

News & Views

Northminster Presbyterian Church 1660 Kessler Blvd. East Dr.
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NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2009

Northminster Church receives grant from Lilly Endowment for Clergy Renewal Program

Thirty Indiana congregations have received grants in Lilly Endowment's 2009 Clergy Renewal Program for Indiana Congregations. They represent 14 counties, 18 cities and towns, 11 Christian denominations and one reformed Jewish synagogue.

"Life-changing pilgrimages" is the term many pastors who have benefited from a clergy renewal grant use to describe their time away from the daily duties of congregational leadership. For them, their renewal leaves are rare opportunities to receive the gift of time in a new way—to rest, pray, explore new worlds, and deepen their relationships with those they love.

Through this program, the Endowment invites congregations throughout the state to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 to support an extended period of intentional reflection and renewal that ministers, working with their congregations,



Teri Thomas and Jack Wineman in Ephesus, Turkey in 2008

design to suit their own needs and aspirations for pastoral renewal. The pastors are welcome to include their families in the renewal activities.

Further, up to \$15,000 of the grant can be used for the congregation to pay for worship and pastoral care support while the pastor is away, as well as for renewal activities within the congregation.

Northminster has received one of the Lilly Clergy Renewal Grants to allow Teri Thomas a sabbatical

following Easter in 2010. "We hear wonderful stories from pastors and congregations that have participated in this program in the past 11 years," says Craig Dykstra, the Endowment senior vice president for religion. "The pastors tell us that their sabbaticals have given them new energy for ministry and often a fresh vision for how they can do it better. The congregations find the programs to be renewing as well. Church members usually gain new appreciation for all that their pastors do. They also discover talents and capacities for ministry among themselves that come to the fore during their pastor's absence."

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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



Be part of our Music Ministry

BY JOHN WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES



Northminster's choir year will be beginning soon, and we want you to be part of it! The beginning of the season is an excellent time to sing and ring. Each week choirs meet to call to God with united hearts, hands, and voices. Experiences in music ministry are invaluable and last a lifetime. Time spent in rehearsal each week and in the actual leading of worship is a distinctive journey in Christian formation. This is a great way to serve our church, so come on, give choir a try.

See the schedule below and choose the choir for you. If you would like more information, please contact Director of Music Ministries, John Wright at 251-9489 or johnwright@northminster-indy.org.

There is no sign up procedure; however, we ask that at least one

parent attend a brief, informal parent orientation (child care is provided). We are offering two orientation times both in the Choir Room. Please choose one:

- 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 12
- 10 a.m. Sunday, August 19

Children and youth choirs Beginning August 19

- Celebration Choir (K or 5 by September 1–2nd grade)
Wednesday 6:30–7 p.m., Room 203
- Peace Choir (3rd–5th grade)
Wednesday 6–7 p.m., Choir Room
- Middle High Choir (6th–9th grade)
Wednesday 6–7 p.m., Sanctuary
- Youth Handbells (6th–9th grade)
Wednesday 7–7:40 p.m., Chapel

Chancel Choir Beginning August 26

- Chancel Choir (age 15 and up)
Wednesday 7–9 p.m., Choir Room ■

Lilly Endowment clergy renewal grant

Continued from page 1

The grant will allow Teri Thomas and Jack Wineman to travel in Ethiopia, Eritrea and Kenya in May, June and July of 2010.

At the same time it will cover the expenses of hiring pastoral coverage here at Northminster during Teri's absence. More details will be shared with the congregation as the date

August Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.

August 2

We will celebrate some of the heritage of our Eritrean and Ethiopian brothers and sisters in worship. We will also celebrate the sacrament of communion at both services. Teri Thomas will be preaching.

August 9

The stories of David continue with reflection on the emotion of anger. Teri Thomas will preach.

August 16

The scripture tells us to sing songs and hymns and spiritual songs. This Sunday we celebrate the gift of music. John Wright will preach.

August 23

Solomon is building a temple and yet he wonders if God will even dwell on earth. Should we be asking that question as well? Teri Thomas will be preaching.

