

# News & Views

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 2009

## Sound & Spirit, Northminster's gift to the community

BY JOHN WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

**S**ound & Spirit, Northminster's arts series, is in the process of establishing the schedule for our sixth season, which resumes this September. We need your help in continuing this unique facet of outreach in our church. *Sound & Spirit* exists via contributions from people like you. Whether the contribution is \$5 or \$5000 is immaterial. What is important to us is that we all own this series. It is Northminster's gift to the community.

One of the first cultures to articulate how music works was the ancient Greeks. They discerned that music and astronomy were two sides of the same coin. Astronomy was seen as the study of relationships between observable, permanent, external objects; and music was seen as the study of relationships between invisible, internal, hidden objects. Music has a way of finding the big, invisible moving pieces inside our hearts and souls and helping us figure out the position of things inside us.



### Sound & Spirit partners with Spirit & Place Festival

This November, *Sound & Spirit* is partnering with the *Spirit & Place Festival* to present a program entitled *Timeless inspirations*. *Spirit & Place* is a 17 day city-wide festival which "connects inspiring ideas, places, organizations, and people through a wide range of high-quality public programs."

*Timeless inspirations* features the Indianapolis-based Ronen Chamber Ensemble (photo above), which will play one of the most profound musical

compositions of all time, *Quartet for the End of Time*, composed by French composer Olivier Messiaen in 1940. Messiaen was 31 years old when France entered the war against Nazi Germany. He was captured by the Germans in June 1940 and imprisoned in a prisoner-of-war camp. Messiaen was fortunate to find a sympathetic prison guard who gave him paper and a place to compose, and fortunate to have musician colleagues in the camp—a cellist, a violinist, and a clarinetist. He wrote this quartet with these specific players in mind, and it was first performed in January 1941 for 4,000 prisoners and guards. *Continued on page 8*

### In this issue

- 2 A Time to Trust  
NPC goals for 2009-2010
- 3 New members
- 5 VBS thanks and photos

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

*seek, serve and embrace*



## Pastoral pondering . . .

BY TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



**F**or the past several months the Session has been engaged in a planning process. A grant from the Indianapolis Center for Congregations provided funding for us to work with Jessica White and Associates Consulting Firm. Jessica led the Session through a process of confirming our vision: *Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we celebrate God's love and follow Christ's teachings to seek, serve and embrace.*

Seeking God's spirit is part of our daily lives. We study together, pray together, sing together, worship together, watch movies and read books together. Then we talk and question and wonder in an effort to hear God's call.

### "A Time to Trust" Northminster Stewardship 2010

Taking direction from Proverbs 3:5-6 which encourages us to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart," the Stewardship Committee has adopted the theme of "A Time to Trust" for the 2010 Stewardship Campaign. Recognizing the difficult economic conditions that

*Serving* God and our world in a variety of ways is how we live out our growing faith. Working with School 55, teaching in a small church in Cancun, feeding the poor through food pantries, and supporting the mission of our denomination locally and globally are just some of the ways we find to serve God and neighbor.

*Embracing* friends and strangers is central to our life as a community. We share one another's joys and sorrows. Burdens and joys are carried and celebrated together. We embrace the lonely, the outcast, the child, the family and the person who has given up on church.

We then came up with three areas we thought we should focus on in the next three years. Those were worship, communication, and service/outreach. After significant brainstorming and refining, the Session in May approved the following goals for the coming program year.

#### Northminster Goals 2009-2010

(1) Increase worship attendance. The total attendance for both services will be increased by 7 percent. Average weekly attendance will be calculated monthly and compared during a yearlong period beginning August 2009 through July 2010. *Continued on page 3*

surround us, it is more important than ever that we draw strength from God's promise to watch over us and trust in His plans for Northminster. Let's move through the uncertainty together, trusting that God will be directing our path! ■

### July Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.

#### July 5

We will celebrate communion by intinction at both services. Ruth Moore will help us explore what we are to do when God is silent.

#### July 12

We will celebrate the 500th birthday of John Calvin. Don't miss this exciting service and the birthday party for John Calvin during Fellowship on the Patio. Teri Thomas is preaching.

#### July 19

Megan Remtema, a member of the congregation and student at McCormick Theological Seminary, will be with us this Sunday. Come and support her in her preparation for ministry.

#### July 26

We go back to more stories of David and we see him at his worst—lust, adultery and murder. We will celebrate baptism at 9 a.m. Teri Thomas is preaching.



