

Sound & Spirit goes "off campus" in March

Sound & Spirit, the art series of Northminster, goes "off campus" for a collaboration with Second Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir and orchestra Sunday, March 7 at 4 p.m. The concert features works by two Romantic Czech composers – Antonin Dvorak (1841 – 1904), and Leos Janacek (1854 – 1928).

The concert will open with Dvorak's Symphony No. 9, known as the "New World Symphony." Dvorak composed this work while visiting the United States in 1893. Janacek's setting of the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father," follows. This work, sung in English, features harp, organ, chorus, and tenor soloist. The concert will end

with Dvorak's fiery setting of "Te Deum," a four movement work for orchestra, chorus, soprano and baritone soloists.

Te Deum is an ancient text traditionally ascribed to Saints Ambrose and Augustine in A.D. 338. It is a hymn of praise to God, and follows the outline of the Apostles' Creed, mixing a poetic vision of the heavenly liturgy with its declaration of faith. Many composers have set Te Deum throughout history, including Byrd, Purcell, Tallis, Handel, Vivaldi, Mozart, Haydn, Berlioz, Bruckner, Arvo Part and John Rutter.

Due in part to the large forces required, Dvorak's "Te Deum" is

seldom presented in the church setting. Our combined choirs will produce approximately 130 singers, with an orchestra of 40. This *Sound & Spirit* program is the first collaborative effort with Second Presbyterian Church's arts series *Sacra Anima*, and we hope you can plan to attend. The concert will be held in the sanctuary of Second Presbyterian Church located at 7700 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis.

Blue Highway BlueGrass on Valentine's Day

Sound & Spirit presents the professional bluegrass band, Blue Highway at 4 p.m. Sunday, February 14. Blue Highway has recorded eight albums and received numerous awards including three Grammy nominations. The concert is free and child care is available. For more information about Blue Highway, you may visit their website: www.bluehighwayband.com



Notturmo Italiano e 27 Febbraio!

BY JULIE SHANNON, YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRIES

Italian Night is February 27th!

The annual youth fund-raiser, Italian Night, held on February 27th this year, is coming up on its 8th year. Italian Night began as an idea of Julie Shannon and Jennie Born, to raise money for the Youth New Mexico Mission trip during the summer of 2002.

The Italian Night theme was chosen by the NPC youth, because the group had donated spaghetti sauce and pasta. One Italian Night idea suggested by the youth was the, "Tower of Pizza," a tower made of cardboard pizza boxes! Through the years, with help from people like Maureen and John Purcell (who created the Italian villa constructed each year,) and the many Northminster members and friends, Italian Night has become a successful fund-raising event for the youth. Some auction items donated in the past include; photography services, Colts Tickets, handmade jewelry and many goodie baskets. For the past five years the event has raised an average of \$6,500.



The success of Italian Night has provided financial assistance for youth to participate in the New Mexico Mission Trip in 2002, two Montreat Conference trips, two Massenetta Conference trips, and seven Mexico Mission Trips! These mission trips and spiritual conferences have a huge impact on the spiritual growth and faith of the youth; in addition to forming strong, lifelong friendships.

Guests of all ages attend and enjoy Italian Night. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., there are games for the kids, a raffle, and live and silent auctions. For Julie, it is especially rewarding and a blessing to see the youth so supported and

appreciated by their church. "I enjoy seeing the generosity, creativity, and talents shared at this event. It gives me joy to watch the youth work together and witness the interaction of all ages," says Julie. Some of the auction items donated so far this year include:

- homemade wines by L. Lumley,
- an Ethiopian Dinner for six with optional slide show and African sabbatical stories by Teri Thomas & Jack Wineman. (This dinner to be scheduled for August, 2010.)

Auction donations will be accepted during the month of February. Any new and creative ideas are always welcome! Those who RSVP to jshannon@northminster-indy.org by February 14th will receive a free raffle ticket and be seated up front for all the fun!

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Sabbatical Q & A . . .

BY TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



Q - I hear Teri is leaving. Is that true?

A - Leaving for a short time is true, but not until after Easter and she will be back by the end of July. She is going on sabbatical. The church policy and the policy of the Lilly Endowment is that when she returns she is required to stay at Northminster for at least a year or repay all the money.