August 30

The Song of Solomon is a beautiful love story but seldom used in worship. We will look at this declaration of love today. Teri Thomas will be preaching.

approaches. If you would like more information on the program or would like to see other grant recipients go to <http://www.lillyendowment.org/pdf/ICRP2009WinnersRelease.pdf>. ■

Stewardship: “Trust and Choices”

BY WINSTON BECKER, ELDER

This message, delivered by Winston Becker during the worship services on June 21, is presented in edited form. More articles will follow from other Northminster members on the subject of stewardship in support of the 2010 Stewardship Campaign, “A Time to Trust.”

It started in my boyhood home with what the family referred to as “The Lord’s Box.” There was always some offering money in that used, cardboard chocolate box sitting on a shelf in my family’s study room. The box contained a designated portion of my parents’ income, 10 percent each month, set aside first for a specific purpose—a gratitude tithe offering to the Lord. That was done before the balance of the family income was allotted for living and family expenses.

By any measure in those days, the total income for our family was very limited and expenditures for the family livelihood had to be carefully managed, but we never seemed to really lack for anything that we needed. The portion that had been regularly set aside first for the Lord and His work was reserved for the priority use. My parents had made a choice to include the Lord’s work and give it first priority in the family budget. That choice was based on trust, faith and depth of gratitude.

Trust is something we all want to receive and want to give to others. But you can’t buy it anywhere! It’s not for sale! It is the product of our relationship with God and with other people. The extent of our trust, based on our

faith, affects our priorities in the choices we make and how we will allot and use the fruits of our labors, our talents and our time.

Based on the increasing faith and trust in God now residing in my heart, how could I possibly express the extent of my love and gratitude to Him? God doesn’t need my money or talent or time—or yours! He has no monthly or yearly expenses of living as you and I do. However, a means or a way for sharing God’s message of love and forgiveness or compassion and caring in this community and in the world does exist and needs active and dedicated priority support. The Church—our Church—a congregation of God’s people is an existing, an available and effective way of sharing God’s message.

It isn’t a matter of whether we should give top priority to our gifts of gratitude; rather it is a matter of determining the depth of our trust and faith in making a choice of how we will express our gratitude to help



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5–6

make possible an effective sharing of God’s love and message.

“The Lord’s Box”—a top priority choice, in whatever form or manner may work for you or for me—is a self-determined, committed choice to express the extent of our heartfelt trust and depth of gratitude to God through our regular tithe gifts. It is a priority choice in our Stewardship of God’s generous gifts to each of us. ■

Financial update

If you missed the congregational forum on June 14, here is the condensed version. Since the annual meeting in January we received an additional \$35,000 in pledges and \$9,000 in special gifts. That puts our total estimated income for 2010 at \$1,066,000. That is about a \$200,000 reduction from the original 2010 budget proposal.

Reductions in staff costs, program expenses, and Team expenditures have allowed us to balance the budget.

We also shared a graph showing that while we are struggling with finances right now, total giving to all budgets by members of Northminster members has gone from just over 1.2 million in 1999 to almost 1.9 million in 2009. We are definitely moving in the right direction and your generosity is amazing. The recession clearly had an impact on all of us, but this congregation is alive, healthy and strong. Keep the faith and remember this is a time to trust. ■

Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Church School in August

On August 2, our focus scripture will be John 6:24-35. Jesus wants to feed our bodies and our souls. He is “the Bread of Life.” What kind of bread does Jesus want us to have?

August 9 will find the Church School considering Ephesians 4:25-5:2. God’s gifts of love and forgiveness transform Jesus’ followers to live life to its fullness as the Body of Christ. How do we, the people of Northminster, bring God’s love into the world through our words and deeds?

On August 16, our text will be 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14. It is the story of Solomon who must struggle for the wisdom to be king. What does God do to help him? We will also consider the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. His prayer has helped people ask God for help to help others for nearly 825 years. How can we help others?

On August 23, Psalm 84 will be our text. Where ever we are, God is with us. We are at home with God. Let’s give praise for God’s care. At 10 a.m., please join us in the sanctuary for Worship Training. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On August 30, we will consider James 1:17-27. To be called and led by God’s Spirit beckons us to be doers of God’s word. The wisdom of enacted love moves religion from how we talk about God into the ways we act as the image of God. Be love.

Fall Church School

Please let Debbie Bulloff know if you are thinking of teaching/helping in the Church School this fall. We have openings at all levels from holding babies in our growing nursery, our loquacious toddlers, wonderful preschoolers, kindergartners, and grade school children. Our youth and senior highs are so exciting as they learn and grow along their faith journeys. Children’s Church is evolving as we learn more about prayer and worshipping together.

