



DECEMBER 19, 2019

NARDIN PARK NEWS

www.nardinpark.org



Good News of Great Joy!

It is the season of Good News. The Good News is that Jesus Christ was born, lived and died and rose again. It is the greatest news ever told. And in this season of Good News, we have some fantastic news here at Nardin Park.



On Sunday December 15th, we moved back into our beautifully renovated sanctuary. It was an amazing day of worship, led by our children and Dance Choir. Our new sanctuary was packed with people whose hearts were warmed by the youth of Nardin Park. In the afternoon, the launch team for our new worship service invited the people of Nardin Park and our community to come and decorate Christmas Cookies to eat and share with others and at 4 p.m. the sanctuary was filled with the most beautiful music of Christmas. Thanks to Kyle Webber, our minister of music, for such an exquisite Christmas concert, which over 400 people attended! It was an amazing and wonderful day!

The sanctuary renovations have been done for everyone—long time Nardin Parkers, new attenders, those who will join in the future and for our community. The guiding principles of the renovation are Flexibility, Accessibility and Welcome. With those guiding principles in mind, our new chancel space is all one level, and everything is moveable. This is why we could set up for the children's play, have dancers and fit 60 musicians and music stands on the chancel all in the same day! A new lift has been installed in the back of the chancel so that it is truly accessible to everyone, and our pews have been carefully re-spaced so that there is more room for people to move in and out, and we have special seating among the pews for those with wheel chairs and walkers. Our new sound booth, now on the main floor, is beautiful and houses our new AV system, providing much higher quality sound and visuals for all to enjoy. After more than 35 years since the sanctuary was painted, it has a brand new, beautiful paint job, new lighting and brand new flooring throughout, including gorgeous tile on the chancel. All of this was lovingly done to the glory of God and to help welcome people on the journey with Jesus, which is Nardin Park's mission.

Even more incredible is the fact that all of this work was done without a capital campaign, thanks to the generous legacy gift of one of our members. It is such a blessing to be able to do this work and have no financial debt. In addition, thousands of volunteer hours were generously given during this project to help make our deadlines and to ensure the quality of the work done. We are truly blessed and we are called to be a blessing to others. Thank you Nardin Park for this amazing space where we can all experience the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Melanie

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Coming up



We continue our Advent and Christmas Worship series on prayer, looking at prayer through the eyes of the characters in the Christmas Story

December 22nd

Pastor Beth will be preaching on Joseph and prayer. Chancel Choir and Cynthia Standifer, flute, will be providing music.

December 24th

Christmas Eve Services:

5:00PM

Children & family oriented services, candle lighting included.

Pastor Karen and Pastor Beth will be leading this service.

8:00PM

Carols, Choirs and Candle Lighting.

Pastor Melanie will be preaching on Jesus as an answer to prayer.

11:00PM

Carols, Candle Lighting & Communion.

Pastor Lynn and Pastor George will be preaching.

December 29th

Pastor Beth will be preaching on the shepherds and prayer.

January 5th

Pastor George will be preaching on epiphany, God's "aha!" season.

We will share in Holy Communion

Holiday Office Hours:

CLOSED: December 24, 25, 27, 31 and January 1

Thursday, December 26: open from 8:30 - noon

Monday, December 30: open from noon - 4:00 pm



Welcome Statement Vote coming January 26, 2020.

In November, the Reconciling Ministry Team took a straw poll to find out how the congregation felt about a new welcome statement that clearly stated our welcome for all people. The straw poll was overwhelmingly supportive of the statement. We have scheduled an official vote for Jan. 26, 2020. We will take this vote just like we did the straw poll. It will be right after worship and there will be ballots to fill out.

Please watch the newsletter for information.

Welcome Statement: Nardin Park UMC celebrates that everyone is created in God's image and is of sacred worth. We welcome all into full participation in our church without regard to age, race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, family configurations, religious background, socio-economic situation, citizenship, language and/or ability.

Please update your address book: Nardin Park Staff have new emails

Over the past 18 months, many people have worked diligently to fix multiple problems with the Nardin Park email system. However, it has been determined that the domain Nardinpark.org has some fatal flaws. Therefore, a decision has been made to change to new emails for the staff. Please update your address books to our new email addresses. Note that Nardinpark.org will remain active, but because of the problems we have sending and receiving emails in this domain, we ask you to change to our new addresses. Emails will use the gmail.com domain and will follow the same pattern for each staff person.

