

# News & Views

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

FEBRUARY 2009

## Surprise! Surprise!

BY BOB GUDGEL, BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIR

**D**emolition and excavation during our building project have produced a number of surprises. One of the first involved a backhoe snagging a gas line that sent workmen scrambling. The line was not marked by any surveys and not shown on any drawings. It was soon obvious that it was an old abandon gas line confirmed by the “Rapid Response Team” from Citizens Gas who placed the age back to the 1940’s.

Electricians found a long forgotten control station that sent a “buzzer” signal to all of the classrooms. It seems that at one time the Sunday School superintendent would “buzz” the teachers five minutes before church was over so they could get ready for dismissal. This system hasn’t been used in decades, but it still works!

During excavation for the new addition, the Caterpillar driver was surprised to uncover a half-gallon milk bottle that was in pristine



*Imagine Gathering Space here!*

condition. It had been buried for over 50 years under 12 feet of dirt. It was thought to be from the old Robert’s Dairy on Millersville Road.

The most interesting surprise was finding a newspaper tucked in around some old conduit that was being removed from Calvin Hall. This March 15, 1956, copy of the *Indianapolis Star* (the year the sanctuary was built) has Vice President Richard Nixon’s picture on the front. There is a feature article about the US Senate starting a probe of

unethical lobbyists. Gee, little has changed in the last 50 years! If you want a new “wringer washer,” Sears has them for a hundred bucks . . . or how about a three-diamond engagement ring from Barney’s Jewelry for only \$75.

I invite you to look around the church. You too might be surprised at the progress being made. Office renovation is well underway, concrete footings are in, walls are coming out of the

ground and the new elevator shaft is in place. Walk upstairs to the second floor of the Sunday school and you will see new walls for the library and a hall that will attach to the new gathering space. Come check out all these neat surprises! ■

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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*



## Building project loan financing completed: Help needed

**O**n December 19 of last year a closing was completed on a \$2.5 million dollar mortgage loan to fund the completion of the modernization and expansion project. The Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) has committed to loan Northminster up to the \$2.5 million as we need the funds to complete the project with a 20 year repayment period.

The loan closing culminates an extended program effort by the Trustees, lead by Jackie Crittenden and Ed Swearingen, John Carr and John Purcell who provided legal direction and a financing

committee including Don Craft, Treasurer, and Jim Mann, Business Administrator, Jerry Gray, Jackie Schmidt, Andy Longo, Jack Whiteman, Lisa Longo and Bob Gudgeon.

The interest rate of 5.6 percent on the loan is for the first three year and will be adjusted every three years thereafter. This rate needs to be supported by investments in interest-bearing PILP Term Notes of at least 20 percent of the loan, but the loan rate **can be lowered** by larger investments. Information on PILP Term Note investments can be obtained in the church office and in the narthex. Some of the rates offered in January are 2.47 percent for a one year note and 2.71 percent for a two year note. ■

## 2009 Per Capita is \$27.60

The Per Capita amount for 2009 has been set at \$27.60 per member. Proceeds from this fund are distributed to the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly to carry out church-related activities beyond the bounds of this church.

Prior to 2008, the Per Capita was paid from Northminster's General Expense fund. Starting in

2008, each member was asked by the Session to pay his or her own Per Capita. A special envelope has been included with your General Expense Fund envelopes to forward your Per Capita payment for 2009. Your giving will be recorded on your quarterly statement. For more information go to [www.psusa.org](http://www.psusa.org) and key in "per capita" for a search. ■

## Ash Wednesday service and supper

Ash Wednesday worship is at 7 p.m. on February 25. Before the service please join us for a light soup supper served from 5:30–6:45 in Calvin Hall (construction work permitting). Although it is a free will offering, please reserve a

space by calling the church office at 251-9489. ■



*Teri Thomas and baptized baby*

## February worship schedule

### February 1

February 1 is Communion Sunday at both 9 and 11 a.m. The Chancel Choir will sing at both services. Teri Thomas is preaching.

