

News & Views

Northminster Presbyterian Church 1660 Kessler Blvd. East Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46220 317-251-9489 www.northminster-indy.org

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2010

Holy Week at Northminster



April 1, Maundy Thursday

At 7:00 pm we will celebrate communion together in the new Gathering Place. Remembering the Last Supper of our Lord with his disciples we will sing, pray and commune together. Join us for this special service.

April 2, Good Friday

The annual Tenebrae Service at 7 pm will be in the sanctuary. The chancel choir, pastors and readers will lead us through the Good Friday



scriptures in this moving and dramatic service. Plan to attend this reminder of Christ's suffering and death.

April 4, Easter Sunday

We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord at 9 and 11am, with the Word, brass, and song. Communion will be served at both services. Bring your family & neighbors to this joyous celebration.



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Our Vision

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we celebrate God's love and follow Christ's teachings to seek, serve and embrace.

seek, serve and embrace



Pastoral pondering . . .

BY TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.” Hebrews 13:2 The author of Hebrews is probably alluding to a ministry to strangers and guests as demonstrated by Abraham and Sarah which underscores how God’s people can treat strangers. We are challenged to be welcoming, hospitable, and open to guests. We focus on friendliness, greeters, and packets of material introducing the congregation to newcomers. But hospitality to strangers and entertaining angels is more than that. It is about mission and outreach as well as welcoming worship.

The clergy renewal program we are beginning in April involves angels and strangers. We hope to learn more about the strangers we have welcomed, learn more about being a stranger, and discover how God’s angels minister to us through strangers.

Jack and I will travel to East Africa as a strangers in a strange land. We will visit the site of Northminster’s most recent mission commitment in Kenya, a school lunch program. We will experience their hospitality and have learnings to bring home from our partners in mission. In Ethiopia I hope to learn more of the culture and history of the

refugees who have been settling in our community and worshipping with us at Northminster. We will connect with the families they left behind. Experiencing the hospitality of these people in their own country will help us learn how to welcome them in ours. In Ethiopia we will visit more mission sites and historic Christian sites.

One third of the renewal program time will be spent writing my reflections on strangers as angels in disguise and angels as revelations of God. This writing will serve primarily as an exercise in spiritual renewal but may also produce helpful reflections for the congregation on outreach, mission and worship.

Strangers and angels will be your focus during the renewal program as well. Guest preachers will come from programs and/or populations who may be our neighbors but remain strangers to us. Andi Martin will lead an adult class each Sunday focusing on the issues of welcome and hospitality in the midst of racial and ethnic diversity. God has a message to reveal to us. When God took this message to Abraham and Sarah it was in the form of a stranger. God’s message may well come to us in a similar way. We open our hearts and our minds to God’s angels and the strangers sent to minister to us.

Please hold us in your prayers while we are gone as we hold you in ours. Please stay faithful in your church attendance and participation and use this time for congregational renewal. Learn what it is like to be a church without me, just don’t get to liking it too much, please. I will see you all on July 18th. Blessings.

Teri

April Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.

April 1

Maundy Thursday, 7 pm

April 2

Good Friday, 7 pm

April 4

Easter Sunday, 9 and 11 am

April 11

Confirmation Sunday

All the youth and children’s choirs will be in worship and the confirmands will help lead worship. Come and be part of this service recognizing so many of our young people.

Sunday April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

Our guest preacher is the Reverend Dr. Ron Allen, professor of preaching at Christian Theological Seminary. Ron is an engaging and stimulating preacher. Join us for worship.

Sunday April 25

Our guest preacher will be David Miner, executive director of Indianapolis Hunger Initiative. Dave helped start the school lunch program in Kenya where Teri and Jack will be visiting. He is also a board member for Bread for the World. Dave is an interesting and informative speaker.



Northminster Yard Sale 2010!

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The Deacons, E-Team and the Green Stewardship Group are teaming up for a fun & exciting Yard Sale, Saturday, April 24 from 9 am – 1 pm. Rain or Shine! Have a lot of stuff? Sell all that stuff taking up space in your attic, basement or garage at the NPC Yard Sale! Tables are available to rent for \$10.00 each for the purpose of setting up & selling all your goodies. There will also be a special area for those who wish to sell arts & crafts. We welcome all artists, crafters and shoppers!

