

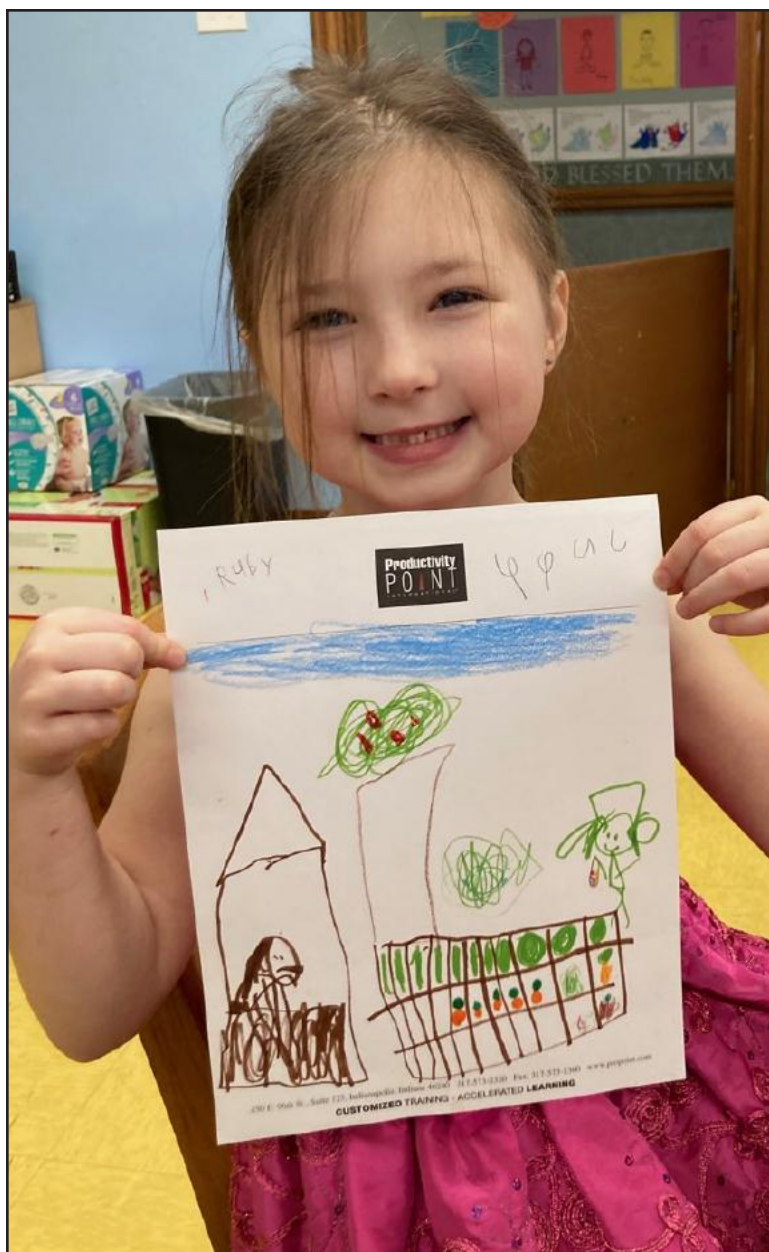
# North Events

Fall/Winter

2023/2024

O  
Come





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North United Methodist Church  
3808 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46208  
Info@NorthChurchIndy.com  
NorthChurchIndy.com

# Color Keys

All Ages: **Black**

Adults Only: **Orange**

Adults and Youth: **Blue**

Children: **Green**

Youth: **Brown**

Women: **Magenta**

Seniors: **Purple**

## *Cover Art:*

Although many of North's banners were created by the late Doris Douglas, our cover art comes from a small portion of a banner designed and created by Patty Hefner. Entitled "O Come," it is a pulpit banner announcing the Advent season. The Star of Bethlehem dominates the banner, surrounded with bursts of light representing the stars at night. The crown near the bottom edge of the banner announces the coming of a King.

We like the double meaning when used for our Events booklet, as we also hope you'll read about the many opportunities North offers and come to church!

**Note:** Please use this booklet only as a guide, as some items may change. The church bulletin, newsletters, emails, social media and/or the TV slides in the west entry will convey any necessary updates.

# New to North?

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

We hold two worship services each Sunday — one at 8:30 a.m. and one at 11 a.m. Our Sunday school is from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. We celebrate holy communion on the first Sunday of each month. We offer contemplative and meditative prayer on Tuesday evenings.

Darren Cushman Wood is our senior pastor. Sunil Kotian is our pastor of mission and outreach. Amy Sell is our minister of discipleship and formation and Brandon Wallace is our minister of youth and young adults. Mark Gilgallon is our director of music and John Drake is our finance director. Other staff members are listed on our website at [NorthChurchIndy.com](http://NorthChurchIndy.com).

Please stop at the hospitality desk at the west entry, see one of our greeters or ushers, or call our office at (317) 924-2612 if you have questions. You can also email us at [Info@NorthChurchIndy.com](mailto:Info@NorthChurchIndy.com).

