

# News & Views

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2011

## Curious Conversations, January 9 & 16

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

**C**urious Conversations is a time to get together and talk about Northminster. We talk about our faith, about how you can get involved at NPC, what you can offer the church and what we can offer you. Do you wonder why people go to church – what motivates someone to come and worship and how can the church become an integral part of someone's life? Northminster can offer you community – as the Good Shepherd Jesus knew, sheep do best when they are with other sheep. We can help you follow the path of faith,

strengthen your spiritual well-being, connect you with other people, and provide you with opportunities to volunteer in the community. Come and see what it means that Northminster's mission statement is to seek, serve and embrace.

We will meet at 10 am on two Sundays, January 9 and 16, in the Conference Room – which is in the education wing of the church. Please call Associate Pastor Ruth Moore at 251-9489 or email Ruth at [ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org](mailto:ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org) so she can have coffee and treats available.



*Associate Pastor Ruth Moore leads Curious Conversations.*

## We'll Help You Find Your "One New Thing"

BY JENNIFER DZWONAR, E-TEAM CHAIRPERSON

**O**n Sunday, January 16, we're making it really simple to find your "One New Thing" to do at Northminster in the new year! The teams and committees of the church are hosting a Get Involved Fair between worship services, allowing you to see what committees are doing, and hoping you'll pick one to join – for just an hour or a day or weekly or monthly or quarterly – whatever works for you.

Northminster is vibrant, in part because of the fabulous teams, groups and committees that plan and implement the activities of the church. Perhaps you would enjoy selecting or participating in mission projects, planning or participating in worship, raising or designating funds, coordinating or leading kids' activities, reaching out to the community, creating or teaching a class, or .... The possibilities are limitless! Visit the people and displays

on January 16<sup>th</sup> and find your One New Thing for 2011!

### In this issue

- 2 Northminster Book Study
- 3 10th Annual Italian Night!
- 7 The Travelin' McCourys

### *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 REV. DR. TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



**A**nd the Winner IS... It is almost time for our annual congregational meeting once again. If you have not noticed, I have a belief that nothing in church should ever be boring. God wants us to enjoy our faith and find pleasure in our service. I think this even includes the annual meeting. For that reason we started several years ago having "theme" meetings. We are continuing that tradition this year.

On Sunday, January 30, we will gather after the 11:00 service in Calvin Hall for a light lunch. The meeting will begin after lunch and this year the theme is Northminster Academy Awards. The opening act will review the year 2010 and all the best performances. During the meeting envelopes will be opened and awards will be presented. We will do the business at hand and hopefully have a good time in the process.

Bring your sense of humor, your questions, your nominations and join us for the Northminster Academy Awards. Call the office at 251-9489 or email Susan Glant at [sglant@northminster-indy.org](mailto:sglant@northminster-indy.org) to make lunch reservations. Tuxedos and formal gowns are optional.

Teri

## Northminster Book Study

### Room: A Novel

by Emma Donoghue

You may join us to discuss

Room: A Novel

Sunday, January 9, at 6 pm in the Gathering Place with Ruth Moore.

Monday, January 10, at 11 am in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

Wednesday, January 12, at 6:15 pm in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

### The Gospel of Matthew

You may join us to discuss

The Gospel of Matthew

Wednesday, January 19, at 6:15 pm in the Gathering Place with Ruth Moore.

Sunday, January 23, at 10 am in the Board Room with Ruth Moore.

Monday, January 24 at 11 am in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

### Freedom: A Novel

by Jonathan Franzen

You may join us to discuss

Freedom: A Novel

Sunday, February 13, at 6 pm in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

Monday, February 14, at 11 am in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

Wednesday, February 16, at 6:15 pm in the Gathering Place with Ruth Moore.

## January Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.

### JANUARY 2

#### 2ND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

COMMUNION SERVED AT 9 & 11 AM

We will be celebrating Epiphany—the visit of the magi to the Christ child. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Church School class will be assisting with the sermon. Communion will be celebrated by intinction at both 9 am and 11 am.

### JANUARY 9

#### BAPTISM OF THE LORD

We will ordain and install new officers at both the 9 am and 11 am services.

### JANUARY 16

#### 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We move back into ordinary time from now until Lent. This Sunday is about Jesus' invitation to come and see. We will be recognizing some of our volunteers today as well.

### JANUARY 23

#### 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We begin a series of sermons on the Gospel of Matthew. We will also have a Bible study on Matthew you may attend between services today or on Wednesday Jan 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm or Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

### JANUARY 30

#### 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We continue in the Gospel of Matthew as we wonder what it is the Lord really wants of us.



