

North Cross Spirit

... telling the news of North Cross Church

June 29, 2009

...coming up in Worship...

Sunday, July 5, 2009

Rev. Neal Lassinger

Acts 18: 1-11

“Beginning a New Chapter”

Come and welcome our new pastor on his first Sunday with us. Be sure to wear your name tags so he can begin learning your names.

Also, plan to attend the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 19th, at 6:00 p.m. to welcome Neal and Lori. The gathering will either be out back or in Fellowship Hall, depending on the weather.

Join adults in Sunday study: 9:45 a.m.

You're invited to share in study and fellowship with these classes this Sunday:

Wesleyan Class: Room 215

Lesson: *“God Calls the People to Covenant”*
Glenn Corwin

Good News: Room 206

Lesson: *“Old Pencil”* George O'Donnell

Friendship: Room 202

Lesson: *“God Calls the People to Covenant”*
Barbara Moody

Inquirer's: Fellowship Hall

Lesson: *“Breakfast Served by the Youth for Winning Trivial Pursuit”*

FaithWorks: Room 207

Lesson: *“God Calls the People to Covenant”*
Deborah Mason

Pathfinders: Room 200

Lesson: *“Current Events”* Don Rose

Contemporary Conversations: Lounge

Lesson: *“Songs and Stories for the 4th”*
Randy St. Clair

Join in a mission to help feed the hungry

You are invited and encouraged to help feed the hungry in Kansas City. The Outreach Committee has planned a workday at Harvesters for Saturday, July 18th, from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Harvesters is a food distribution agency that supplies many other agencies with food items for feeding the hungry.

Our work will consist of sorting and repackaging items donated to their organization. The nature of the work requires wearing comfortable clothing and “closed-toe” shoes. We will be standing most of the time. Volunteers must be at least 6 years old. (It is a great opportunity for families to share in a project together.) A parent or youth sponsor must accompany anyone under the age of 16. No cell phones, please.

Those who wish to carpool should meet at the recycling bins in the south parking lot of the church. We will leave at 8 a.m. Call the church office at 452.2939 or Barbara Shortess at 454.7867 by Thursday, July 16th. We need to know in advance so we will be able to tell Harvesters how many people are coming from North Cross. Harvesters requests that volunteers bring a can or two of food to donate to the cause. Food pantries are low on supplies, and this is a great way to help our Kansas City community.



Transformed by Christ's love to make disciples and serve others.

Don't forget to say "Thank you!"

At one time or another since September 2008, the following people have participated in Chancel Choir. They give of their time to serve God and members of North Cross by praising through song. They do so with passion and talent that God has given them. Some of them will sing throughout the summer. Others will spend a few months worshipping with their families in the congregation.

We are thankful for the friends, families, spouses, and loved ones who loan their singers to the Chancel Choir. Now it's time to thank our singers. Please let them know you appreciate their efforts.

Organist: Lenora R Emmert

Pianist: Marsha Vanderford

SOPRANO

Jeri Allison
Marcia Browning
Evelyn Byars
Louise Gamel
Marie Harden
Melanie Hurst
Michele Hurst
Norma Irwin
Pat Kuehn
Laura Landis
Deborah Mason
Faye Moore
Candyce O'Donnell
Alana Pierce
Betsy Strub
Marsha Vanderford
Bette Walden
Sharon Weems
Nancy West
Susan Young

ALTO

Nancy Boland
Jane Brown
Helen Foster
Elaine Henderson
Marianne Horned
Kathy Linder
Peggy Lindsay
Rita McCall
Louise Overbey
Jordan Petrich
Robertta Richey
Marge Rose
Karen Sandridge
Brooke Spotts
Mary Lou Stewart
Joyce Stuermer
Jackie Tucker
Janie Wyand

BASS

Bob DeTray
Tom Gee
Dick Irwin
Carlos Knight
Ken Rahmiller
Don Rose
Larry Sandridge
Tom Schmutz
Dan Sturdevant
Charles Sullivan
Del Sutton

TENOR

Coleman Anderson
Roger Arbuckle
Tom Beckmann
Roger Henderson
Lyle Linder
Steve Lindsay
Ken Remmert

New UMW books have arrived

We have finally received two books that we have been waiting for. Take a look to see if you would be interested in reading either of these two books. Also, remember that we have a large selection of 2004 books that will go off of the reading list at the end of the year.

Three Cups of Tea - One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin (category EM) Large Print, 693 pages

In 1993 a mountaineer named Greg Mortenson drifted into an impoverished Pakistan village after a failed attempt to climb K2. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. Three Cups of Tea is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. Over the next decade Mortenson built not just one, but fifty-five schools - especially for girls - in the forbidding terrain that gave birth to the Taliban. His story is at once a riveting adventure and a testament to the power of the humanitarian spirit.

Faith & Fitness - Diet and Exercise for a Better World, by Tom P. Hafer (category NC) Larger than Average Print, 142 pages

This book offers a balance between fitness and wealth that leads to a longer, more fulfilling life of socially responsible Christian discipleship. While it is a book about fitness (emphasizing disability-free living through diet and exercise), another goal is to help you realize the value of community: a more simple life with fitness and wealth in their proper places in your community of family and friends.

Enjoy your summer reading!

