



JUNE 1, 2020

NARDIN PARK NEWS

www.nardinpark.org



Grateful Gratuity

Begin each day with a grateful heart.

When we look at our lives through the lens of gratitude it makes all the difference. Even in difficult times, with gratitude in our hearts, we can see unexpected blessings and live in the joy of them. Joy is not about our particular circumstances, it is about our daily mindset and about our hearts. Gratitude is a way of living and is deeply spiritual and satisfying. Through the lens of gratitude, we invite you to consider making grateful gratuity to Nardin Park Church. Even with our building closed to in person activities, so much good is happening through our church as we care for one another and for our community.

- 36 check in zones have been set up in our congregation to keep us better connected.
- New classes have started via zoom.
- Hundreds of masks have been made and shared.
- We have partnered with 3 local small businesses to:
 - Serve 2 appreciation lunches for 60 Kroger employees at 11 Mile and Middlebelt
 - Send 274 front line workers in our community a handwritten note and a gift card from our church.
- Most recently, we have begun delivering blessing baskets of flowering plants to people going through hard times.

Why are we asking for this grateful gratuity? Even with increased weekly giving at church, our finance team is anticipating a \$50,000 shortfall for the 2020 annual ministry expenses. One of the reasons is that with our building closed we anticipate that we will not receive the full amount of our annual \$22,000 in rental income.

We invite you to consider giving a grateful gratuity to Nardin Park Church.

What is a grateful gratuity?

It is a 20% gift on the excesses many of us have discovered during this time. For example, my husband Jon and I have discovered that we are not spending anywhere near as much as we used to on gas for our cars, going to the movies and eating out. Our vacation rental for July was cancelled and the money we had put out for it returned to us. We have also received money back from our car insurance. We plan to make a 20% grateful gratuity to Nardin Park on these blessings.

Maybe a trip you were going to make has been cancelled, maybe you too are saving money on your car insurance, or travel, or you filled out your tax returns and received money back?

If so, consider a grateful gratuity to Nardin Park.

1. Grateful gratuity gifts can be **MADE ONLINE** through nardinpark.org. Choose the donate button on the home page and select the fundraising tab and type in Grateful
2. You can **TEXT** the amount you wish to give to 844-231-1970 and type in Grateful
3. You can **SEND** a check to the church made out to Nardin Park UMC and put Grateful in the memo line.

We will be updating you often on this campaign and hope you will join us in making that grateful gratuity.

With Gratitude,
Carolyn Bough and Pastor Melanie Carey



What's Inside

Staying Connected.....2

Connect & Grow.....3

Midland Offering.....4

Announcements.....5

Youth & Missions.....6

Covid-19 Task Force.....7



STAYING CONNECTED

Many things in our lives have drastically changed, but the Nardin Park staff is still here for you!

Do you have questions for the church office or staff members?

In order to stay in touch with us while our building remains closed and most of the staff is working from home, you have several options to contact us:

You can call the church office (248-476-8860) and leave a message by selecting Linda McDoniel's extension #102. Phone messages are being checked Monday - Friday and we will do our best to return your call by the next business day. Please use this first for general questions and administrative needs. Can't wait until tomorrow? For more immediate needs, the best way to reach us is by email.

Staff email addresses follow the format

first name.npchurch@gmail.com (ie: Linda.npchurch@gmail.com)

For pastoral care and emergencies, please contact the Pastor on Call at 313-681-4871 on evenings, weekends, and holidays.

As a gentle reminder, the Pastor on Call number is for pastoral care concerns and other emergencies. Whenever possible, please direct all administrative calls to the church office.

We are doing everything we can to stay connected to you!



YouTube



nardinpark.org



Make sure to follow, like and subscribe to stay up to date on all things Nardin!