We hope you'll find this booklet helpful as a guide to the many opportunities North offers.

# A Word from Pastor Darren

Did you know that North has 12 exterior doors?

That's right; there are a dozen different ways for folks to get inside and outside of the church. From God's perspective there are many, many more ways for people to find their way into the fellowship of our congregation. There is the "front door," which are our Sunday in-person worship services. And there are numerous "back doors" of different outreach ministries, fellowship events, small groups, and online experiences. These back doors include everything from Trunk or Treat to a short-term book study.

This booklet is your guide to all the doors of North. Every event and ministry listed in these pages is a potential point of entry to someone who is looking for support and meaning for their lives.

For every door — back and front — you are a door keeper when you invite someone to experience North. This fall and winter make it a priority to invite your friends and neighbors, your co-workers, and relatives to come to North. Open the doors and invite them to one of these many offerings.

Pastor Darren

# Worship and the Arts

## Morning Prayers

Mondays through Fridays, 9:30 a.m. (Chapel)

Join us any weekday morning for this short (approximately 15-minute) service of intercessory prayer and praise, where we lift up the prayer requests of the congregation.

## Meditation and Contemplative Prayer

Tuesdays, 5:30-6 p.m. (Chapel)

Meditation and Contemplative Prayer is a method of prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of experiencing God's presence within us that is closer than breathing, thinking, or consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. All are welcome to join this group and experience the voice of God in the power of silence and meditation.





### **Worship Without Walls**

Sunday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m. (one service only on Sept. 10)  
(North's parking lot)

Bring a friend to our annual Worship Without Walls. This special service will be held under a tent in the parking lot with special music by the Borrowed Tyme bluegrass band and refreshments. Folding chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring your own lawn chairs. After the service we will hold a cookout. Food and drinks will be provided; just bring your appetite! We'll hold a cornhole competition on the lawn, and Pastor Sunil will lead a cricket exhibition match. All are invited to play.

### **"Imagining God" Worship Series**

Sundays, Sept. 17-Oct. 22, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Ever wonder what God is like? Each Sunday we will explore the evocative and imaginative metaphors in

the Bible that reveal the nature of God. Pastor Darren will be your guide through this journey of the senses as we hear, see, and feel the presence of God through worship and in our daily lives. Special Sundays celebrating creation care and health and healing are included in this series. A small-group series with a companion study guide will be offered to help you learn with others seeking a deeper vision of God.

### **World Communion Sunday**

Sunday, Oct. 1, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

World Communion Sunday is an annual ecumenical observance that began in 1940. As part of our "Imagining God" series, we will celebrate God the Shepherd and reaffirm our spiritual connection with churches around the world.

### **Creation Care Sunday**

Sunday, Oct. 8, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Join us for a service of rededication to care for the planet as we reflect on

God the Gardener. Our worship kicks off a day of observances and learning about environmental stewardship.



## **Health and Healing Sunday**

Sunday, Oct. 22, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Come and bring a friend to our annual Health and Healing Sunday. Through worship and special events we'll remember that God is close to those who are sick and those who care for the sick, and calls us to self-care. Through this celebration we seek to learn how to be good stewards of our bodies. You will have the opportunity for anointing and laying on of hands during the worship. For those who are unable to attend, this ritual can be brought to your home upon request.

## **All-Saints Sunday**

Sunday, Nov. 5, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Each year we remember our loved ones and all the faithful who have died in the faith. In remembrance of our members who died in the past 12 months, their names are read during the liturgy for communion. In addition you are invited to light a candle in remembrance of your loved ones during this special Sunday.

## **Stewardship Sunday**

Sunday, Nov. 19, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate the distinctive passion and diversity of our congregation and renew our commitment to work together for God's missions. This year's theme is "Rooted in Faith," which emphasizes the dedication of our gifts to God as an expression of our

trust and gratitude in the gift of God's grace. On this special day we will renew our membership vows to one another by dedicating our financial pledges for 2024. For this Sunday's special music the Cathedral Singers will feature various settings of the Latin prayer "Te Deum Laudamus – You, God, We Praise," sung in both Latin and English as composed by such musicians as Holst, Vaughan Williams, Hayes, and Forrest.

### **Thanksgiving Eve Service**

#### **Featuring the Indianapolis Children's Choir**

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Come and give thanks in worship with special music by the Indianapolis Children's Choir. All proceeds from the offering will go to support the Mid-North Food Pantry.

### **Longest Night Service**

Sunday, Dec. 17, 5 p.m. (Chapel)

For many of us holidays are difficult and even painful. There are many reasons why we may have a lonely carol to sing before the holy places: grief for those whom we have loved and lost, sadness for broken relationships, failing health, and financial turmoil, to name a few. This simple service of silence and song, scripture and prayer will acknowledge the gift of letting go and celebrate the gift of holding fast to hope.

