

# North Cross Spirit

... telling the news of North Cross Church

May 11, 2009

...coming up in Worship...

## Have you really heard?

Hearing and listening are not the same thing. We hear many sounds in the course of a day, but what is it that we really absorb? Ever had a spouse complain that you didn't hear them? Ever been accused of not listening?

The Bible speaks of the still, small voice of God. Have you ever heard this voice speaking to you? What kind of listening skills do you possess? Are we really attuned (listening) to what we hear?

Sunday's message is entitled *Hearing what you listen for*.

## 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: "New Revelation in Christ"  
Glenn Corwin

### Good News: Room 206

Lesson: "The Paradoxical Commandments"  
Jim Funk

### Friendship: Room 202

Lesson: "New Revelation in Christ"  
Barbara Moody

### Inquirer's: Fellowship Hall

Lesson: "What I, As A Pastor, Wish My Parishioners Knew"  
Brian Roots

### FaithWorks: Room 207

Lesson: "New Revelation in Christ"  
Helen Foster

### Pathfinders: Room 200

Lesson: "Matthew, the Successful Man"  
Joyce Singley

### Contemporary Conversations: Lounge

Lesson: "Our Faith Journey"  
Lyle and Kathy Linder

## Looking ahead...

Several dates you may want to note on your calendars for the coming months:

May 24<sup>th</sup> – *Memorial Day* Remembrance services  
We remember those who have died in the last year and acknowledge memorials.

May 25<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day  
Holiday –  
Church closed



June 4-8 – Missouri Annual Conference;  
Springfield, MO

June 14<sup>th</sup> – Rick's Retirement Reception; 2-4 p.m.

June 21<sup>st</sup> – Rick's Last Sunday (Father's Day)

July 5<sup>th</sup> – New Pastor, Neal Lassinger's First Sunday

July 12 – 16 – Vacation Bible School (Evenings)

Week of August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Annual *Super Sale*

September 12<sup>th</sup> – Community Fun Fest – (Saturday)  
(On the front lawn & parking lot)

The above listing is far from inclusive, but it does highlight some of the major events that are a part of the church's planning at this time.

Please note that pastor Neal's first Sunday will be on a holiday weekend. It would be wonderful if you would make a special effort to be here on his first Sunday and welcome him and his wife, Lori, to North Cross.

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

## April Financial Summary

April Receipts ..... \$59,422.70  
April Expenses ..... \$65,583.36  
Balance in Operating Fund ... \$ 3,478.06

## Dinner for 8 offered - June to Sept.

Dinner for 8 (in or out) is a 4-month program where people share a meal with others from the church once a month. This is a fellowship experience, a “getting to know someone new” experience, and you may sign up for either eating in homes (*Dinner for 8—In*) or eating out (*Dinner for 8—Out*) in a restaurant. After you sign up, you will be sent a letter letting you know the names of the people in your group. One person from your group will be asked to call the others and schedule the first dinner.

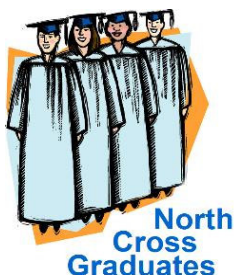
If you choose *Dinner for 8—In*, one of the members of the group will host the dinner at their home, and they will provide the main course and the beverage. Other members of the group will provide the side dishes and dessert. The next month the hosting is rotated to another home.

*Dinner for 8—Out* will select a restaurant each of the 4 months, where the group will meet for breakfast, lunch, or dinner—the group will decide which.

Pick up a registration form from the table in the entryway and return it to the church office or leave it in the offering plate at a worship service.

This is a great way to expand your circle of friends at North Cross and to strengthen the fellowship of our church.

If you have a 2009 graduate to brag about, please call the church office (816.452.2939) and share that information with us.



## Camp E.D.G.E.

Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday through Thursday this year, July 12 to July 16. The time is 5:55 to 8:15 PM, starting with a light supper for all children and volunteers!

Registration closes July 5, then reopens on July 12 at the registration table. Please pre-register!!!! We still have some key leader positions to fill and need male drama characters (one night only). We have a few surprise visitors.

