



# **NORTH POINTE NEWS**

## **FEBRUARY 2024**

Pastor Emerita Post (P.E.P. Talk)

February 2024

Happy New Year! Another year. Another month. Another day during which to grow. And, I'm not talking about height or weight or knowledge. These words I'm writing are meant to encourage (and maybe challenge) us to spiritual growth. Including me. For me, spiritual growth means growing in my relationships with others.

One of the places in which I grow is the Adult Sunday School Class. Recently the class has been exploring science and religion, learning the ways they are moving closer together and then discussing how the information addresses faith understandings. (We each have our own faith stories and understandings)

I grew up with a father who taught science and physics. He also insisted on church every Sunday and ruled our no drinking, no swearing, no cards on Sunday household with his iron fist. Somehow, he was able to keep scientific knowledge and his religious faith into two separate categories. And, when he was dying of cancer at 57, he pointed to Psalm 90 and said, "I was promised 'three score and ten' years!" My father went to his grave feeling betrayed by his faith.

Confession: I've lived four score and three years now. In my mind, science and religion and politics and the arts and death and life and nature and cosmos are all connected in this evolving creation. I'm on a tiny blue marble in a vast cosmos in which no one (NO ONE) has the final answer. I'm dependent upon something I don't understand. And, of course, I count on all sorts of others to keep me keepin' on.

Hence the importance of growing in my relationships.

Back to the Sunday School Class. On December 17, a young and very fast-talking woman on the video spoke about the importance of doubt and finding our questions. Some of you have heard me say that questions are our edge of growth. (I carry a notebook with me - mostly to write down my passionate emotional responses to what is going on so that I don't disrupt the calmer discussions around me. On that December Sunday, I wrote: Nancy: What are my questions now?

So, here are a few of my faith questions that came up this December 18th morning:

(These aren't questions like what about supper? When can I get my sore foot looked at? Should I order the angel cookies from O & H for tomorrow?) These are questions like:

How do I worship when I don't believe Jesus died for me? Am I still a Christian if I understand Jesus not as a god, but as a symbol that points to mystery? If I refer to the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) as "Two men and a Bird" am I harming my relationships with others?

These days I believe a man called Jesus, was a poet and peasant who with his stories evoked questions in his listeners. Questions about what it means to be human.

Pastor Emerita Post (P.E.P. Talk) continued

Another poet, Rainer Maria Rilke helps me explore the questions I have:

February 2024

... be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue... allow each impression and each embryo of a feeling to complete itself in the dark, in the unsayable, the not-knowing, beyond the reach of one's own understanding, and humbly and patiently await the dawning of a new clarity ...

As always, I welcome conversations with you - and, especially questions of faith that you may be asking.  
NBK

## North Pointe Quilters Fellowship 2024 Schedule

Are you interested in quilting? No experience - no problem! There's something for everyone to do from ironing fabric and tying quilts to laying out new quilts with lots of fellowship and sharing mixed in. If you're mildly interested, come and see what we're all about.



Most of our quilts are donated to the Racine Unified School District School Aged Parent Program as incentives for the young parents to complete their education. A quilt is also given to every baby or toddler baptized at North Pointe.

We meet on the first Friday of each month at 12:30 pm in the Education Wing (however, if inclement weather causes RUSD to cancel classes or close early, quilting will also be canceled).

**Our schedule for 2024 is:**

|            |            |         |          |             |           |
|------------|------------|---------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| February 2 | March 1    | April 5 |          |             |           |
| May 3      | June 7     | July 5  | August 2 | September 6 | October 4 |
| November 1 | December 6 |         |          |             |           |

If you have questions, please call Linda Jackson at 262-498-0431



ASH WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14  
WORSHIP SERVICE 6:30 PM  
ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

## North Pointe Women's Ministry Planning Meeting Summary

### *Our goals:*

- *To be a mission to the church and community with a focus on women, children and families.*
- *To help in the growth of our own church.*

A planning meeting was held on January 4, 2024 with six members in attendance. Consensus was reached to allocate the \$700 unspent budgeted monies from 2023 to help pay the nursery worker.

