

## NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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*North  
Congregational  
Church*

**N**ORTH  
EWS

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*“God is Love: Pass It On!”*



*We are gathered for worship of God and service to humanity.*

### Call to the Annual Business Meeting Sunday, February 3, 2019



The Annual Business Meeting of North Congregational Church will be held on **Sunday, February 3, 2019**, as ordered by the Executive Council, to transact business as specified in this Call or authorized by the By-Laws. At this meeting, the Treasurer will provide the annual financial report for the past year. The Trustees will present the proposed annual operating budget for the current year to the membership for their consideration and approval.

We will have lunch in Fellowship Hall following the meeting, prepared and served by the Executive Council. **Reservations are needed.** Please sign up so we have enough seating and food for everyone.

**Judy Campbell, Clerk**





## Communion...

will be celebrated in worship on **Sunday, January 6th, and February 3, 2019.**



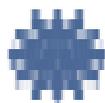
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## Stewardship Update

Thank you to all of our Members and Friends who have completed an Estimate of Giving card for 2018. As of December 27th we have received **78 Estimates** totaling **\$179,479**. Last year at this time we had 82 Estimates, totaling \$181,641. Estimates can still be turned in either by completing an Estimate of Giving card from the sign-up table outside Fellowship Hall or e-mailing an estimate to **Danny Hawkins** at [NCC.BusinessManager@gmail.com](mailto:NCC.BusinessManager@gmail.com).

An estimate of giving confirmation will be mailed with your 2018 tax statements in January to all members and friends who have indicated an estimate for 2019.

THANK YOU,  
North Congregational Church Stewardship Committee



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## Diaconate Benevolences

Minister's Discretionary Fund,  
National Association of Congregational  
Christian Churches' Shared Ministries  
Fund

## January Activities...



### Flick Chicks!

Do you enjoy movies and dinner? That's what Flick Chicks is all about. We see a movie on the first Thursday of each month at the Regal Crown Theater at 14 Mile & Haggerty Road. Then we discuss the movie over dinner at Applebee's Restaurant

We will start the new year off seeing a movie on **Thursday, January 3rd**. Join us during coffee hour, in the Plymouth/Bradford Room on December 30th to help choose the movie and time. All women are welcome!

### Wednesday Ladies' Lunch Group

Join us each Tuesday for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are needed, all women of the church are welcome!

January 09 - Diamond Jim Brady's  
January 16 - Scrambler Marie's  
January 23 - Mandarin Garden  
January 30 - Ginopolis

### Boxing Up Christmas Decorations - January 2 - 4, 2019

Below is the link for signing up to take down the Christmas decorations. Each volunteer can indicate in the comments section what date and time they can help out from Wednesday, January 2nd to Friday, January 4th, between the hours of 8:30 am to 4 pm. If we need to add a day, we can set aside a few hours on Saturday, January 5th.

**Please ignore the dates on the sign up, I had to pick a date to get the sign up content. And,** please contact me with any questions you may have. Thank You,

*Janice Thornton*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a4eaead2dabfd0-boxin>





**BOOK GROUP**  
*February 20th, 1:00 p.m.*  
*Educated* by Tara Westover

Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. Tara never saw a doctor or nurse. Gashes and concussions, even burns from explosions, were all treated at home with herbalism. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent.

Then, lacking any formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history, learning for the first time about important world events like the Holocaust and the civil rights movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, and whether there was still a way home.

*Educated* is an account of the struggle for self-invention, a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

**MASCOT<sup>3</sup>S Calendar**

Mascot<sup>3</sup>s, is a social group open to all adult members and friends of the church. Please join us once a month for fun, food (always food) and fellowship.

**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Euchre Party**

This low key euchre tournament at the Hawkins' house includes a refresher/teaching session at 6:30 p.m. with play beginning at 7:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share, \$5.00 per person for a prize pool and quarters for the Euchre pot should you and your partner fall short of your three tricks.

Please see the sign up on the sheet outside Fellowship Hall for additional information. Contact **Danny** with any questions or suggested activities, at [ncc.businessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:ncc.businessmanager@gmail.com)



**HONORING  
 MARTIN LUTHER  
 KING**

**Monday, January 21,  
 9:00 A.M.**

The Multicultural Multiracial Community Council will host its annual celebration of **The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, on **January 21st** at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

Participants gather at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 N. Market Road, (*west of Farmington STEAM Academy*) and walk to the Farmington Library. **Parking** is available at the Church, and at the Library.

