

News & Views

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

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2009

Time is winding down

BY BOB GUDGEL, BUILDING COMMITTEE CHAIR

After 15 months of construction, we are heading into the home stretch. Our goal was to be finished by the end of September, but there is still a lot of work to do in just 30 days. Despite an all out effort to get done, we will most likely see October roll in before we can finally put the hardhats away.

The trades are working hard to meet the deadline. The masons have laid 10,400 brick to finish off the main structural column in the new Gathering Place. Add to that another 15,000 brick around the exterior of the addition. This was all accomplished in six days!

The ironworkers were forced to delay their work for three weeks while some stubborn concrete finally cured to the required hardness. But once started, they set, bolted, and welded the seven 2,000 pound beams that form the roof of the Gathering Place and they did it in just half a

day (wouldn't you know I missed most of it sitting in the dentist office that morning). In another two days, they cut and welded all the metal decking to form the roof that has since been



insulated and shingled. The ironworkers are a proud group of men as evidenced in the photo showing them celebrating on the peak of the new roof.

One week we had over 35 workers on site with numerous construction vehicles coming and going faster than

the two parking lots could accommodate. In the midst of it all, three school buses unloaded 60 high school kids in the north parking lot. I ran around to see what was going on. It was the Centerville Marching Band in town for Band Day at the State Fair. Did you know that our church hosts a band each year to

give them a place to rest out of the heat and dust of the fairgrounds? They relax and eat in Calvin Hall while waiting for their evening performance time. I didn't know we did that! Cheeze, there is so much stuff going on around here even during construction . . . what might this church be able to accomplish when all this work is done? ■

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

seek, serve and embrace



Pastoral pondering . . .

BY TERI THOMAS, PASTOR



This month I have been working with four of our members who are or were in the care of hospice. I just want to say that I think hospice is one of the greatest organizations I have ever encountered.

Hospice care can take place in any setting. Some people move to a hospice facility like the one on West 86th near Michigan Road. Some people have hospice come to their homes. Those in retirement homes or health care facilities frequently have hospice come to them there. The place doesn't matter.

Hospice is for folks who know they are going to die and have accepted that. Many folks begin hospice care while they are still fully alert, mobile and aware. Once you enter hospice care, your treatment for any illness stops. For example, if you have cancer you will stop chemo treatments. However, medical care does not stop. Hospice patients receive regular care from doctors

and nurses, pain medication and anything needed to be comfortable. They continue to function as able—eating, drinking, visiting, going out.

What makes hospice care different is that the primary issue is the patient's physical, spiritual and emotion comfort and the other important issue is care for the family and loved ones. Hospice helps people die comfortably with their family and friends and even pets around them. I am rarely called to a hospital at the time a person is dying. I am frequently called to hospice to be with a person and their family at the time of death. It is an awesome privilege and sacred experience.

American medical care has become very good at prolonging life and we are all very grateful for that. But sometimes life is prolonged because it can be, not because it should be. That is hard on the family and often painful for the one who is ready to die.

None of us like to think about our own death. But I encourage you to talk with your family and let your wishes be made known. Think about what you want and what you do not want when the time comes for you to make your final journey. If you need help talking to your family, ask one of the pastors to help you.

I really believe that death is not the worst thing that can happen to us. My family knows that when the time comes they can take me to St. Vincent's Hospice and turn on some good jazz and I'll be happy. ■

Clarification of August's "Financial Update"

"Financial Update" in the August *News & Views* requires clarification to avoid misunderstanding. In the article, "additional pledges and

special gifts" are described as applicable to revenue for the year 2010. *Actually, they were applied to the year 2009.* ■

September Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m.

September 6

We will celebrate communion by intinction at both the 9 and 11 a.m. services. Ruth Moore is preaching and we begin a short series on the Book of James.

September 13

September 13 is Kickoff Sunday for fall. Join us. Teri Thomas is preaching on "Taming the Tongue." We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at 11.

September 20

Today is Bible Sunday when the third graders receive their Merriman Memorial Bibles. Teri Thomas will preach on "Understanding Scripture."

September 27

We will have a Service of Wholeness at both 9 and 11 a.m. with special prayers for healing, health and wholeness. Ruth Moore will preach.

■ ■ ■

Save November 22

On November 22 is the Dedication Service for the renovation and addition. There is a special worship service at 9 and 11 a.m. with the dedication at 10.

Adult Education

Check out the insert in your *News & Views*, the Sunday bulletin each week and bulletin boards for a listing of Adult Education classes on Sunday at 10 a.m.

Open to the Future gives gifts that build

BY RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Joy's House receives gift to expand

On July 23 Pastor Teri Thomas and Associate Pastor Ruth Moore toured the newly expanded Joy's House, our neighbor just east of us on Broad Ripple Avenue. President and CEO Tina McIntosh showed us around the new facility and we got to meet some of the guests.