Q - Whose idea was this?

A - The Session approved a sabbatical leave policy for all full-time program staff in 2006. Sabbatical leave has been a common part of pastor's terms of call for over 15 years. Our policy allows for a leave after 6 continuous years of employment. Teri is in her ninth year with us.

Q - What does the Lilly Endowment have to do with this?

A - The Lilly Endowment makes grants to pastors and churches to fund sabbaticals for renewal and rest. Teri and Northminster received a grant of \$49,000. This will enable Teri and Jack to travel and will provide funds for Northminster to hire some help for Ruth while Teri is gone.

Q - Who will do Teri's job while she is gone?

A - Ruth will be acting head-of-staff in Teri's absence and she will do about 1/3 of the preaching. We will have some excellent guest preachers for the other Sundays. These will include Ron Allen, Professor of Preaching at CTS, Tim Shapiro, President of the Indianapolis Center for Congregations, Jon Adland, Rabbi at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, and more. We will have the entire schedule for you before Teri leaves. Grant money will also allow us to hire our former intern, Andrea Martin to work part-time and help with pastoral calling, teaching and other responsibilities. If you have questions about Teri's sabbatical leave please contact Teri or Cheryl Jacklin, the chair of Personnel at Cajacklin@aol.com.

New All-Church Activity for Lent

This year we will try an all church program for Lent. Daily devotionals are available for each family/person in the church called *Praying Through Lent With Heart, Soul, Mind and Body*. For each day there is a brief passage of scripture and either a written prayer or a prayerful exercise. The daily devotionals can be used by individuals, families, children, anyone. Every day, Teri or Ruth will add insight, comments, and questions relative to that day's passage on the web site and you will have the opportunity to participate in an on-line discussion. Your family can be involved with the entire congregation from the comfort of your home. Pick up your copy of the study at church and join in this all church Lenten discipline. If you have questions see Teri, Ruth or Debbie Bulloff.

February Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.

February 7

On the last Sunday of Epiphany, Jesus frustrates some of the disciples by insisting they keep trying to catch fish when they have already tried, failed, and are ready to call it a day. Why were they following him exactly? Teri Thomas will preach and the sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

February 14

On Transfiguration Sunday we consider what it means to be changed from one degree of glory to another. What really happened to Jesus on that mountain top anyway? Ruth Moore will preach.

February 17, Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. The service will include communion and the imposition of ashes with the Chancel and Peace Choirs singing. Join us for this moving beginning to the Lenten season.

February 21

On the first Sunday of Lent, Jesus wanders the wilderness and is tempted by fame, power and wealth. Seems some things never change. Teri Thomas will preach.

February 28

The second Sunday of Lent. Again proving that some things never change, Jesus laments that Jerusalem is the city that kills. What was his relationship to this place and how can that lead us today? Teri Thomas is preaching.

What's Happening?

Souper Bowl of Caring

More than 17 years ago on Super Bowl Sunday, a single youth group was inspired by a simple prayer. They started the Souper Bowl of Caring, a youth-led movement that is now an international event. Since 1990, the Souper Bowl of Caring has raised more than \$33 million for individual charities across the country. On Super Bowl Sunday, we ask that everyone drop a dollar in the soup pots as they leave worship. All donations will go directly to a local charity. Go to www.souperbowl.org for more information. "Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."



A new member of the Northminster family!

When you have an opportunity, please stop by the church office to welcome our new Secretary and member of the Northminster family, Katie Kohorst. Katie officially began working for this congregation at the beginning of January. Katie spent several years working as an Administrative Assistant for Fox Valley Presbyterian Church in Geneva, Illinois and she says she just "loves Presbyterians!" We're grateful to have her as part of the staff and we look forward to a long and happy relationship with her.

Auction items needed for Italian Night!

The youth of Northminster greatly appreciate the support of the Northminster congregation and community for Italian Night. Donating items or services for our live or silent auctions is a great way for you to help. Do you have a special talent? Can you provide a service like baby-sitting or dog walking? This is your opportunity to contribute! Here are a few past popular donations: Lake Cabin getaway, homemade wines, family game basket, handcrafted jewelry, a gourmet dinner delivered, pet sitting, and various other services. Please email Julie Shannon at jshannon@northminster-indy.org with your questions and ideas!