We have a place for you; do you have a place for the children of our Northminster community? Contact Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org. She will provide great curriculum, teacher training and a chance to make new friends in our congregation and of course a chance to be a part of our children’s hearts.

Teacher Training August 30

Please join us for Teacher Training for the Church School on Sunday, August 30, 10 a.m. in Calvin Hall. Curriculum will be available and there will be a brief discussion time and a chance to compare calendars. Let Debbie Bulloff know if you can attend. This is an important meeting as our fall Church School officially begins on Sunday, September 13.

Church School help needed

We still need help in August staffing the nursery, toddler, and preschool classrooms at both the 9 and 11 a.m. hours. A schedule is posted on the bulletin board across the hall from the choir room. Please let me know

your availability. Thanks from Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org.

Worship Training August 23

Inquiring minds want to know how to get closer to God through worship. On Sunday August 23, during Children’s Church and at 10 a.m., we will have Worship Training for all children and youth (kindergarten-12th grade) and interested adults. Want to know why we do what we do and when and what we call those curtains, parts of the service and parts of our worship space?

Children have been practicing parts of our worship service in Children’s Church for most of the last school year and now we will learn how we bring all those elements into worship in the sanctuary. Pastor Teri Thomas will join us in our beautiful, redecorated sanctuary and then we will go to the Church School classrooms to learn more.

Communion Training September 27 at 10 a.m.

All children who are going into kindergarten–5th grade in the fall are invited to Communion Class on September 27 at 10 a.m. Parents are invited to attend with their children. We will meet in Room 203 and then move to our Church School classes for age-appropriate activities. We will all plan to take communion with our Northminster Church family on World Communion Sunday, October 4. ■

A program for your children or grandchildren?

BY JUDY NELSON, DIRECTOR, NORTHMINSTER COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Are you looking for a program for your children or grandchildren? Is someone you know looking for a program for young children? You do not have to look far. Northminster Community Preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out programs offer weekday activities for children as young as 18 months old.

Church members have had children in the programs and are enthusiastically positive about the care and education provided to their children. Sarah Hittle, mother of twins Lucy and Hannah, states, "The girls have had a great time this past year in the Mothers'-Day-Out program. It has been a wonderful experience for all of us! I am comforted knowing they are in a familiar environment, and everyone has been so wonderful to the girls and myself. I can't wait for Jameson to be old enough to enroll in the Mothers'-Day-Out program!"

Grandma to the twins, Nan Diehl comments that the girls love coming and look forward to every day. They come home with great crafts and songs.

Mark and Jody Yohn have had all four of their children attend the preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out programs. Ally, their youngest, will begin her final year



Lucy and Hannah

this fall. Even after Mark and Jody moved farther from the church neighborhood several years ago, they continue to enroll their children at Northminster, driving past several other preschool programs on their way!

Dolly and Don Craft, grandparents of Ana Craft, are looking forward to having Ana in the Mothers'-Day-Out program this year. Dolly and Don spend a lot of time volunteering their services to the church during the week. Over the

course of the years, they have observed the activities of the preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out classes. Dolly says, "We encouraged Ana's registration in support of the Northminster programs. We love observing the inventive programming such as Beach Week before spring break and Western Week. The teachers are caring and involved, not just 'babysitters.' It is obvious

they love what they are doing, and the kids love them. Due to occasional visits at Northminster, Ana is totally comfortable with the welcoming preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out environment."

There is still a spot available for your child or grandchild. Likewise, you can talk to your friends and neighbors about the great things happening at your church during the week. Please call Judy Nelson, Northminster member and preschool director, for more information at 595-0304.

If you are looking for first-hand recommendations, talk to some of the above church members. School starts the first week of September, so don't delay! ■



Mission: Green Team

BY DAVID SCOTT, MISSION TEAM CO-CHAIR

Environmental Stewardship— Adult education classes August 2 and 9

On Sunday, July 26, between church services, a representative from the newly formed Green Team, Linda Furuness, led an adult education class titled “Faith and Ecology: How God Calls Us to Interact with His Creation.” The class was the first of three consecutive Sunday adult education classes at 10 a.m. on being responsible stewards of our environment.