Joy's House is an adult day care facility that is a safe and loving community devoted to safety, comfort and care. They serve adults of all ages and provide much

needed supervision so caregivers can continue to work outside the home or they can provide respite care as well.

Ten percent of your generous contributions to our *Open to the Future* Capital Campaign have been pledged to mission projects—our tithe to help others build and grow. The picture at the right shows Ruth Moore giving Tina McIntosh a check for \$25,000 to help with Joy's House's building campaign—neighbors helping neighbors and partnering in ministry in our



community. For more information on Joy's House go to www.joyshouse.org.

Principe de Paz receives gift to build sanctuary

Pastor Neri Gonzalez Tomas, the pastor of our partner church in Cancun, visited us in worship on August 9. He was here in the United States helping with John Knox Presbyterian Church's bilingual vacation bible school and helping with a Latino camp at Camp Pyoca.

Thanks to your generous gifts to the *Open to the Future* Campaign we were able to give \$25,000 to our partner church,

Principe de Paz, and they have begun to build their sanctuary. Neri was here to say thank you to us on behalf of his congregation.

Our July 2009 Mexico mission participants leveled and poured Principe de Paz's new sanctuary floor. What a blessing, that through our building, we are able to help our brothers and sisters in Mexico build too. Muchas gracias, y Dios les bendiga! (*Thank you very much and to God be the glory!*) ■



Pastor Neri Tomas and his wife Leydy in front of their church sign and Pastor Neri Tomas and baby Ruth



Abby Hunter and Emma Moore helped Principe de Paz build their sanctuary during the Mission Trip in July. They are with their friend Nijele. The Mexico Mission Trip story is on page 4.

If it was July, we must have been in Cancun!

BY ANNE WEINHEIMER

Not everyone chooses to visit Cancun, Mexico, in July, when the heat and humidity are at their peak. For 20 Northminster folks and many others in the Whitewater Valley Presbytery, though, July is the time to go. For seven summers, groups from Northminster have traveled to the Cancun area as part of the partnership between our Presbytery and the Presbytery of Northern Quintana Roo to participate in a vacation bible school with our partner church. This July was the fifth time that we also have spent our mornings helping the congregation at Principe de Paz build their church building.

What an exciting year this was for the 20 youth and adults from Northminster! After helping to build (and rebuild, thanks to Hurricane Wilma) walls and classroom/office space in past summers, this year we got to start on the sanctuary. With materials purchased using a contribution from Northminster's *Open to the Future* campaign, the congregation of Principe de Paz was able to begin work.

When we arrived, we joined in, moving and leveling many loads of dirt and rocks, digging trenches, mixing cement, starting the walls that will



surround the room, and helping to pour the cement floor. It was a very hot week and the work was challenging, but when everyone gathered on the newly-poured floor to celebrate the end of VBS, it was worth it!

Our evenings were full of activity as we helped with games and crafts at VBS. The water balloons and the parachute game were popular favorites, as were the fish made from washcloths and soap! The very best

part of VBS, though, is getting to make new friends and spend time with our old friends (despite the heat and the mosquitoes). It's hard to believe how much some of the children have grown since last year.

We stayed again at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, and our youth joined some of the Bethesda folks for soccer and volleyball. One afternoon, we went to Tortuga (Turtle) Beach with Pastor Neri and his wife and some of the others from Principe de Paz; other afternoons, we shopped, went to the beach, napped, prepared for VBS, and collected recipes from the friends who were cooking for us. We also enjoyed worshiping with the congregation and playing games with them between Sunday services.

It is wonderful to watch Principe de Paz grow—both the building and the congregation. When Pastor Neri was at Northminster on August 9, he reported that the congregation

continues to work on the sanctuary. They hope to get the walls finished this year and would like to be able to put a ceiling on the sanctuary next year. Their construction goes much more slowly than ours, but they feel such joy at what has been accomplished so far. ■



From Northminster's Green Group

WALK, Bike, Carpool or take the bUS to worship September 25-27

Although we may differ in doctrine or faith teachings, religious communities hold in common the belief that the Earth is God's creation and we share a moral responsibility to care for the Earth and all living things.

Increasingly, congregations recognize that part of our responsibility in caring for the Earth is conserving energy and reducing our emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants. One of the key ways we contribute these emissions is through our use of motor vehicles, including driving to worship.