5th Annual Valentine Dinner

Join us for the 5th Annual Valentine Dinner, February 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Linda and Dale Theobald. **Reservations are required**, so please call the church office to sign up for this dinner. The cost is \$10 per couple and a bottle of wine. We will dine, mingle and have a short program. Space is limited. Unfortunately, child care will not be available. If you have attended this event in the past and are interested in helping serve please contact Liz. Questions? Contact Liz Neterval, Parish Nurse at eneterval@indy.rr.com.

Youth Fellowship Activities

February 7

In the morning: Following both 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. worship services youth will stand outside church doors with soup tureens to collect donations for Souper Bowl of Caring.

February 7

In the evening:
SuperBowl Party at the Boris' home! 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.-ish
Come watch the game! Bring a snack to share and your fun self. We will award prizes for trivia and our fantasy football Super Bowl winner will be awarded the first annual trophy!
The Boris Family home: 13890 Brevard Dr. Fishers In. 46038
Home Phone: 578-9825

February 14 & 21

Regular Youth Fellowship 6-8 p.m.

February 26

Italian Night preparations

February 27 Italian Night!

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.: Preparation
6-8:30 p.m.: Italian Night Dinner
8:30-10 p.m.: Clean up

February 28

No Youth Fellowship –
Recuperate from Italian Night!

Contact information

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

Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Family Ministries Retreat at Pokagon State Park

Check the Northminster website at www.Northminster-indy.org. Ministries/Families for more information about our Retreat at the Potawatomi Inn at Pokagon State Park at the end of January. We hope to post pictures of all the fun we had together.



Toboggan slide at Pokagon State Park

Valentines for our veterans

We will be making Valentines for veterans on Sunday, February 7 in the Gathering Place at 10 a.m. and sending them to the VA Hospital downtown. Come by and help to send a little love to someone who needs it.

Vacation Bible School 2010 Save the dates now!

VBS Jesus' Miracles will be held at NPC June 14-17, 5:45-8:00 p.m. Ages 4 (by April 1) through Middle School. We will need lots of helpers. Let Debbie Bulloff know of your interest! Contact Debbie at 251-9489 x16 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org

2nd Annual Bible Bowl

The Annual Bible Bowl will take place on February 28, at 12:00 p.m. Be sure to register with the Church Office for lunch by February 24 and think about what we have learned in Church School this year.

Senior University 2010 is March 10th!

In community with St. Paul's Episcopal, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, St. Luke's United Methodist and Northside New Era Baptist Church, we will consider "The Sacred Bridge: Our neighbor's experience with Worship and Music." Our own John Wright, Director of Music Ministries will be participating as will the music ministry folks from the other congregations. We will study and worship together. Senior University 2010 will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 6050 N. Meridian St. Cost: \$12.50 for lunch. Reservations: Your check may be mailed to Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, 6501 N. Meridian St. 46260 or you may charge by phoning IHC at 255-6647. More information: Debbie Bulloff.

Church School in February

On February 7, the Church School will experience the story of Jesus calling the first disciples to cast their fishing nets and become fishers of people. We will study Luke 5:1-11 and learn about the depth of God's love and what our response can be.

On February 14, we will be dazzled by the story of the Transfiguration from Luke 9: 28-36, (37-43). What will God say to us?

The Season of Lent begins on February 17 with Ash Wednesday.

On February 21, the children will study the account of Jesus' wilderness temptations in Luke 4: 1-13. Who are our companions in the wilderness times in our lives?

On February 28, the children will continue their journey with Jesus toward Easter. We will consider how God's love and care for us can be comforting. Christ's words in Luke 13:31-35, tell us what Jesus wants for the people of Jerusalem and for us. We can be assured of God's love.

Curious Conversations

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Curious Conversations is a discussion and meeting time for people who want to learn more about Northminster. We talk about our faith, we talk about what it means to be a Presbyterian, and we learn more about the programs, worship, and groups at NPC. Any one who is interested in learning more about us is invited and encouraged to attend. If you want to become an "official" member this is the first step, but our time together is primarily informational. Our next Curious Conversations is planned for Saturday, February 20, 9 a.m. to noon in the Conference Room. We will start with plenty of caffeine and sugar and end with a light lunch at

noon. Please contact Associate Pastor Ruth Moore at 251-9489 or ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org if you can attend. Childcare is always available if you let Ruth know ahead of time. If this date doesn't work for you but you want more information about Northminster, please give Ruth a call.