First name, dot, npchurch @gmail.com

Melanie Carey: Melanie.npchurch@gmail.com

Beth Titus: Beth.npchurch@gmail.com

George Covintree: George.npchurch@gmail.com

Lynn Hasley: Lynn.npchurch@gmail.com

Karen Poole: Karen.npchurch@gmail.com

Kyle Webber: Kyle.npchurch@gmail.com

Linda McDoniel: Linda.npchurch@gmail.com

Carol Trost: Carol.npchurch@gmail.com

Susanna Brennan: Susanna.npchurch@gmail.com

Elizabeth King: Elizabeth.npchurch@gmail.com

Karl Heiss: Karl.npchurch@gmail.com

Online Giving



New Online Giving System coming to Nardin Park! Sign up Now!

Help Us Grow: Give Electronically

Electronic gifts are fast and secure, and they reduce administrative costs, allowing more of every dollar to fund the important work we are called to do.

Sign up today on our new online/giving system through GivePlus. Starting January 1st, 2020 we will no longer be using our former electronic giving resource MyEOFFERING. So sign up on our website with GivePlus and/or search "GivePlus Mobile" to quickly find and download the app on your phone today!

- Give anytime, anywhere to your favorite funds
- Schedule and manage recurring donations
- Make one-time donations to special appeals
- Pay for events, programs and other activities

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website Nardinpark.org or contact the church office and speak with church account Karl Heiss

Coming in January 2020

Text to give & swipe to give (an onsite credit/debit card reader)

GivePlus Powered By Vanco Payment Solutions.

Extra! Extra!



Announcements!

A Special Note: Thank you for your prayers, cards, and expressions of sympathy at the recent death of our niece, Natalie. Her 7 year old son will be raised by her brother and his wife. We appreciate the support of our church family during this difficult time. Mike and Mary Glenn

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening will be here at Nardin Park on Friday, February 21, 2020 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health and to live longer for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these potentially life-saving tests today. For only \$139 (regularly \$149) you can learn your risk of having stroke or vascular disease.

Three ways to register:

- Call toll-free: 866-229-0469
- Online: www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle
- Text: the word circle to 797979

2019 OPERATING BUDGET FUNDRAISER

Further to our additional Operating Budget Fundraiser letter dated November 27, 2019, we provide the following summary. During the period Dec 1 through Dec 12, we received \$3,038. When combined with the amounts received during the period ended Aug 30 that totaled \$13,145, the total received through Dec 12 is \$16,183. Thank you to all who have contributed so far. Remember, you can write a check payable to "Nardin Park Church," noting "Fundraiser," and either mail it back in the envelope that was provided with the letter, or place it in the offering plate on Sundays during worship. Or you can choose that option in the GIVEPLUS electronic system.

George Walker (Finance Team Chairperson) &
Lead Pastor Rev. Melanie Carey.

JOY

JOY (Just Older Youth) will meet on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 11am in Fellowship Hall. This month for our program we are playing Bingo and Dorothy Moore has planned the event complete with prizes!! We have planned more casual programs for January and February as the weather can be uncertain. We welcome any newcomers to join us for a time of reflection, fellowship, and food. Lunch will be served at noon. Call the church office or Mary Glenn for reservations. The group meets once a month on the second Wednesday. In case of inclement weather, we will notify you if our meeting is cancelled by phone, text, or email. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Glenn (248) 380-9837.



The Prayer Focus for this week is:

What does the gift of Christmas mean to you? How does Jesus' birth make your faith more real and more human?

Night at the Park returns Tuesday January 7th!

5:30 Dinner, Kids activities, Youth and Children's Choir Rehearsals and Adult Handbells along with connecting groups and 6 p.m. Adult Study Class will be led by Pastor George continuing the book study of Rachel Held Evans, *Inspired*. This class will be held January, 7, 14 & 21st.

The Missions Committee would like to thank Bob Davis, Jeff Rucker, Mary Sue Lutz And Friend, Rich & Amy Duntley, Peter & Ann- Marie Sharpe, Dean Moening & Debbie Perry, John & Laura Olson, Tammy & Paul Kochan for their help on the December 14th Focus Hope Food deliveries. The next Focus Hope food delivery is on February 15th, 2020, 5 Drivers are needed to help deliver food to seniors in the Pontiac area, so if you or your group have a vehicles large or small and have 2 hours on a Saturday morning please contact Robert Davis at 248-320-7147,

New Member Class Coming January 12!

If you would like to make Nardin Park your church home, we would love to have you attend our New Member Class on Sunday, January 12, 11:30-2:15. We will be experimenting with a new, extended format for the class in which all three classes will be integrated into one somewhat longer class on a Sunday afternoon. For more information or to register for the class, please make a note on your Connecting Card or contact Rev. Lynn Hasley via text - 248-227-6119 or email: Lynn.npchurch@gmail.com. Lunch & Childcare will be provided.

