



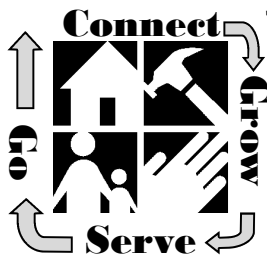
THE WINDOW

Northwood Christian Church

Volume 39, #5

The Church that says, "Welcome Home"

May 2009



These four words are beginning to define the mission statement at Northwood. In two separate meetings, that were very well attended by the leaders of our church, we have taken our mission statement, and developed it into a vision statement. The goal is that each of us can better remember it and also that it will define for us who we are and what we are about.

Our mission statement is:

"Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with people everywhere, nurturing faith, hope and love through worship, service to others, and devotion to Christ in a loving church family."

Now what we have done is taken our mission statement and used four key words to define for us how we want to live this statement out.

First, we want to **Connect**.

We want to help people connect with God. *"Share the Good News of Jesus..."*

We want to help people connect with a loving church family. *"...in a loving church family."*

Second, we want to **Grow**.

We want to encourage people to grow in their faith and become more like Christ. *"...nurturing faith, hope, and love..."*

Third, we want to **Serve**.

We want to serve our church family and a world in need. *"Service to others..."*



A WORD FROM BARRY

(Continued on page 2)

(A Word from Barry...continued from page 1)

Fourth, we want to **Go**.

We want to share our faith with everyone. *“with people everywhere...”*

I have asked our leadership to divide up into four groups and begin discussing how we can, as a church, better **Connect, Grow, Serve, and Go**. Each group will come back to the total group with at least one initiative for our church to begin to implement this year. My prayer is that by the end of this year, you will not only know that Northwood is about **Connecting, Growing, Serving, and Going** but you will also have a good idea of how we are going about fulfilling that vision.

See you Sunday, Barry

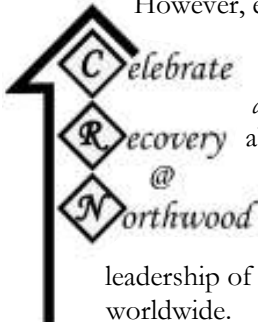
CELEBRATE RECOVERY

INTRODUCTION TO THIS NEW MINISTRY

In John 10:10(b) Jesus said, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (NASB)

However, even with that promise, many of us are not experiencing this abundance.

Everyone’s life is made up of a series of choices and consequences, and some of these can lead to life’s *Hurts, Hang-ups, and Habits*. These *Hurts, Hang-ups, and Habits* can wind up blocking us from experiencing Jesus’ promise of abundant life.



This September Celebrate Recovery, led by Dave Wadsworth, begins at Northwood. Celebrate Recovery is a ministry of personal restoration that began at Pastor Rick Warren’s Saddleback Church in 1991 under the leadership of Pastor John Baker. It is presently operational in over 5,000 churches worldwide.

The purpose of Celebrate Recovery is to allow individuals to become free from life’s hurts, hang-ups, and habits. By working through the eight principles of recovery based on the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5 and with Jesus Christ as their higher power, participants can and will change! They will begin to experience the true peace and serenity that they are seeking. They will no longer need to rely on their dysfunctional, compulsive, and addictive behaviors as a temporary ‘fix’ for their pain.

By applying the biblical principles of conviction, conversion, surrender, confession, restitution, prayer, quiet time, witnessing, and helping one another, found within the eight principles, participants will restore or develop stronger relationships with others and God.

For more information about this dynamic ministry, how it can strengthen you, and how you can minister to others, please join ministry members at our informational table each Sunday in May during fellowship time.

Remember John 8:32: “Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

JOIN WITH—RELAYERS OF HOPE

*But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him
Jeremiah 17:7*

Are you a survivor of cancer? Do you know a cancer survivor? Do you know of a friend or family member who lost the fight with cancer? If so, why not join the Northwood Relayers of Hope team as we take part in the Relay for Life, July 24–25. Together we will share our faith as we join the fight for the cure.

You can sign up at the *Cones for the Cure* in the fellowship hall on Sunday, May 3. You can also leave your name with Jill in the office.

Watch the newsletter and the weekly bulletins. We have many fun activities planned.

CONES FOR THE CURE

Beginning May 3, following each worship service, the Northwood Relayers of Hope team will be selling ice cream cones for 75¢ a piece. The ice cream and cones were donated and all proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society's Relay for the Cure.

As you enjoy the ice cream, be sure to check your cone. You may be the winner of a **free** ice cream cone.

MISSING A DISH?

Please check the desk in the entry in the next two weeks. There are quite a few dishes that were left in the kitchen, and after Sunday, May 10th, they will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

NOMADS

Northwood Nomads are gearing up for another summer of camping. In June they are traveling to Westfir to stay at Casey's RV park. In July they are going to Fisherman's Ben east of Mill City. Talk to Gary & Meredith Noble if you need more information.