- We will be publishing a monthly newsletter to keep everyone informed on what's to come, while also sending out weekly eblasts to help you know what's happening right now.
- We are offering classes, book studies, meetings, connecting groups & more on Zoom!
- Our website has been updated, as it now serves as our "front door". Be sure to check it out (and invite your friends) to stay up to date on announcements, ways to connect, how to do good in your neighborhood, to sign up for our emails and more!

CONNECT & GROW

Book Study

Be the Bridge, by Latasha Morrison

Wednesdays at 7:00pm starting June 17

Led by Pastor Beth and Lisa Merritt

There may be many of us who wonder how can we respond to the death of so many black men? How do we work towards justice and how can we possibly understand how it feels to live your life struggling with the effects of racism? Or maybe you do live with the effects of racism and would like to help build allies in the struggle. This book may help us answer those questions. It was recommended to me by Rev. Benjamin Smalls of Hope UMC, when I asked how I can become an effective ally in the work against racism. Join in the discussion! You can order the book from your favorite book supplier.

Register for the class by emailing Pastor Beth at beth.npchurch@gmail.com

New Members Class on Zoom

Saturday, June 6th, 2020

10AM - 11:30AM

To register email Pastor Lynn Hasley at lynn.npchurch@gmail.com

New Class Starting TONIGHT!

Connected Faith @ Nardin Park (CF@NP) is a new kind of small group that uses an app as its foundation. The app provides daily readings and a weekly study for the group to focus on. It's a study that goes anywhere you go, right on your phone or tablet! There are readings, devotionals, and videos to support each week's lesson. If you're looking to try something new that fits into a busy schedule, be an early adopter and join us as we test drive this new study. You can download the **FREE** app from Google Play or the Apple App Store and try a sample session for yourself before committing to join. We will meet via Zoom once a week to read, pray, and share—cultivating a more deeply connected faith together!

Meets Monday nights at 8pm, June 1st through June 29th. Led by Rachel Kain.

Email linda.npchurch@gmail.com if you would like to join!

Connecting Groups

There are many connecting groups that are still running via Zoom!
If you would like more information or to join one, contact Pastor Lynn Hasley
at Lynn.npchurch@gmail.com

Special offering for Michigan Floods

It is hard to imagine what it must be like for the more than 10,000 Michigan residents who have experienced devastating floods on top of the COVID-19 pandemic.



We lift up prayers for all the people across our state who are experiencing devastating flooding, displacement and loss of property and the massive clean up efforts that will be needed for a long time to come.

In addition to our regular offering, we are also taking a special offering for Michigan Flood Relief-100% of your financial gifts to Michigan Disaster Relief through the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church will go toward Michigan Flood Relief.

To give to this special offering you can:

-Text amount you wish to give and the word Mifloods to 844-231-1970

Enter the dollar amount, hit the space bar and then type Mifloods

-Go to our [website](#), click Give Options and use [GivePlus](#) to type in the word miflood under the mission outreach tab option.

-Send in a check to the church, made out to Nardin Park and put Mifloods in the memo line of your check--29887 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nardin Park begins Next Level Generosity Discovery Process

The finance team is pleased to share that we have begun working with Kristine Miller, CFRE, Partner and Executive Vice President of Horizons Stewardship. Kristine and her team are leading The Next Level Generosity Discovery (NLGD) process which is about discovering the possibilities for growing stewardship, giving, and generosity within the people of our congregation and to helping us continue to grow in our discipleship as followers of Christ. The NLGD is receiving input now through gathering of information and interviews with both staff and lay leadership and then they will provide us with a report and map for ways we can grow our congregation's generosity and help us deepen our discipleship. Kristine and her team will be working with us through June of 2021.



Effective June 30th, 2020, Diane Brady is retiring as the talented Director of Cherub and Wesley Children's Choirs. We will be presenting Diane with a Love Gift and cards from Nardin Park family. Please send cards for Diane to the church office. If you would like to contribute to Diane's love gift, you can do so either electronically or by mail--
29887 W Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

To give electronically, visit our [Giving.page](#)---use GivePlus to select special offerings and then type in Diane Brady Gift as the giving option or mail your check into the church office-- if mailing a check, make it out to Nardin Park Church and put Diane Brady Love Gift in the memo line.