# What's happening at Northminster?

## 10th Annual Italian Night is March 5!

BY JULIE SHANNON, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

**W**hat is Italian Night? Italian Night is the Northminster Youth Program's annual fundraiser and is a fun-filled night for the whole church. The youth will serve a delicious spaghetti dinner and hold silent and live auctions offering various items, services and packages. There are games for children and fellowship for all. Invite a friend and show off your great church and support the youth of Northminster at the same time! Reservations are not required, but are appreciated. You receive a free raffle ticket if you make a reservation. You can make reservations by emailing Julie Shannon or calling the church office. A free will offering for dinner will be collected. All the money raised from this event goes toward youth summer trips. We do not take any money from the annual youth program

budget to subsidize these trips. Students of all ages benefit from the success of Italian Night!

When is Italian Night?

**Saturday, March 5, in Calvin Hall from 6 pm - 8:30 pm!**

**Who Runs Italian Night?** The youth and adults involved in the youth programs at Northminster plan and put on this event.

If you can donate item(s) for our silent or live auctions please contact Julie Shannon at (317) 753-6985 or [jshannon@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jshannon@northminster-indy.org). The sky is the limit — donations could be gift certificates, services, arts and crafts, homemade wine, themed baskets, food, etc. Monetary donations are also accepted. Checks should be made out to Northminster Presbyterian Church, with "youth summer trip" noted on the memo line and placed in Julie Shannon's mailbox!

### Parents with a Passion group events for January 2011

Parents with a Passion meet Wednesday nights from 6:15pm - 7:30pm in the Knox Room.

**January 5** — Not meeting

**January 12** — Participating in the book study of "The Room", at 6:15 pm in the Gathering Place with Teri Thomas.

**January 19** — Study of the Gospel of Matthew with Pastor Ruth Moore. We will join in this one as well! 6:15pm in the Gathering Place.

**January 26** — Topic of discussion: "What to do IF..." Things to have in order for your children, wills, estate planning & all that fun stuff! Have questions or need more info? Contact Julie Shannon or Liz Neterval at:

[jshannon@northminster-indy.org](mailto:jshannon@northminster-indy.org)  
phone: 753-6985  
[eneterval@indy.rr.com](mailto:eneterval@indy.rr.com)  
phone: 251-9489 ext.#28

### Thank You, Thank You!

Thank you to everyone for their cards, thoughts and prayers before, during and after my surgery. It's so nice to know there are so many wonderful, caring people at Northminster, and that we can always count on them.

*Blessings, Robin Litel*

Thank you very much for the beautiful red poinsettia plant you delivered to me for Christmas.

*Love, Caroline Burgard*

### What Do Deacons Do?

The Deacons can provide you with a few home cooked meals if you are dealing with a personal or medical emergency situation. (And it doesn't have to be a super big emergency. If a meal would make your life easier then the Deacons would be happy to help.) Please let Associate Pastor Ruth Moore know if this would be helpful to you (251-9489 or [ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org](mailto:ruthcmoore@northminster-indy.org))



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Team Night:** Tues., Jan. 4, 7 pm. Contact the church office if your team will **NOT** be meeting.

**Life Line Health Screenings:** Friday, Jan. 7, in Calvin Hall. Pink forms are on information tables.

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** Sun., Jan. 30, in Calvin Hall. Lunch at 12:15 pm, meeting at 1 pm. Circle 3 is hosting the lunch, a free will offering will be taken at the door for your meal. Watch bulletins for more information.

# Mission: Green Stewardship Group

## Have you seen our web page?

BY NANCY MORITZ, GREEN TEAM MEMBER

**H**ave you seen our web page? A few months ago the Green Stewardship Group launched a web page as part of the Northminster website. On our page you will find information about upcoming environmental events, both in the church and in the community, as well as helpful hints for making your life a little greener. In the past months, our web page has included items about WALBICUS Sunday, special recycling

events, and the ongoing recycling of various plastics. A paragraph about our mission, along with the names and phone numbers of the Green Group's co-chairs, is a permanent part of our page.

To find the Green Stewardship Group web page, log on to [northminster-indy.org](http://northminster-indy.org), click on Mission, and then click on Green Stewardship Group. Please log on often to see what's new.