ALERT & ALIVE

May 19 is the date for this month's potluck. No one has volunteered to be host, so Vera & Emily will wing it. We had 40 people for our Easter/Spring fling. Thank you to Jeanine Mart who was a great hostess. Thanks, also for all who helped with set-up, clean-up, and fellowship. Many hands make light work. Thank you faithful Christians and special thanks to Betty and Ralph Carson for use of their festive decorations. We missed those who couldn't make it and invite all to join us for food, fellowship, and a break in your daily routine. Scheduled events keep us going.

MONTHLY PRAYER NIGHT

It is time to fill the 'God Can' On Sunday, May 3, IPM will collect congregational prayer requests for their monthly prayer night on May 4th. Place your prayer requests in the 'God Can' that will be in the fellowship hall after 1st and 2nd services and in the narthex after 3rd. Please begin preparing your thoughts and prayers and have them ready to place in the God Can. These will all be prayed over and brought to our Father during our Monday night prayer time. Or, send your prayer requests to Linda Bettis at bettis0339@comcast.net or Arleen Field at arleen.field@worldnet.att.net.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT

We would like to thank you for all of your support and contributions of hard candy for Brandon Krueger's efforts to calm and bring some peace to the little children that he meets while he is serving in Afghanistan. Your outpouring of love and support for him is overwhelming. We were able to collect approximately 100 pounds of candy for Brandon. He will be well supplied with candies for his entire time in Afghanistan. Thank you so much.

PEOPLE OF NORTHWOOD

Baptisms

April 12 - Easter Sunday

*Jason Byrn
Jeff & Leah Emmett
Teena Stratton
Destiny Fleming*

New Members

April 5

*Mike & Laura Wang
Rolly Sullivan (Gena)*

April 12

*David Wadsworth
Teena Stratton
Destiny Fleming*

April 19

Allen & Marcia Freeman

W e l c o m e

NEW BABY

Congratulations to Zach & Amy Page on the birth of their daughter, Naya Elizabeth on April 14. Naya joins her big brother Kai.



Northwood's '09



*Women's
Retreat*

May 8-9

at Driftwood Shores

***Indulging in
Spirit-Filled Relationships***

A Retreat for Women of all ages
Cathy Myers Wirt, Guest speaker
Register in the fellowship hall today
Financial assistance available

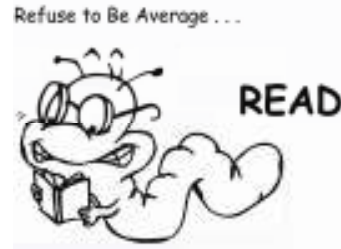
We don't put our Members personal information on the web. Please see your printed version or contact the church office for the new members this month.

Looking for Work after a layoff?

Northwood's volunteer editor, Janine O'Guinn, is offering her resume creating, editing, and letter writing skills to anyone at church who could use her skills. She also knows the tricky UofO job application process. She is home due to her disability and has time to help.

THE LIBRARY HAS GREAT NEW VIDEOS:

- Spirit—Stallion of the Cimarron—also have it on DVD
- Barney’s Halloween Party
- Honey, I Shrunk the Kids
- The Incredible Mr. Limpet
- Charlotte’s Web
- Brother Bear
- Rudy-family film
- Spy Kids 3D Game over on DVD
- Jacob & Joseph-Bible history on DVD
- Hidden Places on DVD We also have this book by Lynn Austin-Fiction shelf
- Facing the Giants on DVD



MARCH 2009 WORLD OUTREACH GIVING

Love Offering/Church Family	\$699	Habitat for Humanity	\$194
Mission Scholarships	\$291	Disciples Mission Fund	\$1,010
Adopt a Ministry Student, NCC	\$971	El Faro Orphanage	\$233
FISH	\$330	Week of Compassion	\$389
Young Life	\$175	Lemke Family (CMF - Ukraine)	\$486
Eugene Mission	\$350	Neveux Family (NICS - Indonesia)	\$194
St. Vincent de Paul	\$136	Siedel Family (CMF - Kenya)	\$194
Youth for Christ (LCDC Chaplain)	\$369	Sony (Mission to Unreached People - Indonesia)	\$97
Angel Tree Scholarships	\$58	Whisler Family (Wycliffe - Indonesia)	\$816

WORLD OUTREACH

<p>May Elders Communion & Offering</p> <p>May 3 - Judy Hockett & Andy Petersen</p> <p>May 10 - Mel Mead & Mike Harman</p> <p>May 17 - Bob Shelton & Dennis Page</p> <p>May 24 - Christi Keefer & Beverly Robertson</p> <p>May 31 - Andy Petersen & Tom Utt</p>