VBS is for children 4 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. A class for younger children is available for the children of volunteers.

Registration is available online. Go to [www.northcrossumc.org](http://www.northcrossumc.org). On the left side, click on VBS. The screen pops up to the VBS page. Enter Participant, then submit. It is so easy! Give it a try.

## Sunday School Teachers needed for children's summer Sunday School!

What do you remember about your Sunday School experience? Most often you will remember a teacher or leader, not the information. As Christians, we are called to serve God and to use our gifts, graces and talents. The role of a teacher of the faith is to help people be formed as disciples of Christ.

If we respond to the call to teach, we have this promise: God will be with us and will bless our ministry of teaching! Call Glenda for more information. June 7 will be here soon. You can sign up for as many Sundays or as few as you can.

When over 1,000 people were asked what they valued in their Sunday School teacher, the phrase “loves and is concerned about people” was at the top of the list.

### ***Caring for an Older Adult Seminar***

Thursday, May 21, 2009 5 to 7:30 p.m.  
Northland Human Services Building  
3100 NE 83rd Street, KCMO 64119  
Limited seating—No fee!  
RSVP no later than May 19th to Sally King  
816.877.0453 or [sallyk@tri-countymhs.org](mailto:sallyk@tri-countymhs.org)



## ***Rick's Ruminations:***

When I graduated from the University of Missouri in 1968, I did so with a BS in Education and a minor in history and political science. I also received a lifetime teaching certificate in the state of Missouri. Those are not granted anymore. Educational requirements and credentialing have changed.

However, a couple of weeks ago someone who knew my background asked me if I was going to do some substitute teaching after retirement. The question caught me by surprise. Quite frankly, I had forgotten that I even had this "credential" in my résumé or portfolio. The question did get me to thinking about the possibility.

I have a professional non-profit fund-raising group/company that has approached me about becoming one of their campaign directors. I could work locally or in other areas of the country (Atlanta/Phoenix) helping non-profits raise funds for their work. However, at this time I'm not looking for a second career. Several of you have asked what I'm planning for retirement.

We will continue to live in the community in the home where we are. I plan to take some time for myself, do some reading, taking care of things too long-neglected around the house. Spend more time with my grandson. Do some traveling.

One of the things we will need to do is find a new church home. This will be a first for Karen and me. While we have had several church homes over the years, it has always been as the pastor going to a new place and being immediately welcomed. Now we will be in the position of going into churches in an entirely different manner.

My history of serving churches (résumé) hasn't really prepared me for this. Many of you have probably had far more experience in this area than we have had.

What I do know is that I have a lifetime of experience in the church that began with my parents when I was too young to even remember. That's a credential I have and will continue to embellish in this next phase of my life.

...rmh

## ***Person to person:***

### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

**Hospitalized:** Art Hammen, Ralph Scott

- ◆ Thank you to everyone for your cards and prayers during my illness. *Tom Beckmann*
- ◆ Thank you to Bill and Judy Chastain for their generosity in having the entryway carpets cleaned.
- ◆ Thanks to the 27 people, including 7 Boy Scouts and 3 leaders, who came and worked on Spruce-Up Day. Among those working were Carl West, Ron Berry, Sue Berry, John Karns, Larry Wickham, Mel Strong, Marj Strong, Bryce Strong, Keith Jackson, Barb Bennett, Don McCandless, Roberta Richey, Patsy Schmutz, Robert Hurst, Henry Linch, Vickie Linch, Brant Linch, Jackie Whiston, Brenda Coots, and Boy Scouts and Scout Leaders. We got a lot done in the front of the building, some painting and cleaning. It was a great day!
- ◆ The May/June Upper Room devotional books are available in the rack outside the Office. \$1.

***Church Office: 816-452-2939***  
***Fax Number: 816-453-4353***

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

North Cross United Methodist Church  
1321 N.E. Vivion Road  
Kansas City, Missouri 64118

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Kansas City, MO  
Permit No. 4129

### **Return Service**

**ATTENTION POSTMASTER:**  
**Postmaster please deliver on**  
**May 13th, 14th or 15th..**