

News & Views

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2011

Think Spring! Deacons' Annual Flower & Plant Sale

ELLE KEPPLER, BOARD OF DEACONS

Plan your flower and vegetable gardens using plants from the Deacons' Sale! As I write this article, I am iced in! However, I have faith that spring will come and it will bring showers, sunshine and warmer temperatures. Flowers and homegrown vegetables will be a welcome sight. Please support your Deacons by buying your plants through their sale.

The Deacons use the proceeds from the sale to fund their many projects, such as activities for School 55, Thanksgiving baskets for needy families, holiday plants for home bound members and assistance to individuals in need. We hope that all of you will contribute to the church's ministry by buying your spring plants through the Deacons' sale.

How do you participate?

1. Complete an order form. A form is included as an insert in this newsletter. Additional forms are available on the "information tables" located throughout the church. During the month of March Deacons will have forms at the "flower sale table" in the Gathering Place during coffee hour.

2. Turn in the order form along and a check by **March 29**. Orders may be

returned to the church office or the Flower Sale Table. **All orders must be prepaid.** Mark your calendar for pick up day and wait for warmer weather.

3. Pick up your order from the church's north parking lot on **Friday, April 29** between 9 am and 6 pm. A Deacon will be available to assist you with your order.

4. Hang the baskets or plant the flowers and/or vegetables. Enjoy the beauty or bounty all summer knowing that you made a contribution. By the way, the hanging baskets are wonderful gifts for Mother's Day! If you have questions,

either ask the Deacon in the Gathering Place on Sunday morning or contact Elle Keppler at 549-2358 or email: keppler2@sbcglobal.net.



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J. S. Bach Concert

Our Vision

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

Pastoral pondering . . .

BY REV. DR. TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



Lent is the season of the church year that urges us to prepare for Easter. Traditionally, Lent had two main purposes. First it was a time of learning for those new to the faith so they would be ready for baptism at Easter. Later it also became a time of repentance- or turning in a new direction – for those who had wandered away from the faith so they could return to the fold at Easter. Either way it has been a time when we focus on spiritual disciplines to strengthen and deepen our faith.

This year during Lent I am encouraging you to spend an extra 6 ¼ hours on your faith. Is your faith worth 375 minutes out of 40 days? I think it is.

On Wednesday evenings we are going to hold a study called: ***Embracing an Adult Faith: Marcus Borg on What it Means to be Christian.*** Each Wednesday at 6:15 pm we will watch a short video presentation by Jesus scholar Marcus Borg to introduce the week’s topic. Then we will discuss and explore that topic as a group. There is no preparation or previous experience required. If you want to read one of Borg’s books prior to the course I would recommend *The Heart of Christianity*. The topics we will be discussing are:

- Wednesday, March 16 - God
 - Wednesday, March 23 - Jesus
 - Wednesday, March 30 - Salvation
 - Wednesday, April 6 - Practice
 - Wednesday, April 13 - Community
- There will be a dinner each week at 5:30 pm **by reservation only**. Class will begin promptly at 6:15 pm and we will be finished at 7:30 pm. We will put a little more effort into our Lenten time and find our Easter celebration all the more amazing.

See you in church,

Teri

You are invited
Saturday, March 26th
2:00 PM at
Northminster
Presbyterian Church

The Presbytery of
Whitewater Valley
will conduct a
service of ordination to
Ministry of Word
and Sacrament
for
Megan Remtema

Book Groups

We have read three books and had discussions at three different times during the week. The response has been very positive. So after Easter we are going to start Book Discussion Groups again. We want to read *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. This is a World War II story of survival, resilience and redemption. Then we will read *The*

March Sundays at 9 & 11 am.

MARCH 6

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
COMMUNION SERVED AT 9 & 11 AM

We will explore some Holy Mountains and celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper at both services.

MARCH 9

ASH WEDNESDAY

We will have a soup supper in Calvin Hall followed by Worship in the sanctuary at 7 pm. Join us for this solemn service of ashes marking the beginning of the Lenten Season.

MARCH 13

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

We begin this holy season with the simple question – Who is God?

MARCH 20

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

The question of the day is – Who is Jesus? We will also celebrate the sacrament of baptism.

MARCH 27

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

We will explore the idea of a savior and the meaning of salvation.



Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. This is a fascinating and moving story of medicine and family, of how life is sustained in laboratories and in memory. Both of these books are non-fiction but they read like novels. Start reading and plan to join us in May for discussions.

What's happening at Northminster?

What' your "One New Thing"?

