

# North Cross Spirit

. . . *telling the news of North Cross Church*

November 9, 2009

## Coming up in Worship. . .

Have you received a gift for. . . a birthday, an anniversary, or in response to a special favor that you've done for someone? If it is wrapped, don't you just wonder what in the world you've been given? Could it be a GPS? Or a Blackberry? Maybe an expensive clock for the mantel? Possibly that power tool you've been wanting?

And then, you open it. You discover an envelope with a fairly well-mutilated \$5 bill. Not what you expected! But there's a note from the person that says, "I wish I could do more for you. . .but this is all I have." Do you feel differently?

On Sunday, we'll look at a Biblical account of a woman who gave everything she had; the story is found in Mark 12.41-44.

*Dennis*

## 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: "A Suffering People" Marj Strong

**Good News:** Room 206

Lesson: "The Life You Have Always Wanted"  
Jim Funk

**Friendship:** Room 202

Lesson: "A Suffering People" Charles Weems

**Inquirer's:** Fellowship Hall

Lesson: "Our Unfailing Guide-How to Live by  
Faith in an Uncertain World" Pt.2 Ron Berry

**FaithWorks:** Room 207

Lesson: "Letting Our Soul Catch Up  
with Our Bodies" Becky Batchelor

**Pathfinders:** Room 200

Lesson: "Methodist Beliefs: We Believe  
in the Bible" Ken Williams

**Contemporary Conversations:** Lounge

Lesson: "Shepherd of the Northland"  
Rebecca Gordon

## 2009 Northland Christmas Store in need of volunteers



The Northland Christmas Store is a cooperative, volunteer effort of businesses, churches, schools, individuals, and organizations to lend assistance to qualified Clay County residents during the holiday season.

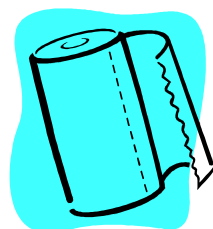
Volunteers are needed to help set up the store and keep it stocked and also to take clients through. Help is needed starting Sunday afternoon, December 6<sup>th</sup>, and the store will be open from Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, through Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

This would be a great Sunday School class project. Call Wilbur and Vondell Neill at 468.6977 and talk with them about the day and time you can volunteer.

## North Cross Christmas Store Donations

Each year North Cross families have the opportunity to make donations to the Northland Christmas Store. This year it was requested that North Cross collect paper towels.

Our goal is to collect 1,200 rolls. Please place your donations under the Sharing Tree in the entry. The deadline for donations is Sunday, December 6.



If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to North Cross United Methodist Church, with Northland Christmas Store noted on the memo line.

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

## Soup and sandwich luncheon to be held preceding Charge Conference

Soup and Sandwich fixings will be available in Fellowship Hall following the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please call the church office to sign up for lunch, or sign the Charge Conference lunch sheet on the table outside the office starting Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you are able to make a pot of soup (any kind) for the meal, would you please call the church office at 452.2939?

## Game Night coming up Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>

The next Game Night at North Cross will be held on Saturday night, November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

All are welcome to attend - if you have a favorite game you would like to play, please bring it with you. We play cards: Hand & Foot, Pitch, Spades, you name it! We play Dominos: Mexican Train and Chicken Foot.

Bring a snack to share - drinks will be furnished. You're guaranteed to have a good time! This will be the last Game Night of the year - we will not meet in December.

## Training scheduled for Communion Stewards

Have you always wanted to be a Communion Steward, but didn't know how? Please come to a short training meeting on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, at 9:30 a.m.

If you're interested but unable to attend the meeting, please call Bev Martin at 455.1599.



The following is a letter sent to North Cross UMC from the Northland Assistance Center.

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for the donation of \$1,756.55 in support of the Northland Assistance Center for the assistance of those in need in the Northland. The brisket dinner was wonderful. Great food and great fellowship.

Thanks to you and others we were able to assist "Sue and David." Sue and David are retirees trying to make ends meet on their Social Security and retirement benefits. David also worked a part-time job. David got sick, and the medical bills piled up. Soon they received an eviction notice. We paid their rent and worked with their landlord so they could make payments until David was back on his feet.

We are grateful for your continued support. With you, we will continue to reach out a caring hand of help and hope to those in need. On behalf of the board and our clients we say thank you.

Sincerely, Rita D. Pearce, Executive Director; John Zaiger, Board President

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

**If you need nametags**, you have several options. Magnet name badges are available at a cost of \$5 per badge. Clip-on or hanging name tags are available at no charge. Check the sign-up sheet on the table by the office door and mark your preference if you do not already have a name tag. Orders are filled quickly!

## Pew stewards needed

We are always in need of pew stewards to help keep our sanctuary ready for worship services. This volunteer position only takes a couple of hours every 6 weeks. Pew stewards keep the pew racks filled with offering envelopes and scribble sheets for children and pick up papers left behind after worship services. If you can help, please call Mary Alice at 452.2939.

