in order to see Jesus for himself. This was all he did. People were probably telling him all about Jesus, people in authority, people just spreading gossip. But he said no. I'm not going to take your word for it, I'm going to see for myself. And that was enough for Jesus.

When Jesus looked up and saw a strange man standing in a tree, he didn't see a sinner or an oppressor, he saw a child of Abraham, a child of God. Jesus didn't take

anyone's word about who Zacchaeus was, he judged for himself. He looked deep into his heart. And he said, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." Jesus insisted. He knew the power of hospitality, of being together under one roof, sharing the same bed and food, and he knew he wanted hospitality from a sinner, he wanted to share the night with the least of these in the crowd.

The crowd grumbled to Jesus, this guy's a sinner! And Zacchaeus in response, promised Jesus to give half of everything he had to the poor, and to make reparations with anyone who he had stolen from, four times as much as he took! Zacchaeus was trying to right the wrongs of the past. And Jesus' response was, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

I love how Jesus sees and listens to us. He sees the ones who are lost and who are sinners and who are so on the edges that they've got to climb trees to get a glimpse of God. He sees us lost ones and comes right up to the lost and saves us.

Let's be like Zacchaeus today, who didn't take anyone's word about Jesus, he had to see and judge for himself. Let's not be like the crowd, ready to label and judge someone, believing anything we're told about someone. Let's be like Jesus, and see each other as once lost, but now found or in the process of being found. Let's see each other as children of God.

Let's take no one's word for it, let's learn for ourselves who we are, and enter into beautiful, hospitable relationships with each other so that we can love each other as Christ loved us; as children of God.

Go escape the noise of "have you heard about this one, and did you hear what so and so did?" Instead, Go climb a tree, go meet everyone else who is up that tree, and try your hardest to see people like Jesus sees you.

Sincerely,  
~ Pastor Brendan

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**[Blue underlined text in the newsletter is a link to SAFE websites/forms. Click and explore!](#)**

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## November 6

- **All Saints Sunday** - Join us together and give thanks as we celebrate the lives of those who have lived in faith before us, and be with our brothers and sisters still with us!
- **Memorial Dedication** - We present memorials and tributes to be dedicated to the glory of Almighty God, and for service in Norwood United Methodist Church, in loving honor and memory of our Loved Ones.
- **Daylight Saving Time ends**



## November Ministries Schedule

### Sunday Liturgist/Scripture Schedule

Date	Welcome &/or Liturgist - 1 <sup>st</sup> scripture	Offering &/or Liturgist - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Scripture
Nov 6	Ashley Gibbs	Bill Shanahan
Nov 13	Pastor Brendan Delano Anderson	Jim Vickers Jeremiah Anderson
Nov 20	Pastor Brendan Cindy Tuttle	Joan Schaefer
Nov 27	Pastor Brendan Lauren Brown	Lynn Crump

### Sunday Children's Bible Classes

Date	Little Sprouts (ages 0-5)	Bible Bunch (ages 6-12)
Nov 06	Rochelle Amadio/Teacher Gina Dukes/Helper	Joyce McKay/Teacher Joan Schaefer/Helper
Nov 13	Rochelle Amadio Gina Dukes	Bill Shanahan/Teacher Randy Gibbs/Helper
Nov 20	Rochelle Amadio Gina Dukes	Jim McKay/Teacher Lynn Crump/Helper
Nov 27	Rochelle Amadio Gina Dukes	Sally Vickers/Teacher Carol Hammes/Helper

### Friday Youth Group

Pastor Mike, Leader

Date	Helpers	Helpers
Nov 04	Ashley Gibbs	Bill Fisher
Nov 11	Mary Lou Smith	Brendan Shanahan
Nov 18	Ashley Gibbs	Pat Beckett
Nov 25	Sally Vickers	Jim Vickers



We will have the Men's Breakfast **Saturday, Nov 5 at 8:00 am**. We meet once a month on the first Saturday of the month, October to June. It is a time for fellowship and to build a relationship with one another. Please join us.

The Women's Breakfast is **Saturday, Nov 12 at 8:30 am**. Cost is only \$1. For reservations, please contact Sally Vickers 610-565-0924 or [jimsallyvickers@verizon.net](mailto:jimsallyvickers@verizon.net). Faith-building friendship, fun, food, and fellowship.



## Stewardship Commitment Sunday November 20

This year we are going to let the **C.O.G.G.** (Committing Our Gifts & Graces) forms have a vacation. However, the **Financial Gifts Response** form & **letter** will be mailed & emailed **Nov 4** to members & friends. Don't forget to bring in your completed Financial Gifts Response form to church **Nov 20**, as we dedicate our intended financial commitments for 2023.