BY REV. DR. TERI THOMAS, PASTOR

Last fall Teri and the Session challenged all Northminster members to try one new thing for the church. We have heard from many of you. Here are just a few of the things our members have tried

Debbie Grush made a Scrapbook for our Pet Blessings.
Lynne Tobin became the clerk of session
Nancy Dynes participated in Clothe a Child
Clarice Connett will write notes to new visitors and pray daily for the church
Judi Morr put money in the Joyful Noise bucket
Doug Sherow took the NorthStars on a wildlife trip to Jasper to watch birds
Sean Crittenden made a video for capital campaign
Ron Smith became a HOST
Dora Jean Smith provided flowers for worship
Mary Beth Riner is a HOST
Georgeanne Tutrow is helping stuff the News & Views
Steve Neterval came to a Book study and will be a Stephen Minister

Bus Driver Needed

We need someone to drive the church bus (or use their own transportation) to pick up a church member and her four children on the 2nd Sunday of the month and on Wednesday nights for dinner and choir practice. Could you spare an hour of your time once a month to help this family get to church? Please contact Associate Pastor Ruth Moore for more information. 251-9489 or ruthmoore@northminster-indy.org

Liz Neterval is making a Prayer shawl
Jill Fouts is making casseroles for emergency & new baby meals.
Clarice Stegall is going to finish a prayer shawl.
Sally Gray is a deacon
Connie Coleman will be joining bell choir
Cheri Gudgel & her daughter, Amy helped purchase items for college and military care packages.
Gary Ryan and Bob Bowers helped with Wednesday night dinners.
Casey Seigrist wrote a letter of encouragement in the military care packages.
Cathy Lord joined the Banner Committee.
Allen & Maryann McCormick & Eileen Alsop participated in Clothe-a-Child
Shirley & Ashley Smith joined the crew to decorate the church for Christmas.
Shannon Crittenden baked a ton of goodies for our college care packages.
Be sure to share your one new thing with us.

Parents with a Passion!

We are parents who meet Wednesday Nights from 6:15-7:30pm to study, share & discuss various topics that impact our faith and our parenting. On March 2nd, We welcome back Kimball Richards from St. Vincent Stress center will discuss your child and drug abuse and the big 3. How to keep them from experimenting and using, what to look for if they are, and what to do if you suspect of find they are. The program will be in the board room at 6:15 pm.

What Do Deacons Do?

The Deacons raise their own funds for their benevolence projects like School 55 and Thanksgiving baskets. Their major fundraisers are the Plant and Flower sale on April 29 and the Yard Sale on May 14. Mark those dates on your calendars. Sign up sheets for the flower sale are in this month's *News and Views*. And start saving your "stuff" for the Yard Sale!



Alexander Custer Stundick, born December 29, 2010 to Molly & Brian Stundick. Proud grandparents are Judy & Doug Thorpe.

Briggs Jordan Geraghty, born January 25 to Laura & Peter Geraghty. Briggs was 8lb, 10oz and 21.5" long. Proud grandparents are Barb & Art Angotti.

Carolyn Eileen Noneman, born January 31 to Alicia & Jesse Noneman

Claire Juliet Klinginsmith, born February 12 to Megan & Jon Klinginsmith. Claire was 9lbs, 7oz and 21.5".

Mission: Green Stewardship Group

My Compost Bin and I

BY LINDA FURUNESS, GREEN TEAM MEMBER

There have been very few times in my life when I haven't lived with a compost bin. Growing up we would throw the kitchen scraps into the garden, and my dad would till them in before planting our very productive vegetable garden.

There is such joy in being able to recycle my fruit and veggie peels, "past their prime" produce, coffee grounds, eggshells, cereal remains, *hard* hard

rolls, unsuccessful houseplants, and end of season annuals. Our mulching lawnmower takes care of the grass clippings, and I usually rake the leaves from our only large maple into the flower beds. But, plant clippings and trimmings as well as left over palms from a particular Sunday at church go into the compost bin. About the only things that I don't put in are meat and dairy products, and seeds and weeds

because my compost doesn't get hot enough to kill those.

I am a lazy composter—I don't layer, turn, aerate, or add activator to it—I just throw stuff in. Six to nine months later I have the most wonderful dark, workable plant food imaginable. And, my plants seem to enjoy it as well. If you are thinking about trying composting, check out howtocompost.org, or there are lots of resources at the library.