# Outreach: Clothe-A-Child 2010

## Clothe-A-Child Provides Warm Clothing and Hearts

BY TIM RICE, BOARD OF DEACONS

**T**hursday December 9<sup>th</sup> provided over 50 shoppers from Northminster an opportunity to clothe 80 children from IPS School 55 and share in a pizza lunch party. Providing warm clothing and a meal were the tangible results. However, the greater impact was in the form of smiles, laughter, and warm hearts experienced by both children and shoppers alike. The gratitude of School 55 was expressed in letters written by

parents and guardians of the children, and read to the shoppers by Mrs. Holloway, the school social worker. The children also serenaded the Northminster volunteers with rousing Christmas carols.

This was all due to the generosity of you, the Northminster family. Thanks to all who supported the program this year with time, talents, and resources. Special thanks to the Deacons for their leadership and

planning of this outreach event; to the office staff for correspondence and articles, as well as managing the finances; to the Pastors for support and prayers; and lastly to Sears at Castleton Square Mall for additional discounts, providing the pizza lunch, and the enthusiastic support of their employees.

May the warm glow felt at this event reside in your hearts throughout this Christmas season.



# Mission and outreach

## Mission Team thanks you for your support

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

The Interfaith Alliance of Indianapolis has asked Northminster once again to help with the Underwear Project. It's one of those ideas that seem to be forgotten amidst school uniforms, backpacks, and crayons. In cooperation with the Indianapolis Multi-Service Centers and family shelters, the Mission Team will collect purchased packages of underwear in children and adult sizes, including socks and bras.

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

Look for the laundry basket in the Gathering Place, Sundays, January 16 and 23, before and after the 9 and 11 services. If you can't drop off underwear, you can drop a check and we'll shop for you. Mark your calendars now: Take underwear to church!

## December Mission Meeting Minutes - Giving away money

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

I'm fascinated by the January News and Views. We have to turn in articles before our Christmas shopping is done. I don't even have our Christmas tree yet and now I have to project into January, pretend the decisions are all made, fantasize that the decorations are stowed away, and that the nice gifts I got and gave are fully incorporated in our lives, perhaps already a little snagged or stained.

On December 7, the Mission Team met and spent what was left of its budget's undesignated funds. We gave to the Shared Missions of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery. We gave to Kaleidoscope Youth Center located in Meridian Kessler that offers after school programs for area children. We gave to the Christian School in Haiti so that traumatized Haitian children can stabilize in the routine. We gave to the Craine House that provides women who have been convicted of non-violent felonies a real chance at rehabilitation with their children by their sides. We gave to 211 Referral that links social

service programs statewide, 24-7, for people who need shelter, food, and refuge from crises. We visited with one of our capital campaign mission recipients, Cheryl Herzog, about how that gift will impact the residents of the Dayspring Center. Our December meetings are often very long.

We have debts to pay from Christmas, from unemployment, for a capital campaign, for the church operations. December is full of frustration and conflict. Sometimes people forget that other people's poverty, hunger, and illiteracy is a debt we also carry. But with your blessing, prayerful consideration, and certainly God's grace, we paid a little of that debt down and made January a little warmer for a lot of people. The Mission Team thanks you for your commitment.

## Hands ON/Hands INVolved

Upcoming mission events & volunteer opportunities

- **Get Involved Fair**

Jan. 16, in the Gathering Place. Sign on to a Team. It will be good for you. And lots of other people.

- **Underneath It All, We're All the Same,**

Jan. 16 & Jan. 23 in the Gathering Place. Underwear for boys and girls, all sizes, including socks and bras, for the Martin Luther King Multi-Service Center.

- **Wheeler Mission Partners with Travelin' McCoury's**

Feb. 27 at 4 pm, bring canned food or prepare to make a free-will donation to Wheeler Mission and enjoy this very popular *Sound and Spirit* bluegrass group.

- **Conversations with Abrahah.**

Our Eritrean friend, Abrahah Gezehey, would like to work on her English language skills and needs some conversation. **Calling all young moms!** Any subject (recipes, kids, gardening, politics or ) is welcome and very helpful. For more information on how you can teach by just visiting, contact Susie Koriath, 845-0452.



# Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

## Computers Needed

We need at least two computers to add to our computer lab in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom for homework help on Wednesday evenings. Gently used and fairly speedy would be wonderful. Please see Debbie Bulloff if you would like to make this important donation.

## Many New Books & Videos!

The Northminster Library has many new books and videos! Come check it out! The library is upstairs, just a step from the elevator. Church School classes will be visiting, you can too!