### February 8

Our scripture for today talks about healing and serving. Where do we need healing in our lives so that we can serve others? Ruth Moore is preaching.

### February 15

On the day after Valentine's Day come to church with someone you love or want to love. We will reflect on commitments of love and how they can be renewed or refreshed. Teri Thomas is preaching.

### February 22

February 22 is Transfiguration Sunday and we may celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism. Elijah was carried up into heaven and Jesus glowed. What difference does that make to us? Teri Thomas is preaching.

# Seek, serve and embrace

## Curious Conversations February 7

**A**re you interested in learning more about Northminster? Maybe even ready to take it to the next level and become a member of this faith community? No matter where you are on your faith journey, come and meet other new people and learn more about us.

We will meet at Northminster on Saturday, February 7, from 9 a.m.–

12:30 p.m. in the chapel. Coffee, donuts and a light lunch will be served. Child care is available upon request.

Please contact Associate Pastor Ruth Moore to make a reservation or for more information at 251-9489 or [ruthmoore@northminster-indy.org](mailto:ruthmoore@northminster-indy.org).



*Pastor Ruth Moore leads the Curious Conversations.*

## Joe Komenda honored for volunteer service

Joe Komenda was honored by Mayor Gregory A. Ballard at the 2008 Community Service Award Program on December 15 at the Indiana Historical Society. Joe was one of only 21 individuals in Marion County to receive this special award this year. The Mayor's Community Service Awards have been created to recognize Indianapolis citizens for their volunteer contributions and

commitments to community service.

Joe has dedicated himself to volunteer service to the church and the community—particularly as Northminster's Church School superintendent, in Heifer International, the American Legion, and in his immediate neighborhood.

Associate Pastor Larry Moslener and members of Joe's family were present for the awards ceremony.



*Joe Komenda and Pastor Larry Moslener at awards ceremony*

## Great opportunities to serve

### Congregational Life Team needs you . . .

Are you hospitable? Are you a good listener? Do you have a warm smile? These are a few of the qualifications needed to serve on the Congregational Life Team. No need to fill out an application to join. Free on-the-job training is given. Flexible scheduling is provided to suit your calendar.

The benefits include meeting many very nice people on Sunday morning and making sure they get their coffee, juice, fruit, and pastries. For an informal interview

contact Melodie Sarver at [sarvermom@aol.com](mailto:sarvermom@aol.com) or 253-8860 or Larry Moslener at 251-9489 or [larrymoslener@northminster-indy.org](mailto:larrymoslener@northminster-indy.org).

### Stitchers needed

The Banner Committee needs your help to do baptism banners. In 2007 Northminster celebrated 9 baptisms and 30 in 2008. We present a banner to each child who is baptized.

The banners are counted cross stitch from a chart on 14 count fabric. You may stitch at home or join the Banner Committee on



*Joe Komenda and his family*

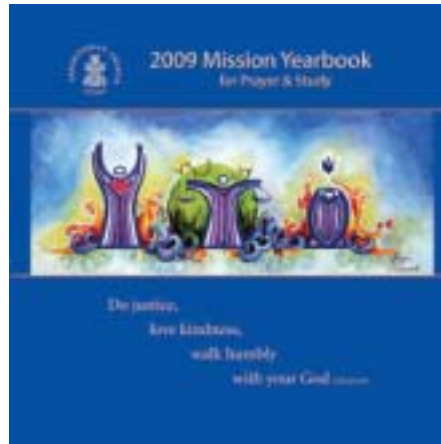
Tuesdays from 3–5 p.m. at the church. For more information call Banner Committee chair Sue Decker at 257-7967. ■

# Mission Yearbook for prayer and study

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

For more than 116 years the *Mission Yearbook* has brought the Presbyterian family together for prayer and study. The stories for the 2009 yearbook were collected around the theme it shares with the 218th General Assembly (2008), “Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8). Every day of the year, a different story of faith and hope await you in the 2009 *Mission Yearbook*.

