

## Northwood Staff

Barry Lind, Senior Pastor  
Paul Jackson, Sr. Associate Pastor  
Mike Giering, Youth Pastor  
Betsy Clewett, Director of Children's Ministry  
Rose Miller, Senior Adult Minister  
John Hakes, Music Minister  
Jonathan Swartout, Youth Worker  
Toni Unfred, Groups Coordinator  
Connie Knight, Bookkeeper  
Jill Noble, Administrative Assistant  
Judy Lacock, Pianist

We reserve the right to edit or rewrite submitted articles. Newsletter deadline is the 4th Friday of each month. Articles may be submitted by e-mail to [office@northwoodchristianchurch.org](mailto:office@northwoodchristianchurch.org) or to the office. Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm.

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Office: 541-746-2790  
[www.northwoodchristianchurch.org](http://www.northwoodchristianchurch.org)  
Email: [office@northwoodchristianchurch.org](mailto:office@northwoodchristianchurch.org)  
Fax: 541-747-7485

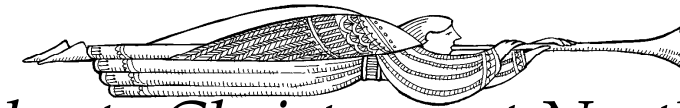
Sr. Pastor: Barry Lind  
Sr. Assoc. Pastor: Paul Jackson  
Youth Pastor: Mike Giering  
Administrative Assistant: Jill Noble

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# THE WINDOW

Northwood Christian Church

Volume 37, #12 *The Church that says, "Welcome Home"* December 2007



## Celebrate Christmas at Northwood

### Christmas Parade

Riders, marchers, and sign holders needed for the Springfield Christmas Parade, Saturday, Dec. 8th. Come one, come all and join us as we share God's love with the community. All ages welcome. Meet at the parade site (float #70) on Olympic St. by 12:45. Dress for the weather.

### Children's Christmas Program

The children have worked hard since September on *The Mystery of the Manger* to share with the church. Come at 2 pm on Sunday, Dec. 9th to see this special performance.

### Christmas Cantata

The Christmas Cantata "Emmanuel, God with Us" will be performed during two services on Sunday, Dec. 16th at 9 and 11. Come and enjoy all the work the choir has put into this special Christmas music.

### Caroling & Hot Chocolate

Come and make a joyful noise caroling to those who often are unable to attend

Sunday services. Groups will travel from home to home then return to the church to warm up with hot chocolate. Dec. 23rd at 4 pm.

### Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve services are at 5:30 pm & 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 24th. Come and be inspired, spend a quiet time with family and friends, and be reminded what this season is all about.

### Summary of Events

*Springfield Christmas Parade*  
December 8.....2 pm  
*Children's Christmas Program*  
December 9.....2 pm  
*Christmas Cantata*  
December 16.....9 & 11am  
*Caroling & Hot Chocolate*  
December 23.....4pm  
*Christmas Eve Services*  
December 24..... 5:30 & 7pm

## December Happenings



### Alert & Alive

Tuesday, the 18th is the Alert and Alive potluck. Please bring a favorite Christmas decoration, such as an ornament or something you have made, to display on your table.

If you have a Secret Prayer Partner for 2007, we will reveal them at this time. Also, if you would like to have a Secret Prayer Partner for next year, we will be drawing them at this time. A Secret Prayer Partner is someone who you commit to pray for and/or send cards to for the year. Come join us for a fun time. This is a great opportunity to get to know one another better!

Alert & Alive is part of our Senior Adult ministry, but all are welcome.

Rose Miller, Sr. Adult Minister

### Craft Night Postponed

Due to the lack of interest, the craft night is discontinued for a few months. If you would like to see this start up again please contact Della Dean.

### Pain Management

Pain Management and Support Class is on Dec. 11th from 2 to 3. Dan O'Neal will share details of his recent surgery and the use of a new medical device that has reduced his pain experience. He will share this story and answer questions. Please mark your calendar for an informative class.

### Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Monthly mini prayer vigil Monday Dec. 3rd from 6-7:30 p.m. Drop by the Fireside Room for informal silent prayer. Stay as long as you wish between those hours.

### Farewell Reception for the Gierings

A reception and time of fellowship with Mike and Lacy is set for Dec. 2nd at 6 pm in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to come and share in this special time.