Speaking of Spring-cleaning

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 30 from 9:30 to noon. The Mission Team is putting together a spring cleaning of the grounds at the Dayspring Center, 1537 Central Avenue. Dayspring receives benevolence funds from Northminster through our mission operating fund but also from the Our Future is Now Capital Campaign. The organization moved to its current location in 1989 and provides emergency shelter, clothing and three

nourishing meals a day to homeless families with children. OFIN funds will help them remodel their kitchen and dining area, making it feel more like dinner with the family rather than a public cafeteria.

The morning spent in mission is designed to offer Northminster families a fun experience but also provides us with a unique opportunity for outreach. We're

asking that you also bring along a friend to share in the fellowship of the congregation while providing a great service to Dayspring preparing their yard and gardens for planting. There will be more details in the April issue of News and Views, but in the meantime, consider the people you've wanted to invite to church and have been reluctant to ask. Ask them to mission first!

One Great Hour of Sharing/Sharing Resources, Changing Lives

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help

our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

Where does the money go?

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent. Northminster will collect for One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday, April 17th. Look for the envelope in the pew.



Mission and outreach

Late Winter Mission Tales

BY MAUREEN PURCELL, MISSION TEAM

Don Durrett, Bob Gudgel, and Jim Arends aren't over last December's Clothe-a-Child shopping spree at Sears. One shopped with a little boy who was wearing his sister's navy uniform pants and was awfully embarrassed by it. His Northminster shopper saw to it that he got two new pairs, just for him. And one young gentleman told his Northminster shopping host that he absolutely wanted a wool coat instead of one of the puffy, nylon coats all the kids wanted. It was a bit of a task to find a wool dress coat for this young man but one was located in a distant department, a little big, but it worked well enough. And why, he was asked, was he so set on a wool coat? "Because it's more respectable," the child said.

Every year, Don, Bob and Jim join other Northminster men and women spending a morning on a mission and everyone comes home with stories like this. And everyone thanks God they've been able to make a little difference.

Teresa Sherow has been a shopper for a long time, too. She has always enjoyed it so this year she decided to sign up as a volunteer tutor at School #55, just listening to a young reader or helping sound-out words or practice addition.

I was having my hair done one day and my hairdresser, knowing that I volunteer for the church, was telling me how she likes to go to Riley Children's Hospital and paint the fingernails of the little girls there. Her own son had been a patient at one time and she loves the staff, the spirit of the families, the spirit of the little patients. She takes her brightest colors; hot pinks and purples, and some sparkly rhinestones and other glitter, if the hospital allows. She explained that it's not as if she can do their hair as so many of these little girls have lost theirs. "I

figured if a manicure makes me feel good, they might feel better, too."

I agreed sharing something that gives you pleasure, is a wonderful thing and is bound to bring happiness to others. "What have you been doing at your church lately, Maureen?" "Collecting underwear," I said. And that gave her a good laugh.

Mike Shannon, (see photo below) the new co-chair of the Mission Team, helped pack up the 350 pairs of underwear the Northminster congregation donated in January and he delivered them to the kids at the Martin Luther King Multiservice Center, 40th and Illinois. He also loaded up a FEW HUNDRED tee shirts, sweat shirts and jackets donated by the Craft family & the Central Indiana Bicycle Association. MSC's Janice Cox explained that they often serve homeless adults and that the larger sizes would be most helpful. And they were in bright wonderful colors like green, purple, orange and yellow.

What's your mission story? What did you *teach* about kindness and patience and God's grace? What did you *learn* about hunger, poverty, kindness, patience and God's grace? Let me know. I'm making a scrapbook.



(Mike Shannon)

Hands ON/Hands INVolved

Upcoming mission events & volunteer opportunities

- **Offering of Letters**

March 6, 10 am & noon

Write a 2-minute letter to your senator or congressman asking for reforms of our foreign assistance programs so they can really make a difference in developing countries. You write it. We'll send it.

- **Sound & Spirit Concert**

March 20, 4 pm

The wonderful Bach concert will feature our Chancel Choir and guest soloists. The free-will offering will benefit the Broad Ripple High School center for the performing arts.

- **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Palm Sunday, April 17

Collection to benefit Presbyterian Hunger Programs, Disaster Assistance and Self-Development of People.

- **Dayspring Center**

Spring Clean-up

April 30, 9:30 am - 11 am

Save the date for this family-friendly, friend-friendly, families helping families project to spruce up the grounds at Dayspring Center. Watch for more information in the April News and Views.



Education for all ages

3rd Annual Bible Bowl, March 6 at noon!