Ann Ousley, UMW Resource Chairman

Life Screening tests available in July

Life Line Screening will be offered at North Cross on Wednesday, July 22nd, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Call 1.800.324.1851. The Stroke, Vascular Disease and Heart Rhythm Package (4 tests) will cost \$139. Add an osteoporosis screening for \$10. All 5 tests may be taken for \$149 (a \$66 savings.)

Senior Pastor's Office ready

Neal can move right in. Thanks to Stephanie Gray, Jacy Stehle, and Keith Jackson for painting and to Chris Gray and Tommy Stehle for moving furniture around. Keith also dusted furniture and cleaned the floor.

Coming This Week...

Thursday, July 2

6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
9:30 a.m. UMW Sewing/Quilting
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi

Friday, July 3

Building Closed

Saturday, July 4

Happy Birthday America

Sunday, July 5

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 6

11:00 a.m. Tai Chi
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, July 7

9:00 a.m. TOPS
10:00 a.m. Paint for Fun
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace Class
6:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge
7:00 p.m. Wood Carvers

Wednesday, July 8

8:00 a.m. Golf:
11:00 a.m. Grandparent Support

Thursday, July 9

6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi

Crestview Christmas in July

It won't be long until students will be thinking about those new school clothes, backpacks, shoes and school supplies for the first day of school. Only many of the students will not have those new items, as their parents do not have the money to supply them. We at North Cross have generously given Crestview Elementary students these needed items in the past through our Mission Partnership with Crestview.

When you enter the church on Sunday, July 5, the Christmas tree will be decorated with ornaments showing backpacks, socks and shoes. School supplies will be provided by another group. Please select one of the ornaments and return the item to church no later than July 26. If you select a shoe ornament, you may buy a gift certificate from Payless Shoe Store or donate money. Donated money may be used for other needs at Crestview during the school year, as well as shoes. Please put monetary donations in the offering plate and designate Crestview on your checks. Thanks to your continued generosity, Crestview students will be proud of their new items on the first day of school!

Outreach Committee

2008 Super Sale projects completed

The projects from the proceeds of the 2008 Super Sale were new flooring in the main kitchen and pantry. Thanks go to Carl West for taking down and putting back up shelves; to Meredith Bentson, Barb Bennett, Nancy West, Bette Walden, and Patsy Schmutz for clearing out, cleaning and putting back all the many pots and pans, dishes, coffee pots, platters, and the list goes on and on. Please stop by and see the new look.

The 2009 Super Sale money will go toward having new doors installed on all the main kitchen cabinets and helping Preschool purchase new flooring in the children's bathrooms on the lower level of the Education Wing.

We are already receiving phone calls to have large items picked up on Sunday, August 2nd, from 2 to 5 p.m. Get your items ready and bring them at that time also. Starting next Sunday there will be a sign up board in the entry and at the Lounge doors to sign up to HELP.



Have you registered for VBS online at northcrossmc.org?

Early registration would be very helpful, so that we can order supplies and food.

Notes from Annual Conference

from Jaccy Stehle, June 2009

Marianne Horned, Emily Brown and I went to Annual Conference as your lay members for the first time this year. I was unsure of what to expect, all the way down to what do I wear to these things! I learned that there is a lot of sitting! Something else caught my interest: not only was the theme Somewhere Out There, but it was also about the church being an Outwardly-Focused Congregation. It was said, "we need to have a 'go to' attitude about reaching out to folks instead of a 'come to' attitude. The point is not to show great membership of the church, but to show God's Grace." The first speaker was Rev. Robin Miller from Church of the Shepherd. She shared her story about how she finally understood grace and how it changed her life. She said, "Someone had to take the time to show us love, not just say the word love ... God wants love to be focused out; when it is and it reaches someone in need, it is powerful to watch. It is life-changing."

I was very moved by her words that morning, and I started thinking about how we tend to have activities to attract the community, but maybe we're not so good at going out to the community to invite them in. So I attended a workshop called Welcoming the Stranger. There is a company that will send out a "mystery church shopper" to check out churches to see if the "shoppers" would attend there or not. The visitor fills out an evaluation and returns it to this company which compiles the information and returns the data to the church. Here are the top 4 reasons people don't attend church:

- Sermons are not interesting, or the sermon doesn't relate to that person's life situation.
- The church was unfriendly—too many cliques
- The church was more interested in money
- Lack of quality childcare

So maybe we, the congregation, need to think about how our church would rate to a visitor. Think about what their first impressions would be and figure out what ministries are working and which ones are not working to reach others for Christ. Another statement was made that could apply to this area: We tend to say that we don't have enough. That could mean members, finances, help with activities etc. What we fail to remember is that God always has abundance!

What do you think we should do to reach out to others who need God's Grace?

Person to person:

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Hospitalized: Rosemary Wheeler, NKC; Jan Braker, Liberty

- We offer our sympathy to David and Becky Batchelor and family in the death of David's grandmother, Dolores Jennings, on June 22nd, in Gladstone, MO; and to Bets Hammen and family in the death of her husband, Art, on June 28.
- The next Game Night at North Cross will be held on Saturday, July 11th, at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack and your favorite game and join in the fun.
- The United Methodist Men have 2 containers where you may recycle your aluminum cans: one is in Fellowship Hall, another is in the back parking lot, east side, near the dumpster.
- 8 tickets are left for the ballgame on Friday, July 17th. This is the 18th annual UMM-sponsored evening at the K.

Publication Deadline: Wednesday at noon
Spirit Editor: Mary Alice Morrissey

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Visit our website at www.northcrossumc.org

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