In addition to the traditional printed version, the 2009 yearbook is now also available as a podcast, through a web site, through an RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feed or by e-mail. “We’ve taken the



heritage of the book and shaped it for new generations,” said Billie Healy, editor.

To access the *Mission Yearbook* in these new ways, visit the web site [www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook](http://www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook) to

see daily readings on line, subscribe to receive readings by e-mail or get information on downloading podcasts or subscribing to an RSS feed.

Visitors to the web site can view that day’s reading or access readings for any other day of the year. The on line readings include links to presbyteries and e-mail addresses for individuals appearing on prayer lists.

The printed version of the yearbook and the *Children’s Mission Yearbook* (available only in print) can be ordered through Presbyterian Distribution Services by calling 800- 524-2612 or by going to [www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook](http://www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook). ■

## More opportunities for study and renewal

### Spanish Class

Northminster will offer a Spanish class on Thursday nights, beginning January 29. The class will be taught by Ms. Deborah Graves, coordinator of the Office of Minority Languages, Walker Career Center. The class will run for eight weeks, concluding on March 19. The time is 7–8:30 p.m., and cost is \$40. Ms. Graves will provide all the materials. All levels of ability are welcome. Contact Jim Dougans for more information and to register at [jvdougans@ameritech.net](mailto:jvdougans@ameritech.net) or 927-0957.

### Free seminar for care-givers

On Thursday, February 19, is the seminar *Renewal for the Care-giver: In the Age of Speed—on the*

*Edge of Exhaustion*, from 8 a.m.–12 noon at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, 100 West 86th Street. Kevin Armstrong, senior pastor of North United Methodist Church, will lead this seminar.

Is your body, mind, and soul reminding you that the pace of living is spinning out of control? When you’re the responsible adult—responsible for leading, managing, caring, healing—does it seem impossible to slow down? With Dr. Armstrong you will explore the Sabbath traditions of rest and develop a personal plan for rest and renewal.

This seminar, made possible by a grant from Clarian Health of Indianapolis, is offered without

charge but you must register. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. A continental breakfast is provided. For more information call 767-7653 or go to [www.namiindy.org](http://www.namiindy.org).

### Calling all men to Northminster’s B & B

No, this is not a bed and breakfast—it is the Bible and breakfast. Each Wednesday men gather in Calvin Hall at 7:30 a.m. for prayer, breakfast, and Bible study. All men are invited to join the group for good fellowship and support. Breakfast costs \$6; we conclude our time together by 8:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Larry Moslener at 251-9489 or [larrymoslener@northminster-indy.org](mailto:larrymoslener@northminster-indy.org). ■

# Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

## Church School in February

February 1 finds the Church School returning to the Gospel of Mark; this time Mark 1: 4-20. Jesus heals a man in the town of Capernaum and his power and authority are revealed and recognized. How can we do what God calls us to do?

On February 8, Jesus is called to heal Simon's mother-in-law. Focus passage Mark 1:29-39 affirms God's transforming love and God's ability to reshape us as messengers of good news. How can we have confidence to be able to do "diaconeo" (Greek for to serve, to minister)? How can we join in Jesus' ministry of service and prayer?

As we focus upon Mark 1:40-45 on February 15, we will consider how Northminster might be a healing and restoring presence in people's lives. Jesus heals the man with leprosy both physically and spiritually. How can we be part of the circle of God's love?

February 22 is Transfiguration Sunday. As the Season after Epiphany ends, what have we learned about God's glory and how it is revealed in the life and work of Jesus? Mark 9:2-9 tells us about Jesus' "mountaintop experience." How can we listen to Jesus today? We will prepare for Lent.

## Worship in Children's Church

You are invited to worship with the children of the Church School in Children's Church. We are singing, praying, hearing the lesson/story and practicing parts of worship that you

will recognize from "Big Church." When our worship service is finished, we adjourn for fellowship and craft-time. Join us in Room 203 after the "Time with Children."

Questions? Want to join in and help? Ask Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489, extension 16.