There will be games for kids from 9 am – 1 pm and an IFD fire truck on site from 10-11 am for kids to inspect and climb into.

Two “Make It & Take It” green workshops are being offered for adults. At 9:30 am the Compost Tumbler Workshop, led by Tarrey Banks will take place. In this workshop you will construct a 40-gallon compost tumbler to take home that day. Pre-registration by 4/15 and a \$100 pre-paid fee are required for this workshop. All building materials are included.



At 11:30 am the Run-Off Rain Barrel Workshop will take place led by Mike Shannon. This workshop will have you constructing a rain barrel to catch, store & use rain water for watering plants in your yard. Pre-registration by 4/15 and a \$65

pre-paid fee are required for this workshop. All building materials are included for this project.

Want to contribute, but Yard Sales aren't your 'thing'? Donate all your attic/basement/garage goodies to NPC and the deacons will sell the items for you! All donated items may be brought to church beginning Sunday, April 11 through noon on Friday, April 23. The only clothing accepted will be new or gently used children's items – no stains or tears please. All proceeds will benefit the Deacon's Fund. At 1 pm a truck will pickup & take away any leftover items for donation to a charity. For questions or more information please contact Dick Dunbar at 915-8787

What are ChristCare Groups?

ChristCare groups are small groups that meet on a regular basis based on a particular interest. They pray & study together and each group has a mission project. The following is a list of ChristCare groups. See if one of them is right for you. For more info on these and other groups visit www.northminster-indy.org

The Drama Group . . .

Spiritual Striders . . .

Do-in-Day Mission . . .

Gracie Girls . . .

Theology on Tap . . .

Yard Sale & Community Fair Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Yard Sale table registration: Please circle which you'll be selling:

Yard Sale Items

Arts/Crafts

\$10 per table. Please make check payable to Northminster and return with form to the church office **by noon on Friday, April 23.**

Compost Tumbler registration: Please indicate for how many participants/ tumblers you are making reservations: _____

Cost is **\$100 per tumbler.** Please make check payable to Northminster and return it with this form to the church office **by noon on Thursday, April 15.**

Rain Barrel registration: Please indicate for how many participants/barrels you are making reservations: _____

Cost is **\$65 per rain barrel.** Please make check payable to Northminster and return it with this form to the church office **by noon on Thursday, April 15.**

Questions? Please contact Dick Dunbar: richard@bellmanmelcor.com or (317) 915-8787.

Earth Day 2010

In preparation for Earth Day, April 22, the PCUSA has adopted the following statement from *Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life: Worship Spaces as Stewardship* (2010) (Eco-Justice Program of the National Council of Churches): “The blessings of God are evident all around us, including in the sacred spaces that make up our houses of worship. These sacred spaces are where we come to be spiritually nurtured, enriched, and recharged. These spaces become a gathering place to meet in

fellowship with our neighbors, and are the center of our mission activities. Even as we are blessed as communities of faith with gathering places for our worship and ministry, we have responsibilities to be good stewards of these sacred spaces.”

Last year Northminster established a Green Stewardship Group in recognition of the church’s commitment to environmental concerns. Watch for future events and activities sponsored by the Green Stewardship Group.



Offering of Letters

An old friend of Northminster, Roger Howard, will be the Mission Team guest on Sunday, April 25 in Calvin Hall and other places around the church. A staunch supporter and advisor to local churches for Bread for the World’s “Offering of Letters,” Roger will be guiding a discussion at 10a.m. in Calvin Hall, addressing the next letter-writing campaign, the issues, and the senators and representatives that need to be contacted.

For a number of years, Northminster has written many letters asking those in Washington who represent us, to support programs that will vigorously address hunger problems globally. Roger can explain the value of writing (and sending) a letter that only takes about 2-minutes to write. No need to sign up but there is a need to show up. Bring a pen!