# Welcome new members

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR



*Please welcome new members Rob Rothrock and Linda Furuness to our community of faith. They were received by the congregation on May 31.*

## Robert Rothrock

Rob is a State Farm Agent and has been coming to Northminster for almost 20 years. We all actually thought he was already an official “member.” He started coming when he was courting his wife Gail (who grew up in this church) and he has stayed ever since.

## Linda Furuness

Linda is fairly new to the neighborhood. She moved here from Ft. Wayne with her husband. She is a retired educator, grandmother and gardener. Her husband is a Lutheran pastor, but she has “seen the light” and is excited to be a part of a Presbyterian Church. ■

## Pastoral Pondering: Northminster Goals

*Continued from page 2*

(2) Increase involvement with Indianapolis Public School 55. Add at least one activity or commitment with School 55 based on an assessment of current involvement as noted in the Annual Report.

(3) Increase Northminster’s presence in the community. Sponsor four specific events annually highlighting Christian perspective of current events and/or cultural questions. These events should reach out to community (nonchurch) participants.

Possible fourth goal: Assess individual parishioner’s preferred method of communication from the church.

The teams are now coming up with a variety of ways each goal can be achieved. They will bring their suggestions to the Session in August and objectives will be set and assignments made.

If you have ideas on any of these goals please talk to any member of the Session. If you would like to help with the accomplishment of one of the goals, please let me know and we will find a way for you to participate.

Please continue to hold the Session, the teams and the Deacons in your prayers as they lead this congregation into the future. ■

## Why communion by intinction?

When the first Sunday of the month is on a holiday weekend (like July and September) we will still have communion at both 9 and 11 a.m. We will serve at both services by intinction. We are doing this for several reasons.

First of all, since we stopped having communion each week at 9 a.m., we have had many requests for communion by intinction. Many folks prefer it that way and miss it. Second, when the sanctuary is finished the pews will be further apart than they were. This will make it easier for folks to get in and out of the pews. It will also make it easier for one person to get by someone who chooses not to go forward. This should simplify the process. Finally, it is very difficult to find the number of elders or deacons we need to serve each time we have communion. On holiday weekends it is almost impossible. We can serve by intinction with fewer people.

As has always been the case, you are free to remain seated and someone will come and serve you if you would rather not come forward. There will also be a small tray with individual cups and gluten free wafers for those with special dietary needs. This will be on the east side of the chancel.

If you would like to help us serve communion any month, please let us know. We can use you.

# Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

## Church School in July

On July 5, we will consider Mark 6:1-13. We are on a journey of growing in understating of who Jesus is. Jesus sends his disciples out to be traveling preachers to tell others about God's saving love. How can we do God's work in the world?

On July 12, we will pause to recall the journey of another Spirit-led servant of God—David. 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 tells the story of the Ark of the Covenant coming into Jerusalem. There was much dancing and celebrating! When have you danced and played because of God-inspired joy?

July 19 will bring a discussion of 2 Samuel 7:1-14a. David wants to build a grand temple to house the Ark. God reminds David that God has been the people's "place" wherever they have been. God makes a covenant with David and his people forever. How can we invite others to come home to God?

On July 26, our focus scripture will be John 6:1-21. God's presence sustains us and provides more than we need—food, faith, grace and salvation. We will consider two miraculous stories—the feeding of the 5,000 and Jesus walking on water. How can we follow God's lead and live with generosity?

## Summer Church School through September 6

We still need help this summer staffing the Nursery, Toddler, Preschool and Children's Church classrooms at both the 9 and 11 a.m. hours. Helpers will be needed to staff Crafts on the Patio

at the 10 a.m. hour. A schedule is posted on the bulletin board across the hall from the choir room. Our curriculum is wonderful and we will have fun, relaxed time learning about God's word. Do you hear God calling you to teach/help this summer? I do. Please let me know of your availability at 251-9489 or [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org).

## Worship Training August 23

Inquiring minds want to know how to get closer to God through worship. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 23. We will be having Worship Training for all children and youth kindergarten-12th grade and interested adults at Children's Church time and at 10 a.m.

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. More information will come next month. *Photos below were taken during Vacation Bible School 2009.* ■



## Bible Bowl Winners

The first Bible Bowl was held on Sunday, April 19, and over 60 children, youth, and adults competed. Adult winners were Lucille Auble and Jeff Schmahl, and younger winners, Katharine Ruegger and Lauren Palladino.

