



THE WINDOW

Northwood Christian Church

Volume 39, #2 *The Church that says, "Welcome Home" February 2009*

ARE YOU READY TO...

SERVE OTHERS

PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION

GROW SPIRITUALLY



Who Can Go? Just about everyone. High school students can travel alone. Middle schoolers must be accompanied by a parent or an 'appointed' substitute for the week (these must be prearranged with M2M leaders prior to the trip). Families are also encouraged to take this rewarding journey together.

What is the Cost? This year the cost per person, which includes: food, lodging, and travel, is \$350. Northwood has scholarship monies available—see Barry or Reed.

What about Passports? For travel to Mexico by road in 2009 a passport is recommended but not required. Anyone traveling without a passport needs to take a certified copy of their birth certificate and photo ID. Passports will be required in 2010

Get Ready to be Changed

Join the

M2M Spring

Mission Trip

March 20–29

*Applications are due by **February 15th**. Pick one up in the church office or download at www.mission2mexico.org*

**Important Note:
Required Meeting
for all travelers:**

March 8th 3pm
At Northwood

A WORD FROM BARRY

Are You Truly Living Every Day?



As we continue our series of sermons on *Making Your Life Count*, we will be spending the next several weeks with this question in mind, "What if I knew I had just 30 days left to live?" The idea comes from the excellent book *One Month to Live* by Kerry and Chris Shook. My guess is that if you knew you had only a month to live you would look at everything from a different perspective. Many of the things that today seem so important would become meaningless. You would not wait until tomorrow to do what you knew needed to be done today. It seems to me we would live our life with a much clearer sense of purpose and direction.

It is too bad that we often don't make these changes until we are faced with a crisis such as being diagnosed with cancer or having a loved one die suddenly. Over the next month I want to challenge us all to live our life as if we each had one month to live. I want us to be able to come to the end of our life and have little or no regrets. And no matter what age you are, it is not too late or too soon to start living your life more fully than ever before.

I pray you will join us as we talk about the things in life that matter most and about how to live a life with a clear sense of purpose and direction.

See you Sunday, Barry

Teach us to number our days and
recognize how few they are.

Help us to spend them as we should.

Psalm 90:12

NORTHWOOD SERVES DAY

Set aside March 28th on your calendar to make a difference in your community. This is a special day of service planned for those not going on this year's Mission-to-Mexico trip during Spring break. See Pastor Paul to sign up.

LIBRARY



Thanks to Karen Runk, Kathy Montgomery, Juli Meador, Marge Ayres, Donna Staton, Susan Devine, Kim Helfrich, Heidi Osgood, Irene Carlile, Amy Gilman, Glenda

Davenport, Vella Lanz, Carole Huston, Marlis Palmer, Reen Stagner, Janet Sweeney and Joan Wiechmann who are making phone calls to area churches to get their email addresses for use when we bring in another author. This will be a huge help to us. I'm very grateful to each of you.

The library now has registration cards to be filled out by anyone checking books out of the library. Please stop by the library and fill out a Library registration card and leave it in the return box.

LAUNDRY?



Sometimes people do the church a favor by taking home dishcloths, towels, or tablecloths to wash. Are you one of those people? Thank you! Have you forgotten to return what you took home?

We are missing quite a few items of laundry. If you have any at home, please return them to the church, so that when we have special events, we have those items to use. Thanks.

FOCUS GROUPS

Do you have an opinion to share about the vision and mission of Northwood? We want to hear it.

The board has hired Vision Street Ministries to help us determine our next steps financially and spiritually. As a part of this process, Ray Benton will be here on February 18th conducting seven focus groups. These groups will meet for 50 minutes and will be a cross section of church members, elders and board members. If you are interested, please contact Jill in the office. If you are asked to participate, please do, we want to hear your opinion.

ALERT & ALIVE

What a nice Inauguration Party we had in January, hosted by Ted & Reen Stagner, and helpers. Please come and join us 12 noon February 17 for our next potluck and social. Dick & Alice Sweeney are hosts and everyone is welcome. Come sample the good food our members provide, and good fellowship.