The ministries and outreach of our church in the community and around the world are made possible by your generous giving. Give as the Lord has given to you – your time, your energy, and your treasure. But first of all, honor God with your presence. Worship Him because He is worthy. He is God of all and God of you. Additional forms are in the narthex. You may also mail in commitment/financial forms to church; **Attn: Lynda Stine**.

## Handy Hands



Do you like to knit, crochet or do other types of hand work? If so, please join us **Monday, Nov 21 at 1:00 pm** in the Parlor. Questions?

Please see [Lynn Crump](#), [Randy Gibbs](#), or [Lynda Stine](#).

# PARENTS' CORNER

## Teaching Kids About True Harvest - Faith, Hope, and Love

[DiscipleLand Staff](#) Nov 17, 2017 [Discipleship](#) [No Comments](#)



Harvest-time deeply satisfies. What started in the spring as a sack of withered seeds—after months of cultivation and care—yields a life-sustaining crop. Now, tender grapes cluster on low-hanging vines, juicy apples weigh down small branches, and fields of golden grain stand tall and proud, waving in the wind. Though fewer people earn their living on farms today, when most of us hear the word “harvest,” we still envision images of joyous in-gathering feasts and family celebrations. Full-to-the-brim grape crates, apple boxes, and grain bins make all the hard work worthwhile.

### Sowing and Reaping

In Scripture, sowing and reaping are often compared to the cause-and-effect of our actions. “*You reap what you sow*” (Galatians 6:7-9). When we live to please the Lord, we harvest everlasting spiritual rewards.

At harvest season we finally taste, touch, and appreciate the fruit of our labors. Similarly, the spiritual investments we make now will produce an eternal harvest in heaven. 1 Corinthians 13:13 promises, “*Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.*” Genuine acts of faith, hope, and love are like spiritual “crops” that always yield a bountiful harvest. Habits of spiritual sowing result in bountiful eternal harvests. “*At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up*” (Galatians 6:9). Teach your kids the healthy habits of choosing faith instead of doubt, hope instead of despair, and love instead of fear and hatred. Here are ways to teach kids how to sow seeds of faith, hope, and love now—that will produce an eternal harvest:

### Faith: Trust and Conviction of Truth

After planting seeds in the soil, farmers demonstrate faith that the sun will rise, the rains will come, and eventually they will harvest more grain than they planted. Similarly, believers demonstrate faith when our actions show conviction and confidence that God will come through.

The experience of Abraham and Sarah illustrates how living by faith works. Even after barren Sarah was too old to bear children, Abraham still believed God’s promise

that he would become a father of many nations. “*And Abraham’s faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah’s womb*” (Romans 4:19). And God came through!

Teach children they can trust the truth about God and about salvation. He will reward their personal faith. Beyond salvation, believers continue to walk by faith, trusting their future to their trustworthy heavenly Father. A life of faith has direction and purpose. When students align their actions with truths from God, their daily choices delight and please Him!

### Four Ways to Sow Faith:

1. Choose to follow Jesus and embrace His salvation (Romans 10:9).
2. Meditate on God’s trustworthy, faithful character. Thank the Lord for His provisions each day (Psalm 145:4-7).
3. Review examples of faithful men and women from Scripture.
4. Choose God—not circumstances—as the foundation for faith (Hebrews 11).

### Hope: Optimism about Future Opportunities and Outcomes

Our world is aching for hope. Fear and anticipation of evil seem to override any natural optimism. Hope, demonstrated by joy in all circumstances, reaps a bumper harvest. Hope dissipates worry during periods of uncertainty; hope gives strength when facing personal tragedy. Like watching a suspenseful movie, we can remain confident, knowing “it’s going to be okay” in the end.

Cultivate hope by tasting and seeing that the Lord is good. “*Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls*” (Hebrews 6:18-19). Through Christ, we can anticipate the most wonderful outcome!

Teach children that God is their hope. Through the Lord, they can enjoy optimism about future opportunities and outcomes. Hope is, at its root, anticipating a “good ending.” Kids can joyfully and confidently expect to see God’s goodness.

### Four Ways to Sow Hope:

1. Write down the wonderful promises in God’s Word (Matthew 28:20, John 14:26-29, 1 Corinthians 1:7-9).
2. Regularly remind yourself of the reality of heaven

continued on Page 4

3. Matthew 28:28-30, John 14:1-4, Revelation 21-22). When describing your circumstances, choose hopeful words. Share hardship authentically, but always affirm God’s ultimate game plan (Psalm 27:13-14)
4. Avoid complaining. Grumbling is a magnet for more complaints; avoid passing negative perspectives on to others (Philippians 2:13-16).

**Love: Unfailing Affection and Devotion for People**

God is love. God selflessly seeks the very best for His beloved. God’s heartfelt concern motivates Him to action on behalf of others. In keeping with the analogy of sowing and harvesting, love is the “heirloom” crop—the most valuable and most cherished prize. *“Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance”* (1 Corinthians 13:7).