Please mark your calendar for August 2 and August 9 when adult education classes will address the ominous environmental and socio-economic consequences associated with climate change. The two sessions will explore the century-long dependency upon fossil fuels (coal, natural gas and oil), and our

nation’s new policy initiatives to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, become more efficient in our energy use and production, and to dramatically increase the number and types of new sources of renewable energy, such as wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass.

The Green Team (a temporary name of the committee, which is part of the Mission Team) is co-chaired by Pete Grills (450-2129 or petegrills@gmail.com) and Sean Crittenden (385-3144 or crittendens98@sbcglobal.net). Other members of the team include Becky Huehls, Gail Rothrock, Shannon Crittenden, MaryAnn and Katharine Ruegger, Nancy Moritz and Roger Howard. If you are



God saw that what he created was good . . .

Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 25, 31

interested in joining this team, or if you have ideas on environmental friendly actions you feel Northminster Church and our members should consider, please share your ideas by contacting one of the team members or attending the team meeting held at the church on the third Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. ■

Mission and outreach

Deacons ask you to support School 55



Northminster wants to increase its involvement with Indianapolis Public School 55, and the Deacons want to help the students at School

55 start classes this semester with the supplies they need and have a great school year. During August and September we will have collection boxes for back-to-school supplies at the entrance doors to the church.

When you are out shopping, please consider picking up an item or two for School 55. Students, parents, and teachers are really appreciative of the help we give them. Supplies needed are:

- notebook paper
- copier paper

- pens and pencils
 - crayons
 - washable markers
 - colored pencils
 - scissors
 - glue and glue sticks
 - two-pocket folders
 - boxes of Kleenex
 - School 55 principal Stephanie West would really like “assignment notebooks” for 3rd–6th graders.
- If you have questions about this outreach project, please contact Norma Arend at 251-1549 or jfarend70@gmail.com. ■

Mission and outreach

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

Mission needs new drawers Drop them in the narthex August 2 and 9

The above headline is not a blooper. We mean it. Northminster has been asked again to participate in the Underwear Project. The Interfaith Alliance Indianapolis (IAI) addresses needs we seem to just forget. While garage sales and thrift stores offer like-new jeans and shirts, they don't (and shouldn't) offer used underwear.

Clothe-A-Child volunteers know the joy kids feel with brand new, factory-wrapped underwear when we shop at Christmas. This project is timed for back-to-school for children and teens. "Underneath it all, we're all the same" is the project sponsored by IAI in cooperation with the Indianapolis Multi-Service Centers and family shelters. Our

collection will serve the Martin Luther King Multi-Service Center at 42nd and Illinois.

On August 2 and August 9, we will have collection boxes in the narthex where you may leave *purchased* bags of underwear in *child* and *adult* sizes—including socks and bras. We will also accept school uniform pants and shirts. If you can't drop drawers, you may drop a check and we'll shop for you.

Mark your calendar today with the reminder you've always wished for: "Take underwear to church" or "Drawer drop" or "BVD's to NPC." The Mission Team thanks you for the supports.

Let's not break bread together September 3 Indianapolis Hunger Initiative's Un-Lunch

Last year, Northminster signed a covenant with the Indianapolis Hunger Initiative. In addition to monetary support, we agreed to raise awareness of the significant and unnecessary problem of hunger in Indianapolis and around the world.

The next event, which is becoming an annual observance, is the *Un-Lunch Hour*, on Thursday, September 3, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. on Monument Circle. There will be special entertainment, displays by hunger organizations, opportunities to get engaged in the battle against hunger, speakers and special guests. But no food.

Just to give this a little perspective: 18,000 kids in Indianapolis go hungry everyday. Northminster is home to scores of the world's best cooks who know how to give the Calvin Hall kitchen a workout. But on September 3, let's do *un-lunch* downtown. Let's not break bread together.

For more information on sharing rides to the *Un-Lunch Hour*, call Maureen Purcell at 257-4809 or at mdeaverpurcell@yahoo.com. ■



Involvement in Broad Ripple

Northminster is a business member of the Broad Ripple Village Association (BRVA). The E-Team is anxious to enhance our presence in the community by actively supporting the BRVA and village activities. Here are some events:

- The Broad Ripple Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon through Halloween. The market is in the parking lot behind Broad Ripple High School off 61st Street.
- On the first Saturday of each month, you can assist with Broad Ripple beautification projects. Meet at the Fire Station at 9 a.m.