Bigelow Family Update

In March of 2003 Northminster dealt with the murder of member Marianne Bigelow. What made this tragedy even more difficult was that the murderer was her husband John. Both Marianne and John had been active members of the church – especially with children's events and helping with VBS. They left behind 2 children – Kelsey who was 20 at the time and John Nicholas (Nick) who was 15. Many of you responded to this tragedy by giving money to support the children, who had no other family willing to help them. Funds were set up to provide support for Nick and Kelsey and to fund some of their future college expenses. That money has been carefully distributed as the children – who are now adults – have needed it. John Bigelow died in prison in November of 2009 and his children were financially responsible for his cremation and burial expenses. Like most young adults this was not an

expense they had budgeted for or could afford. But because of your generosity, the Bigelow Support Fund was able to help them with this expense. We try to stay in touch with Nick and Kelsey – Kelsey still lives in Broad Ripple – and they are doing well. Even after 7 years, the generosity of the Northminster family to this family still continues.

What do our Deacons do?

As most of you know, the Deacons started a new calling ministry this fall. Each deacon is assigned about 15 members to call and stay in touch with throughout the year. Your deacon will be calling you again in February. But I want you to know how important some of those phone calls can be. In making her phone calls, one of the deacons contacted a couple who had not been in attendance for a while. The wife was in hospice care and dying of Parkinson's disease. I was able to visit the husband and wife and take communion to them in their home. I was able to pray with them, monitor the situation for a few weeks, do the funeral after the death of the wife, and follow up with the husband after his wife's death with a visit and Stephen Ministry grief resources. What if that deacon hadn't made that call? The church would not have known what was going on with that family and we could not have reached out to them.

The deacons are the caring arm of the church. Look for them to be calling you later this month and to be taking communion to our home bound members. If you can't attend worship and would like communion brought to you by a deacon, please contact Associate Pastor Ruth Moore at 251-9489 or ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org

Mission and outreach

Green Group Grabs Prize!

Right out of the gate in the new year, the Green Stewardship Group has been recognized as having the most participant's in last fall's WALBICUS. The event encouraged members of participating congregations to walk, bike, bus or carpool to church one Sunday. Northminster's prize, for having the most bikers, is a bike rack. Read more about this in upcoming issues and look for other opportunities to WALBICUS in the future.

Interfaith Hospitality Network February 28

After taking a break in 2009 due to our construction, NPC will again begin hosting IHN families the week of February 28th. Through the Interfaith Hospitality Network, congregations throughout the city take turns hosting homeless families for 1 week helping to provide shelter, meals, security and compassion.

The success of our week depends on the participation of many enthusiastic volunteers. Volunteer positions include: set-up of beds and rooms, preparation of evening meals, visiting with the families during meal time (dinner hosts), visiting with the families and children in the evening (evening & activity hosts), staying overnight with the families at NPC (overnight hosts), doing the laundry (bedding) and cleaning up after our guests leave. We also need volunteers to drive the IHN van to pick up our guests at 5 p.m. and return them to the

North'Stars to attend Carousel

North'Stars is sponsoring a group to attend Indianapolis Civic Theatre's production of *Carousel* on Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$28.00 per person and all are welcome. Contact Joyce Mallette, 251-9602 or mallettej@comcast.net.

IHN day office at 7 a.m. the next morning. New volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate in this very worthwhile mission. Information on the specific responsibilities of each volunteer position will be available.

Sign up begins Sunday, January 31, in the Gathering Place. During the week the IHN sign-up sheet will be posted on the Volunteer Sign-up Board (across from the choir room). Contact Nancy Flamme with questions (255-8387). Please prayerfully consider spending 2-3 hours to provide a smiling face and helping hand to these homeless families.

Men's Breakfast Series Planned

A Saturday morning breakfast series has been planned for the men of Whitewater Valley Presbytery. The series will include speakers who will discuss their "Journey-Walking in Faith". There will be a time for interchange with the speakers, devotionals, and fellowship.

