



THE WINDOW

Northwood Christian Church

Volume 39, #11 *The Church that says, "Welcome Home" November 2009*

A Month of Thanks & Giving!

Our Vision: Serve Your Generosity makes a difference



SHOE BOX GIFTS

Shoe boxes are due back at the church by Nov. 22nd. Fill them with goodies for children ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Some gift suggestions are:

School supplies, toys, small musical instruments, hygiene items, hard candy or gum (please place all candy in Ziploc bags), T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, flashlights (with extra batteries). You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.) Please include \$7 to cover the cost of shipping your package.

PAGE ELEMENTARY

Page Elementary, the school we partner with during the year, is in need of some items to help those in their school who can't afford them. We have been asked if we could help supply:

- Children's rain coats in sized 10 and up
- Pants, jeans, sweat pants in sizes 6, 7 & 8
- Boys shoes sizes 1-3
- Boys bike helmets.
- Boys underwear sizes 4-8

ANGEL TREE

Northwood's Angel Tree Ministry is helping provide children from our area with Christmas gifts. These gifts are a request from a parent who is incarcerated. On



Sunday, Nov. 15th & 22nd, Angel Tree sponsor ornaments with a gift label on them will be available to pick up in the fellowship hall after each service. Each gift needs to be wrapped and returned to the church no later than Dec. 13th. Northwood will sponsor a Christmas Party for these children on Tuesday, Dec. 15th at the church. If you are interested in helping, please see Kitty Bates

NORTHWOOD'S FOOD PANTRY

We have a fantastic pantry with shelves full of food waiting to help those in need. If you are in need of some extra help, please let the church office, or one of our pastors, know. We are also filling food boxes for two families from Page Elementary.





EVERYDAY THANKFULNESS

This month, as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, I think of something that is said many times by many different people, "Thanksgiving should not be just one day of the year but a way of life." I could not agree more.

A few weeks ago while working on my Pure In Heart sermon I was a bit surprised to discover how complaining and arguing taints our hearts with impurities. I looked at the word 'pure' and how often it is used throughout scripture. In Philippians 2:14-15 I read these words, "Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure."(NIV) Are you one who is quick to complain? If so then it is truly hard for you to have a pure heart.

The opposite of complaining is thankfulness. We need to make a practice everyday of finding reasons to be thankful, regardless of our circumstances. I appreciate what Dr. Dale Robbins once wrote:

"I used to think people complained because they had a lot of problems. But I have come to realize that they have problems because they complain. Complaining doesn't change anything or make situations better. It amplifies frustration, spreads discontent and discord, and can invoke an invitation for the devil to cause havoc with our lives."

It is clear that complaining makes us miserable and rarely brings about the qualities God wants to develop in each of our lives. So let's try doing just the opposite this month. Every time we are tempted to complain why not think of a few reasons to be thankful. I bet you will feel better. I know those around you will!

APPRECIATE OUR PASTORS & STAFF

The month of October was clergy appreciation month. In the spirit of appreciating our pastors as well as our entire Northwood staff year round, here are three suggestions from Deena Swartout, a member of our congregation:

Affirm our staff for all that their ministry provides. We often let staff know when they have done something wrong, but forget to thank them for all they do that is right.

Pray for our staff members. Pray regularly for our staff and be sure to let them know that you are praying for them. You may even ask if they have specific prayer requests.

Look for ways to serve our staff members. Take time to find out the needs of our staff members and see if there are ways you can assist them. Another way to serve them is to be encouraging to their families.

Remember that these are people we have asked to present the gospel to our families, friends, and community. They need our prayers and encouragement.

Deena Swartout

ALERT & ALIVE

This month join us on Nov. 17th for a Thanksgiving potluck as we give thanks for our church, our families, and to God. Meredith Noble & Reen Stagner are the hostesses for this month. Thank you Toni Unfred and Marcia & Lloyd Finch for hosting the October potluck. Everyone enjoyed their time together. The Alert & Alive group is open to anyone, but those over 55 are especially encouraged to join. There is a potluck every month on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

CRAFT DAY

Are you working on a craft that you never seem to have the time to get to? Bring your crafts, scrapbooking, quilting, sewing, or other craft projects to the church on Saturday, Nov. 21st. We will have tables set up from 9-5 for you to work on. Bring your lunch and/or a snack and come and fellowship with other women all day.

FILL THE FIRE TRUCK SUCCESS

On Saturday Oct. 24 our church participated in the Mohawk Area Fill the Fire Truck food drive. Thank you to those who participated by being there that day, or by bringing food to the church to help needy families in our area. Almost 5,500 lbs of food were collected that day. A great big thanks to Tom Utt & Alice Johnson for all the hard work in the afternoon helping sort the food for the seven churches who participated.