NEWSLETTER



Did you know you can receive the monthly newsletter by e-mail? If this is something you want to try, please let Jill in the office know.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Get prayer requests delivered right to your inbox. If you love to pray for people join our prayer request e-mail list, to receive all prayer requests and updates.

PEOPLE OF NORTHWOOD

New Members



Richard & Nancy Russell



Nellie Brooks

THANK YOU'S

Thank you for so much for being our church family and for caring about us so much!! The Oviatt's, Brian, Kelly, Madison & Sam

We wish to thank all our Northwood Christian Church family for their prayers, visits, and communion you blessed Jack and me with during Jack's serious illness this past month. Jack is now doing well. God Bless you all.

Love, Jack & Vera Kephart

☀
Welcome

New Members

January 18

Richard & Nancy Russell

Baptisms

January 11

Arissa Winningham

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.

Where are the Pictorial Directories? Many people ask when they will arrive. The best answer I have, unfortunately, is soon. We are waiting on the publisher to finish on their end. As soon as they arrive copies will be made available. **Jill**

2008 SPIRIT OF NORTHWOOD AWARD



Merrill & Carol Burge

Merrill & Carol Burge were honored at the New Member Dinner on January 25th with the Spirit of Northwood Award. This award is given once a year to a Northwood member (s) who embodies the spirit of service, has an enthusiasm for the church, and is committed to their faith.

*Earlier this year, Merrill led a team of Northwood men who built a 'landing pad' for my wheelchair lift—hauling gravel, digging dirt, and other heavy work. One cold, down pouring day I discovered Merrill outside, soaked through, putting on the finishing touches. Thank you just doesn't begin to say enough.
Janine O'Guinn*

Past recipients of this award are: Barry & Linda Bettis, Andy & Gretchen Petersen, and Stephanie Sargeant

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

The Northwood women's ministry is hosting a regional Pray and Play day on March 14. The theme this year is *Praying in Color*. The day includes crafts, making a prayer journal, laughter, and a time to worship together. Last year, there were over 20 women from Northwood who attended the Pray and Play day in Junction City. It was such a fun time, that it was decided that we would host the event this year. Watch for a sign-up table in the fellowship hall. We will also need to furnish snacks for the day. We expect over 100 women from different churches around the region. Let's show them Northwood's hospitality!



WELCOME
HOME
ORIENTATION

February 8th

4-6pm

Fireside room

All new and prospective members are encouraged and welcome to attend!

*Northwood: The Church That
Says Welcome Home*

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Albertsons Community Partners



The Community Partners Program has been in existence for over 10 years. During that time we have had many members link their Albertsons' Preferred Savings Card with our Community Partners Programs card number. In order for Albertsons to update their records, they are requiring everyone who has their Preferred card linked to a Community Partner number, to re-link them by the end of February.

The process to re-link our Community Partner number to your preferred Savings Card is easy.

- Go to www.albertsonscp.com
- Enter your preferred card number (if you don't know it, it's listed on your Albertson's receipt, or there is a number on the website to call.)
- Enter our Community Partner number, **49000117793**, and you're done! For those who don't have access to a computer, call the church office, and Jill can re-link it for you.

For those of you who haven't heard about Albertson's Community Partner Program, it's an easy way to raise money to support the Children's Ministry at Northwood. When you link your card to Northwood, for every dollar you spend on groceries at Albertsons, they will donate a portion to the church.

Good Search

What if Northwood earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support the church? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charity you designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall that donates up to 37% of each purchase to your favorite cause!