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

How many people did Jesus feed by the Sea of Galilee? If you know the answer, or even if you don't, come to the 3rd Annual Bible Bowl on Sunday, March 6 at noon. We will have a pitch-in lunch in Calvin Hall with barbecue from G.T. South's and then adjourn to the Gathering Place for the competition! There is a trophy for the

team that answers the most questions correctly! **RSVP for lunch** no later than noon on 3/3 (251-9489).

Last names A-L: bring a side dish
Last names M-Z: bring a dessert
Questions? Call Terri Palladino at 841-7246, or Debbie Bulloff at 251-9498 x16
email: terripalladino@comcast.net or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org

NPC Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt,

Saturday, April 23, at 10 am
Individually wrapped candy donations are needed! Bring all donations to the church office by 4/17. We need to stuff 2000 eggs for this very popular event! Can your church group or scout troop help stuff eggs?

Contact Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489x 16 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org

Pyoca's Ingrid Swanson to visit Northminster 3/20

Ingrid Swanson will be here all morning Sunday, 3/20 to talk with kids in Children's Church, youth and parents. She will also be available to answer questions about Church Camp at Pyoca this summer in the Gathering Place at 10:00 a.m. Camp Pyoca is located near Brownstown, Indiana. You can find out more information at www.pyoca.org

Church Camp/Summer '11

Check out www.northminster-indy.org/familyministries for links to opportunities for camping experiences for children, youth, families and individuals. Need financial assistance? Contact Julie Shannon about "c a m p e r s h i p s" at jshannon@northminster-indy.org

SAVE THE DATES!

VBS is June 13-16, 5:45 -8 pm

For ages 4yr (by 4/1/11)-Middle School
Come for the stories, games, songs and crafts and stay for the 6th Annual Homemade Neighborhood Parade!
Debbie Bulloff dbulloff@northminster-indy.org has more information.

Check out our library - many new books & videos!

There are devotional books out on the library table for you to check out. Lenten and Easter materials are also available. Come check them out upstairs right by the new elevator, across from the Jesus wall. Church School classes will be visiting, you can too! Just open the book, sign your name on the card in the pocket, put it in the check-out tray and borrow the title. Very easy!

Computers are STILL needed

We need at least two computers to add to our computer lab in the 3rd-5th 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.

Church School in March

March 6

Focus Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9

The Season after Epiphany closes with the disciples witnessing Jesus' holy encounter on a mountain. Transfiguration reveals Jesus "shining" and is also a call to listen to him. In what ways do we, the people of Northminster Church, listen to Jesus?

March 13

Focus Scripture: Psalm 32

As we begin the Season of Lent, we need to think about the things that we do that separate us from God and our neighbors. We will join the psalmist's shouts of joy that God is for us!

March 20

Focus Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a

During Lent we will trace the story of God's love over centuries of history. As we journey with Abram and Sarai as they travel to a new place, we can see that God will be with us wherever we are.

March 27

Focus Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7

"Is God among us or not?" is a question running through this Season of Lent. When trouble comes on their journey, thirsty Israelites quarrel with Moses and question God's presence. For what does your soul thirst? We will consider what things and people are life-giving for us.

What else is happening?

Broomball Anyone?

March 11, 10pm-12am



Cost is \$10 per person. Bring a broom and duct tape! We'll be hitting the Ice at the Pepsi Coliseum playing with & against other area churches.

Following Broomball there is an overnight at First Baptist Church additional details to follow.

2011 Ken-ya Help Us Carnival

Calling All Youth!!!

Bring your friends to the 2011 Kenya Carnival Pizza Party Kick-off Mon., 3/14, 6 pm - 7:30 pm in the Youth Suite - 2nd Presbyterian Church.

Don't miss this chance to be a part of an awesome and FUN experience. We have opportunities for all ages, from early elementary to adults. This is a youth-led, interfaith project with students leading meetings, organizing tasks/committees, doing fundraising, and sponsoring games! In the past three years, the Kenya Carnival has raised more than \$65,000 to send 100 Kenyan students to high school. We need YOU to get involved and help make Kenya Carnival even bigger and better this year. Ken-Ya Help Us? YES YOU CAN!!! Come to the Pizza Party kick-off on Monday, March 14th to help us help the kids in Kenya!

Ken-ya Help Us?

A Huge Thank you to NPC!

The youth collected \$721 & 20 canned goods for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 6. The money collected goes to the Interfaith Hunger Initiative & food items go to Westminster Neighborhood Ministries! Thanks for your help to combat hunger locally and globally!

Mexico Mission Trip 2011

A small group is headed to Mexico this year. The tentative dates are July 16 to July 23. We need to know **very soon** if you are interested in going. Email Becca Haag at becca.haag@gmail.com or Julie Shannon with questions at jshannon@northminster-indy.org

Montreat & Massanetta Conference deposits due

Send in your \$50 deposits to save a spot on our summer conference trips.