### **Christmas Eve Worship**

Sunday, Dec. 24, 11 a.m., 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. (Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

Throughout Advent we look forward to God's breaking into the world in the birth of Jesus Christ, and together as the people of God we gather on the night before Christmas to anticipate the birth of Christ, our incarnate Savior. Join us for worship, singing, and prayer at any of our three services on this holy night:

- Children and Family Service, 5 p.m. — Special music by our children's choirs and the meaning of Christmas re-imagined through a North Church original drama production performed by children and youth;
  - Celebration of Holy Communion featuring the Rossi Clarinet Consort and Voices in Accord, 7:30 p.m., and
  - Festival of Lessons and Carols, 11 p.m. — (Prelude music begins at 10:30 p.m.)
- There will be one service in the morning at 11 a.m.



## **New Year's Eve Worship**

Sunday, Dec. 31, 11 a.m.

(Sanctuary and North's YouTube channel)

There will be one service at 11 a.m. for the last Sunday of the year as we come together to rededicate our lives to Christ for the New Year.

## **Human Relations Day**

Sunday, Jan. 14, 8:30 and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Human Relations Day is a denomination-wide special Sunday to involve congregations in community and youth outreach. A special offering is taken the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Gifts received for the offering build King's vision of "the beloved community."

*If you have any questions or would like to get involved in worship and arts activities, please contact Pastor Darren at [dcushwood@northchurchindy.com](mailto:dcushwood@northchurchindy.com) or Heidi Horton at [jamesandheidi@gmail.com](mailto:jamesandheidi@gmail.com).*



# All-Church Events

## **Fall Festival**

Sunday, Sept. 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Join us for a celebration of fall! We will gather in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. for a hymn sing, and eat at 6 p.m. Bring a pot of chili or a pumpkin dish for the chili cook-off! Or bring a side dish or dessert to share with a large group for a pitch-in meal. There will be activities for all ages.

## **Blessing of the Animals**

Sunday, Oct. 8, 4 p.m. (Tarkington Park)

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis (the patron saint of animals and ecology), North has an annual tradition of the "Blessing of the Animals," which takes place "next door" in Tarkington Park. Bring your pets and service animals large and small to Tarkington Park on Sunday afternoon for them to receive a blessing. Kids and adults are invited to share a special time of blessing and celebration of their animal companions. Donations of dog and cat food will be sent to a local shelter. Please bring pets on leashes or in carriers for the comfort of all attendees. Waste bags and water will be available.

## **Trunk or Treat**

Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-6 p.m. (Parking lot/inside if raining)

Join us for a night of outreach to our neighbors as we provide a safe alternative to going door to door and a fun alternative for those who don't get any trick-or-

treaters. Bring your car full of decorations, wear a costume, and bring lots of candy as we hand it out to all the kids who come.

**Hamilton Series: “Why Should *Music* Matter to People of Faith” by Dr. Jeremy Begbie**

Saturday, Nov. 11, 10:30 a.m. and Sunday, Nov. 12, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)

This year’s Hamilton Series presenter is Dr. Jeremy Begbie, who will give his lecture on Saturday, with a lunch following, and be our guest preacher on Sunday. Dr. Begbie is the Thomas A. Langford distinguished research professor of theology and the McDonald Agape director of Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts. In addition to his work at Duke, he is a senior member of Wolfson College and an affiliated lecturer in the faculty of music at the University of Cambridge. Dr. Begbie is the author of numerous books and articles on worship and the arts, including “Redeeming Transcendence in the Arts” and “A Peculiar Orthodoxy: Reflections on Theology and the Arts.”

In addition to his lecture and sermon, on Sunday the Cathedral Singers will offer the world debut of two original anthems commissioned by the Hamilton Series by well-known composer Craig Courtney and African American newcomer Reginal Wright.

The lecture and the anthems are presented by the Richard E. and Anna Lee Hamilton Series on Theology and Contemporary Issues, which is funded

by the William E. Schmidt Foundation with additional support from the Blankenbaker-Noyes family.

### **Adoption Awareness Sunday**

Sunday, Nov. 26, 8:30 and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

November is Adoption Awareness Month and we will celebrate during both services on Nov. 26. We give thanks for all the people in our congregation whose lives are affected by adoption. If your life has been impacted by adoption, please join us for a continental breakfast and time of fellowship during the Sunday school hour at 9:45 a.m. in the club room.

### **Advent Festival**

Sunday, Dec. 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

*Contact: Eric Galloway (ewgalloway@hotmail.com)*

Join us for a beautiful all-church celebration of tradition and music, complete with a pitch-in dinner. We will have fried chicken and all the fixings, desserts, and drinks. Please sign up by Nov. 29 by filling out the bulletin's connect card or emailing [events@northchurchindy.com](mailto:events@northchurchindy.com).

### **Update on the State of the United Methodist Church**

Sunday, Jan. 28 (time and location TBA)

Pastor Darren will give an overview of the latest developments in the denomination as it heads toward General Conference in April 2024. He will share the impact realignments and separations are having on the Indiana Annual Conference and possibilities for the future.