### *What is Advent?*

It is the first gleam of Christmas

It is the promise of His coming

It heralds the entrance of Our Lord into human history

It is heaven descending to earth

It is a great event casting its brilliance before it.

It is as though a trumpeter had taken his stand upon the turrets of time and announced the coming of the King.

'Get ready,' he seems to say.

'Get ready.

He is coming!'

## Student Ministries

We are pleased to announce that Jonathan Swartout was hired as the interim youth worker to help with our middle and high School youth once Mike leaves. Jonathan currently works with Mike in the program and brings talent and love for the kids into this interim assignment. He will serve in this role until a new Youth Pastor is hired. A team of parents to help guide the program during this time period is also being established.

Jonathan is currently a student at Lane. And as you may know, Jonathan is also very talented musically. He is in Northwood's praise team, and plays a variety of musical instruments. Jonathan is the son of Steve and Deena Swartout, who are members at Northwood.

Please pray for our youth and everyone committed to working with them during this time of transition.



### December Elders

Communion & Offering

December 2 -

Rose Miller & Brad Childs

December 9 -

Ralph Matteson & David Waggoner

December 16 -

Judy Hockett & Dennis Page

December 23 -

Beverly Robertson & Mike Harman

December 30 -

Jeff Svejcar & Judy Hockett

### December Diaconate Teams

December 2 - Dan Witt

December 9 - Rick Christian

December 16 - Mike Wiebe

December 23 - Kitty Bates

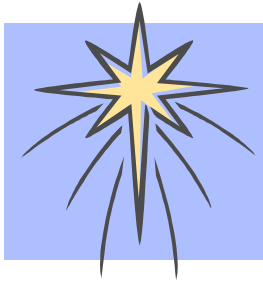
December 30 - Doug Kartub

### December Preparers

Diann Prenevost, Jeanette Jacobson,  
Bethany Boardrow

## From the Children's Wing

Betsy Clewett



For  
to us  
a child  
is born  
to us  
a son  
is given



Another month has flown by, full of fun occasions and deep learning. In Children's Church, we've completed our study of the elements of worship: praise, prayer, lessons, and communion. Lessons have included the components of prayer, thankfulness, baptism and the Holy Spirit. In December lessons will include Advent lessons designed for Godly Play.

Many children enjoy finding the supporting Scriptures in their own Bibles, and even highlighting them as they see adults do. This reminds us of the importance of being good role models in worship at home and church, as even our youngest children follow what they observe adults doing.

The children enjoyed the fall G.O.L.F. curriculum—so much in fact that we are extending our Wednesday program for an additional two weeks until Dec. 19th. The fall art projects—some individual and others in groups—will be on display at the final Fall G.O.L.F. dinner on Dec. 5th. The added Wednesday's include choir practice and lessons from 6:30–7:45. All children are invited to attend. John Hakes, Northwood's music minister is leading the children's choir to perform in the cantata on Sunday, Dec. 16th.

On Wednesday, Dec. 19th, the Northwood Cineplex re-opens for Christmas movies for kids of all ages from 6:30 to 8:30. Kids can select from three or four recent holiday movies, and Christmas movie treats are provided (hot cocoa, candy canes, and popcorn). This is a good opportunity for parents to have some mid-week "alone time" or Christmas shopping without kids in tow! Teens are welcome too! Please let us know if your children will attend.

As November draws to a close, we've invited our children in every part of the ministry to share what they are most thankful for. Most children named their family first (including pets), homes, and food. Many children also mentioned being thankful for Jesus, and His sacrifice on the cross, and for God's love. Be reassured that Northwood kids are growing in both knowledge and faith. Have a blessed Christmas!

## News, Notes & Announcements

### Library News

Thanks to all who came to the library Bob Welch event. We had about 200 people and had an absolutely grand time. Bob was inspirational and funny. The Camp Fire Girls brought in the flag so we could sing "The Star Spangled Banner." The Inspirational Sounds were truly inspirational. And everyone loved playing their kazoos. We profited \$300 and hopefully inspired all to come and use the library. We added his books, "My Oregon" and "An American Nightingale" to our collection.