## Library News

Due to construction, the Church Library has been packed up and temporarily stored. If you have library materials checked out, please return them to the Church Office. The collection is missing many titles that might have accidentally wandered home. Thank you.

## VBS Planning Meeting February 24, 7-8:30 p.m.

This year Vacation Bible School will be held June 15-19 from 6-8 p.m., construction permitting. If you are interested in helping with drama, crews, crafts, video, snacks, music, preschool, or games, please let Debbie Bulloff know at 251-9489, extension 16, or [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org).

We will have a VBS organizational meeting on Tuesday evening, **February 24**, from 7-8:30 p.m. Child care will be available.

*Vacation Bible School 2008 Holy Moses, Part 11: (from top) girl from the neighborhood; Zachary Yohn and Gabe Boris; Ben Palladino between two friends; and two girls from the neighborhood*



# Update on how I am doing

BY PAULA MANN, PASTOR, PALMS WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Paula Mann—answering constitutional questions during her installation at Palms Westminster Church and leading “Children’s Time”*

Life in Los Angeles is going very well. Today, January 11, the Presbytery of the Pacific installed me as the pastor at Palms Westminster Presbyterian Church. The turnout was wonderful. My youngest brother and his family attended and Sue Berry, former associate pastor at Northminster, gave me my charge. It was a glorious day and brought back many memories of my service of ordination held just three months ago at Northminster Presbyterian Church.

I would like to thank you for the lovely service, the beautiful robe, and the reception that followed the service. In addition, I must thank you for all the support and love and prayers you provided during the last 20 years. Northminster will always have an important place in my heart and will always be my “home church.”

The congregation I am serving is small but enthusiastic. Sunday morning worship attendance is around 35-40. We have just begun a Sunday School class and have had 5-7 children attending. Each Sunday we gather for lunch and fellowship following worship. The meals are as diverse as the congregation. It is not unusual to hear Korean or Philipino being spoken. And the accents spoken around the tables also include Cameroonian, Dutch, South African, and German.

I am living in the manse located next door so my driving is minimal

which is very nice. The two bedroom California bungalow is the right size for my two dogs and me. The back yard is fenced and the weather is good so walks are frequent. The neighborhood is residential yet the church is just off a major commercial street and not too far from the I-10 freeway. Finally, I can drive to the beach in about 15 minutes when I need to hear the ocean and be in a wide open space.

Northminster remains in my prayers. May God’s peace be with you in the coming year.

## More about Paula Mann

Paula Mann was under the care of Northminster Presbyterian Church for four years as she prepared for Ministry of Word and Sacrament at Christian Theological Seminary. On October 12, 2008, she was ordained

at Northminster Presbyterian Church.

And on November 2, Paula began her call to Palms Westminster Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles. ■

# What's happening

## Ski trip, romantic dinner, Youthfest and more

### Ski trip February 7

If you like to ski, snowboard or snow tube, please join like minded people on the Northminster Ski Trip. We are headed to Perfect North Slopes ([www.perfectnorth.com](http://www.perfectnorth.com)) near Cincinnati on Saturday, February 7.

We will leave Northminster in the church bus at 7:30 a.m. and return no later than 10 p.m. The cost is \$48 (lift ticket and ski rental) for a group of 15 or more (ages 7+), and \$66 if fewer than 15 sign up. Children 6 and under are free. A beginner lesson is \$5 (every hour on the hour beginning at 10 a.m.) and an intermediate lesson is \$10 (every hour on the hour).

Even if you have never skied before, the beginner lesson "Learn to Turn" will have you on your way and enjoying a day of fun. Please contact Jim Dougans at 927-0957 or Jim Mann at [jmann@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jmann@northminster-indy.org) by February 6 if you are interested.

### Valentine dinner February 14

The 4th annual dinner will be held February 14. There will be great food prepared by Teri Thomas and staff members and a great time. This dinner is for **any** couple in the church who want to share a romantic and fun night. There is also a speaker who will share some insights as to how to keep marriages strong in this very stress filled world.