<p>May Diaconate</p> <p>May 3 - Gary Franklin’s Team</p> <p>May 10 - Kitty Bates’ Team</p> <p>May 17 - Debbie Child’s Team</p> <p>May 24 - Connie Knight’s Team</p> <p>May 31 - Dan Witt’s Team</p> <p><i>If you aren’t sure whose team you are on, please call the office.</i></p>
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READ ALL ABOUT IT—THE BUSINESS OF NORTHWOOD

The Northwood Christian Church Constitution and Bylaws were last revised in May 2004. This governing document needs to be looked at periodically for the purpose of revisions or amendments. Over the past few months several changes were made for the board's and congregation's consideration. The final draft will go to the board for approval at the May 12 board meeting and with the board's approval, to the congregation for consideration at the May 31 congregational meeting. You may obtain a copy of the current and draft constitution from the church office. If you have comments regarding the proposed changes, please have them to me by May 10. Now is the time to make your comments if you want to effect change, once the board approves it, it is difficult to make changes.

Proposed changes include: grammar and language consistency; definition of a voting member; designation of voting members of the board; the option for an executive board; appointment of the Committee of Seven; changing the quota necessary to call a special meeting from a number to a percentage (when the number was written into the current Constitution our membership was about 100 people); and removing some procedures from the document and placing them in a procedure handbook. This last change does not affect the essence of the Constitution and allows for more fluidity in procedures.

Annual Congregational Meeting – May 31, 2009 Each year the congregation has the opportunity to vote on the annual operating budget and the slate of board officers, elders and diaconate. This year's vote is May 31, 2009. Following the May board meeting members will receive the 2009-2010 budget and slate for review. Voting will take place following all three services.

Stewardship Report—April 2009 The Operating Summary for March 2009 is provided below. Thank you to Wanda Smith for providing a detailed financial report to the Board on a monthly basis. For the month of March, we covered all of our budgeted expenses with the generous tithes and offerings provided by our congregation. Throughout the year, designated gifts for general fund eligible expenses have been used to help offset the lack of general funds. As a result, the current year deficit sits at \$15,670 instead of \$40,102. Our General Fund Reserve (savings account) now sits at less than \$30,000.

Operating Summary—March, 2009

Revenue	Mar-09	YTD	Annual Budget
GF Giving & Misc. Income	\$39,643	\$312,895	\$480,877
Expenses	Mar-09	YTD	Annual Budget
GF & World Outreach	\$39,519	\$342,687	\$480,877
*Unbudgeted Expenses	\$3,110	\$10,310	0
Total	\$42,629	\$352,997	\$480,877
Net Receipts – GF	(\$2,986)	(\$40,102)	
Designated Gifts/fundraising	\$3,682	\$24,432 Note**	
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	\$697	(\$15,670)	

GF is General Fund, *(Primarily Vision Street Consultant –Church Assessment as approved by the Board), **Used to offset GF Expenses

IPM News

PRECIOUS SIGN HAS MOVED

Forgiveness of Sins You may notice a change as you walk up to the front door of Northwood. The sign with Hebrew wording is gone from the outer entrance where it had a home for over a year. This 2,000-year-old piece of wood and its powerful biblical saying “Christ’s Blood Perfects Man Forever” is now placed at the inside entrance, just to your right. This new placement is an improvement because the sign is at eye-level complete with a history.

We’ve just passed through a sacred week—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. So we’ve all heard the message of the salvation that the cross brings. Jesus was and is the perfect and final sacrifice that brings us sinless into God’s presence. Most of us think of this salvation as happening only once and then we’re free from the penalty of sin forever. Yes, our faith in Christ and His sacrifice brought us into eternal life, but there is still more we can do to really enjoy this relationship with God. Jesus initiated communion as a reminder of His sacrifice on the cross but there is still more. Before taking communion, we must humble ourselves to God by confessing our current imperfections shown in our faithless thoughts, words, and unloving actions. The cross wasn’t only for the first time we accepted Jesus as our savior but an on-going process of seeing our inadequacies and relying on Christ. Why all this talk about communion? Communion is a reminder of Christ’s blood sacrifice for you. The sign is also a reminder of Christ’s sacrifice for you. This blood atonement by Jesus is the foundation of Christianity. It is so important that we must never take it for granted. So appreciate God’s forgiveness of sin every time you look at the Hebrew sign. It’s a reminder that you are a child of God and you are totally forgiven.