## New Northminster Preschool Director

Please welcome Angie Kubacki as our new Northminster Community Preschool Director. Angie comes to us with a wide background in education, management and administration and is a current NCP parent. She has long time ties to the Broad Ripple community and our preschool.



## 2011 VBS Call Out & Organizational Meeting

Will it be Joseph and His Brothers or ReNew (a Green VBS) this Summer? Come brainstorm & help us decide on Tuesday, January 11, 7 pm in Gathering Place for our 2011 VBS program. We need your creative ideas! Let Debbie Bulloff know of your interest and join us on January 11 in the Gathering Place.

## Mark your Calendars!

### 2011 VBS is June 13-16 and WE NEED YOU!

We will need craft people, parade people, outside & inside decorations folks, games & music people, preschool leaders and school-age crew leaders, video and "Bible Wheel of Fortune" leaders, snack and dinner helpers. Where do you fit in?

## 2011-2012 Registration for Northminster Community Preschool/Mother's-Day-Out

Northminster Community Preschool and Mothers'-Day-Out Program will begin registering children for the 2011-2012 school year this month. NPC members may register their children beginning Tuesday, Jan. 25, 9 am-3 pm. Registration forms will be available in the preschool hallway across from Room 112. All completed registration forms **must be accompanied** by a non-refundable registration check. We would love to see your child in one of our programs. Visit our classes so we may show you a quality program in a Christian environment. Our Open House will be held Thursday, Jan. 20 from 9:30 am - 11 am, during regularly scheduled classes. Feel free to drop in.

## Church School in January

### January 2

#### Epiphany Sunday

#### Focus Scripture:

**Matthew 2: 1-12**

We will re-tell the Christmas story and talk about the visitors from the East. The magi brought gifts. What gifts might we give to Jesus?

### January 9

#### Baptism of the Lord Sunday

#### Focus Scripture:

**Matthew 3:13-17**

We will begin to follow the story of Jesus as an adult. We will remember our own baptisms as we hear the story of Jesus' baptism. When have we sensed God's Spirit resting on us as the people of Northminster Church?

### January 16

#### 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Focus Scripture: Isaiah 49: 1-7

Isaiah is called by God to proclaim the restoration of Israel. Paul encourages those "called to be saints." Jesus calls disciples. What does it mean to us to be called and named by God?

### January 23

#### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Focus Scripture:

**Matthew 4:12-23**

We will learn about following God's call when we share the story of Jesus and the first disciples. Can we hear and heed the call to "Come, follow me"?

### January 30

#### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Focus Scripture:

**Matthew 5:1-12**

We begin to explore a collection of Jesus' sayings known as the Sermon on the Mount. How can we live now according to the standards God gives us through the Beatitudes?

## What else is happening?

### NPC CROP Walk team meets 2010 goals!

BY BECKY HUEHLS, CROP WALK TEAM CAPTAIN

A team of walkers from Northminster joined congregations around the Indianapolis area in the CROP Hunger Walk, a 3.5-mile walk through the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood on Sunday, October 17. With 14 walkers and one dog, the Northminster team met its 2010 goals of 15 walkers and over \$2,200 raised, surpassing its 2009 accomplishments.

The weather was sunny and warm as the walk started with a prayer and recognition of CROP walkers with years — up to three decades — of service to the Greater Indianapolis Area CROP walk. Along the route, signs and stations taught walkers about people who face hunger locally and around the world.

The CROP Hunger Walk is an opportunity to form a united witness to the neediest children in the world, who

walk 2-3 miles each day for water, fuel, food, and education, if available. The CROP Hunger Walk is a visible statement to the entire community that we can do something *together* about hunger. Walkers raise money, which goes to local hunger-fighting agencies as well as Church World Service partners worldwide. At least 80 cents of each dollar raised goes directly to programs that help the poor.

A special thank you to everyone who supported the CROP walk team with your time and donations. The walkers this year include Bob Wade; Mary Reiner; Anne Purcell; The Schmah family; Susan Stoops; Tony, Jacob, and David Dzwonar; Julie Shannon; Jack Wineman; Teri Thomas; and a very grateful team captain Becky Huehls, with an honorable mention to Halle Strawberry the Comet dog, who sported the CROP walk vest.

## The Travelin' McCourys

BY JOHN WRIGHT, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Sound & Spirit presents The Travelin' McCourys, 4 pm Sunday, Feb 27. Join us for some outstanding professional bluegrass as one of the greatest bands of the past 25 years. Each member of the Travelin' McCourys has been honored as one of the year (some more than once) by the IBMA (International Bluegrass Music Assoc.) Northminster's partner for this concert is Vocations Missions. The concert is free, and donations will be given to Vocations Missions.