# Discipleship and Formation

## **“Imagining God” Small-Group Study**

Sept. 18-Oct. 28 (various times and locations)

A companion to the worship series, take a deeper dive into the various ways of understanding God in this six-session series. Participants will explore biblical metaphors, some familiar and others unique, and experiment with contemporary conceptions of the divine through discussion, meditation, and study. For more info on how to participate or lead a group, contact Amy Sell, minister of discipleship and formation, at [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com).

## **Exploring North**

Sundays, Oct. 8-22, 9:45 a.m. (Conference Room/Zoom)

Are you curious about North’s history and beliefs? Join Pastor Darren for this three-session class that explains the missions and culture at North and offers resources to help you take the next steps to connect.

## **Origins: A Topical Study of Genesis 1-11**

(Time and location TBA)

Pastor Darren will lead a five-week review of the first 11 chapters of Genesis, which contains the origin stories of the most basic human experiences and



desires. Each week we will go beyond Genesis and explore how each topic develops throughout the rest of the Old and New Testaments.

### Prayer Workshop

Saturday, Jan. 27, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

(Fellowship Hall and lower-level classrooms)

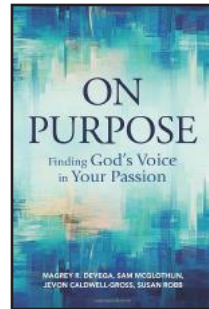
Do your prayers feel stale, old, and repetitive? Are you looking for some guidance on how, when, and where to pray, or what to pray about? If you answered “yes!” to any of those questions, join us Saturday, Jan. 27 for a time of learning more about prayer. We will gather in Fellowship Hall and have the opportunity for some small sessions of learning as well. Lunch will be included. Please RSVP by Jan. 21 to [events@northchurchindy.com](mailto:events@northchurchindy.com).

### “On Purpose” Book Study

Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 6-7:30 p.m.

(Location TBA)

Join us for a book study of “On Purpose: Finding God’s Voice in Your Passion” by Magrey deVega, Sam McGlothlin, Jevon Caldwell-Gross and Susan Robb. This is a four-week study on Wednesday nights starting Jan. 10.



*If you have any questions or would like to get involved in discipleship and formation activities, please contact Amy Sell at [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com) or Eric Galloway at [ewgalloway@hotmail.com](mailto:ewgalloway@hotmail.com).*

# Mission and Outreach

## Bread and Bowl

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.- 12 p.m.  
(Community Room)

*Contact: Sarah Ellen Mamlin (sarahellen@iuteam.org)*

Bread and Bowl is our community lunch that is offered free to the community surrounding the church. Visitors receive a hot meal and they're also warmly invited to share in conversation and fellowship. This ministry is supported in partnership with Second Helpings.

## IPS School 43

(150 W. 40th St.)

*Contact: Robin Reagan (robinreagan3@gmail.com)*

There are many opportunities to partner with IPS James Whitcomb Riley School 43, which is North Church's neighborhood elementary school. Tutors volunteer to work with specific students and/or classrooms to help children achieve academic success.

There is a uniform drive, a teachers' appreciation luncheon, and other opportunities throughout the year.



### **North Church Farmers Market**

Thursdays, Sept. 7 and Sept. 21, 4-6 p.m.

(North's parking lot)

*Contact: Danita Hoskin (market@northchurchindy.com)*

This is your last chance to stock up on fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and other items for the season.

Find a list of all vendors scheduled to attend on the market's Facebook page at

@NorthChurchFarmersMarket. Its website is at northchurchfarmersmarket.com.

### **Interfaith Habitat for Humanity Panel Build**

Saturday, Sept. 23, times TBA.

(Second Presbyterian Church, 7700 N. Meridian St.)

North Church will participate in this build with other churches, mosques, and synagogues, together with Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity. We will be building homes with first-time homebuyers. Contact Lydia Shaw (enrshaw@gmail.com) or Pastor Sunil (skotian@northchurchindy.com) for more info.

**Blessing of the Animals** (see page 14).

**Trunk or Treat** (see page 14).

### **Umoja Partnership's Eighth Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner**

Sunday, Nov. 5, 5 p.m.

(Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st St.)

This event is the Umoja Partnership's primary fundraiser for its food security and education access

program for Kenyan students. Come celebrate the ways our diverse faith traditions are working together for good.

### **Jubilee Christmas**

Friday, Dec. 8 and Saturday, Dec. 9, times TBA.  
(Fellowship Hall)

Contact: Daphne Chen ([hsiaohan@yahoo.com](mailto:hsiaohan@yahoo.com))

Once again we will open a special “Christmas Store” in Fellowship Hall for our neighbors at Coburn Place. Coburn Place is a safe haven for women and their children affected by domestic violence. Please sign up for volunteer opportunities closer to the event.



*If you have questions or would like to get more involved in missions and outreach ministries, contact Pastor Sunil Kotian ([skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)) or Lydia Shaw ([enrshaw@gmail.com](mailto:enrshaw@gmail.com)).*

# Justice and Advocacy

## Ask a Lawyer

Aug. 19, 12-3 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Grassroots Maternal and Child Health sponsors this event for the community. Co-sponsors are Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, COIN, and Indiana Justice Project. This event will provide legal support to families, particularly those that need help with immigration issues. We will have immigration attorneys at North Church on this date.

