

## Northwood Staff

Barry Lind, Senior Pastor  
Paul Jackson, Sr. Associate Pastor  
Betsy Clewett, Director of Children's Ministry  
Jonathan Swartout, Youth Worker  
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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## Pastor Dan Starts New Sermon Series: "Laugh Again"

Pastor Dan Armstrong is taking us through the book of Philippians in a five-part series, which begins Sunday Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. Start the new year in a positive direction.

*"Rejoice in the Lord always." (Philippians 4:4)*

## Sermon Themes

**Dec. 30:**

*Defeating life's joy stealers.*

**Jan. 6:**

*A balanced life is a happy life.*

**Jan. 13**

*Grace is better...and easier...than merit.*

**Jan. 20**

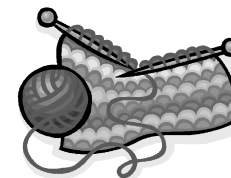
*Questors stay younger and laugh louder.*

**Jan. 27**

*Dealing with disharmony.*



## Joseph Scarf Project



The fourth and fifth grade class is beginning a new outreach project, the **Joseph Scarf Project**, knitting scarves of many colors. We are knitting the scarves to give to needy children during next year's Springfield Christmas Parade.

In order to begin, we need yarn and knitting needles. If you have any heavy weight yarn or knitting needles size 8 and larger to donate, please leave your donation in the office or give them to Judy Hockett.

**Alert & Alive**



The Alert and Alive monthly potluck is at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 15. The theme is “Start the Year With a Smile.” You are invited to bring a joke or short anecdote to share. Mary Lou Hanna and Dick and Alice Sweeney are hosting. If you are available, you’re welcome.

**Library News**



Winter is a wonderful time to curl up with a good book and even better, to read something uplifting and inspirational. Our library is full of books to help you on your Christian walk and to guide you as you follow our Lord. How about putting a child on your lap and sharing a book. What a precious way to show love the child will love and you will too. Check out the children’s section-you’ll be suprised at what we have now. Refuse to be average...READ!

**Game Night**

Calling all ages. Need some laughter? New or old to the church, plan on attending the Family Game Night, Friday, Jan. 4th, 6:30–9. Nursery is available for the wee ones. Any questions, contact John & Stephanie Sargeant, or Mark & Amy Gilman. There will be many games available, including Apples to Apples, Wii for the youth and playdough fun for the youngest kids.

**I.P.M. News**

“Hope Quiets the Storm” is a new C.D. narrated by Joni Svejcar. It is available in January and is a ministry of love by the Intercessory Prayer Ministry.

Joni Svejcar writes “Going to radiation every day was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to face. Most people are able to face treatment each day and move on but for me it was a daily preparation for climbing the tallest mountain in my personal life. I was so frustrated by my reaction but also so very afraid. I found by keeping my focus on prayer with Arleen and Linda, the scriptures gave me strength and hope. The deepest meaning in the scriptures came to me when I read them in a personalized manner; making them specifically for me; God meant every word of His promises for me! I found new meaning in His word and began to realize how much He loved me. The scriptures on this CD are read in this manner because I want everyone who hears them to realize how much God loves them, cares for them and His word is for them personally. He does meet us in our deepest need.”

Monday Jan. 7th, 6–7:30pm is prayer night. We encourage you to pray at home for 15 minutes any time during this period. The intercessory prayer team is meeting in the prayer room for silent prayers and will conclude with a group prayer. If you have a special prayer need, we would love to take your request before our listening God. We are using the prayer requests from the prior Sunday that you have submitted to us.

**World Outreach**

**Disciples of Christ Global Ministries**

Through Global Ministries, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ, the Division of Overseas Ministries helps Disciples share the Good News of Jesus Christ from our doorsteps *to the ends of the earth* and seeks to meet the needs of God’s people; spiritually, physically, emotionally, and economically. Global Ministries is a way for congregational and regional participation in overseas ministries. It is funded through the Disciples Mission Fund, which Northwood supports through our monthly World Outreach funds.