### Thank You

Note of thanks to everyone who has sent me cards and words of encouragement. There have been so many and I have appreciated them all very much. Also, a special thanks to Alice Sweeney for bringing me a beautiful shawl while I was in the hospital. I am very, very grateful to the Prayer Shawl ministry for their loving kindness. I am making slow progress, but progress is progress. The prayers help so much. I'm still not able to have visitors, but phone calls, limited, are ok. I miss being at church, Louise Karther

### Goodbye and God's Blessings!

Our Youth pastor, Mike, has accepted a position as Director of High School Ministry at the Sunset Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon. His last Sunday here with us is Dec. 9th. We wish Mike and Lacy all the best as they begin their new life and ministry in Portland.

### Operation Christmas Child a Success

This year Northwood filled 111 boxes to help needy children around the world. Thank you!

### Have You Met Pastor Dan?



Interim Preaching Pastor  
Dan Armstrong

Joining Northwood for a few months this winter, is Interim Preaching Pastor Dan Armstrong. Dan and his wife Jan live in Hood River and have two married children. Dan is a former Air Force chaplain, and recently

retired from the Hood River Valley Christian Church.

When he is not serving the Oregon DOC as an interim pastor he fills his days with grandchildren, golf, reading, and RV travel.



Dan and his wife Jan

### Welcome to Northwood

*Don & Alice Pasquali*

# Winter G.O.L.F. Preview

## Explore Christianity at ALPHA

Discover what the Christian faith is all about in a relaxed, pressure-free environment.

*begins*

Jan. 3rd 6–8:30

## Adult G.O.L.F. Takes New Direction

Experience *Adventures in Kingdom Living*—the new format for adults attending G.O.L.F. This includes fellowship, teaching, and small group discussion.

*begins*

Jan. 9th 6–7:45

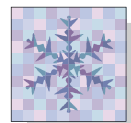
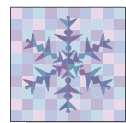
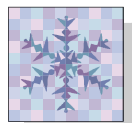
## Pastor Wells Offers Class on Book of John

Plan now to attend this 10-week class, *The Gift of Jesus is New Life*, a study of the Gospel of John.

*begins*

Jan. 10th 7–8:30,

**Watch for the G.O.L.F. brochure for full details.**



## October 2007 World Outreach Giving

Love Offering/Church Family	\$629	Angel Tree Scholarships	\$70
Mission Scholarships	\$262	Habitat for Humanity	\$262
Adopt a Ministry Student, NCC	\$874	Disciples Mission Fund	\$961
FISH	\$332	El Faro Orphanage	\$245
Young Life	\$157	Week of Compassion	\$350
Eugene Mission	\$350	Whisler Family	\$699
St. Vincent de Paul	\$157	Lemke Family	\$437
Youth for Christ (LCDC Chaplain)	\$332	Neveux Family	\$175

## Board Action Team

At this time in the life of Northwood it is vitally important that the leadership make timely decisions and hold each other accountable to follow through on agreed actions. Communication with each other, with staff, and with the congregation is critical so that people know what is happening and what is expected.

To address this situation and help the church move toward reconciliation, your Board of Directors has established a Board Action Team (BAT) that represents and is empowered by the Board to respond to issues that arise and to make decisions and take action that supports Board direction. The team is Bob Keefer, Jeff Svejcar, and Kitty Bates plus Board Chair Barbara Utt, serving as an ex-officio member and spokesperson. The team is also responsible for communicating back to the Board, with each of the leadership groups, and the staff regarding decisions and actions that are taken to resolve issues. Some actions that need to be addressed in the short term include:

- Finalize Pastor Barry’s role and responsibilities with assistance and input from the Spiritual Care Team, Barry, Consultant, and Elders during this interim period and communicate that to staff, Board, and congregation;

- Review and consider implementation of trainings, workshops, small and large group meetings and other strategic actions associated with the restoration efforts being brought forward by the Consultant and the Consultant Support Team; and

- Ensure that a clear and concise set of roles and responsibilities are developed for Dan Armstrong as he serves as our Interim Pastor. Make sure that such responsibilities are clearly communicated to staff and congregation.

Specifically the Team responsibilities will include the following:

- Make decisions between Board Meetings and report decisions and actions to the Board.
- Communicate decisions and hold leadership and staff accountable for follow through.
- Provide a single point of communication between church leadership, the congregation and church staff.
- Keep a log of agreed actions to heal, reconcile, and restore the congregation and the individuals who are a part of this Situation.