## Healing Zone

Aug. 27, Sept. 24 and Oct. 22, 5-6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

The justice and advocacy team offers “The Healing Zone” classes free through a Metro Ministries grant.

We recognize that the “Kicking the Stigma” slogan can help us overcome barriers to asking for help. “The Healing Zone” offers one path for help that is easy to access.



Alan Archibald, LCSW, uses hands-on learning about brain science and evidence-based treatment strategies that provide the insight, encouragement, and healing that can renew our hope. These sessions will also be livestreamed.

### **Women's Prison Donations**

September (Gray bin in west entry)

Throughout September we will collect hygiene products for the local women's prison. The items that are needed are: shampoo, conditioner, and hair grease. We will collect them in the gray bin at the west entrance and then deliver them to the women's prison in October.

### **Impact of Youth Mentoring – Youth Panel**

Nov. 5, 5-6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

On All Saints Day join us as our young people share their experiences and the impact that their mentors have in their lives. This panel includes youth from our own communities.

*If you have questions or would like to get more involved in North's justice and advocacy team, contact Pastor Sunil ([skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)) or Alan Archibald ([alanarchibindy@gmail.com](mailto:alanarchibindy@gmail.com)).*

# Care and Nurture

The care and nurture team provides care and resources that promote better health and well-being for our congregation and the greater community. Pastoral care is provided during the times of life that bring great joy and also times of challenge and sorrow. Lay visitation is provided by church members for those who may be homebound, or living in retirement communities or nursing care facilities. Bereavement care is provided for families at the time of death and during funeral services held at North. Resources are provided that shed light on particular health issues, or address particular needs and interests within the church and community.

## Mid-North Shepherd's Center

Wednesdays beginning at 10 a.m.

(Lower level, including Fellowship Hall)

Contact: Sara Case ([sara@mnscenter.org](mailto:sara@mnscenter.org))

Adults 55 and older attend "Adventures in Learning"





each Wednesday starting at 10 a.m. featuring varied programs including choral rehearsals, Bible sharing, news talk, lectures, interactive programs, meditation, and book clubs, all offered free of charge. Day trips are also offered for a minimal charge. Lunch is served each Wednesday for a minimal charge. No membership fee is required.

### **“End of Life” Workshop**

Sunday, Oct. 22, 4-6 p.m. (location TBA)

Ever wonder what a living will is? Do you need advance directives? What should your memorial service be like? Join us for this workshop where we will explain your options and help you make plans for the future.

*If you have questions or would like to get more involved in care and nurture ministries, contact Pastor Darren (dcushwood@northchurchindy.com) or Kim Davis (kbdavis710@gmail.com).*

# Music

## Cathedral Singers

Rehearsals: Thursdays, Sept. 7-June 6, 7 p.m.  
(Choir Room)

*Director and Contact: Mark Gilgallon*  
([mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com](mailto:mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com))

The Cathedral Singers is the largest choral ensemble at North Church and sings weekly at our 11 a.m. worship service and on special liturgical holidays.

## Children's Choirs

Rehearsals: Sundays after 11 a.m. service

Pre-K through sixth grade

Music ministry is a central part of North Church's culture. Our children's choirs offer kids an opportunity to experience the joy of choral singing to the Glory of God.

### ● Joyful Noise

Sept. 18-April 28 (Room 101)

*Ages 3-5 (Pre-K)*

*Director: Mark Gilgallon*  
([mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com](mailto:mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com))

### ● Carolers

Sept. 18-May 5 (Club Room)

*Ages kindergarten through second grade*

*Director: Denise Page Caraher ([jcdpc88@aol.com](mailto:jcdpc88@aol.com))*

### ● Choristers

Sept. 18-May 12 (Choir Room)

*Ages third through sixth grade*

*Director: Rosie Jordan ([rosiej@phoeniximages.com](mailto:rosiej@phoeniximages.com))*

## Cathedral Ringers

Rehearsals: Sundays,  
Sept. 10-June 9, after the  
11 a.m. service  
(Room 004)

*Directors and Contacts:*  
*Jeff and Kelley Warbinton*  
*(warbintons@comcast.net)*



The Cathedral Ringers

is a multi-generational handbell ensemble using a beautiful five-octave set of Malmark handbells and handchimes. The Cathedral Ringers offer selections at both morning worship services approximately six weeks apart.

## North's Winds Brass Ensemble

Rehearsals are from about Labor Day through Memorial Day, Wednesdays at 6 p.m. (Choir Room)

*Director: John Hague (jshague@gmail.com)*

If you play the trumpet, trombone, French horn, euphonium, baritone or tuba, are in eighth grade or older, and have at least three years playing experience, consider getting involved. North's Winds provides music for the Advent Festival dinner and other events. Contact John for more information.

