Grapevine

A Minister's Moment

Dear Pilgrims,

"When you come to the fork in the road, take it."

I think Yogi Berra the professional baseball player and manager is credited with this gem of wisdom. It made sense to Walton my rancher-friend and church member in Ruidoso, New Mexico. We used to drive into the vast New Mexico mountainous regions around Ruidoso. Miles and miles of roads in the sage desert and pinon forests beckoned our exploring tendencies. We usually searched for places that others hadn't frequented—easier in the first years—not so much in latter years as population increased and more four wheeling enthusiasts drove the lands. We prided ourselves on going places that many people dared not—the most inaccessible, rocky, rut-coursed pathways. And we were rewarded with beautiful landscapes and vistas with more than a fair share of wild game.

But we had to take the fork in the road when we got there. And we discovered new places and even discovered new ways home.

There is a tendency to practice what works. I listened to the conversations with retired ministers and inevitably the question comes: "How do you know what works?" "What did you do that made you successful?" In other words, tell us what it will take to make this ministry successful. Well, not so sure that the old ways will work. Too many forks in the road today with changing attitudes about church and religion. And so, the forks look more appealing if not demanding.

"You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going because you might not get there."

Makes sense to me. Makes sense to a lot of people in the church right now as we face the same rutted roads that have held us on path for years. And those paths worked a destination for us and the church for a time that brought members, mission and ministry. But now we need to know where else to go...or we might not get there.

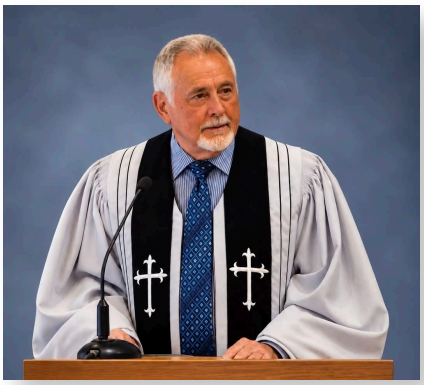
"The future ain't what it used to be."

No, it's not, but it ain't a future that is simply in our own hands. Our Exodus wanderings from the flesh pots of convention and familiarity lead to other lands promised to faithful people who join a faithful God. One of the dangers to a "future that ain't what it used to be" is that a negative prediction of that future is faithless.

Yogi Berra, homespun philosopher, part-time theologian in a baseball hat, put some words to the faithful journey of God's people, even though he might not have known it.

"If you don't know where you are going then you might wind up somewhere else." And who's to say that the somewhere else might be where God is waiting...and we didn't know it, so the journey is the work and the pleasure and the excitement because we came to a fork in the road and we took it.
Your Fork-Taking Interim Pastor!

Meet Your Interim Pastor!



Pastor R. Winston Presnall

Pastor R. Winston Presnall has served 3 Presbyterian congregations for a total of 44 years. He was the Head of Staff at the First Presbyterian Church in Ruidoso, NM for 8 years and at the First Presbyterian Church in Roswell, New Mexico for 14 years and recently at the First Presbyterian Church of Orange, CA for 22 years. He retired in May of 2025.

Pastor Winston earned his M. Div from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He has a BA in Sociology from the University of Texas in Arlington. He held a Professional in Human Resource Management from the Society of Human Resource Management and a Certification in Leadership and Coaching from the Robert O Anderson Business School at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.
He did his interim training at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, Oregon.

Pastor Winston is married to Pam Presnall. Pam works full-time in Events and Fundraising for the Mental Health Association of Orange County. She also works part-time for the Orange County Psychiatric Society, which is a District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association. This is their second marriage. They each have two adult kids from their previous marriages. They have three granddaughters who live in Texas. They also have a black cat named Misty.

They live in beautiful wine country in Temecula and both are excited about joining Northkirk in a new and vibrant ministry.

Going on Around Northkirk

A Celebration of Life for John Schneider

Everyone is invited to the memorial service for John Schneider at church followed by a reception at Teri Smits's house. It will be on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11 at 11am.