FY 2009-10 BUDGET

The stewardship ministry team in collaboration with ministry team leaders has spent the past two months preparing the general fund operating budget for next fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2009. The proposed draft budget for next fiscal year was presented to the Board at the April 14 Board meeting. As with most organizations, Northwood is feeling the effects of the recession. Tithes, offerings, gifts, and fundraising are not keeping pace with the cost of operating the church. As a consequence, the draft budget anticipates a 6.6% reduction in our operating budget and the possible reduction in part-time staff hours, a 1% reduction in staff salaries, and closing the office on Fridays. Designated funds will continue to be used when appropriate for general fund expenses. The personnel and stewardship ministry teams will continue to evaluate our financial and personnel situation before submitting a final proposed budget to the Board at the May 12 meeting. Please contact the office if you would like to receive a copy of the proposed draft budget as presented to the Board in April.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

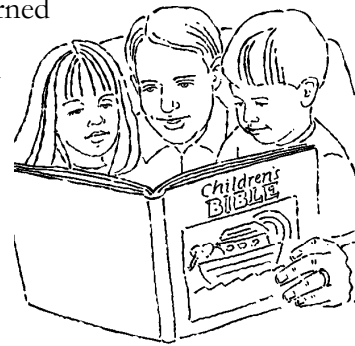


For long-time teachers like me, the school year seems to be hurtling toward its inevitable sequence of tests, proms, parties, and graduations for our children and youth. For many kids, the year is shortened by days or even weeks due to school district budget cuts. As Northwood's board chair has shared with you, the church is also facing some challenges in the areas of governance, finance, and leadership.

This is not new to me, having weathered many storms in public and higher education in the past 30 years. I've learned

that those who manage to ride through these changes with optimism for the future are the ones who focus on whom they serve: *the children.*

This is our focus in the Children's Wing, from our youngest children in nursery to those entering middle school. Amazing changes—physical, social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual—occur in these early years of one's lifespan. It is an enormous responsibility and privilege to support parents as this foundation is laid.



Put these words of mine in your heart and soul
Teach them to your children

Deuteronomy 11:18-19, NRSV

We intend to continue providing throughout the year the nurturing environment of our nursery/toddler, Children's Church, Sunday School, and G.O.L.F. programs, as well as special events.. But to do so, we need some help. Several volunteers who have ably assisted throughout the past year in Sunday School are stepping aside due to family commitments. We're hoping that parents will volunteer one Sunday morning during second service per quarter (12 weeks) to assist Kelly and me with the 25+ kids who attend. We're also inviting church mothers to help rock babies in the nursery on Sunday mornings as needed, or assist with third service Faith Friends from time to time. And very soon, we'll recruit in earnest for those willing and wanting to create a special VBS experience for our church community.

Please consider stepping into Children's Ministry with your time and talents. We will not overwork you or leave you stranded. And, there's nothing quite like witnessing the miracle of faith formation in children to soften our own hearts and tilt the children toward Jesus. In tough times, we need this reminding that He is our provision, our Great Physician, our comforter and our Savior. Amen.

<p>May MS/HS Schedule:</p> <p>3rd Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)</p> <p>10th Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)</p> <p>15th Extreme 6:00 (MS)</p> <p>17th Faith and Film 5:30 – at Reed & Kelsey's place (H.S.)</p> <p>24th Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)</p> <p>31st Youth Group 6:00 (H.S.)</p>
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CREATION THIS SUMMER

As I stood on the side of the lower portion of the bowl that forms the large grass seating area at the gorge, I watched in amazement as the multitude who had gathered began to jump with the beat of the music, and listened as this amazing choir of believers began to sing along... "He is our King, He is our God, He is the one who's come to bring us back to Him." The lights began to strobe and as they illuminated the landscape that surrounds the theater the beauty of the moment became indescribable.

Over twenty thousand people gathered on that night. I am not certain that all who came knew what they were getting themselves into. I am sure that most came with the right motives, and I am sure others did not. Whatever the reasons or motives for coming, when we came together we were transformed.

We were transformed from individuals, and groups from around the Northwest to one body coming before the King to worship. All the things that seemed to separate us vanished as the beauty of the natural environment, the words in the songs, the rhythm of the music, and the Spirit moved among us brought us together. It was truly a one of a kind experience, a taste of what I imagine heaven is like. A choir of the faithful worshipping with one voice.

As we prepare for summer, we have the opportunity to once again attend Creation Northwest in George, WA. This July, I would love to see a larger, more diverse group go. Truthfully, in order to make it happen for the youth we need adults to step up, help plan, fundraise, and attend. If you would like to be involved please let Jonathan or I know.

A NOTE FROM



REED-O

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

REED WEBSTER & STAFF

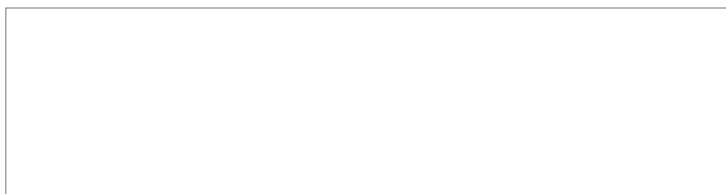


Creation Music Festival

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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, Friday, 8 am to noon.