LIBRARY NEWS

The Library/Women's Ministry luncheon that was held in Oct., was a great success with 90 women attending. The program included a wonderful luncheon, a harpist, some music and of course our speaker, local author, Judy Dippel. Women who brought food to share for the luncheon received a free book from the library as a thank you. A drawing was held and the library gave out several books from authors Hope Lyda and Judy Dippel, plus a library tote.

Thanks to all who helped and also to: Sandi Hanna for her assistance with the Power Point presentation; Greg Noble for his help with sound; Mary Lou Hanna and Karen Runk for providing music; and Jill Noble for all of her help.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR



On Sat., Nov. 14, 9-4, Camp Fire at Northwood is having a holiday bazaar in our fellowship hall with many vendors, including Cookie Lee Jewelry, Megan's Pantry, Pampered Chef, Partylite, Shaklee, Avon as well as handmade goodies, cards, ornaments, pot holders, pet goodies, lots of handmade jewelry and more. Raffle tickets for sale, come see what you can win. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Come and do some of your holiday shopping early!

Lew's Crew (Lew Stewart and team!) is serving lunch during the Camp Fire Bazaar, as a fundraiser for the Mission to Mexico trip this spring.



While enjoying the wonders of the Holiday Bazaar be sure and make plans to enjoy a warm and hearty taco soup for lunch. If you don't want to take time for lunch you will be able to take it "To-Go"!

PEOPLE OF NORTHWOOD

Welcome

New Members

October 4

Linda Wadsworth

October 18

John & Martha Smith

Bob & Barbara McClurg

We don't put our Members personal information on the web. Please see your printed version or contact the church office for the new members this month.

Baptisms

October 11

*Dan Mart
Marcia Doughan*

Keeping in Touch Electronically

Did you know...

- you can receive the newsletter by e-mail in a pdf format?
- you can receive weekly prayer requests by e-mail?
- you can listen to the weekly sermons online?

Talk to Jill in the office for more information.



THANK YOU

To My Northwood Family,

I want to thank all of you for the many phone calls, cards, and letters to me with the passing of my husband. Thank you also for the visits and for bringing me communion. Your continued prayers and friendship are appreciated.

Hazel Straw

ORDINATION RECOGNITION

Northwood hosted a recognition of ordination for Eddie Harrod on Sunday, Oct. 4. Eddie has completed a Master of Divinity degree through Northwest House of Theological Studies, a year long program of Clinical Pastoral Education, and a series of interviews and other requirements with the Commission on Ministry (Disciples of Christ, Oregon region). He is the former pastor of Elkton Christian Church and has recently accepted a call as a hospital chaplain at the River Bend hospital in Eugene.



You're Invited

To an Open House

50th Anniversary Celebration

In Honor Of

Ellis & Karen Runk

November 21, 1-4 pm

Community Recreation Center

Ken Long Room

250 S 52nd, Spfld

No Gifts Please

I.P.M NEWS

ONE FAMILY'S JOURNEY OF FAITH

On Sunday, October 17, 1971, following God's lead to serve Him, Al and Leone Miller and their two small children left Rexburg, Idaho headed for Eugene with all their belongings and \$400 in cash. The family trusted God to provide. They arrived safely in Eugene the next day, fully in God's hands, even without a job, a place to live and with four people to feed. Leone, a Northwood member, is publishing Al's journal of their family's faith journey. Al writes of hearing God speak to him, "I will not fail you, nor forsake you, be of good courage and do it."

Writing about how this time impacted his faith, Al wrote, "If a man has a faith, which is tried and refined, in the crucible of experience, then there is nothing which he cannot face. Faith comes by many a fall and stumble, with moments of triumph, with moments of defeat, with mountain top experience, with dark times in the valleys, with stops and starts, and moments filled to overflowing with confidence, the next with confusion. God's inspired scriptures are where we find our strength to believe!"



A few days after the Miller family arrived in Eugene, they found a two-bedroom apartment (It was old and dirty but all they could afford). After paying rent and purchasing groceries, they had no money left and no job prospects. By the end of the week, the Lord provided work at the Eugene Planing Mill at \$3.50 an hour. A scripture that speaks to trusting God is, "Fear not, nor be dismayed for the Lord God, even my God is with you." Genesis 22:14 Trying times serve as a reminder that: 'Jehovah-Jirah: the Lord will provide.'