This resilient, persevering love comes only from God. In an age where relational mudslinging and social media jabbing run rampant, expressing genuine, unconditional love is especially important. Knowing the width, length, and depth of the Lord’s love enables us to offer compassion and kindness to friends as well as enemies. John writes, *“Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God”* (1 John 3:18-19).

Teach children that sowing selfless love almost always produces a bountiful crop. Love transforms lives, reconciles enemies, revives churches, and glorifies God!

**Four Ways to Sow Love:**

1. Quickly forgive. Bring each offense to Jesus, allow Him to comfort you, and release judgment of the offender (Matthew 6:14-15, 1 Corinthians 13:4-5)!
2. Ask for *God’s* compassion and heart for people. Pray for His vision to see people as He does. (John 13:34-35).
3. Demonstrate love in action. Serve your immediate friends and family in practical ways (1 John 3:16-19).
4. Encourage others often! Use words that instill hope and courage. Point out specific reasons you love, appreciate, and enjoy someone (Romans 15:5-7).



**Share with friends...**

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**Christmas Poinsettias**

Poinsettia [order forms](#) are available in the narthex, on the glass display case, or click on the blue link above. Deadline for orders, accompanied with payment, must be received by **Sunday, Nov 20**. Sorry, no exceptions. Only **large red poinsettias** (\$7.50) will be offered.



**Saturday, November 26  
9 am to 2 pm**



It’s time to decorate the church for the Christmas season. If you are unable to come for the entire time, come for some of it.

We have a lot of fun so hope to see you there. If you’ve never joined us before, now is the time to come together and fellowship, while beautifying the Lord’s House!

**2023 Offering Envelopes**

... will be on the glass display cabinet in the Narthex soon. As each box of envelopes cost **\$5.10 to mail**, please pick up your envelopes, and perhaps you can take your neighbor’s / friend’s envelopes and give to them.

~ [Lynda M. Stine](#), *Financial Secretary*

**November Birthdays!!**



Jackie Shanahan .....	1
Arlene Pentimall.....	2
June Sams.....	7
Tom Welch .....	13
Sam Getty.....	18
Mitchell Greer .....	19
John Dreyer, Sr .....	21
Bob Nelson .....	25
Bob Gibbs .....	27
Crist’o Drummond .....	29



*"I sought the Lord,  
and He delivered me,  
and delivered me  
from all my fears."  
Psalm 34:4*

### Ongoing Prayer Needs

Alex (Sally Vickers)  
All those affected by  
violence & war, and for  
peace between world  
governments  
Russell & Bethany Alexander  
Bob Arrants  
Joe Bradford  
Brook & Natalie (Maggie  
McCans)  
Jim Chambers (Sally Vickers)  
Jerry & Barbara Chreiman  
Madeline Deane  
Michael Fletcher (Lynn  
Seidel)  
Sam & Dolores Getty  
Bill & Anne Gibbs  
Tommy Glisson  
Eugene Holt (John Venafr)  
Marla Hsu (Anna Glisson)  
John & Terri Jones  
Tina Kadri (Judy Arrants)

Robin Kim  
Jamie King (Lynda Stine)  
Carol Luther Lauria (Sally  
Vickers)  
Gary Leranian (Madeline Deane)  
Eleanor Luther  
Janice MacBride  
Susan Markow (John Jones)  
Miriam Martin  
Mary (Gina Dukes)  
Liz Murray (Lynn Seidel)  
Rev. Bill Neff  
Donna Riegel  
Ruth Schenkenberger  
Sandra Shanahan  
Bernie, Bobbie & Katie Shimkus  
(Laura Welch)  
Sue (Mary Thompson)  
Michael Tate  
Jacob Tercha (Bobbi Blum)  
Joan Touhill (Lynn Seidel)  
Toya (Gina Dukes)

### Current Prayer Needs

Alex  
Ann  
Barbara  
Billy  
Bob Arrants  
Judy Arrants  
Comfort for Tracy  
Cangelosi family  
Carol  
Aunt Dottie & Uncle  
John

Fran  
Gina's neighbors  
Beth Hariu  
Bill Hutchinson  
Janice MacBride  
Jennie  
Jim  
Karen's sister  
Tricia Miles  
Judge Miller

comfort for Rev  
Mosee in his  
son's passing  
Linda North  
Pat & Shirley  
Alice & Ed Sabre  
Sandy  
Lynn Seidel  
Victims of  
Hurricane Ian  
Dot Weaver

### Residing in Retirement Care & Nursing Homes

Bob Nelson – Broomall Rehab & Nursing Ct



**Welcome to our new  
members who joined  
October 30, 2022:**

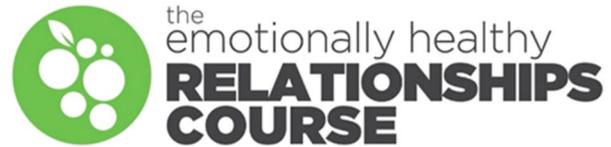
- ✝ Judy Boutilier
- ✝ Art Cabellaro, Jr.
- ✝ Mary Lou Smith
- ✝ Bonnie Wadsworth