*If you have questions or would like to get more involved in music ministries, please contact Mark Gilgallon, our director of music, at mgilgallon@northchurchindy.com.*

# United Women in Faith

## Miriam Circle

Fourth Thursday, 12:30 p.m. (Library)

Contact: Margaret Mayo ([mayo5910@comcast.net](mailto:mayo5910@comcast.net))

The Miriam Circle is part of United Women in Faith (UWF), formerly known as United Methodist Women. This circle gathers for a sack lunch, project planning, and programs focused on the UWF's mission. Meetings are open to all interested in joining.

## Women of Lydia

Fourth Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Club Room)

Contact: Sue Childers ([donsuechilders@yahoo.com](mailto:donsuechilders@yahoo.com))

The Women of Lydia is also a circle of United Women in Faith. This circle is open to women of all ages. The group's members support each other through discussions of current topics, studies, and mission work.

*For more information please contact Amy Sell  
([asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)) or  
Carol Tiller-Luchtman ([2020birthday@gmail.com](mailto:2020birthday@gmail.com)).*



# Adult Sunday School

Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

## **Power and Light** (Room 202)

Contact: Jill and Barry Irons ([zvilleirons@protonmail.com](mailto:zvilleirons@protonmail.com))

This group is a welcoming, diverse group united in fellowship, social service, and personal support in the mutual pursuit of spiritual growth.

## **Sojourners** (Room 005)

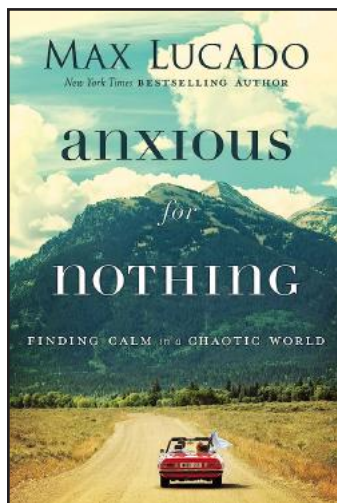
Contact: Eric Galloway ([ewgalloway@hotmail.com](mailto:ewgalloway@hotmail.com))

Sojourners is a year-round, intergenerational Sunday school class that works, plays, and studies together. Participants share lesson leadership on a volunteer basis, studying stand-alone topics, contemporary works, or books of the Bible.

## **Sophia's Class** (Room 205)

Contact: Beth Coffey  
([bacoffey64@gmail.com](mailto:bacoffey64@gmail.com))

Sophia's Class is a study group for women of any age who would like to be part of a group of sisters in Christ. Sophia's Class is currently studying Max Lucado's "Anxious for Nothing," and invites you to join them. Leadership is shared on a volunteer basis.



# Youth Sunday School

**Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.**

## **High School Sunday School** (Room 008)

Students in grades 10-12 can join their peers in a discussion-based class focusing on the application of faith to real-world scenarios, events, and issues. Each month will have a theme for the discussions, which can range from the history of Christian viewpoints and response to a certain topic, to discussing actions we can take now to live out our faith. This class serves as a safe place for students to discuss and discern their developing faith together as a group. There is no registration required, so students can join anytime.

## **Middle School Sunday School** (Room 207)

Students in grades seven through nine are invited to join their peers every Sunday morning in a discussion-based class focused on faith development, confirmation, and Christian education. We discuss topics around the foundational points of our faith, how our faith impacts our lives, and how to navigate as a follower of Christ in middle school. There is no registration required, so students can join anytime.

*For more information about youth Sunday school please email Brandon Wallace at [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com).*

# Children's Sunday School

Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

## Pre-School Sunday School

(Room 103)

The toddlers and pre-K kids will engage with the Bible at their appropriate level. Using the Play-N-Worship curriculum, they will use everyday objects to help them learn basic Bible stories that will be the foundation upon which they will grow. Using songs, movement, and intentional play, they will learn that God loves them!

## Elementary Sunday School

Kindergarten-Second Grade (Room 104)

Third-Fifth Grades (Room 203)

Join us each week this semester as the kids learn the stories of the Old Testament. Each lesson is engaging and offers a variety of activities and learning points to help the kids better understand God's love for them and their responsibility to love their neighbors.

*If you would like to learn more about our different Sunday school offerings, contact Amy Sell ([asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)).*



# Children and Families Ministry

## Child Care

Sundays, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (Room 102)

Six weeks through 5-year-olds not yet in kindergarten.

We love children and provide care you can trust on Sunday mornings during worship and Sunday school. All caregivers are CPR/first aid-certified, background checked, and experienced working with children.

## Alternative Worship

Non-communion Sundays during the 11 a.m. worship service (Room 104)

Kindergarten through sixth grades.

All children in grades K through six are welcome to join us during the 11 a.m. service for a time of worship that is just for them. We will learn to have faith in God through age-appropriate worship that includes Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, skits, and more. Kids can follow the banner out of the sanctuary to room 104 following the doxology.

## ELEVATION

First and Third Sundays beginning Oct. 1, 1-3 p.m. (Room 203)

Third through sixth grades.