Mexico Mission – a Iglesia Presbiteriana “Principe de Paz”

Pbro. Neri A. Gonzalez Tomas ordination (Ordenacion) was held on Sunday, March 7th, 2010 at 7pm at Pricipe de Paz church in Cancun. Rev. Ruth Moore and Youth Director, Julie Shannon, were able to attend this important event because of your support of the mission of Northminster. Neri & his wife, Leydy

were very pleased to have us there and Pastora Ruth, gave a prayer during the service and participated in the “laying on of hands.” The building of the church sanctuary continues and with your support of Northminster’s Open to the Future, campaign they will be able to put a roof on their temple.



(Neri A. Gonzalez Tomas & Pastor Ruth, during Laying on of Hands)

Mission and outreach

The face of HIV/AIDS – a kindly minister

My husband John's father became ill while visiting us and had to be taken to the hospital by ambulance. We called the man who had been his parents' minister who was working in a congregation in nearby Noblesville. When I called the minister's house his wife's quick answer was "my husband's at choir practice but he'll come right over." He did, and he brought great comfort to my father-in-law who passed away within a few hours.

One morning several years later, while reading the Indianapolis Star, a headline above the pastor's picture read: "Local minister confesses to congregation that he has AIDS." As the story explained, he "confessed" to having received tainted blood during heart surgery. In those early days of HIV/AIDS, the public was suspicious of how and who got the disease and, especially, how it was passed on. Besides promiscuity or homosexuality, we feared toilet seats, kissing, blood transfusions, and even wondered about mosquito bites. He had to tell his congregation because there was so much we didn't know. Still, I never thought the use of the word "confession" was journalism at its best.

The Damien Center, named for the Belgian priest famed for the work he did in Hawaii with victims of leprosy, was established in 1987 in response to the growing AIDS crisis in Indianapolis. Today it is the largest HIV/AIDS service organization in Indiana and is recognized for its leadership and innovation in care and prevention programs. Most Damien Center clients live below the poverty level, so the organization's focus goes beyond health issues (including those for partners, family and friends), but also meals, housing, employment, and transportation.

The list created by the Care Coordination Services is very impressive and even a little surprising. You might have expected that mental health counseling and STD testing would be available, but Damien's highly trained coordinators also refer to legal assistance for estate planning and dealing with the social security procedures, free haircuts, programs for kids, and serious help with managing the side effects of drugs. The purpose is to empower and support clients, to strengthen their wellbeing and work with them to achieve the highest quality of life possible. Programs and services are based on individual client's needs.

Perhaps most critical are the prevention services that work throughout the community to stop the spread of HIV through awareness, education, counseling and support. The Center offers free and confidential HIV testing. Coordinators refer to medical treatments to help slow the rate at which HIV weakens the immune system and regular testing to reduce the risk of getting the disease.

The Center is a United Way Agency and has two fund-raising events every year; the Grande Masquerade in the fall and Dining Out for Life. On April 29, restaurants around Indianapolis will contribute a portion of their proceeds to the Damien Center. Premier restaurants for this year include Blu Martini, fortyfive degrees, Euphoria, Creation Café, Pearl bistro, Petite Chou, Brugge Brasserie and Santorini's. There are additional places on the Damien Center website.

Northminster benevolence funds have supported the Damien Center for more than twelve years. For more information on how you might volunteer at the Center, check the WATCHOUT! For Volunteer Opps section on this page.

WATCHOUT!

A list of mission events & volunteer opportunities at Northminster and in the community.

- **Damien Center**
26 North Arsenal. Many and varied: fund-raising events, food pantry assistance, receptionist, data entry, paperwork, phone calls, staffing at health fairs, Center tour guides, assisting testers with paperwork for walk-ins. For more information, call Sandy Windsor, 632-0123, ext. 236.
- **Wheeler Mission:**
All 3 locations need volunteers for tasks at various times. Check the Mission Team board for more information.
- **Offering of Letters**
Sunday, 4/25, 10 am -12:30 pm
Space will be set up in the Gathering Place & Calvin Hall to write the 2-minute letter to our senators & congressmen encouraging support of issues that address hunger globally & at home.
- **Habitat for Humanity Restore**
volunteers needed:
Tuesday–Friday: 10 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 2 pm
Contact Jessica Conway at jconway@indyhabitat.org.
- **Gleaners Pantry Partners**
needs to fill four 2-hour slots per week at Southwest Community Cupboard, Contact Debbie Wilson at wilson@gleaners.org.
- Drivers needed to restock pantries. Contact: Mike Miller at mmiller@gleaners.org.
Check schedule on the Mission board across from the chapel.