## Annual Christmas Outreach

- **COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF DELAWARE COUNTY / CAADC (Wesley House Shelter)** in Chester requests toys for children ages infant up to 16. There are NO tags, please **DO NOT WRAP**. Place gifts in narthex under Literature table.
- **"MIRACLE BULLETIN BOARD"**, across from the Chapel, will soon have five (5) gift tag requests for seniors at the Fair Acres Geriatric Center. Please place gifts under literature table; **follow instructions on tags and DO NOT WRAP.**

### DEADLINES

Fair Acres **NOV 27** / Wesley House Shelter **DEC 4**



### Wednesday Night Bible Study

Greeting Sisters and Brothers!

I'm Pastor Brendan. I'd like to invite you to join Norwood United Methodist, for 8 Wednesdays beginning this week, *November 2, from 7-8:30 pm*, for a powerful time of fellowship and deepening relationship with Christ and One another! Spread the word! Anyone can join at any point in the series!

We will be gathering virtually via Zoom:

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/7185708973?pwd=Uj  
hGWmJVQTdLb2QrZXZlXWwJSEISQT09](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/7185708973?pwd=UjhGWmJVQTdLb2QrZXZlXWwJSEISQT09)

**Meeting ID: 718 570 8973**

**Passcode: family**

Or you can call in with a regular phone by doing the following: Call 646-558-8656, then when prompted for ID press: 973-7819-0874# and then #  
See you there!

Sincerely,

Pastor Brendan

[PastorBrendan33@gmail.com](mailto:PastorBrendan33@gmail.com)

## November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>REMOTE Office Schedule</b>  <b>Monday to Friday</b>  <b>10a to 2p</b>		1  <b>All Saints Day</b>	2	3	4  6:00p Youth Group  10:00p N.A.	5  <b>8:00a Men's Breakfast</b>  <b>5:00p Designer Bag Bingo</b>
6  <b>Holy Communion All Saints Sunday Memorial Dedication Sunday</b>  10:00a Worship  10:00a Children's Bible Classes	7  7:00p SPRC mtg	8	9  7:00p Bible Study/ZOOM  7:30p N.A.	10  7:00p Nar- Anon	11  6:00p Youth Group  10:00p N.A.	12  <b>8:30a Women's Breakfast</b>
13  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  10:00a Worship  10:00a Children's Bible Classes	14	15	16  7:00p Bible Study/ZOOM  7:00p Trustee mtg  7:30p N.A.	17  7:00p Nar- Anon	18  6:00p Youth Group  10:00p N.A.	19
20  <b>Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday</b>  <b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>  10:00a Worship  10:00a Children's Bible Classes	21  1:00a Handy Hands	22	23  7:30p N.A.	24  <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>  7:00p Nar- Anon	25  <b>Office Closed</b>  6:00p Youth Group  10:00p N.A.	26  <b>9a-2p Hanging of the Greens</b>
27  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent United Methodist Student Day</b> (special offering)  10:00a Worship  10:00a Children's Bible Classes	28	29	30  7:00p Bible Study/ZOOM  7:30p N.A.		<b>Sunday in-person</b>  <b>10:00a Worship</b>  and live-streamed  on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NorwoodUMC">Facebook</a>	
Visit us at <a href="http://www.NorwoodUMC.org">www.NorwoodUMC.org</a> , Like us on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NUMC">bit.ly/FacebookNUMC</a> Follow us on <a href="https://www.instagram.com/NUMC">bit.ly/InstagramNUMC</a> , Subscribe to us on <a href="https://www.youtube.com/NUMC">bit.ly/YouTubeNUMC</a> Contact us at <a href="mailto:NorwoodUMC@gmail.com">NorwoodUMC@gmail.com</a> to join our email list					<b>Church Office</b> 610-532-0982 Please leave a voicemail and we will get back to you as soon as possible610	

# Norwood United Methodist Church

315 Chester Pike  
Norwood, PA 19074-1401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## November



2022 Newsletter

### Staff

[Brendan Van Gorder](#), Pastor

[Mike Nelson](#), Youth Pastor

[Pat Beckett](#), Administrative Assistant

[Kurt Schaefer, Sr](#), Treasurer

[Lynda Stine](#), Financial Secretary

### Worship

10:00 am in-person Worship,  
and live-streamed on Facebook

### Contact Info

Norwood UMC / 610-532-0982  
315 Chester Pike, Norwood, PA 19074-1401



[Eastern PA Conference of the  
United Methodist Church](#)