Please mark your calendars for the six Saturdays in Lent (Feb 20 - Mar 27) for this series. More details will follow. Please watch church e-mails and Sunday bulletins as the details unfold.

Where Are You? Let us Know!

Please call the church office at 251-9489 if you or someone you know is hospitalized. Due to the federal HIPPA regulations hospitals no longer call when someone is admitted. If we know you are there, Teri and/or Ruth can pay you a visit.

Parents with a Passion Group

Everyone is invited to hear Loui Lord Nelson speak to the *Parents with a Passion* group, Wednesday, February 3 at 6:15 p.m. in the Knox Room. Lord Nelson has written and published the book, *Celebrating You and Me: A Journal for Children and Their Parents*, and will be speaking on the topic of 'communicating with your child.'

Hola, Quintana Roo!

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

Many years ago, my family and I visited Ellis Island located in New York Harbor and neighbor to the Statue of Liberty. We were there not too long after restoration of this station, first stop for those immigrating to America for over 100 years. The exhibits were fascinating. Among them was a three-dimensional graph of immigration patterns of peoples from various countries. Most interesting to me at the time, was the one indicating surges in immigrations from European countries during times of famine, war or economic disaster.

Across the room, the graphs projected immigration patterns into the 21st Century revealing that more people would be coming from Hispanic-speaking countries than ever came from Europe. I turned to my kids and said "You're taking Spanish!"

Several years ago, the Whitewater Valley Presbytery (who may have studied the same graph) entered into a partnership with the presbytery in Northern Quintana Roo (pronounced kin-tana-roo) located in the southeastern part of Mexico. One of its major cities is Cancun, a popular resort destination. As part of our agreement, NQR would grow the church in that Mexican province and WVP would send people to the little church of Principe de Paz (Prince of Peace) located in a village near Cancun to build the sanctuary, operate a summer vacation bible school for local children and pay the pastor's salary. As a congregation, Northminster has invested thousands of dollars and immeasurable emotional and physical energy into building this church and creating lifelong friendships with our neighbors from south of the border. Thanks to our

Open to the Future mission promise, Principe de Paz has almost finished its sanctuary. Because "the church" never means "the building," our work goes on.

In addition to our mission trips to Mexico, the WVP agreement means that NQR will help in our efforts to minister to Hispanic neighbors in Indiana. The bilingual VBS curriculum was written and developed by both partners of WVP and NQR to be used here and in Mexico. John Knox Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis hosts summer VBS programs using the materials. There is another presbytery sponsored bilingual VBS in Fort Wayne.

Through the presbytery, your mission dollars support the pastor at Principe de Paz and the VBS bilingual materials. Through Northminster, your dollars support the summer mission trip to teach those materials to local children in Quintana Roo, help with building materials, and supply sweat and smiles. Many of Northminster's missionaries carry the cost of their own transportation and we've gathered some talented translators from our midst that are provided an extra stipend. For a few years, one of those translators was the one child of mine who actually listened when I said "take Spanish!"

Both Whitewater Valley and Northern Quintana Roo presbyteries have made great strides in building bridges and relationships through God's word. The Mission Team finds value in supporting programs like these whose partners speak the same language.

WATCHOUT!

WATCHOUT! is a list of upcoming mission events and volunteer opportunities at Northminster and in the community.

- Family Week: June 20-25 New Orleans, LA., Presbyterian Disaster Relief sponsors a family week (14 years and older) to help repair and rebuild New Orleans homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Stay at the Presbyterian Volunteer Village in New Orleans, \$20 per person per day. Register at www.psusa.org/pda.
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore needs greeters, cashiers, warehouse help and drivers. Tues. – Fri.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.– 2 p.m. Contact Jessica Conway at jconway@indyhabitat.org
- Gleaners needs drivers to restock other pantries. Contact Mike Miller at mmiller@gleaners.org. Check schedule on the Mission board across from the Chapel.
- Gleaners Pantry Partners needs to fill four 2-hour slots per week at Southwest Community Cupboard, 3737 Waldemere Road. Contact Debbie Wilson at dwilson@gleaners.org. Check schedule on the Mission board across from the chapel.