The cost is \$10 per couple and each couple is asked to bring a



bottle of wine. The dinner starts at 6 p.m. at the home of Dale and Linda Theobald. You must register at the church office by calling 251-9489. Questions? Call Liz Neterval. If you need child care, contact Julie Shannon at 753-6985 or [jshannon@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jshannon@northminster-indy.org).

### Youthfest February 20–22

This year's theme is "Relationships," based on Luke 10:27. This conference is for youth in high school 9th–12th grade and for college freshman and sophomores. You can attend from Friday–Sunday or from Saturday–Sunday. Let Julie Shannon know if you'd just like to attend on Saturday and arrangements can be made.

Rev. Mike Killeen from Texas is our keynote speaker for high school youth and Dr. Teri Thomas is our keynote speaker for college youth. The early bird deadline is February 6 for registration. You can go to the synod's web site [www.lincolntrails.org](http://www.lincolntrails.org) and click for the brochure under Youthfest. You will have a fantastic experience at this wonderful retreat. Cost is \$55 or \$45 depending on length of stay.

### Sound & Spirit

The *Sound & Spirit* event scheduled for February 8, *Odela Dance and Drum Company*, has been canceled. Due to a family emergency, the leader of the group has been called to Ghana.

One of the most talked about bluegrass bands on the music scene today—*Steep Canyon Rangers*—will play at **4 p.m. on Sunday, March 29**.

*Stephen Ministry information on the February calendar page*

## Youth Fellowship activities

### February 1

Super Bowl Party. Location TBA. We will notify you at youth group, e-mail, and with a note in the mail—with locations. Please bring a snack to share.

### February 7: Ski Trip

See article on this page.

### February 8

Regular Youth Fellowship 6–8 p.m. We will talk about "Love!"

### February 15

Regular Youth Fellowship 6–8 p.m. We will be talking about "Relationships."

### February 20–22

Youthfest Conference

### February 22

No Youth Fellowship

### February 27

Italian Night Setup. 5–9 p.m.

### February 28

Italian Night Setup—All Day beginning at 9 a.m. Everyone involved in working Italian Night please be there by 4:30 p.m. to be prepped, have dinner and be all ready for this wonderful evening from 6–8:30 p.m.

### Contact information

- Julie Shannon at 753-6985 or [jshannon@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jshannon@northminster-indy.org)
- Jacob Mann at 698-8399 or [jacob@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jacob@northminster-indy.org).

# seek, serve and embrace

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NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2009

## Italian Night 2009 is Saturday, February 28!

Fun for all ages begins at 6 p.m. with dinner and ends at 8:30.

Italian Night consists of a causal spaghetti dinner, including salad, bread, beverages, and cookies prepared and served by the youth and their parents. There will be a silent auction with various items up for competitive bidding and a live auction for larger items. There are also fun games, child care and a movie for kids.

### Cost of dinner

We have baskets on the tables to collect a free will offering. All donations go to the youth summer trips. If you win an auction item, we tally up what you owe and you can pay in cash or check.

### Times for dinner, auctions, raffle

Dinner is served from 6–7 p.m. The Silent Auction takes place from 6–7:30 p.m. The Live Auction is from 7–8 p.m. Auction items include getaways, gourmet dinner, handcrafted items, gift baskets, services like pet sitting and much, much more. The evening ends by 8:30 p.m. Raffle tickets (cost \$1 or 6 tickets for \$5) are sold for various prizes for all ages.

### Italian Night is youth fundraiser

Italian Night provides significant funding for our youth summer trips. The evening is full of good food, fellowship, and fun for all ages! We appreciate your support of the youth of Northminster.

### Questions?

Please contact Julie Shannon at (cell) 317-753-6985 or [jshannon@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jshannon@northminster-indy.org).



*Italian Night 2008—Diners, Emma Moore and Kate White*

### Not too late to donate for Italian Night

If you have a special talent or an opportunity to donate, please contribute. Popular auction items include all types of services, getaways, dinners, gift baskets, arts, crafts, etc. Contact Julie Shannon. ■