BRVA Membership

If you do live in Broad Ripple, we encourage you to join the Broad Ripple Village Association as a Resident Member. Family memberships are \$50 per year; individual memberships are \$35. Forms are available at www.DiscoverBroadRippleVillage.com.

Northminster Caring Ministries

Deacons calling—a new ministry at Northminster

Consistent with their mission of service, sympathy, witness and fellowship, the Deacons are starting a new ministry this fall. Each family unit or member at Northminster has been assigned their own Deacon. The idea is that the Deacon is an

additional connection for you to your church: a source of information, someone to respond to your needs, joys and concerns, a way for you to provide comments or suggestions, or just a friendly voice or face. Your Deacon will be contacting you to introduce him/herself. We hope that

over time, you come to see the Deacons as your liaison to Northminster. There'll be more information as we kick off this ministry.

Stephen Ministry—for when you are going through a rough time

Stephen Ministers are members of Northminster who have completed 50 hours of training to provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to people who are facing a crisis or going through a difficult time—loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single

parenthood, or any of countless other life challenges.

Your Stephen Minister will meet with you once a week for about an hour to listen to you, care for you, pray with and for you, and provide emotional and spiritual encouragement. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers; women with females.

To find out more about how you or someone you know can be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with a Stephen Ministry leader:

- Betty Bowers at 259-7366
- Carol Campbell at 776-2700
- Ann Dunipace at 872-5686
- Nancy Jarrell at 255-8829

For your health information—Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

BY LIZ NETERVAL, PARISH NURSE

Through the year I have highlighted several forms of mental illness. I thought it would be informative to share a service provided in Marion County and several other areas. The Metropolitan Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program helps officers handle the needs of people who are out of control due to mental illness and who, as a result, act in some manner that is disruptive to the community. The program is the result of a partnership among IMPD, the Midtown Community Health Center, and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). Working with local judges, physicians, mental health practitioners, family members, and

consumers, the partnership seeks to:

- Reduce the number of people in the criminal justice system who are suffering from mental illness;
- Decrease the potential for injury or death to people with mental illness as well as to law enforcement officers and other members of the community;
- Increase the number of people with mental illness who receive mental health treatment.

The training seeks to improve awareness of mental health issues, medications, addictions, suicide, legal processes, available resources, de-escalation techniques, procedures for diversion from criminal charges via Immediate Detention. Officers who have completed the CIT training



wear a round CIT pin on their uniforms to help identify them as an officer who is trained to deal with mental health issues. These officers can be accessed by calling 911 and asking for the CIT officer. ■

What's happening?

Curious Conversations August 23

Would you like to learn more about Northminster and meet other people who are new to our faith community? If so please join us in the Conference Room at 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 23. Associate Pastor Ruth

Moore (*photo right*) will meet with interested people and we can get to know each other and plan for the next step if you want to become an "official" member. Let Ruth Moore know if you can make it at 251-9489 or ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org.



Baking Bread for World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday is October 4. We would like our Communion Table to be overflowing with beautiful, fragrant home-baked breads. If you would like to bake or bring bread for World Communion Sunday, please

let Debbie Bulloff know of your interest by September 20 at 251-9489, extension 16 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org. Thank you. (*Photos right: Baker Cathy Lord and Communion Table, World Communion Sunday 2007*)



Northminster Women's Retreat September 26

The date for the our annual Northminster Women's Retreat is Saturday, September 26, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. This will be an all-day event to take place at our refurbished and renovated church building. Mark

this date on your calendar. More details will come via e-mail, bulletin and newsletter. Want more information now? Contact Pat Ward at patwardart@yahoo.com or Cy Donnelly at cydonnelly@yahoo.com.



Youth Fellowship: Cookout August 30

We'll go to the Indiana State Fair again this year to enjoy the sights, activities and food. Fair dates are August 7–August 23 (details about date and time will come later).

Sunday evening Youth Fellowship will not meet August 2,

August 9, August 16, August 23, and September 6 (Labor Day weekend). But Sunday, August 30, is a special cookout for all youth and families to welcome incoming 6th graders and their families (time and place to be announced later).