February Elders

Communion & Offering

February 1 -

Bob Shelton & Ralph Matteson

February 8 -

Beverly Robertson & John Sargeant

February 15 -

Judy Hockett & Andy Petersen

February 22 -

Ralph Matteson & John Sargeant

February Diaconate

February 1 - Judy Davies' Team

February 8 - Gary Franklin's Team

February 15 - Kitty Bates' Team

February 22 - Debbie Childs' Team

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

MINISTRY OF WEEK OF COMPASSION

Week of Compassion is a disaster relief and humanitarian assistance program fund for Disciples congregations to channel their resources and concerns to respond to the humanitarian needs of suffering people in the world.

Through Week of Compassion, North American Disciples reach out in the name of Christ to:

- provide emergency and long-term assistance to people in the aftermath of: hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, droughts, civil war and other natural and human catastrophes. In a typical year WOC responds to a disaster about once every two days.
- respond with help, hope, and hospitality to people who have been: uprooted and displaced from their homelands by war, environmental catastrophe, famine and natural disaster. There are more than 30 million uprooted and displaced people in the world. Many of them are children.
- support programs of sustainable development and rehabilitation that: empower people and communities to stand against and rise above hunger, poverty, disease, illiteracy, and other forces of injustice that deny and destroy human dignity. WOC supports projects in nearly 100 countries on every inhabitable continent of the earth.
- encourage and support volunteer groups in hands-on mission and service opportunities.

Annually, WOC partners with more than 50 Disciples work groups in mission projects in North America and abroad.

DECEMBER 2008 WORLD OUTREACH GIVING

Love Offering/Church Family	\$569	Habitat for Humanity	\$158
Mission Scholarships	\$237	Disciples Mission Fund	\$821
Adopt a Ministry Student, NCC	\$790	El Faro Orphanage	\$190
FISH	\$269	Week of Compassion	\$316
Young Life	\$142	Lemke Family (CMF - Ukraine)	\$395
Eugene Mission	\$284	Neveux Family (Wycliffe - Indonesia)	\$158
St. Vincent de Paul	\$111	Siedel Family (CMF - Kenya)	\$158
Youth for Christ (LCDC Chaplain)	\$300	Sony (Mission to Unreached People - Indonesia)	\$79
Angel Tree Scholarships	\$47	Whisler Family (Wycliffe - Indonesia)	\$664

CHILDREN'S NEWS



Northwood's new *Make Your Life Count* sermon series is the perfect backdrop for our children's study of Jesus' parables. Each week, the pulpit message is extended with a timeless, illustrative story that Jesus told to explain God's will for His people's lives. Parables engage even our youngest children in the new covenant Jesus exemplified and we are called to honor.

We try to send materials, work products, or parent letters home each week to incorporate our sermon lessons into family life. In doing so, it is interesting to learn that many church members are surprised that we're linking our Sunday school lessons to each week's sermon, and/or the meanings of the parables themselves. Thus, for the remaining weeks of this sermon series, we will be sending home a handout entitled *Sharable Parables*, to promote the partnership between the sermon that parents receive and the lessons children are taught. We hope this will encourage and enable families to set and pursue family goals consistent with God's Word.

February is the month reserved for pre-enrollment of preschool-age children in our congregation, and returning families, in the 2009-2010 program of Northwood's own preschool. Updated brochures and new registration forms will be ready on February 1! Newcomers to the preschool are very welcome to pay us a visit to see if our program will meet your child's needs. Contact me for more information, to schedule a visit, or obtain registration forms.

In His Spirit, Betsy



HATS, GLOVES, SCARVES, SOCKS

We are once again collecting hats, gloves, scarves and socks for the Springfield Christmas Parade. Now is the time to start purchasing items, as they go on clearance at stores. Let's see if we can beat our total of over 1,100 items from last year. What a blessing it was to hand them out to people at the parade last year. Givers and receivers were both blessed.



February HS/MS Schedule:

- 1st Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)
- 8th Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)
- 15th Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)
- 20th–22nd Middle School Snow Trip
- 22nd No Youth Group
- 27th High School Lock In

Special Notes:

- No Extreme this month due to the Snow Trip

This month Reed interviews Laurel Stiller, leader of the Tweener girls group, which is made up of girls in grades 4th through 8th.