Events will be held all day in the library auditorium. Go to the library's website at <http://www.farmlib.org> to see the complete schedule of events.

**SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER**

**CREATIVE SELF-CARE PROGRAM**

This is a 10-week Art Therapy Program for adults who are seeking alternative methods of maintaining self-care. Each week will focus on a different component of self-care and will encourage creative self-exploration.

We meet every Thursday beginning mid-January from 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Samaritan Counseling Center, 29887 West 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, in the Multi-Purpose room. The fee is \$25/session, plus a one-time material fee of \$25.

For further information, please contact SCC's business office at 248 474-4701, or visit our website, [sccmich.org](http://sccmich.org).

**MARRIAGE WORKSHOP**

This workshop, led by experienced leaders, provides opportunities for couples to identify and explore both strengths and areas of potential difficulties in their relationship. Couples will consider the complexity of marriage, recognize what each individual brings to this relationship, and clarify the expectations both have as they enter into this commitment.

The date is February 2019 (exact date TBD), from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The fee is \$225 per couple. A \$125 deposit is required at registration

Please contact **SCC's main office at 248 474-4701 or visit our website, [sccmich.org](http://sccmich.org)**, for further information. Additional workshops are usually held in April, June and September, and private sessions can be arranged throughout the year for an additional \$50 fee.



## PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP 2019 RETREATS

The Michigan Conference holds three youth retreats each year at locations around the state. These retreats strive to provide Christian fellowship and education opportunities for our youth. Remaining retreats are:

◆ **January 25-27** at Pine Hill Congregational Church in West Bloomfield. A weekend retreat for those in 9th-12th grades from Congregational churches throughout Michigan. The retreat will feature speakers, small group discussions, devotionals, worship, music, fellowship, FUN, and more!

◆ **March 8-10**, location (tbd) for students in grades 6 - 12.

Check the Michigan Pilgrim Fellowship website for more information and registration details: (<http://www.michiganpf.org>)

You may also contact **Danny** or **Mimi** to sign up or if you have questions.

## 2019 NOLA MISSION TRIP

Members from SE Michigan Congregational Churches will once again travel to New Orleans to assist in restoration work. We will be working with SBP again on housing in low-income areas. SBP was formed after Hurricane Katrina and has grown into a national organization headquartered in New Orleans, recognized as a leader in disaster resilience, with a mission to shrink time between disaster and recovery. Since 2006, SBP has directly rebuilt homes for more than 1,300 families with the help of more than 180,000 volunteers in New Orleans and other disaster-stricken communities around America.

(<http://sbpusa.org/>)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/SBPUSA/>)

Our team will be staying at Camp Restore. Since 2006 more than 30,000 volunteers have called this former church campus home during mission trips.  
(<https://camprestore.org/neworleans/>)

Our work dates will be **February 25<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**. For more information see the NCC website.

We are still looking for volunteers. If you are interested contact **Kevin Gromley** ([gromk@aol.com](mailto:gromk@aol.com)) or add your name to the "I'm Interested" list outside Fellowship Hall.

This will be our 11<sup>th</sup> mission to New Orleans (12<sup>th</sup> overall).

## South Oakland Shelter at North Congregational

**August 18th through 25th, 2019**

North Congregational will host South Oakland Shelter with our partner congregations next summer. S.O.S. provides homeless prevention, sustainable housing and career development strategies and programs for homeless and at-risk people seeking stabilization and self-sufficiency. We will provide food, housing, transportation, entertainment and hospitality services for up to 35 people, including individuals and families. We will need a few team leaders to help coordinate the various functions (meals, activities, transportation, welcoming, etc.).

Please contact **Danny Hawkins** [NCC.BusinessManager@gmail.com](mailto:NCC.BusinessManager@gmail.com) if you are interested in a slightly larger role in 2019. Volunteers for each for those areas of service will be able to sign up online in July.

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

The American Red Cross is in constant need of blood donations. If you have not given in the last eight weeks or would like to give for the first time there are several sites in and around Farmington Hills where you can make a donations. The Donor Center on Haggerty south of Fourteen Mile Road has hours every week on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. There are also Donor Centers in Bloomfield and Livonia.

Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) for the complete schedule of donation dates and locations.





## To Our Holiday Helpers!

Thanks to everyone who rang, who sang, who decorated (and undecorated too), who planned, who acted in the pageant, who read in a worship service, who lit candles, who helped children and teens with their parts, who worked on the Christmas Craft Workshop, who served cookies and Christmas Eve treats, who ushered and greeted and otherwise served! Our Advent and Christmas celebrations were made complete with your wonderful work!