## 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](http://www.northminster-indy.org).



## Northminster people—present and past

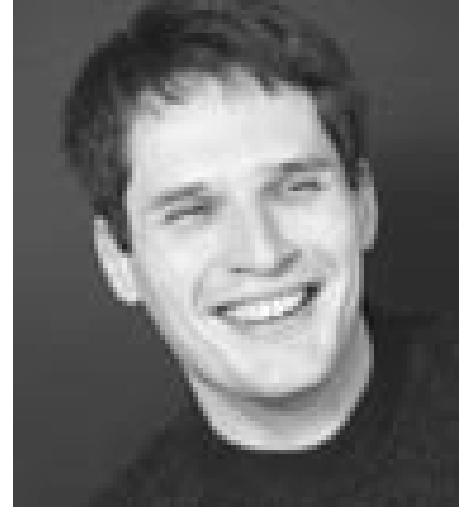
### Marko Petricic will have a busy summer

**N**orthminster's Music Associate/Organist, Marko Petricic, will have a busy musical summer in Europe. On June 22, he departed for Belgrade, Serbia, where he will teach and play at the opening concert of the Belgrade International Organ Festival, "Dies Organorum," that draws many prominent European artists. In addition to solo repertoire, Marko Petricic will perform two movements of Louis Vierne's "Messe Solennelle" written for two organs and a choir.

After this festival, he will travel to England where he will

perform an organ recital at Coventry Cathedral on July 27 (Benjamin Britten's "War Requiem" was composed for the reconsecration of this cathedral).

Finally, between August 5 and 12, Marko Petricic will be one of the eight chosen organists worldwide that will participate in the summer course dedicated to the music of J.S. Bach. This course will be led by the University of Vienna Professor Michael Radulescu, one of the world's leading authorities on Bach's organ music, and it will take place in Porrentruy, Switzerland, on an Ahrend organ (a gorgeous replica of what one of Bach's instruments would have been like).



Marko will return to us exhausted but refreshed by all these amazing experiences. Hold Marko and his family in your prayers.

### Northminster preschool teacher Linda Hartman retires

Linda Hartman, former member of Northminster, has retired after 17 years as a teacher with Northminster Community Preschool. For many of those years, she was also the music teacher for the preschool.

Linda has reached out to nearly 300 preschool children during her teaching career at our preschool. She received a surprise visit from many of them when they gathered in the chapel to see her and sing to her during her last week of teaching. Linda was also honored

by the preschool staff at a dinner where her former teaching assistants, as well as former preschool director Jan West, were in attendance.

Linda is looking forward to spending time and traveling with her husband Brent in addition to volunteering in the community. She has even asked to be on the substitute teaching list for the preschool! We celebrate her outstanding career and wish her well with her future plans.



### Larry and Pat Moslener thank Northminster members and friends

We thank the members and friends of Northminster for a wonderful reception on May 31. A special thanks for the Personnel Team for providing all the food and beverages. It was nice to see so

many friends and to have a time to say good-bye.

Pat and I were delightfully surprised with the very generous monetary gift that was presented to us. Thank you for your generosity

and love and support throughout our ministry at Northminster. We will miss everyone but we will see you later. Love, Larry and Pat. ■

# Northminster building progresses in many areas . . .



*Painting in Sanctuary*



*New second floor Knox Room*



*Structural steel going up*



*Air handlers lifted to second floor*



*Atrium hall and new restrooms*



*New Middle School and Senior High rooms*

# What's happening?

## Hey, Northminster golfing guys!

### Men's Golf Outing July 25

The Northminster Men's Golf Outing will be on Thursday, July 25, at Mohawk Hills Golf Club with a "shotgun" start at 12:45 p.m. The cost will be \$50 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, meal, drinks during play, practice balls (irons only) and putting green, and prizes. Practice will start at 12 p.m. and registration will be from 12–12:35 p.m.

Get your-singles, twosomes, threesomes, or foursomes together and let Bob Bowers know who's in your group at [betbobbowers@att.net](mailto:betbobbowers@att.net) or 259-7366. Make checks payable to Northminster Presbyterian Church ("Golf Outing" in note line) and mail to or drop at the church office.

### Deacons sponsor School 55 banquet for honor students

The honor roll students of School 55 were met by Deacons Nancy Leffler and Norma Arend at G. T. South's Rib House on May 21. Forty-two

were in attendance—18 students, families and teachers. Each student was required to be on the honor roll the entire year.