How long have you been involved in youth ministry? Wow—I would say 22 years. My junior year of college, I started co-running the middle school youth group at my church and we had a blast. It was so great in those years when I could pull all-nighters so easily. My heart for middle-schoolers grew then. That's a big time of change and it can be tough. I wanted to give them confidence and be an ear for them when they were sorting through how they felt about themselves, each other, their family and God.

What is your favorite part of working with the youth? Helping them find their place in the church. I had family who taught me the importance of coming to church and being the church. *Pillar people* is what I have always called them. If these Tweener girls can see different ways that they are essential to this church, they will feel fulfilled; they will invest more time with the church, and have vital support beyond their family. The body of Christ that God designed in a church will be met. And, parents, if they are active in a church now, they are much more likely to be active in college and as young adults. There is a reason my 13 year old is running PowerPoint slides on Sunday mornings and sings. He is seeing places for himself in the church already. And I am so very grateful for many people at Northwood who have become role models for him, lead his SS and GOLF classes, and who stop to talk to him. He needs you and my young girls will too someday.

What would you tell someone that was thinking about getting involved in youth ministry? Do not be afraid. Be strong and courageous. God is always with you. Just kidding. Seriously, know that you are desperately needed and that I don't bring any special talents to this role I'm serving now with Tweener girls. This is my 3rd G.O.L.F. term that I am now working with them. In all three terms now, I have gone into the term praying that God would give Tweener girls a role in the church. Each time, He has provided the idea that they have owned: dancing to *Belly of the Whale*; reinforcing the themes of our NT challenge; and now a new project. I would never have thought of these things on my own. One caution however. You grow to love them, and fast! When they cry, I hurt. When they are being cool and distant, I feel it. And when they run up and hug me, my heart soars. But you are needed and you do *not* need to lead. Just be present and supportive.

What is your favorite color? Yellow. No surprise, I live in a yellow house and love yellow roses.

Do you own an iPod? I do - I often travel for work so it's great on the plane.

What is on it? It's almost all contemporary Christian. We are big fans of KLOVE (100.9) and 96.9 in Albany. My newest favorite is *A New Hallelujah* by Michael W Smith. I love Chris Rice, Chris Tomlin (the *Amazing Grace* version we sing in worship), Casting Crowns—and when I need music to clean house—Allison Kraus.

A NOTE FROM



REED-O

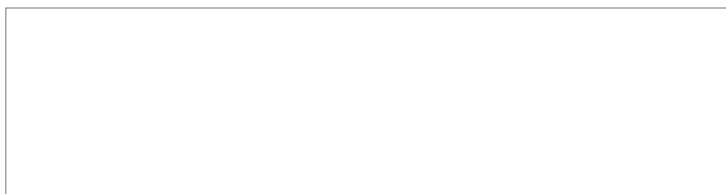


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm Youth Group	2 2 pm Monthly Prayer Meeting, Bettis' Home	3 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice 8 pm Drop in B-Ball	4 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	5 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha	6	7
8 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 4:00 pm New Member Orientation 6:00 pm Youth Group	9	10 1 pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Board Mtg 7:30 pm Choir Practice 8 pm Drop in B-ball	11 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	12 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha	13	14
15 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service 6:00 pm Youth Group	16	17 12 pm Alert & Alive Potluck 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice 8 pm Drop in B-ball	18 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	19 6:30 am Elders Breakfast at Terese's Place 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha	20	21
					Middle School Snow Rally	
22 8:00 am Jump Start 8:15 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Contemporary Service 9:45 am Sunday GOLF 11:15 am Traditional Service NO Youth Group	23	24 12 pm Newsletter Items due in the Office 1 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice 8 pm Drop in B-Ball	25 2 pm A & A Games 5:55 pm G.O.L.F. Dinner 6:45 pm G.O.L.F. Classes	26 9 am Library Crew 6 pm Alpha	27 High School Lock-In	28 8 am Women's Breakfast, Country Waffle

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