You can get more information on this denominational ministry at [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)

**News from our Ministry Partners**

**St. Vincent de Paul**

This fall, Saint Vincent de Paul opened its Royal Building in downtown Springfield at 5<sup>th</sup> and Main St. which includes ground floor commercial space, 33 comfortable, affordable one-bedroom apartments and a fifth floor community room. Saint Vincent DePaul is one of Lane County’s largest developers and managers of affordable housing, with nearly 1,000 units in Lane and Marion counties.

**Young Life Greater McKenzie Area**

I want to personally thank you for your encouragement to myself, our staff, and volunteers as we continue to live out our mission of reaching lost kids in our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. Our staff is continually hard at work in relationships with both kids and leaders. Ron Sauer is continuing his work in the area of WyldLife (middle school) Development, Nick Wing is working faithfully as a church partner at Camp Creek Community Church and Team Leader at Thurston High School, and I am doing ministry at Springfield High as the club Team Leader. Your financial contributions are what sustains the financial health of this ministry and releases our staff and volunteers to reach more kids. *Joby Jarvis, Area Director*

**November 2007 World Outreach Giving**

Love Offering/Church Family	\$648	Angel Tree Scholarships	\$72
Mission Scholarships	\$270	Habitat for Humanity	\$270
Adopt a Ministry Student, NCC	\$900	Disciples Mission Fund	\$990
FISH	\$342	El Faro Orphanage	\$252
Young Life	\$162	Week of Compassion	\$360
Eugene Mission	\$360	Whisler Family	\$720
St. Vincent de Paul	\$162	Lemke Family	\$450
Youth for Christ (LCDC Chaplain)	\$342	Missionary Family	\$180

## FROM THE CHILDREN'S WING

Betsy Clewett

Every year at this time, my heart strives to assume an attitude of gratitude. Here at Northwood, we have so much to be grateful for. Here are my personal gratitudes to those who have helped me in my first months as Director of Children's Ministries:

First and foremost are the children who liven up the children's wing six days of the week! Our Sunday mornings produce happy sounds of children praising and worshipping. Thanks for the able assistance of Tanya Dean, Liz Harry, and Kelli Oviatt who seem to love what we're doing as the kids do. Thanks again to Kelli and our mature Servant Heart girls—Leah Helfrich, Nicole Mueller, Madison Oviatt, & Arrisa Winningham who make magic on GOLF Wednesdays. Monday through Friday, the preschool serves almost 60 children under the care of Christi Keefer, Tonie Watson, Deanna Stanton, Shandy Kopczenski, Kelli Oviatt, Louise Karther, and Shiela Rowland.

Especially in my first month on the job, no one could gently nudge me toward performing my duties like Jill Noble. And keep us on track budget-wise than Connie Knight. Northwood is blessed to have these ladies' service to the church.



Thanks to Marj Biehler, Sylvia Murphy, Janet Sisler, Karen Littel, Kelsey Clewett, and Taylor Lind for their attentive care to our youngest children in Northwood's nursery on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Thanks also to Judy Davies for willing assistance on many Sunday mornings.

Parents, remember these folks in your own thank-you's.

Together, John Hakes and our children are fulfilling the vision of forming a Northwood Children's Choir. Thanks to John for inviting our G.O.L.F. kids to perform in the Christmas Cantata, and encouraging our Children's Choir practices from 6:30 to 7pm on G.O.L.F. evenings. Special appreciation to Leah Helfrich for her leadership in both Wednesday G.O.L.F. and the Cantata. There is no sound quite like young children praising God with full-out energy and joy.

Thanks to Sonja Gunder for cheerfully filling our Soul Food bags that children enjoy each week during services. This is truly a gift from her heart to our kids.

Thanks to the teens who volunteered to enjoy movies with our younger kids for two Northwood Cineplex events. We should applaud our teens who are the great role models the younger ones need to follow.

What a gift the Petersen family has given Northwood for many years: their leadership on the annual Children's Christmas Program and for collection of shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Kudos for the week-in/week-out commitment they've devoted to these ministries.

*(Continued on Next Page)*



*(Continued)* What COLD fun to sit on the Northwood float in the Springfield Christmas Parade. Organized by Judy Hockett, and executed by Tom & Kathy Montgomery, the float received (again) 1<sup>st</sup> prize in its division. Many children and teens participated in wishing onlookers a Merry Christmas and distributing candy canes.