Our Board Action Team is taking on a huge job in being the single point of communication between church leadership, the congregation, and the church staff. Please be available and willing when this team affords us the opportunity to communicate. We also request that you support and pray for this team as they work to be just, fair, clear, and concise in all they do to restore peace, joy, and clear direction in the days and weeks to come. The team’s ultimate goal is to work themselves out of a job.



## Building for Our Future Campaign Update

This fall marks the end of our three-year capital campaign, Building for Our Future. Thank you to everyone who has so generously invested in our church building and congregation. It is amazing what God has accomplished through the Northwood family. Letters and statements of campaign giving will be mailed out soon to those who have contributed over the past three years.

Total pledged in October 2004 .....	\$762,784.00
Total phase IV monies received through September 2007 .....	\$717,343.90
Total cost of building project + balance of phase III .....	\$1,360,461.27
Total of loan on project .....	\$1,009,193.22
Balance on loan at end of September 2007 .....	\$821,261.13

Talks are underway for how to finance the balance of the loan. A couple options are being considered and will be announced in the next six months. If you are able to continue with your giving, please do so. Our obligation does not end just because our campaign time is over. If you have not given to the building fund and would like to, simply designate “building fund” on your check or envelope.

Thank you again to each of you who have faithfully given through out the past three years (and possibly 19 years since phase I began). If you have any questions about the campaign, your pledge or the loan, please contact Wanda Smith our Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

The Harvest Offering brought in \$6,000 in money and pledges. If you missed it this year, and would still like to make a donation or pledge, we will take them up to the end of the year. The Harvest Offering is an annual event where we ask you to consider making an offering of a day’s wage to the church. This year the offering will go toward the building debt, so we can continue to invest in this wonderful facility

## WORLD OUTREACH

### Eugene Mission

The Eugene Mission has provided food, shelter, clothing, and Gospel services for homeless men for over 50 years. The women’s program was added in 1979 and Mother and Children services in 1998. Three meals are served daily- over 600 a day or 200,000 a year. 400 beds are available, along with this, there are showers, shaves, haircuts, clothing, baggage storage, telephones and laundry facilities. Of course, the Gospel is preached daily by over 200 volunteers from many different churches and a Mission Chaplain is on duty.

The needs are always for food, clothing, toilet paper, disposable diapers and financial gifts. With the prospect of a cold winter, plans are to purchase more beds and this will create a need for more bedding. If you wish to donate financially to the Mission, write a check to Northwood and notate Eugene Mission on the memo line.

One hundred homeless men and women volunteer in the full-time program such as recycling newspapers, food preparation, serving, maintenance, janitorial and supervising the daily operation of the Mission. The Mission strives to get people “back on their feet” and able to make it on their own with the Lord’s help.

Northwood has supported the Eugene Mission in many ways for years. Last year Northwood gave \$5,125 to support the work of the Mission.

### News From Our Ministry Partners

#### Youth for Christ Detention Center

Many of the young people in detention are spending time reading the Word and having incredible discussions. They are so very open about all the things that brought them to this place in their life but they know now why they are there. I praise God that three more young men and women made an important decision for the Lord! Most of these youth have never been taught right from wrong, in fact, most have been taught only the wrong. Without the Spirit of God working on them through His Word, these kids don’t have a chance. Please pray for us and for the youth who so desperately need God’s hope and love!

*Al Gaines, Youth Guidance Director and Dept. of Youth Services Chaplain*

#### Cory & Janice Lemke Feodosia, Ukraine

Workers are now finishing off the rooms on the first floor of the Efas Training Center building—saved until almost last since they kept building supplies on the first floor. We’ve had a good crew—several guys and one woman, some Christians, but some not. They regret that their work with us is coming to an end. Zena, the woman who plasters and paints, told Cory that she’s worked many different places, but she’s never worked in such a peaceful atmosphere before. She is treated with respect and doesn’t hear a lot of yelling and swearing. We are beginning a new preparatory course for people interested in ministry. We held the two-day seminar at the Efas Center for 25 people, with enough bedrooms ready and a room in the basement now fixed up enough to hold lectures.