That January Al started classes at NCC, taking only 8 hours of credits because he had to work and he had no funds. The school provided a loan to pay for his classes but payments were \$200 a month. The family's finances continued to be a struggle; after college costs they had just over \$200 a month for their expenses.

The Millers learned that God is faithful as this scripture says, "Now faith is being sure of what we hoped for and certain of what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1-6

Al's journal is available from Leone for anyone requesting it. Linda Bettis, a member of the IPM ministry said, *"It is one of my favorite books. It's truly a contemporary Abraham-type story. People need to read the entire book to see how prayer is simply a relationship between God and man."*

Now faith is the
substance
of things hoped for...
Hebrews 11:1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Daylight Savings Ends - Set Clocks Back 1 Hour</i> 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm Youth Group	2 5:30 pm FPU Preview	3 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7 pm Life's Healing Choices 7:30 pm Choir Practice	4 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes for all ages	5 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha 6 pm FPU	6 <i>Office Closed</i> 1 pm Extreme No School 5 pm Extreme Scrap-booking	7 6 pm Celebrate Recovery
8 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm Youth Group	9	10 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Board Mtg 7 pm Life's Healing Choices 7:30 pm Choir Practice	11 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes for all ages	12 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha 6 pm FPU	13 <i>Office Closed</i>	14 10 am-4 pm Camp Fire Holiday Bazaar 6 pm Celebrate Recovery
15 <i>Angel Tree Tags Available</i> 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 4:00 pm FPU 6:00 pm Youth Group	16 6 pm FPU	17 12 pm Alert & Alive Potluck 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7 pm Life's Healing Choices 7:30 pm Choir Practice	18 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes for all ages	19 6:30 am Elder's Breakfast, Terese's Place, Spfld 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha 6 pm FPU	20 <i>Office Closed</i>	21 9 am Craft/Scrap-booking Day 1-4 pm Ellis & Karen Runk 50th Anniversary 6 pm Celebrate Recovery
22 <i>Deadline to Turn in All Shoebox Gifts</i> 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 4:00 pm FPU 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Community Wide Thanksgiving & Worship Together Time, 1st Baptist, Eugene	23 6 pm FPU	24 12 pm Newsletter Items due in the Office 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice	25 2 pm A & A Games	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day Office Closed</i> 	27 <i>Office Closed</i>	28 8 am Women's Breakfast, Country Waffle 6 pm Celebrate Recovery
29 <i>1st Sunday in Advent</i> 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Contemp. Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 9:45 am 5th Sunday Adult Sunday School Potluck 11:15 am Traditional Service 4:00 pm FPU 5:30 pm 5th Sunday Praise Night	30 6 pm FPU					

YOU CAN OBTAIN FINANCIAL PEACE

Northwood is offering more Financial Peace University classes taught by national speaker Dave Ramsey on DVD. It is a series of 13 classes that gives participants the tools and the process for *managing money God's way*. Attendees learn how to get out of debt, build wealth, and then have the opportunity to give as God intended.

The next preview and opportunity to sign up for one of three series of classes running in parallel is Monday, Nov. 2nd from 5:30–7:00pm. The beauty of having three series running in parallel is it will give you the opportunity to catch up on each class in the series if something comes up on the night of your series. The three upcoming series are:

- Starting Nov. 15th, 4–6pm on Sundays
- Starting Nov. 16th, 6–8 pm on Mondays
- Starting Dec. 2nd, 6:30–8:30 pm on Wednesdays

If these classes don't work for you there is a Thursday evening series starting on Jan. 7th. Join us for Financial Peace!

FPU Schedule

Monday, November 2, 5:30 pm	FPU Preview
Sunday November 15, 4 pm	FPU Class starts
Monday, November 16, 6 pm	FPU Class starts
Wednesday, December 2, 6:30 pm	FPU Class starts
Thursday, January 7, 6 pm	FPU Class starts

Classes run for 13 weeks

Saturday, March 13
Fellowship, Food, Fun, Financial Peace

November Elders
 Communion & Offering

November 1 -
 Ralph Matteson & John Sargeant

November 8 -
 Dennis Page & Steve Devine

November 15 -
 John Sargeant & Mike Harman

November 22 -
 Tom Utt & Ralph Matteson

November 29 -
 Merrill Burge & Bob Shelton

November Diaconate

November 1 - Debbie Child's Team

November 8 - Connie Knight's Team

November 15 - Dan Witt's Team

November 22 - Al Wilson's Team

November 29 - Steve Swartout's Team

If you aren't sure whose team you are on, please call the office.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A FRIEND OF NORTHWOOD

Dr. Michael Sweeney was inaugurated as the president of Emmanuel School of Religion in Tennessee on Oct. 21st. Mike and his wife Linda worked in Papua New Guinea with Pioneer Bible Translators for 15 years, and were supported by Northwood’s world outreach giving. Mike is the son of Dick & Alice Sweeney, long time members of Northwood.