The budget approved for 2024 is \$2,000 allocated as follows:

- \$300 – Youth
- \$200 – Quilting and Pillowcase Ministries
- \$150 – Shut-in Outreach (working with ALB Nuture)
- \$250 – Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- \$150 – Diaper Ministry (given as Scrip gift cards)
- \$300 – Miscellaneous (including kitchen supplies)
- \$200 – Women's Activities
- \$400 – Nursery Worker
- \$ 50 – In-Gathering (if needed)
- \$ 00 – Kitchen Improvement Internal Fund (frozen at current balance of \$5,850)

Income to support this budget is half of the Scrip net profits (the other half goes to the church), serving at funerals, and direct donations. For several years we have used our reserve funds to help cover our budget. Everyone is encouraged to use Scrip cards. If each person/family purchased at least one card per month it would make a big impact on both the women's ministry income and the church income.

We are seeking a volunteer to investigate local restaurants that offer "Eat a Meal" profit sharing. Several offer this opportunity on non-peak days as a way for non-profits to earn money. Some restaurants that have offered this in the past are Culvers, Panera, Pico and McDonalds. Please contact Linda Jackson if you would be interested in researching this.

Activities (and co-ordinators) for 2024 are:

### **Work:**

- Tidy the Lounge, small kitchen & bookcases (Georgia O/Linda J)
- Empty/organize credenza in the Narthex (Georgia O/Linda J)
- Clean/organize the office kitchenette/storage area (Kathy Y)

### **Outreach:**

- Connect with Shut-Ins via ALB Nuture (Cathy L)

### **Fun:**

- Christmas party in December (Linda J)
- Old-fashioned all church potluck/picnic in summer (Jeanne T F)
- Craft extravaganza (Dianne B/Maureen E/Linda J)

### **Mission:**

- Baby quilts
- Prayer shawls
- Support H.A.L.O. pillowcase making



## You Helped to Keep Children Warm This Season

North Pointe donated warm items to keep children warm who attend S.C. Johnson and Olympia Brown Elementary Schools. 18 pairs of socks 13 sets of caps and gloves 79 caps and 19 gloves These items were divided equally between the 2 schools.

Special thanks to Ellie Boldus, Murdell Davis and Georgia Owens who organized the boxes. Thanks to Jean Gobeli for allowing us to be at church on Monday. We filled two boxes for each school.

The items were blessed during worship on Sunday, January 28th, and delivered on January 29th by Ellie Boldus, Rommel Ellis and Georgia Owens.

***Thought for the Day:*** *Each of us has gifts that can benefit others.*

Your Mission Committee,

Ellie Boldus, Cathy Loesch and Georgia Owens

## Heritage Days Honoring Mae Ellis

**Mae Evelyn Owens Ellis** will be recognized for contributions to the community during *Tenth Annual Heritage Ball Celebration* at Festival Hall on Saturday, February 17th beginning at 5:30 pm, beginning with socializing, dinner and awards.



Tickets may be purchased from Al Johnson at 262-497-1650.

This is a Black Tie Event!



## Black History Month

**February 1—February 29**

February was chosen as Black History Month because it covered the birthdays of Frederick Douglas (American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. He became the most important leader of the movement for African-American civil rights in the 19th century. ) February 14th and our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln which is February 12th.



## News From NPUMC YOUth T.E.A.M

The NPUMC YOUth T.E.A.M. has a lot to express and share with our church family in this newsletter. **We hope and pray that you'll read all of this.** Thanks!!!

First we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our church family for your continued and encouragement for our ministry and mission vision and hopes.

We are blessed by your response to our Mason Cookie jar mixes and Hot Cocoa Ornaments sale. We hope that you enjoyed them yourselves &/or had fun giving them to someone else. We had a lot of fun making them and plan to use the proceeds to help us continue with our missions of growing our group, redoing our meeting room and establishing a banned book library for many to be blessed by. We also want you to know that we have made the commitment to NPUMC and God that for every fund raiser we do, we will give 10% back to God through a gift to the church with our continued gratitude. We have designated that this time's giving go to the entryway restructure to honor God and all of you.

We also want to say THANK YOU to Bill Hoff for the donation of an amazing Green Bay Packer jacket. He encouraged us to use it as a silent auction item to raise funds for the youth ministry. We took his advise and want to also thank and congratulate Steve Oppeneer for the highest bid. May the coat bless you as you have blessed us.