Educaton for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Easter Egg Hunt April 3, 10:00 a.m. Rain or Shine!

Ages: Toddler - 5th Grade

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held here at Northminster Church on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Please join us and bring your basket and all your friends! This well-attended community event will occur rain or shine. We will meet in the Gathering Place at 10:00 a.m. Thanks to all who donated the candy to fill 2500 eggs and to the Youth and Older Adult Ministry folks who stuffed them!



Jesus' Miracles is our theme. Come see water turn to wine, see Jesus feed the 5000, the paralyzed man walk, and Lazarus rise from the dead! We are planning our 5th annual Handmade Parade. There will be water fun again this year! Classes are from 5:45-8:00 p.m., June 14-17 and are for children and youth, ages 4 (by April 1) through Middle School. This annual event is a centerpiece of our Church School year. To volunteer Contact Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489 ext. 16 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org

Northminster's Community Summer Program

Summer is right around the corner and your children will be looking for things to do. Wouldn't it be great to drop your children off for a fun day of activities at Northminster? We would love to see you! This program is for Northminster members as well as the community, so you can get together with your friends and neighbors to plan a day for your children and their friends.

Teachers from Northminster Community Preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out programs are offering an 8-week summer program from Tuesday, June 8 through Thursday, July 29 for children age 2 years (by February 1, 2010) through kindergarten. Two age-grouped classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. You may sign up for either or both days. The cost of the program is \$27.50 a day for

each child totaling \$220.00 for the two months. You need to make a commitment for the entire duration of the program.

Each day will be a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities. There will be crafts, games, story time and songs! Children will bring their lunch, and we will provide a morning snack.

Registration forms are available on the bulletin board next to the nursery (across from the Toddler room).

There is also availability in the Preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out programs beginning in September, 2010. If you are interested in additional information or have questions, please call Judy Nelson or Patti Griffey at 251-9489.

Church School in April

April 4/Easter:

Focus scripture: John 20: 1-18

Easter Sunday will find Mary Magdalene telling us "Christ is among us!" Christ *is* risen. Alleluia! We will review what happened during Holy Week and consider Easter surprises. Who in our Northminster community needs Easter's promise of new life?

April 11:

Focus scripture: Acts 5:27-32

We will join with the strong witnesses of the early church in proclaiming Jesus' resurrection. How can we "put first things first" and be witnesses to the good news of Jesus' resurrection?

April 18:

Focus scripture: Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Ananias and Saul's story of an enemy turned friend on the Road to Damascus will begin our discussion of bravery and witness. How have we encountered Jesus?

April 25:

Focus scripture: Acts 9: 36-43

Tabitha, a *mathetria* (the Greek word for disciple), her encounter with death and her raising by Peter will be our focus story. How is Jesus' love alive in us?



What's happening?

Parents with a Passion

PWP meets on April 7th & April 14th. Please bring a snack to share on April 14th for our final gathering before our break. We meet in the Knox Room from 6:15pm to 7:25pm. We will have some opportunities for mission work and for fellowship over the summer months.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all that helped provide a temporary home to the IHN families in March. Your smiling faces and helping hands, as well as all of the good food that was provided helped to make this week run smoothly. If you missed the opportunity to volunteer in March, we will be hosting again the week of May 16th. Be looking for sign up in mid April. *Nancy Flamme and Becca Haag*

Tandem Outing

Tandem (a social group for persons in their 70's & 80's) will meet for lunch April 20 and May 18 (3rd Tuesdays) at 11:30 am at the Castleton MCL.

Congratulations!