The definition of the word “elevation” is the height to which something is elevated or to which it rises. Some



others include the act of elevating or the state of being elevated. That is what this group is about. It is a place for children to continue climbing on their faith journeys. As a mountain climber, tackling the elements is always easier with someone else. It is the same with our faith. We will climb together. We will experience the highs, lows, rain, wind, and sun on our journey together. We will have fun playing games, learning, and eating together.

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

### **Children's Ministry 101**

Sunday, Sept. 17, 9:45-10:45 a.m. (Game Room)

All parents and grandparents with children in sixth grade or younger are invited to join us for breakfast during the Sunday school hour on Sunday, Sept. 17.

Do you wonder about your child's faith journey and integration into the church? Perhaps that question causes some anxiety, fear, and excitement. Come learn what we do at North to foster a loving, open, and safe environment for your little one. We will introduce you to the programming your child will experience over the next 18 or so years, and the parents who will be on this journey with you. Please RSVP by Sunday, Sept. 10 to Amy at [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com).

### **Movie Night**

Friday, Oct. 6, 5:30-8 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Join us on Friday, Oct. 6 at 5:30 p.m. for "The Bad Guys" movie night. We will eat pizza at 5:30 p.m. and the movie will begin at 6 p.m. Bring your family, friends, neighbors, grandkids, nieces, nephews, or whoever you would like to spend the evening with. Feel free to bring your lawn chairs, blankets, pillows, PJs, stuffies, or whatever you need to be comfortable. There is no need to RSVP.

**Trunk or Treat** (See description on page 14).

### **Game Night and Thanksgiving Feast**

Friday, Nov. 17, 5-8 p.m.  
(Club Room and Game Room)  
Join us as we celebrate Thanksgiving this year with a feast. We will provide the turkey and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. After a great meal we will play board and card games the rest of



the evening. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Nov. 8 to [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com).

### **Epiphany Party**

Friday, Jan. 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Club Room)

Mark your calendars for Friday, Jan. 5 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for our all-church Epiphany party. We will gather to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, which is celebrated on Jan. 5, to commemorate the arrival of the magi. We will celebrate Epiphany with dinner, king cake, and fun, royal activities and games. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Jan. 3 to [events@northchurchindy.com](mailto:events@northchurchindy.com).

*All of our events are open to the whole church family. If you have any questions or would like to get involved in ministry with children and families please contact Amy Sell at [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com) or Angie Kattmann at [arkattmann@gmail.com](mailto:arkattmann@gmail.com).*

# Youth Ministry

North Church youth ministry is designed for students in grades seven through 12, with programming for community building and opportunities to connect with peers for faith development. We seek to grow in our faith with God, deepen our connection with one another, and share the love of Christ with everyone we meet.

We welcome adult volunteers to walk with us. All programs take place at North Church unless otherwise specified.

Anyone wishing to get involved, either as a student, parent, or adult volunteer, is asked to contact Brandon Wallace, minister of youth and young adults, at [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com). You may also see a full calendar, get updates, download an app for notifications, and more by visiting [northchurchofyoungadults.com](http://northchurchofyoungadults.com).

## Youth Group

Sunday nights starting Sept. 17, 1-3 p.m.  
(Lower level).

Regular youth group returns on Sept. 17 for the new semester. Most Sunday afternoons we'll gather for an afternoon of programming that can include fellowship, games, service projects, or spiritual/faith-based discussions. Every youth group gathering includes a time for a meal. All youth are invited to attend, with no need to sign up.

On the last Sunday of each month our youth



group celebrates “Sunday Fun-day,” when we meet at an off-site location for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Past events have occurred at arcades, bowling alleys, the movies, etc. The location of each “Sunday Funday” will be announced prior to the event via our website/social media.

If you would like to volunteer by providing dinner or being a chaperone for youth group or any events, or if you would like to see a full calendar of youth-group gatherings, please contact Brandon or visit [northchurchyouth.com](http://northchurchyouth.com).

### Parents Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 17, 1:30 p.m. (Youth Room, 008)

Our parent meeting for the new year will take place during our first youth-group gathering on Sept. 17.

We'll discuss our youth ministry format, go over upcoming events for the semester, and look ahead to what's coming down the road for our youth group.

### **Fall Retreat**

Oct. 20-22 (Pine Creek Camp)

Our second annual fall retreat will be held at Pine Creek Camp once again. During this fun and restorative weekend we will focus on the foundations of our faith and building community with one another through team-building games and activities, as well as reconnecting with God through nature.

### **Progressive Dinner**

Sunday, Dec. 11, time TBD (locations vary)

Youth can join us for a festive holiday meal in three parts at three homes. We will gather at North and caravan to our first house for appetizers, then on to



our second house for entrées, and our final house for desserts. This event is free. Sign-ups will start in November. If you'd like to drive in the caravan, be one of the hosts, or help provide food/drinks, please contact Brandon at [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com).