We have begun the work on our youth room. As of this writing, the accent wall paint job has been completed. We took advantage of the holiday to paint. Thanks to Mike Leih for helping and guiding us in the painting project. The next step is applying vinyl to the wall that will express some of our favorite positive affirmation statements and add color and energy to our room and environment. We are excited and look forward to hosting an open house of our room after Sunday worship in the near future – hopefully in February. Please stay tuned for the details in future announcements and come celebrate with us.

Needing a Good Home: With the renovation of the youth room we have 2 things that we no longer need and want to offer them to whoever is interested on a first come, first served basis. If you would want a chess/checker board table &/or a chalk board OR know of anyone or place that could use them please let Sue Leih know. Thanks.



*Remember your special Valentine on  
Wednesday, February 14th*

(A cupid told me, "it is okay to have more than one Special Valentine, in fact, it is great to have **LOTS** of them. Honest, would a cupid lie to you????)







## Baby Norah Has Arrived

Norah Jade McCabe was born on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. She weighed 5 # 12 oz. and was 14 inches long. Her Mother is Julie McCabe. The proud grandparents are Karen and Dan Andersen. Congratulations to families, McCabe and Andersen.

## Flower Chart Ready!

The 2023 Flower Chart is up for you to plan when you would like to have flowers on the altar. We will be getting the flowers from Pick N' Save this year and they need to have the orders in by Tuesday prior to that Sunday. If you



want to bring your own flowers/plants in, that is still fine. If you sign up on the chart in advance of the date, that is fine as well. **However, we will be sending in the order on Mondays.** As of this writing, the cost of \$35 will remain the same. Thank you for gracing our altar with beautiful flowers.



## Our Sympathies and Prayers

Judy Hoff, a long time loved member of both Trinity UMC and North Pointe, passed away on January 12, 2024. Services were held at North Pointe UMC on Saturday, January 27, with Pastor Sue Barham officiating. Our prayers go to Judy's husband, Bill, and other family members.

## Thank You From North Side Food Pantry

Thank you for your continued support of the North Side Food Pantry. You provided a facility to host the pantry and the hot meal program sponsored by St Vincent de Paul, you helped unload food trucks, you distributed food at the pantry, and you contributed \$5,090 in financial support during 2023. Your generous support helped meet the needs of the families who sought our assistance. We served 1,700 families and 5,080 adults and children; both all-time records. Unfortunately, the need to provide these services to the community seems to continue as we move forward into 2024.



Steve Oppeneer

Director of North Side Food Pantry

## FEBRUARY SCRIP NEWS

The February SCRIP order day this month is February 11th. January and February are the months that are commonly known as, **Let's Get Organized.** Toss out the old (or donate) items you don't use. Organize your desk, basement, man cave or craft room.



Stores are now putting sale prices on totes, decorative file cabinets, etc. All these can be purchased with SCRIP Cards to Target and Kohls. After all that shopping you will need the SCRIP Cards to Panera, Olive Garden, Red Lobster for an energy building lunch.

Cash & Carry (cards that we carry 'in stock') are available for sale in the church office when Sue Dennison is in the office. Cash or checks are accepted. We carry a variety of cards in our Cash and Carry. Questions/help contact: Elinor Offerdahl, or Lillian Brown.



## **Food Pantry Items for FEBUARY**

**Paper Products      Hand Soap      Laundry Detergent**

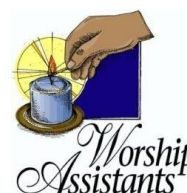
### **Worship Assistants for February**

#### **Liturgists**

February 4th      Nikki Fisher  
February 11th      Tom Wendt  
February 18th      Sally Hoelzel  
February 25th      Tom Piehler

#### **Ushers Team E**

Carl Korndoerfer  
Ron Fox  
Tom Hughbanks  
Paul Walquist



**FEBRUARY 2023**



**North Pointe United Methodist Church**

**Racine, WI 53402**

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED

**North Pointe United Methodist Church**

**3825 Erie, Racine, WI 53402**

**262-639-2441**

**Website: [NorthPointeRacine.org](http://NorthPointeRacine.org)**

**Email: [office@northpointeracine.org](mailto:office@northpointeracine.org)**

## ***WORSHIP AT NORTH POINTE***



***ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE WEDNESDAY,***

***FEBRUARY 14TH***

***6:30 PM***

***ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED***

***SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM***

***COMMUNION ON THE***

***FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH***

***ALL ARE WELCOME***