Youth Contact information

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

Adult education Sundays at 10 a.m.

Don't forget to take a look at the adult education classes listed in the *News & Views* insert, Sunday bulletin and posted on the adult education bulletin board. Also

check out adult education on the web site: www.northminster-indy.org.

The adult study group Seekers will resume their weekly Sunday morning study in September. The

Seekers discussed the Gospel of Mark in the spring and together they will explore various books and topics of interest when they begin meeting again in the fall. ■

From your Building Committee

BY BOB GUDGEL, BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIR

As I write this article for the August *News & Views*, it is the 12th of July and we have just met the first “drop dead” deadline of our construction project. You see, since this project started over a year ago, we have had a number of target completion dates for some 12 different areas of work, most of which needed extra time to complete. Weather, material delays, and manpower have generally been the culprits that seem to always get us off track.

The deadline that week was real and couldn't be extended. We had committed to having two weddings, one on July 10 and the other on July 11, and we had to have the sanctuary ready to accommodate those four families. While pacing up and down the aisles wondering if these tile, carpet, and upholstery

guys would ever get done, I started reading the writing on the floor. Yes, on the floor. For several weeks, members had been using black marker pens to write faith statements, thoughts and memories on the bare concrete . . . soon to be covered with carpet until another generation might replace it and find our hidden messages.

Some noted their years of membership, others wrote of special occasions like marriage, baptism, raising a family and funerals. There were favorite hymns and scripture verses of love, joy, and hope. One poem caught my eye. It was titled “Peace,” an original poem by Emily Plunkett (I have since learned that Emily is 12 years old).

Emily is the daughter of John and Cheryl Plunkett and sister of Ben and Hannah. ■

PEACE!

BY EMILY PLUNKETT

Peace is a treasure,
Greater than gold.
Peace is a pleasure,
That is very old.

Peace is a flower,
Prettier than a lily.
Peace is power,
So don't call it silly.

Peace is hope,
Mightier than any.
Peace is a rope,
To pull up the many.

Peace is a love,
With passion.
Peace is a dove,
With much compassion.

Peace is all we need,
Need to survive.
Peace is a seed,
About to thrive.



(Left) Refurbished sanctuary with the extended chancel and the beautiful bamboo steps



Carpeting and upholstery work in progress . . .

Building continues to progress . . .



The new Gathering Space taking shape



Exterior of new ramp connecting the Gathering Space to the sanctuary



Middle school and senior high room located under the Gathering Space



Looking up the new ramp from the Gathering Space to the sanctuary



Pews for sale

You can still secure a piece of Northminster history. Bob Gudgel is dividing pews in half to offer 7 foot long benches for \$200 or he will custom size shorter benches for \$300. All proceeds go to the Building Fund. Contact Bob Gudgel at indygudgels@comcast.net or 844-7139.

seek, serve and embrace

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AUGUST 2009

Montreat Conference on Worship and Music

BY JOHN WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Northminster had 21 children, youth, and adults in attendance at the annual Montreat Conference on Worship and Music (in North Carolina) the week of June 28. The weather was fantastic and we all had a great time in worship and special services, in classes, hiking, eating, and communing with each other.

A couple of highlights: Mary Boris learned the steel drums, and Andrew Schmahl read one of the scripture lessons one morning—with 800 worshipers in attendance.

This year was a special year for Northminster at Montreat. One of the two Preacher-Presiders was Jennifer Lord, Associate Professor Homiletics, Dean of the Chapel, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, Texas. Some of you may know that Jennifer is the daughter of Bill and Cathy Lord and the sister of Loui Lord Nelson.



We hope others will consider attending Montreat Conference next June. It is a restful, exhilarating, exhaustive, meaningful, and special time. ■

Adults at Montreat 2009

Teri Thomas
Jack Wineman
Krista Wright
John Wright
Jeff Schmahl
Donna Schmahl
Lori Schlabach
Bill Lord
Cathy Lord
Randy Frieling
Mary Boris
Terri Palladino

Youth and Children

Michael Schmahl
Ian Clarke
Gabe Boris
Daniel Mantieth
Andrew Schmahl
Lauren Palladino
Willy Boris
Lauren Schmahl
Emma Schlabach