Each student received a baseball cap (thanks to Nancy Leffler's son). Mrs. West, the principal, again thanked Northminster for the projects our church sponsors for School 55.

### Deacons' Yard Sale August 15

The Deacons' annual yard sale will be held on Saturday, August 15, from 8 a.m.–2 p.m. in the north parking lot. You may donate items which the Deacons will sell; the proceeds will benefit the Deacons' Fund.

Donated items can be brought to the church beginning at 8 a.m. on Friday, August 14. Please place price stickers on your donated items. Items not sold will be donated to Goodwill. The sale will be canceled in the event of rain. *More happenings are listed on the birthday/calendar page and the Building Committee photo page.*

## Mexico Mission Trip in July

Please keep the following youth and adults in your prayers—as they head to Cancun, Mexico, for our Mission Trip in July. They will help the congregation of Principe de Paz build their sanctuary and assist with a Vacation Bible School that draws children and adults from a wide area.

Becca Haag	Emma Moore
Courtney Haag	Kate White
Nancy Flamme	Matt Boris
Anne Weinheimer	Emily Keesling
Jeff Hunter	Jake Boris
Peter Hunter	Alan Hill
Abby Hunter	Emily Neitzel

Andy Brooks	Shannon Crittenden
Sam Pech-Scott	Julie Shannon
Sean Crittenden	Steve Neterval



## Youth Fellowship activities

### July

No Youth Fellowship on Sunday evenings. Youth Fellowship will meet on the following Wednesday nights in July.

### July 1

5–8 p.m. is miniature golfing at Pirates Cove (off 96th Street and Keystone Avenue).

### July 8

Meet at the church by 12:45 p.m. We will be volunteering at Dayspring Center from 1–4 p.m. where families in Indianapolis who are currently homeless are served. We are welcoming all ages to participate in this mission afternoon.

### July 22

From 5–8 p.m. is swimming! We will meet and swim at the Knights of Columbus. Cost is \$5 per person.

### August 30

A special cookout for youth, their families and all incoming 6th graders.

### 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).

*Mission Trip 2008: Becca Moore, Emma Moore, Elaine Holewinski, Kate White, Gloria Murphy, and Sara Neitzel.*

# 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

JULY 2009

## Could it be that art is somehow essential for life?

### Sound & Spirit . . . continued from page 1

**T**oday *Quartet for the End of Time* is one of the most famous masterworks in chamber music. Given what we have since learned about life in Nazi prison camps, why would anyone in his right mind waste time and energy writing or playing music? There was barely enough emotional and physical energy on a good day to find a morsel of food and a bit of water, to avoid a beating, to stay warm, to escape torture. Why would anyone bother with music? And yet, even from the concentration camps we have poetry, music, and visual art. In a place where people are only focused on survival, on the bare necessities, could it be that art is somehow essential for life? The camps were without money, without hope, without basic human respect and dignity, but they were not without art.

One of the first organized classical music events after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, September 2001, was the sold out Brahms *Requiem* at Lincoln Center, with the New York Philharmonic. For many New Yorkers and others, this public expression of grief, this communal



response to the tragedies of September 11 was the beginning of a sense that life might go on. The United States military had secured the airspace, but on that particular Friday evening, recovery was led by the arts, by music.

Art is part of survival; art is part of the human spirit, an unquenchable expression of who we are. Art is one of the ways in which we say, “I am alive, and my life has meaning, and surely I am part of a larger community.”

### Embrace the opportunity to support Sound & Spirit

During this time of economic uncertainty it seems to me more important than ever for us to embrace the opportunity to sustain and promote the arts and music. *Sound &*

*Spirit* is hoping to provide such opportunities for Northminster and greater Indianapolis for the 2009–2010 season. We are in need of funds to help continue what we started several years ago—“to provide the experience of great music, art and drama for all in the Broad Ripple community and beyond.” You can help save the series and a small portion of the universe by sending a gift to *Sound & Spirit*.

Our arts series is not just about entertainment. We are not dispensing a product, like used cars. We exist as a sort of therapist for the human soul, a spiritual version of a chiropractor or a physical therapist—someone who works with our insides to see if they get things to line up, to see if we can come into harmony with ourselves and to be healthy and happy and whole. As in the concentration camp and the week of 9/11, the arts, not the military, not a major corporation, not the government, just might be the thing that can help us with our internal, invisible lives. ■