## Coming This Week...

### Thursday, November 12

6:00 a.m..... Tai Chi  
11:30 a.m..... Tai Chi  
1:30 p.m..... Wesleyan Circle  
4:30 p.m..... 4 One Band Practice  
6:30 p.m..... Girl Scout Board

### Friday, November 13

8:30 a.m..... Adventures in Learning

### Saturday, November 14

9 a.m.-3 p.m. .... Christmas Store Sign-Up  
1:00 p.m..... DAR  
6:30 p.m..... Game Night

### Sunday, November 15

8:30 a.m..... Traditional Worship

9:30 a.m..... Children's Music

9:45 a.m..... Sunday School

*Coffee always in the kitchen*

11:00 a.m. .... Contemporary  
Worship

4:30 p.m..... Hand Bell Practice

6:30 p.m..... God and Country

### Monday, November 16

9 a.m.-3 p.m. .... Medicare Sign Up

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

1:00 p.m..... UMW Bible Study

7:00 p.m..... Cub & Boy Scouts

7:00 p.m..... Job Club

### Tuesday, November 17

9:00 a.m..... Me, Myself & Lies Study

9:00 a.m..... TOPS

10:00 a.m. .... Paint for Fun

10:30 a.m..... O.P. Bridge Group

6:30 p.m..... Trustees

6:30 p.m..... Duplicate Bridge

7:00 p.m..... Wood Carvers

### Wednesday, November 18

9:00 a.m..... Hebrews Study

4-8:00 p.m. .... Christmas Store Sign-Up

5:30 p.m..... Supper

6:15 p.m..... KidZone

6:30 p.m..... Youth

6:30 p.m..... Chancel Choir Practice

### Thursday, November 19

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

9:00 a.m..... UMW Sewing/Quilting

9 a.m.-3 p.m. .... Christmas Store Sign-Up

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

4:30 p.m..... 4 One Band Practice

## KidZone news

Do your children have trouble with social skills? Do they know how to properly answer the telephone? Do they need to work on those table manners? If you answered yes to any or all of these, then KidZone is the place to be! We will meet November 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:15 to 7 p.m. following Youth Dinner. We will be learning "What Every Kid Should Know About Manners and Etiquette!"

On Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:15 p.m. we will make Christmas crafts to take to a nursing home. The following Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, they can practice their manners and etiquette skills as we have a pizza party, travel to a nursing home to sing carols and deliver our crafts. KidZone is for children from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Your leaders will be Jaccy and Tommy Stehle. There is plenty of fun and learning available for North Cross kids and their friends!

## XYZs will meet on November 17<sup>th</sup>

On Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, the XYZs (Xtra Years of Zest!) group will hold a holiday luncheon. The following foods will be provided: Turkey, gravy, potatoes, cranberry salad, and dressing. Drinks will also be provided. Please bring a casserole, vegetable dish, or dessert to share with the group.

The group will gather at 11:30 - the meal will be served at noon. Following the meal, there will be Thanksgiving cookies to decorate. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on the fun!

## Cursillo gathering scheduled for January

The next Men's Weekend for Cursillo will begin the evening of Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, and finished the afternoon of Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. The Women's Weekend begins the evening of Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, and finishes the afternoon of Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Time flies on these weekends, and when it ends, you won't be ready to leave! Talk to Patsy, Vickie, Barbara Bennett, Cris Funk, or anyone you know who has been through one of these weekends for more information.

You may pick up an application in the church office. The cost is \$60 - not bad for eight meals and plenty of snacks. Scholarships are available. When you sign up, a Sponsor will be given to you who will take you and pick you up. This might be your first experience to "let go and let God" be in charge.

## One Homeless Night With A Few Homeless Youth

Eleven youth signed up to participate in the *One Homeless Night* simulation to benefit Synergy Services. They were excited to start the evening and arrived early. The evening began differently than expected. The doors to the youth room were closed, and there was a sign on the door - **Shelter will open at 7:00 pm.** So, they sat in the hallway and waited.

When the doors opened, they were greeted by the "security guard." They were asked to open their bags and empty their pockets. What?! Cell phones, iPods, and even real cash were bagged up and labeled with their name. The simulation was becoming a little more real than expected.

They were given the option to rent a locker. (they had been given 13 "homeless night bucks" earlier in the week) for safekeeping of these belongings, or the bags would be placed along the wall. A warning was given in regards to the possibility of theft in a shelter setting. Those that chose a locker spent three homeless bucks. Others risked theft. And yes, their items were "stolen" during the night.

Then they were asked if they would like to keep their nice clothes for the evening or shop at the thrift store. The cost to keep their own clothes: another three homeless bucks. The thrift clothes were free. Only three persons exchanged their clothes for thrift clothes.

There were other financial choices during the evening. The snacks and sodas were one homeless buck each; even a box to sleep in was a buck. Financial decisions the night before affected everyone the next morning. The free breakfast was shepherd's pie left over from dinner before. Those with money were able to purchase biscuits, gravy, sausage, eggs, and juice at *McHenry's*.

In addition to financial choices, the homeless had to carry all of their belongings wherever they went. They didn't want to risk being the victim of theft. They also participated in group discussions, games, and a walk to the fountain and back to raise their awareness about the realities, choices, concerns, and fears of a homeless youth. And of course, they spent the night in a box outside of the church.

They learned, experienced, and grew a little this past weekend. And with the wonderful support of the North Cross Congregation, they raised over \$1600 to benefit Synergy Services, which will help many *real* homeless youth have the opportunities they need to learn, grow, and experience a good life.

## Person to person:

### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**Hospitalized:** Elizabeth Davis NKC

- Menu for November 18<sup>th</sup>: *Vegetable Beef or Chicken Noodle Soup, Baked Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls*

✠ We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Don Crowley, who died on November 5, 2009, and to the family and friends of Michael F. Armstrong, who died on November 1, 2009.

- Congratulations to Fred and Vicki Barton on the birth of their grandson, Daniel Thomas, born on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> to Cindy and Tom Barton. Abigail is Daniel Thomas' proud big sister; and congratulations to Rob and Deborah Tuttle, Jack, and Marianne on the birth of their son and brother, Charles Patrick Tuttle, on November 4, 2009. Charlie weighed in at 8 lbs., 13 oz. His proud grandparents are Patrick and Bette Walden.
- UMW reading lists are due to Ann Ousley by November 15th for books read for the 2009 UMW Reading Program.

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

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**Fax Number: 816.453.4353**

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**Visit our website at [www.northcrossumc.org](http://www.northcrossumc.org)**

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