MONTHLY MINISTRY PROFILE

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The mission of St. Vincent de Paul is being mindful of the sanctity and dignity of all, doing any charitable work that assists the poor and those in need of consolation, seeking out and using every resource.

St. Vincent de Paul’s Social Service Office helps provide prescription medication, rent assistance, utility assistance, LTD transportation, propane for heating, gasoline, clothing, school supplies, furniture, greyhound tickets, medical equipment, and home visits.

St. Vincent de Paul’s Eugene Service Station provides day shelter with services for homeless adults including the following: showers, meals, laundry, phone calls, mail internet access, LTD bus tokens, LTD bus passes, clothing and pet health services. the Theron Atkinson Food Room provides weekly and holiday food boxes.

St. Vincent de Paul also provides skills assessment, training, job placement, and follow-up for adults with multiple barriers to employment.

Upcoming projects are in process to increase housing for seniors and veterans.

Northwood Christian Church is pleased to be able to assist St. Vincent de Paul in helping our neighbors in Lane County.

SEPTEMBER 2009 WORLD OUTREACH GIVING

Love Offering/Church Family	\$649	Habitat for Humanity	\$180
Adopt a Ministry Student, NCC	\$901	Disciples Mission Fund	\$937
FISH	\$308	El Faro Orphanage	\$216
Young Life	\$162	Week of Compassion	\$360
Eugene Mission	\$324	Lemke Family (<i>CMF - Ukraine</i>)	\$450
St. Vincent de Paul	\$126	Neveux Family (<i>NICS - Indonesia</i>)	\$180
Youth for Christ (LCDC Chaplain)	\$342	Sony (<i>Mission to Unreached People - Indonesia</i>)	\$90
Angel Tree Scholarships	\$54	Whisler Family (<i>Wycliffe - Indonesia</i>)	\$757

TOWARD A REVOLUTIONARY FAITH

George Barna in his book, *Revolution*, says the following qualities, used to describe the early church, should also describe Christ-followers today. Would you agree or disagree?



Intimate Worship New Testament believers worshipped God every day. They didn't wait for a *worship service*. (See Acts 2:42-47; 20:20). How would *every day* worship revolutionize your life and your walk with God?

Faith-Based Conversations The God-talk of the earliest believers focused on truth, purpose, salvation, and joy in the Holy Spirit that created a high level of interest in others about the Christian faith. (See Acts 2:42-47; 3:11f; 4:1 – 5:42; 8:26-39). What do you think would happen in your relationships if you talked more about faith and the difference that Jesus has made in your life?

Intentional Spiritual Growth Christians in the first century *devoted* themselves to learning more about faith. It seems that their faith was at the very center of all life. (See Acts 2:42-47; 17:11). Let's get real for a moment: Are you *devoted* in the pursuit of God in your life? Are you making real progress spiritually and are you happy with where you are?

Servanthood It seems that one watchword of the early church was service. These believers practiced service to others as the clearest expression of love and Jesus' example. (See Acts 2:42-47; Acts 6). Very simply, would you refer to yourself as a *servant*?

Resource Investment The early Christians held loosely to their possessions, being willing to share with others in need and for the good of all. (See Acts 2:42-47; Acts 5:1-11). How are you investing your resources in the ongoing work of God's Kingdom? Do you have a *kingdom* mindset, one that is deeply concerned for God's work and cause in this world? One very interesting exercise is to go through the New Testament and list all the causes or needs that the early Christians gave their money and energies toward. You might be shocked!

Perhaps other qualities could be listed here as well, but no matter what or how many qualities one lists, the bottom line is this: Are you endeavoring to embody the characteristics of those believers closest in time to Jesus? The closer to the source one gets the better and the greater the likelihood of discovering what the Christian faith is really all about. If you feel a need for something *more* in your Christian life, why not try out the *revolutionary* faith that can be found in the New Testament?

--Paul Jackson

CHILDREN'S NEWS



This is an interesting and engaging sermon series for Northwood's children. They are intrigued with the contrary nature of the Beatitudes, as am I. One week, our lesson on Noah was intended to illustrate his obedience to and faith in God. I stressed that his obedience was all the more extraordinary given that Noah had not even seen a lake or an ocean, much less a boat the size of the ark he was instructed to build. But the children focused on the quarrelsome people left behind and their sad fate in the flood. They found some comfort in God's promise that He would never again flood the earth.