Global Water Justice Summit January 24-25, 2020 Cass Community UMC



A gathering of water advocates, experts, and engineers from across water insecure parts of the world and the U.S. Midwest. Their hope is to share information, float ideas, and inspire enthusiasm toward the development of a United Methodist led strategy for water security

Register Here
<https://michiganumc.org/water-summit/>



5 o'clock Christmas Eve.
*Children and Family
Oriented Service*
Candle lighting included!



Children's Spiritual Guidance
"Godly Play" Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Kindergarten through 5th Graders BEGIN IN WORSHIP

~10:10 a.m. they are guided to their 'Godly Play' rooms:

K - 1st Grade; 2nd - 3rd Grade and 4th - 5th Grade

Pre-schoolers can go directly to their "Godly Play" room at 10 a. m.

All Rooms are on the second floor.

December:

Church Communities Celebrate Jesus

December 22 "Joseph's Story" Matthew 1:18 - 24

We can trust God just like Joseph.

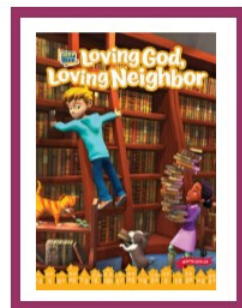
December 29 "Shepherd's Story" Luke 2: 8 - 20

We can share the good news of Jesus' birth just like the shepherds.

*Pray Together: Dear God, thank you for the birth of Jesus!
Help us this month as we celebrate this joyous news. Amen*



**5 o'clock
Christmas Eve**

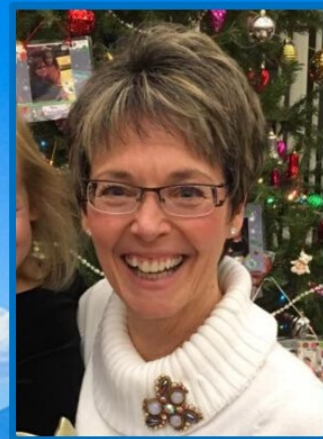


Youth Connection

Practices of Joy

Winter Youth Retreat

February 7-9, 2020



Retreat leader:
Marianne McMunn



Where - Shanty Creek, Bellaire MI

Cost - \$75/ per student

Plus lift tickets If you want to ski or tube.

Registration is due
January 19.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to talk to Beth—call, text or email.
I'd love to hear from you! Beth.npchurch@gmail.com Cell: (586) 665-4333

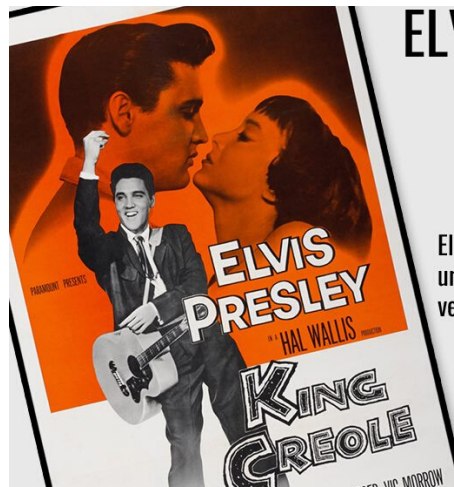


Harry Potter & the Holiday Skate

December 28, 2019 6-9PM

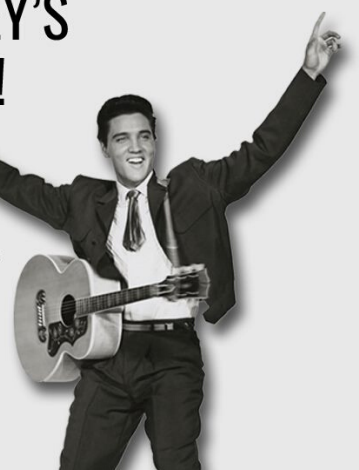
Location:
Riley Park Ice Rink

**January 8, 2020
7:30-9:30PM
Farmington Civic**



ELVIS PRESLEY'S BIRTHDAY!

Elvis, young and relatively untamed, in a superior star vehicle. -Chicago Reader



Over 30 Softball League

Ladies, looking for a women's slow-pitch softball league to have fun with during the summer? Over 30 Softball, a Christian League since 1983 is seeking additional women teams. We play on Wednesday evenings, May-July with players ranging from 30 to 50+ years. Look us up on www.over30softball.com or call

Patty Soter: 734-765-4777 or email: psoter@umich.edu.

If you are ready for camaraderie, fellowship and friendly competition, seek us out by Feb. 1st, 2020.