*If you'd like to become involved in North's youth program, please contact Brandon Wallace, our minister of youth and young adults, at [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com).*



# Young Adults

North Church young adult ministries are for anyone who has graduated high school up to the age of 35. Our programming focuses on community and relationship building through fellowship and spiritual development. Our goal is to build each other up, and to help one another navigate life as a young adult. To keep up with events and happenings specifically for young adults at North, join the Facebook page at [facebook.com/groups/NorthChurchYoungAdults/](https://facebook.com/groups/NorthChurchYoungAdults/). Young adults are also encouraged to read this booklet for more opportunities to participate in events for all adults. For anyone interested in attending, hosting, or helping make these events possible, please contact Brandon Wallace at [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com).

## Young Adult Dinner Nights

Throughout the fall the young adult ministry will meet for games, food, and fellowship. Each month we choose a different location around the city to meet for dinner. Anyone who has graduated high school through the age of 35 is invited. It is a great way to connect (or reconnect) with some of our young adults, explore a bit more of the city, and enjoy great food with even greater people. The locations and dates for each month are selected as we go, and will be announced on the Facebook group and the newsletter prior to the meeting. Please contact Brandon for any questions.

# Stay Connected

There are many ways to stay up to date on what is happening at North Church. Be sure to connect with us in the following ways:

- sign up for our weekly general newsletter, youth ministry newsletter and/or children and families ministry newsletter:

<https://bit.ly/2IwOHMX>



- social media:

Facebook: [Facebook.com/NorthChurchIndy](https://www.facebook.com/NorthChurchIndy)  
and friend "Linda AtNorth;"

Twitter: @NorthChurchIndy,

Instagram: NorthChurchIndy and

- visit our website at [NorthChurchIndy.com](https://www.NorthChurchIndy.com). The 11 a.m. service is streamed live, and audio and video files are available afterwards through our website.

*North United Methodist Church is an open,  
inclusive, and welcoming church.*

*We affirm that through God's redeeming love,  
all are one in Christ.*

*YOU are welcome at North Church!*

## **North United Methodist Church**

3808 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46208-4067

(317) 924-2612 Fax: (317) 924-5161

[NorthChurchIndy.com](https://www.NorthChurchIndy.com)

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# Chronological Index Of Special Events

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## AUGUST

Aug. 19: Ask a Lawyer  
Aug. 27: Healing Zone

## SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1-30: Women's Prison Donations  
Sept. 7: North Church Farmers Market  
Sept. 10: Worship Without Walls  
Sept. 17: Children's Ministry 101  
Sept. 17: "Imagining God" Worship Series  
Sept. 17: Regular Youth Group Begins  
Sept. 17: Youth Group Parents Meeting  
Sept. 18-Oct. 28: "Imaging God" Small-Group Study  
Sept. 21: North Church Farmers Market  
Sept. 23: Interfaith Habitat for Humanity Build  
Sept. 24: Fall Festival  
Sept. 24: Healing Zone  
Sept. 24: "Imagining God" Worship Series

Sept. 24: Youth Group Fun-Day

## OCTOBER

Oct. 1: ELEVATION  
Oct. 1: "Imagining God" Worship Series  
Oct. 1: World Communion Sunday  
Oct. 6: Movie Night  
Oct. 8: Blessing of the Animals  
Oct. 8: Creation Care Sunday  
Oct. 8: Exploring North  
Oct. 8: "Imagining God" Worship Series  
Oct. 15: ELEVATION  
Oct. 15: Exploring North  
Oct. 15: "Imagining God" Worship Series  
Oct. 20-22: Youth Group Fall Retreat  
Oct. 22: "End of Life" Workshop  
Oct. 22: Exploring North  
Oct. 22: Healing Zone  
Oct. 22: Health and Healing Sunday  
Oct. 22: "Imagining God" Worship Series  
Oct. 29: Trunk or Treat

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## NOVEMBER

Nov. 5: All-Saints Sunday  
Nov. 5: ELEVATION  
Nov. 5: Impact of Youth Mentoring  
Nov. 5: Umoja Partnership Thanksgiving Dinner  
Nov. 11-12: Hamilton Series  
Nov. 17: Game Night and Thanksgiving Feast  
Nov. 19: ELEVATION  
Nov. 19: Stewardship Sunday  
Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Nov. 23: Thanksgiving  
Nov. 26: Adoption Awareness Sunday  
Nov. 26: Youth Group Fun Day

## DECEMBER

Dec. 3: Advent Festival  
Dec. 8-9: Jubilee Christmas  
Dec. 11: Progressive Dinner

Dec. 17: Longest Night Service  
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Worship  
Dec. 25: Christmas  
Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Worship

## JANUARY

Jan. 1: New Year's Day  
Jan. 5: Epiphany Party  
Jan. 7: ELEVATION  
Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31: "On Purpose" Book Study  
Jan. 14: Human Relations Day  
Jan. 21: ELEVATION  
Jan. 27: Prayer Workshop  
Jan. 28: Update on the State of the UMC  
Jan. 28: Youth Group Fun-Day

## FEBRUARY

Feb. 4: ELEVATION  
Feb. 18: ELEVATION  
Feb. 25: Youth Group Fun-Day





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