Massanetta Middle School

Conference: leave 6/20

conference: 6/21 - 6/24

for 6th, 7th & 8th graders



Montreat Youth Conference 7/9 - 7/16 for graduated 8th graders thru graduated high school seniors.

Youth Fellowship Activities



March 4

Italian Night Prep 5-9 pm

Help Julie & Mike decorate & prepare for Italian Night. Dinner included

March 5

Italian Night Fundraiser 2011

Arrive by 10am & finish set up. Preparations are all day. Volunteers need to arrive by 4:30pm to have dinner. Event begins at 6pm. Clean up help is always appreciated and we usually "close up shop" by 10pm

March 6

3rd Annual Bible Bowl

No Youth Fellowship tonight

Pitch-in lunch at noon in Calvin Hall, competition in the Gathering Place! This is a fun way to see how much you've learned in Sunday school and church!

March 13

Family Night at Youth Group

6-8pm. We'll have dinner for all families (sibs & parents). After dinner, adults can visit or play - from 7-8pm - Jacob & Julie provide youth activities!

March 20

Regular Youth Fellowship 6-8pm Next 2 weeks is Spring Break for many schools. 3/27 & 4/3 will be movie outing or bowling night!

Contact information for youth

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



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NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2011

Have you met our new members?

BY ASSOCIATE PASTOR RUTH MOORE

The following people were received into membership by the Session in January. Please introduce yourself to them and look for their pictures on the bulletin board leading into the Gathering Place entrance to the sanctuary.

Suzanne and John Gaidoo

were received by letter of transfer and affirmation of faith respectively. Suzanne is an attorney at Lewis and Kappes and John is an attorney with Baker and Daniels.

Wesley and Roslynn Lancaster

were received by letter of transfer. Wes is a CPA, both are elders and looking forward to becoming active at NPC. Their children **Lauren** (Cathedral High School) and **Jonathan** (Indiana Univ.) also transferred their memberships.

Sarah Oldham

was received by letter of transfer. She is new member Ros Lancaster's mother and a retired teacher with the South Bend school system.

Tori and Edy Merida

were received by letter of transfer. Tori is a paralegal and student & Edy is a sushi chef. There are the parents of Sofia 4, Eva 3 and Gabriel 1.

Mason and Victoria Coleman

were received by letter of transfer. Mason is a banker with Fifth Third Bank and Victoria is a retired special education teacher.

Check out their photos on the "Members in the News" bulletin board.

A Baroque Tapestry: The Music of J. S. Bach, March 20

BY JOHN M. WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Sound & Spirit, the arts at Northminster, presents *A Baroque Tapestry: the Music of J. S. Bach* at 4:00 Sunday, March 20. This concert of one of history's most important and influential composers features the Northminster Chancel Choir, Northminster Chamber Ensemble, an orchestra of 23 players, Dr. Marko Petricic, organ, Dr. Randall Frieling, piano, and soloists Angelique Zuluaga, Soprano; Laura Thoreson, Alto; Matt Brown, Tenor; and Ronald Berry, Bass-baritone. This free concert offers some of Bach's best known orchestral, choral, and keyboard works, including *Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D*, the motet *Lobet den Herrn*, choral movements from *B minor Mass*, Cantata 140 *Wachet auf, ruft uns die*

Stimme, Cantata 147 *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben*, and the complete Cantata 80 *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott*. The program offers a few "top ten" Bach hits for those who may not know his music, as well as entire works which explore his craftsmanship and artistry as a master composer.

Cantata 80, "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott" (A Mighty Fortress is our God), was based on Martin Luther's hymn, written during the last decade of Bach's life (1740s). Set for orchestra, four part chorus, soprano, alto, tenor, and bass soloists, one clearly hears the hymn tune sung by either the soprano soloist or chorus in 4 of the 8 movements. The work begins in unique fashion – without a prelude or introduction, chorus embarks on a magnificent fugue.

The choir sings this opening movement for a little over 6 minutes. Bach's *Suite No. 3 in D Major* is an example of Bach taking the dance form "suite", removing it from the category of light "dinner table music" and turning it into worldly festive music. The opening festive overture dominates half the work. Many of our listeners will recognize the movement known as "Air on G string."

Our mission partner for this concert is the Broad Ripple High School Performing Arts department. An offering will be taken and presented to the ongoing work of this arts magnet school of the Indianapolis Public School system.