Hanging of the Greens

We will be hosting our Annual Hanging of the Greens on Saturday, November 28th at 4pm. There will be a potluck following our hard work. A sign up sheet can be found at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank You For Your Help!

Thank you to all that helped with the farewell luncheon for Pastor Claire. You are appreciated!
-Marilyn & Terry Switzer

With Much Gratitude

I thank my God always for you, because of God's grace that was given to you in Christ Jesus. 1 Corinthians 1:4

Many thanks for making my last Sunday at Northkirk so special. The flowers, cards, wall art, and plumeria are all things I will treasure as I leave you. I so enjoyed the potluck after as well. As I leave, the thing I will treasure most however, is the love, laughter and tears as we served our Lord together. Know that you will be in my heart and prayers in this next Interim time and as you move forward with your new Pastor.

God is good all the time. All the time, God is good.
Pastor Claire



Going on Around Northkirk

Operation Christmas Child

It's the season for Operation Christmas Child. It's one of our missions Northkirk does every year to spread both some Christmas Joy and Christianity all around the world. Boxes are available now and we need them all back by November 15th. Pick up a box in the sanctuary and a label to go on the box (the label identifies the gender and age group for the box). Include a "wow" gift and other fun or personal items. No food, battery operated items, or liquids (like shampoo and toothpaste). Please return your box to the back pew in the sanctuary near the name tag cabinet. With the box, we also need a donation of ten dollars per box. It's a fee to help cover the delivery of the boxes. You can write a check and leave it in the box, or you can just put it in the donation plate or donate online. But PLEASE make a note on the box on how you paid. Thank you.

Breakfast With Santa Is Back

Advent is coming. There's a lot going on. But one event we have coming up is BREAKFAST WITH SANTA. This is a chance for us to open up our church to the community and to have some fun. BWS is scheduled for December 12th from 9 to 11. But we need some help. We need people to help make food, serve food, and work with our Santa. There's lots of pieces to this, so help is needed. Please reach out to Dan Beauvais or Abby in the office to volunteer.

A New Look!

You may have noticed that the Sunday Bulletin, Announcement Sheet, and Grapevine look different lately. That's because the software we were using has been discontinued, so we are switching over to a new platform. Please be patient as we work through the new design elements. Thank you!

Going on Around Northkirk

Northkirk Holiday Home Tour

We are excited to present a festive, cozy Holiday Home Tour to include visits of four unique Rancho Cucamonga homes beautifully decorated for the holiday season from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 13, 2026. Funds will help purchase another octave of handbells for our Northkirk Bell Choir. The Michalski home features “Michalski’s Christmas Train Village”, a magnificent working train set full of quality workmanship combined with all the magical qualities of Christmas. The Mildon home, “A German Christmas Market” showcases all the charm and splendor of Germany with many ornaments and decorations handmade by Marion, who is originally from Germany, and some other items brought over from Germany. Another stop will take tour participants to the Smits home, which features many stunning “Dickens Christmas Cottages” as well as other family heirloom treasures. The Stahl home, “A Vintage Christmas To Remember” contains many nostalgic items from the past, like an antique pump organ, rocking chair, and table, all decorated with angels, snowmen and many other reminiscent decorations from the past. Plan to attend this outstanding home tour. It will definitely get you into the holiday spirit. Light refreshments will be served at each home. This is a fundraiser to raise money to help the Northkirk Bells purchase another octave of bells. Tickets for admission will be available for purchase in the near future for a $20 donation per person, but any amount will be gladly received. There is an anonymous donation being offered to match funds of up to $1000.



$20 Entry

CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR

Fundraiser

MICHALSKI'S "CHRISTMAS TRAIN VILLAGE"
MILDON'S "A GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET"
SMITS' "DICKENS CHRISTMAS COTTAGE"
STAHL'S "A VINTAGE CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER"

Save The Date!

December 13 | 12-5 PM



Session Highlights

We have some upcoming holiday events in which **everyone can contribute** either as a volunteer or as a participant:

November 15: Collection of Operation Christmas Child boxes
November 28: Annual Hanging of the Greens and potluck dinner
December 12: Breakfast with Santa (for kids but adult volunteers are needed)
December 12: Christmas program Family Fun Time at 4 p.m.
December 13: Christmas Home Tour - $20 suggested donation for 4 home tours
This is a fundraiser for the bell choir's planned expansion of its bell collection.