## Women's Fellowship

We would like to thank all who participated in Adopt-A-Family, the Knitting Tree and filling the giant stocking in the Narthex.



Because of your kindness 2 families received gifts to open, gift certificates to Kroger, Ram's Horn and Speedway gas. Your response was overwhelming and we are proud that this church answers the call for those in need.

The Adopt-A-Family gifts were delivered to Neighborhood House in time for Christmas and the mittens/hats and socks will be delivered to Lighthouse in Pontiac.

## Repairs around North Church

A certain portion of repairs and maintenance at North Church is done by volunteers. When we are notified of a needed repair, House and Grounds members evaluate it first. If needed, the repair is placed on a sign up. The sign up is normally e-mailed out to the congregation as needed to see if anyone is willing to do the repair.

To expedite this process, we are asking that a work order be filled out. The work orders are available on the Information Tables in Pilgrim Hall, outside of Fellowship Hall, and the table outside of the Plymouth/Bradford Room. The work orders can be left on Debbie's desk, or put in my mailbox in the Resource Room. You can also e-mail me directly—no work order needed—with any repairs you notice.

I will coordinate with anyone who is willing to do maintenance and repairs at North Church. You will be reimbursed for any supplies purchased, or I can purchase the needed supplies before you begin the repair.

Our volunteers play a vital part in the life of North Church, we thank you for all your help!

Janice Thornton,  
Facilities Coordinator  
ncc.churchoffice.janice@gmail.com

## Lay Readers and Greeters... are urgently needed January - March, 2019.

If you would like to be a lay reader, a greeter, or an acolyte, please sign up on the sheets provided on the Information Table.



## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

- January 6 - Jane Windell, Lee Poese
- January 13 - Steve Lange, Greg Fernandes
- January 20 - Mark Bowden, Tim Sirovy
- January 27 - Steve Ekizian, Kevin Gromley

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## February Newsletter...

Newsletter articles are needed by the **15th of each month**; please e-mail your articles to Debbie at [ncc.churchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ncc.churchoffice@gmail.com). Thank you!



The Family of Thomas Vedder, who died in November, 2018.

Meghan and Brandon Webster, on the death of their grandmother, Carol "Joan" Webster, on December 5, 2018.

The family of Robert Hummon, who died on December 8, 2018. His funeral service was held at North Congregational Church on Friday, December 14, 2018, officiated by Rev. Dr. Mary E. Biedron.



# CALENDAR

(Current version of our calendar can be found on our web site: [northcongregationalchurch.org](http://northcongregationalchurch.org))

**January 1, 2019 - Tuesday**  
Office Closed

**January 2-4, 2019 - Tuesday - Friday**  
Boxing Up Christmas Decorations

**January 3, 2019 - Thursday**  
Flick Chicks - Movie/Dinner

**January 6, 2019 - Epiphany Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion, Children's Message,  
Sunday School, NO High School Class  
Lay Reader: TBD



**January 8, 2019 - Tuesday**  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Bell Rehearsal

**January 9, 2019 - Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. Wednesday Ladies' Lunch Group - Diamond Jim Brady's  
7:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting - Room 3, Pilgrim Hall  
7:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting - Plymouth Room

**January 13, 2019 - Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, High School Class  
Lay Reader: TBD  
11:30 a.m. Christian Fellowship and Education Meeting - Library

**January 15, 2019 - Tuesday**  
9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast CLUB - Moe's on Ten  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Bell Rehearsal

**January 16, 2019 - Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. Wednesday Ladies' Lunch Group - Scrambler Marie's

**January 20, 2019 - Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Children's Message,  
Sunday School, High School Class  
Lay Reader: TBD

**January 21, 2019 - Monday - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
9:00 a.m. Martin Luther King, Jr., Walk - Prince of Peace  
Lutheran Church to Farmington Hills Library



**January 22, 2019 - Tuesday**  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Bell Rehearsal

**January 23, 2019 - Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. Wednesday Ladies' Lunch Group - Mandarin Garden  
*Consent Agenda Minutes and Reports are due*

**January 27, 2019 - Sunday**  
9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, High School Class  
Lay Reader: TBD

**January 28, 2019 - Monday**  
7:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting - Room 3

**January 29, 2019 - Tuesday**  
9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast CLUB - Moe's on Ten  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Bell Rehearsal

**January 30, 2019 - Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. Wednesday Ladies' Lunch Group - Ginopolis