On April 11, the following youth will be Confirmed in the faith:

Morgan Boone
Gabe Boris
David Dzwonar
Ian Clarke
Jack Dynes
Joe Fulnecky
Grace Gresham
Sarah Keesling
Amy Skeels
Michael Schmahl
Zach Yohn

North'Stars Outing

The North'Stars will be attending North Central High School's production of *You Can't Take It With You* on Friday, April 23 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$7 and seats are reserved. Dinner will be at the Snooty Fox beforehand. Call or email Cheryl Jacklin at 845-9694 or cjacklin@aol.com by 4/19 for reservations.

Learn about Cancer Support

You are invited to join the Stephen Ministers Continuing Education meeting on Monday, April 12, to learn about the many services offered by the Cancer Support Community. This organization offers free programs of emotional support, education and hope for people with cancer and their loved ones. The program will begin at 6 pm in the Directors Room on our lower level.

Thank you, Northminster!

A Big Thank you to the youth who helped collect \$ and to all those generous people who gave \$ for Souper Bowl of Caring, on February 7th. Northminster raised \$535, which will be given to the Dayspring Center to help support their work with families who are homeless.

The Youth of Northminster would like to extend A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who attended & participated in the annual Italian Night Youth Fundraiser. We raised over \$7,200 for the youth! What a Blessing! 10% (\$700) will be given to the Future is Now Building Campaign from the Youth! We are loving our new Youth Space.

Youth Fellowship activities

April 4

No Youth Fellowship!
Celebrate with your family.

April 11

Regular Youth Fellowship
6-8pm.

April 18

Regular Youth Fellowship
6-8 pm

April 25

12-2:30pm.

Baby Shower for Katy & Jacob Mann. The Shower will be held at the church. Look for invitations. All youth and parents are invited.

Regular Youth Fellowship
6-8pm.

Contact information for youth

- Julie Shannon at 753-6985 or jshannon@northminster-indy.org
- Jacob Mann at 698-8399 or jacob@northminster-indy.org.



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APRIL 2010

Sound & Spirit goes Irish with Bua, April 18

BY JOHN M. WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

The traditional Irish band Bua (pronounced boo-ah) will give a concert at 7:00 pm Sunday, April 18 at Northminster as part of *Sound & Spirit*. Bua, a Chicago-based quintet, will add to that reputation. The band members play diverse instruments, including fiddle, bodhran, banjo, flute, tin whistle, guitar, and uilleann pipes. Brian O'hAirt is a clear-voiced tenor who handles the lead vocals. Bua's songs are mostly traditional jigs and reels with an occasional mellow Irish farmer story thrown in. This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family to enjoy expertly played Irish music in something other than a pub or festival setting. As with all *Sound & Spirit* events, the concert is free, and childcare is available.

About the band members:

Chris Bain

At Bua's instrumental heart is Chicago-born fiddler Chris Bain. He picked up his uncle's fiddle at a young age, in a musical household that played host to touring bands from Ireland and the UK. Chris' personal approach is a reflection of the colorful mix of traditions and musicians that surround him in Chicago.

Seán Gavin

Paired to Bain's fiddling, Seán's ornate style on flute and uilleann pipes clearly reflect his immersion in Irish



Irish Band, Bua

music from a young age. Born in Detroit, Seán received tutelage from Scariff flautist Leo MacNamara and the late piper Al Purcell. Though he's the youngest member of Bua, Seán has toured throughout North American and Europe.

Jackie Moran

Born in Thurles, County Tipperary, Ireland, Jackie immigrated to Chicago with his family when he was ten. He grew up to be a stalwart of the Chicago Irish music scene as a highly sought-after bodhrán player. Jackie has toured with such renowned names as Riverdance and the Trinity Irish Dance

Company. Moran is key to Bua's dynamic rhythm section.

Brian Miller

Bua's guitarist comes from Minneapolis. His song accompaniments have earned him a strong reputation as one of the best guitarists on the scene today.

Brian ÓhAirt

Brian's evocative voice stands as a hallmark of Bua's unique sound. His ability as a traditional singer has afforded him great acclaim at his age—the youngest and only American to become a champion All-Ireland singer.