Our Facilities & Grounds team has been busy maintaining our grounds, repurposing part of the Music Director's office to add storage, and working with the Scouts to add sprinklers and piping so our yard's bare spots can be watered. Our Membership & Fellowship team has almost completed picture taking for the new church directory.
Joyce Brand

Treasurer's Report as of September 30 2026

Dean Collins, Church Treasurer

Budgeted Income/Expense	September	Year to Date Total
Income	13,084.98	144,350.60
Expenses	25,335.24	198,027.09
Net Operating Profit/Loss	-12,250.26	-53,676.49

Have you remembered Northkirk Presbyterian Church in your will as an act of lifetime stewardship?

MomCo of Northkirk



November is here, which means it is officially "fall" or "autumn" and is my favorite time of the year. The weather starts to (hopefully) cool down and we get to cozy up with sweaters and hot drinks! "Sweater Weather" is upon us!

This month we will be doing our annual Operation Christmas Child meeting on November 4th where we will stuff shoeboxes to be shipped all over the world to those children who need it most.

Following that, at our second meeting on November 18th, our very own Teri Smits will teach us how to keep a clean and organized home. Thank you Teri, for your time and support. This is something I think most of us struggle with while juggling little ones, so we look forward to your wisdom and tips on how to navigate that.

Our November fundraiser will be held at The Habit Burger in Upland Colonies on Monday, November 9th. Address: 1071 E 19th St, STE E, Upland. Thank you all for your support always at our fundraisers. We appreciate all of you.

The holidays are also right around the corner. Praying that everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving with family and loved ones.

-Liz Goddard, MomCo Leadership





JOIN HABIT BURGER & GRILL IN SUPPORT OF

MOMCO OF NORTHKIRK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9 | 4-9PM

Enter code **GIVEBACK** when placing your order at the in-restaurant kiosk, the Habit Burger & Grill Mobile app, or habitburger.com.

Or, simply present this printed flyer or show this offer on your smart phone to the cashier upon ordering. Habit Burger & Grill will donate **20% OF NET SALES** from this event to benefit your organization.

Habit BURGER & GRILL

1071 East 19th St. Suite E
Upland, CA 91784

4685298
*For Habit Team Member only

Net sales do not include sales tax, gift card purchases, or tips. Orders placed on third party websites or apps are not eligible for this Fundraiser. In order to receive a donation, your organization must reach the minimum sales amount of $150. If this amount is not reached, your organization will not receive a donation for the fundraiser.

Deacon Corner

Blessing Bag Request

The deacons are continuing to accept donations for the Blessing bags. Please donate TRIAL SIZE items. Full size items are too big to go in these bags.

Travel size toiletries

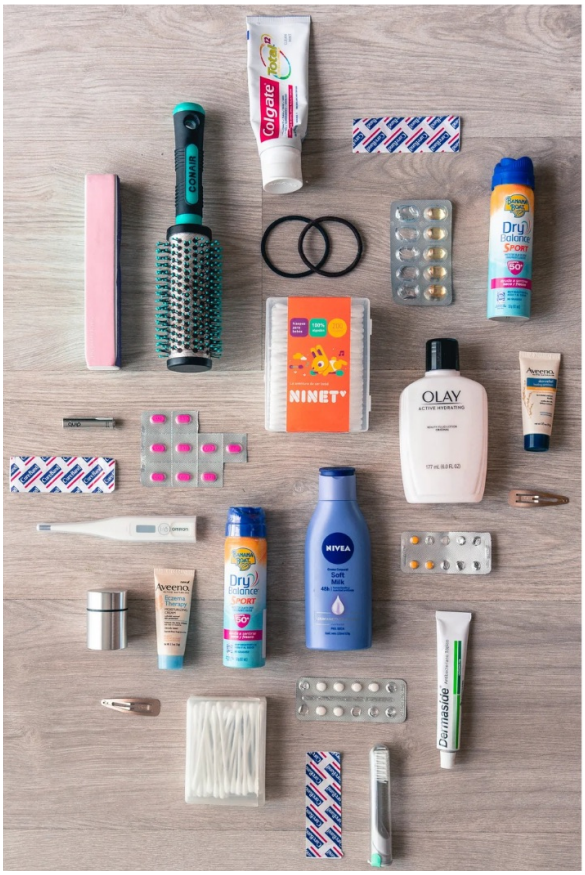
- Deodorant men/women
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Mouthwash
- Pocket pack Kleenex
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm
- Soap bar
- Razors men/women
- Shave cream men/women
- Feminine hygiene products