Please send cards and love gift contributions by no later than June 12th.

LIVESTREAMING

Livestream Worship from our sanctuary will start SUNDAY--JUNE 7th at 10 a.m.!!!

We are excited to be able to bring this new worship experience to you. You can join us at nardinpark.com/livestream. You can also watch the service anytime on our church [Youtube channel](#) where it will be archived. Log on early to be sure you are ready to go when it starts, and those who arrive early will also get the best seats for the broadcast! 😊 In all seriousness, we do encourage you to log on a few minutes early so you can find your way and be ready at 10AM when the worship service will start. Our livestream worship will be a blended service of our 9AM and our 11AM in person worship services. Please note that because your safety and ours is our highest priority, only the few worship leaders will be in the sanctuary for the livestream, including our volunteer AV techs-- AND to keep one another safe, we will all be wearing masks throughout the service and our time in our church building. We are excited to finally be able to livestream worship to you from our sanctuary and we hope you will join us on **Sunday mornings at 10AM** or whenever you can through out the week.

Youth Connection

SAVE YOUR RETURNABLE CANS & BOTTLES

I know that this is a space taking and inconvenient task, however your returnables can make a big difference to youth trips. We can't take them now, but as soon as bottles and cans can be returned the youth of Nardin Park would love to return yours as a fundraiser for future youth trips.

The youth mission trip to Henderson Settlement this summer has been cancelled. We did some fundraising for the trip and decided to go ahead and send our money to Henderson Settlement to help with their work in the Appalachian Mountains.

Even though we could not be there, we still wanted to make a difference. Contact Pastor Beth at beth.npchurch@gmail.com if you have any questions.

MISSIONS

South Oakland Shelter is not having a rotating shelter until at least the end of July.

So we will not be hosting them in July this year. We are having conversations on how we can support them and their work during this time--and will keep you informed as soon as we know. Watch for ways you can help!

The Next Focus Hope food delivery is on June 13th

3 drivers are needed to help deliver food to seniors in the Pontiac area, they will have separate pens for each stop and gloves to carry the boxes to keep you and the seniors safe. 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.

Future Food Delivery Dates

August 15th
October 10th
December 12th

COVID 19 TASK FORCE

When will we return to in person worship and how will our community be safe?

With the blessing of our board of Trustees, Pastor Melanie called together a five member Nardin Park COVID-19 task force which is developing guidelines and procedures to get us safely back into our church building so we can once again worship and fellowship together. The task force is led by Mike Glenn and includes our lay leader, Mike Marks, our church council chair Don Babcock, our house committee chair and custodial supervisor, Terry West and retired medical doctor from University of Michigan Health Systems, Dr. Christine Holland and Pastor Melanie. Our top priority remains keeping our staff, congregation, and people in our community safe. Here is what we have learned and are working on thus far:

- We have learned that having only essential people, building maintenance, mail handling, bill paying, banking people in the church requires all new processes and procedures to operate efficiently and safely.
- Making our building a safe place to work, requires regular cleaning, masks, symptom checking and social distancing.
- We have established procedures for opening/closing, cleaning, and building movement.
- We are setting up 'Clean Points' at the Main Office, SCC, and South Entrances. The Clean Points will have tables with spare masks, hand sanitizers, hand wipes, temporal scanners, and a list of procedures.
- We are replacing all internal and external air filters in the building.
- We are working on live streaming services from our sanctuary and want to start streaming services as soon as we have everything in place and are allowed to be back in the church.

With these learnings and priorities in mind, we continue to keep our building closed for in person ministries and activities. We also continue to find ways to be the church and be in ministry outside of our building through online groups and online gatherings, devotional videos, cards, calls, texts and mission outreach, especially in our local community.