As the sons of bluegrass legend Flatt & Scruggs, Ronnie McCoury on mandolin and Rob McCoury on fiddle with fiddler Jason Carter and bassist

Bartram, the ensemble is loved and respected by the bluegrass faithful. They recently played with the Allman Brothers, the Lee Boys, Warren Haynes, Phish, and have a tour scheduled with the



## Youth Fellowship Activities



### January 9

6-8pm

We'll film our final version of our youth lip synch video! The song we chose is "I Feel Good" by James Brown.

### January 9, 23 & 30

5:30 pm

Come early on these dates for ping-pong & Wii games. We'll have a ping-pong tournament during January & February.

### January 16

Youth Fellowship event TBA

### January 23

Youth Fellowship 6-8 pm.

### January 30

Youth Fellowship 6-8 pm.

### February 5/Ski Trip!

We'll head off to Perfect North Slopes, in Lawrenceburg, IN for a day of skiing, snow boarding & fun! Check out [www.perfectnorth.com/](http://www.perfectnorth.com/) for more information.

### Contact information for youth

- 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)



the aforementioned Lee Boys. Coming in March — *A Baroque Tapestry* — *The Music of J. S. Bach* — Northminster Chancel Choir and orchestra, 4 pm, Sun., March 20.

# seek, serve and embrace

Northminster Presbyterian Church  
Indianapolis, IN 46220-2799

1660 Kessler Boulevard, East Drive  
www.northminster-indy.org 317-251-9489

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2011

## What Do Deacons Do? Ever wonder about. . . ?

BY GAIL ROTHROCK, BOARD OF DEACONS

Ever wonder what happens to those bags of groceries that you place in our food barrels? How do they actually get into the hands of those who need help?

Each week the deacons take turns collecting your donations and transporting them to Westminster Neighborhood Ministries, an outreach project supported by the Whitewater Valley Presbytery. Don't let the name fool you—Westminster is actually located on the near eastside of Indianapolis, in a depressed area near the Indiana Women's Prison. At first glance the old church building seems imposing, perhaps even unwelcoming—until you open the door and descend a creaky staircase to a gymnasium in the basement. There, volunteers greet you with smiles while they busily organize tables laden with an array of non-perishable food items and other donated supplies. Beneath the tables are countless paper grocery bags open and ready for today's "shoppers", who will be able to select several items from each category according to the size of their family.

Today is Thursday, the only day of the week that the food pantry is open. In just a few short hours, all of the food stacked on these tables will be gone. The need is great, particularly this time of year. Patricia, the pantry director, says they typically help 50-60 households

each week, but last week nearly 100 were served.

In a large church hall adjacent to the gymnasium is a soup kitchen. Several volunteers are heating large trays of fried chicken and green beans supplied by Second Helpings, supplemented with bread donated by Panera and desserts from Marsh. The hall is filled with hungry neighbors of all ages, sizes and races. In one corner of the hall a few families are selecting from a large table of donated clothing and Christmas decorations, while in another corner a doctor and nurse from Gennesaret Clinic are administering flu shots and basic health exams. A volunteer smiles at me and says "What do you think of our organized chaos?"

At 10:00am, a former drill sergeant and long-time volunteer calls the huddled mass of people to order with a loud welcome. He asks the gentlemen to remove their hats, then offers a prayer in which he asks God to bless "those who are less fortunate than we are." After the prayer he asks if anyone is a first-time visitor. Three people raise their hands, their heads bowed with embarrassment. He goes to them, offers a warm welcome, and tells them they will be escorted to the food pantry and instructed on what to do. "Please stay and have a hot meal too", he encourages them.

Northminster member Ginny Jonas has volunteered at the food pantry for 4

years, and can't say enough about the enjoyment and satisfaction her work provides. "I look forward to it every week—it's a wonderful feeling to do this, and these volunteers have become my friends." Ginny introduces me to the other volunteers, all members of various Presbyterian churches in the city. One couple has been coming here weekly for 6 years, another more than 10 years. They are all smiling—clearly they love what they do. All are "baby boomers" and some will be heading south soon for the winter, so they worry about the food pantry having enough hands to help out in their absence. Ginny adds "I wish more Northminster members would volunteer here—I'm the only one right now." Maybe this is the ONE NEW THING you can do in 2011—if you're willing to try it, Ginny Jonas will be happy to talk to you! *(pictured, Ginny Jonas)*