I was blessed to participate in the Angel Tree party given each year by the committee skillfully headed by Kitty Bates & Lisa Dudley. Everyone having a heart for this ministry and donating wonderful gifts for needy kids is a witness to God's great mercy for His children of all ages.

And last (but first in my heart), thanks to Kelli Oviatt who is faithfully and fearlessly walking with me on the journey of sharing the Good News with Northwood kids. She and her family are a daily blessing in my life at Northwood.



### Main Street Magic—A Ministry in Motion

We did it again. Thanks to the creative ideas and construction by Kathy and Tom Montgomery, Northwood's float entry took first place in the annual Springfield Christmas parade. Kathy and Tom drew and painted, almost to scale, some of the Springfield landmarks including the Royal building, the Pump, the Wildish Theater, and the Springfield Museum. People along the route had fun identifying the buildings.

Thanks also go to the many volunteers who helped put the final touches on the float and those from both church and the preschool who rode on the float. Especially, we need to thank Ron Riddle for pulling the float and Jonnie Helfrich for her outstanding signs.

People often ask whether the float makes a difference. The answer is simple. Not only does it get Northwood's name and mission out in public view but, through the float, we have gained new members. The Hernandez family: Renzo, Amanda, Andrea, and Isaiah came to Northwood because of last year's float. This year, Andrea helped with and rode on the float.

#### January Elders

##### Communion & Offering


January 6 -  
Tom Utt & Judy Hockett  
January 13 -  
David Waggoner & Ralph Matteson  
January 20 -  
Ralph Matteson & Judy Hockett  
January 27 -  
Brad Childs & Tom Utt

#### January Diaconate Teams

January 6 - Leisa McAdams  
January 13 - Dan Witt  
January 20 - Rick Christian  
January 27 - Mike Wiebe

#### January Preparers

Sheila Rowland, Leone Miller

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	January Highlights
		1 Office Closed  <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 2 pm A & A Games	3 9 am Library Crew	4 6:30 pm All Church Game Night	5	Tuesday, January 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Year's Day, Office Closed</li> </ul> Monday, January 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Church Game Night</li> </ul> Monday, January 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prayer Night</li> </ul> Tuesday, January 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board Meeting</li> </ul> Wednesday, January 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G.O.L.F. Begins</li> </ul> Thursday, January 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class—The Gift of Jesus is New Life, Beings</li> </ul> Friday, January 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karaoke</li> </ul> Monday, January 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prayer Shawl Ministry</li> </ul> Tuesday, January 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alert &amp; Alive Potluck</li> </ul> Saturday, January 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memorial Service for Thomas Barber</li> </ul> Friday, January 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newsletter Items Due</li> </ul> Saturday, January 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women's Breakfast, Country Waffle</li> </ul> Sunday, January 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCN Presentation Atheism vs. Theism</li> </ul>
	6 8 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6 pm Youth Group	7 6 pm Prayer Night	8 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Board Mtg	9 2 pm A & A Games 4:30 pm Camp Fire 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:30 pm Praise Team and Choir Practice 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	10 9 am Library Crew 7 pm The Gift of Jesus is New Life, Class	11 6:30 pm Karaoke	12 1 pm Jr. Dudley's Memorial Service
13 8 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6 pm Youth Group	14 7 pm Prayer Shawl	15 12 pm Alert & Alive Potluck 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir Practice	16 2 pm A & A Games 4:30 pm Camp Fire 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	17 9 am Library Crew 7 pm The Gift of Jesus is New Life, Class	18	19 1 pm Memorial Service for Thomas Barber	
20 8 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6 pm Youth Group	21	22 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir Practice	23 2 pm A & A Games 4:30 pm Camp Fire 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	24 9 am Library Crew 7 pm The Gift of Jesus is New Life, Class	25 12 pm Newsletter Items due in the Office 6:30 pm Karaoke	26 8 am Women's Breakfast, Country Waffle	
27 8 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6 pm Youth Group 6 pm Atheism vs. Theism CCN Pres.	28	29 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Choir Practice	30 2 pm A & A Games 4:30 pm Camp Fire 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	31 9 am Library Crew 7 pm The Gift of Jesus is New Life, Class			

February 2008						
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