The following week we studied the complaining and rebellion of the Israelites as they fled Egypt and headed toward the Promised Land. Again, I emphasized

God's faithfulness to His people as He supplied their needs while they wandered in the wilderness. One astute 6-year-old inquired, "I guess that flood thing with Noah didn't work out too well, huh?"

Indeed. And to think that "that flood thing" with Noah was among the first of many lessons about loving, respecting, obeying, and trusting God recorded in His Word. With scripture to guide us, it seems a simple thing to follow Him.

Then my own shortcomings come to mind. So many times I have fallen short, surely disappointing Him. Too often, I have depended on His unfailing forgiveness after, instead of heeding His guidance before, choosing the wrong path. This is the reason I need the two-fold message of this sermon series.

The first message is that *everyone*, including those who worship God, love Jesus, and are Spirit-filled, falls short. *Everyone*. Rob Bell reminds in his sermon on the Beatitudes that this is Jesus' audience: *Everyone*. Jesus spoke to the people of his day, and every generation thereafter, when he declared that blessings flow to those who genuinely seek to live as God desires, not to those who achieve an appearance of perfection.

The second message is that the seeking is our life purpose. The counter-intuitive nature of the Beatitudes, Jesus' parables, and his miracles reflect God's remarkable intellect that is vastly superior to our own. We cannot achieve God's will for our lives by our own power, although we believe that a combination of clear thought, careful planning, and self-control can keep us in His will. Through surrender, not effort, we obtain His blessings.

I suppose that somewhere, sophisticated arguments are written about why Noah's descendants forgot the lesson of the flood and resumed living in disobedience and disbelief. Again, and then again, kids give us a right perspective on this tendency: "I guess that flood thing with Noah didn't work out too well, huh?"



YOUTH TEAM

JONATHAN SWARTOUT, AMY GILMAN, JOEY PALERMO-SILENCE

November Youth Schedule

- 1st *Daylight Savings Ends, Set Your Clocks Back One Hour!*
Youth Group 6:00 (HS)
- 6th Extreme No-School Day 1-3 (MS)
Extreme Scrapbooking 5-10 pm
- 8th Youth Group 6:00 (HS)
- 15th Youth Group 6:00 (HS)
- 22nd Youth Group 6:00 (HS)
- 29th Youth Group 6:00 (HS)

G.O.L.F Every Wednesday
Dinner served at 5:55 pm, classes at 6:45

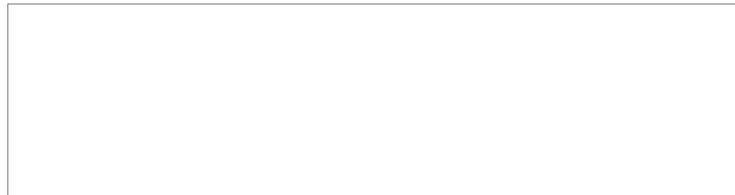
FROM THE CHILDREN'S WING

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Northwood Christian Church
2425 Harvest Ln.
Springfield, OR 97477

PERIODICALS
Postage Paid At
Springfield, OR 97477

USPS 398-120



The Window

A publication of
Northwood Christian Church
2425 Harvest Lane
Springfield, OR 97477
Office: 541-746-2790
www.northwoodchristianchurch.org
Email: office@northwoodchristianchurch.org
Fax: 541-747-7485

Sr. Pastor: Barry Lind
Sr. Assoc. Pastor: Paul Jackson
Director of Children's Ministry: Betsy Clewett
Administrative Assistant: Jill Noble

The Window (USPS 398-120) is published monthly by
Northwood Christian Church
2425 Harvest Lane, Springfield, OR 97477
"Periodicals" postage is paid at Springfield, OR Postmaster
Send changes to *The Window*, 2425 Harvest Lane Springfield, OR

Northwood Staff

Barry Lind, Senior Pastor
Paul Jackson, Sr. Associate Pastor
Betsy Clewett, Director of Children's Ministry
Jonathan Swartout, HS Youth Worker
Amy Gilman, MS Youth Worker
Joey Palermo-Silence, Youth Intern
Kelly Oviatt, Children's Worker
John Hakes, Music Minister
Judy Lacock, Pianist
Jenny Frank, Bookkeeper
Jill Noble, Administrative Assistant
Terrina Garrett, Custodian

We reserve the right to edit or rewrite submitted articles. Newsletter deadline is the 24th of each month. Articles may be submitted by e-mail to office@northwoodchristianchurch.org or to the office. Church office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 4 pm., closed noon to 1 pm for lunch. Closed on Friday.