Food

- Small bottles water (8oz)
- Single serving juice boxes/pouches
- Individual packet of snacks (cookies, crackers, etc.)
  - NO NUTS/ NO JERKY/ NO PEANUT BUTTER
- Apple sauce or other fruit in pouches
- Tuna in ready mixed pouches
- Mints/gum/wrapped hard candy (nothing that melts)

Other items

- Socks
- Hats
- Gloves
- Wash cloths
- Small magazines like Guideposts (we will block your name/address)
- A personal note of support and care



November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Prayer Mtg. 9 am Worship Service 9:30 am	2	3 Prayer Part. 9 am	4 Men's Bible Study (Coco's) 7:30 am MomCo 9 am	5	6	7
8 Prayer Mtg. 9 am Worship Service 9:30 am	9 MomCo Habit Colonies Fundraiser 4-9 pm	10 Prayer Part. 9 am Committee Mtgs. 6:30 pm	11 Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Office) 7:30 am John Schneider Memorial 11am	12 Caring Crafters 2 pm (rm. 2)	13	14
15 Prayer Mtg. 9 am Worship Service 9:30 am	16	17 Prayer Part. 9 am Session Mtg. 6:30 pm	18 Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Office) 7:30 am MomCo 9 am	19	20	21
22 Prayer Mtg. 9 am Worship Service 9:30 am	23	24 Prayer Part. 9 am Deacons Mtg. (rm. 5) 6:30 pm	25 Men's Bible Study (Pastor's Office) 7:30 am	26 Thanksgiving Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28 Hanging of the Greens 4 pm
29 Prayer Mtg. 9 am Worship Service 9:30 am	30					

Prayer Partners Tuesdays, 9 am, Mary Lee's home. Call Mary Lee with prayer requests or to be part of the group.

Men's Bible Study Wednesdays, 7:30 am, Pastor's office, Contact Terry Switzer.

MomCo 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 9 am, Contact Katherine Wallin.

Caring Crafters 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2 pm, room 2, Contact Emily Scholz.

Happy Birthday!

Ethan Goddard 11/21

Corey Wong 11/22

Liza Slaughter 11/27

Northkirk Presbyterian Church
9101 19th Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701
909-989-4919
www.northkirk.org
northkirkoffice@northkirk.org

Interim Pastor
Pastor R. Winston Presnall
RWPresnall@outlook.com

Office Manager
Abby Thomas
northkirkoffice@northkirk.org

Music Director
Saw Shein
sshein@northkirk.org

Accompanist
Harold Willome
hwillome@northkirk.org

"Living out God's Love as we gather together and reach out."

November Prayer Calendar

1 Protection	2 Greg Roberts	3 Judy Ross	4 Winnie Sage	5 Ramona Schneider	6 Emily & Bill Scholz	7 Wisdom
8 God's Glory	9 Sue & Guy Sharra	10 Saw Shein	11 Simmons Family	12 Malcolm & Nancy Slack	13 Liza Slaughter	14 Love & Compassion
15 Peace & Comfort	16 Teri Smits	17 Marty & Terri Sortillon	18 Tom & Jodie Stahl	19 Laura & Phil Stephenson	20 Yoko Sweede	21 Hope & Courage
22 Guidance & Direction	23 Marilyn & Terry Switzer	24 Jo & Paul Syiem	25 Holly Teixeira	26 Lovie & Harry Thomas	27 Sheri Tracy	28 Unity
29 Spread of the Gospel	30 David Van Curen					