Northminster's Green Group urges you to support this effort to

cut back on your driving. On September 25-27, Indianapolis area congregations will be hosting their first WALBICUS week-end. Members from faith communities across Indianapolis will be asked to WALK, Bike, Carpool, or take the bUS to their services. Be sure to take part in this event and find a more environmentally friendly way of getting to worship! If you have any questions, please contact Green



Group Cochairs Sean Crittenden (crittendens98@sbcglobal.net or 385-3144) or Pete Grills (450-2129 or petegrills@gmail.com) or Janet McCabe at mccabe@ikecoalition.org. ■

Mission and outreach in the community

Support for School 55

During September Northminster will continue to collect back-to-school supplies for Indianapolis Public School 55. Collection boxes are at all the church entrances. Beside the usual school supplies such as pencils, copier paper, markers, glue, etc., this year Principal Stephanie West has asked us for assignment notebooks for grades 3rd-6th and 12 X 18 inch sheets of construction paper for teachers. If you have questions about this outreach project, please contact Norma Arend at 251-1549 or jfarend70@gmail.com.

Indianapolis Public School 55 participates in two programs that help schools raise money for equipment and supplies:

- Box Tops for Education

- Campbell Soup Labels for Education

Northminster church members can help School 55 by cutting out these coupons off products we use at home. Bring your coupons to the church office and put them in the Deacons' mail box. The Deacons will deliver them to School 55. *(More on page 12 about Northminster participation in the building of School 55's playground)*

Food for Westminster Neighborhood Ministries

Northminster is continuing to collect food and other items for Westminster Neighborhood Ministries. Located at 445 North State Avenue, Westminster Neighborhood Ministries partners with the neighborhood, Presbyterian churches and other community

organizations to serve families on Indianapolis' near east side.

Nonperishable food items needed include peanut butter, jelly, tuna, canned fruits, corn, soups, and beans, pastas, boxed macaroni and cheese, and rice. Nonfood items such as paper towels, toilet paper, diapers in any size, soaps for personal and laundry, deodorant, tooth brushes and toothpaste are also needed.

Please place donated items in the food barrels at the church entrances. The food you place in the barrels is also given to persons who come into the church office and request food. Church staff really appreciate having food to give to individuals seeking assistance from Northminster. Thank you. ■

Safe driving for seniors

BY LIZ NETERVAL, PARISH NURSE

Our parents are getting older. Aren't we all? Many seniors are still great drivers. But, there can be changes in response times, hearing and vision that can change your ability. These changes may be so subtle we don't notice them happening, but they are. For example:

- **Age 40:** Mental sharpness begins to diminish; thought processing slows; multi-tasking is more challenging; night vision and sensitivity and recovery from glare diminish.
- **Age 50:** Many people require bifocals; reaction time slows.
- **Age 60:** Muscle strength and range of motion decrease by as much as 25 percent.
- **Age 70:** Arthritic joints may make movement painful and restrict mobility; conditions such as stroke, Parkinson's disease, hypertension and diabetes may affect perception and behavior.

AARP has classes that address these issues and can be accessed on-

line at http://www.aarp.org/family/articles/driving_skills_need_a_tune_up.html. If you would prefer a classroom experience, that same site offers locations around town. Northminster hosted one of these classes and it was well received by those who attended.

Additionally when purchasing a car, look for assistive features such as large/wide-angle mirrors for those who have difficulty turning or twisting to look to the rear when changing lanes or backing up. Large wide-angle mirrors can improve visibility. Another assistive feature is a thick steering wheel. Thicker steering wheels require less hand and wrist strength to grip and handle.

For those whose driving is affected by cognitive changes the question becomes should they drive at all? Taking away car keys from a parent is a huge stressor for many families. The Alzheimer's Association suggests looking for signs such as forgetting how to locate familiar places, failing to observe traffic signs, making slow



or poor decisions in traffic, driving at an inappropriate speed or becoming angry or confused while driving. The Indianapolis metro area Crossroads Rehabilitation Center can test individuals and evaluate their safety and if modifications can be made.

If you are afraid to talk directly to your parent or they are resistant, partnering with their physician can be a helpful route. Or go on-line to the Alzheimer's Association at Alz.org (which acts as umbrella for all dementia forms) to find resources near where you live.

Above all, the fears of the driver should be validated. Giving up keys to a car is a huge loss of independence. Anger and frustration over losing the privilege of driving are to be expected, but safety is the greater concern. ■

Recognizing stroke immediately can save a life

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke or the person may die.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- Ask the individual *to smile*.
- Ask the person *to talk and speak a simple sentence* such as "It is sunny out today."
- Ask the person *to raise both arms*.

If he or she has trouble *with any one of these tasks*, call the emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New sign of a stroke

Another "sign" of a stroke is this:

- Ask the person *to stick out his/her tongue*. If the tongue is "crooked," if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

(This article about "a new sign of stroke" was contributed by John Smith.) ■

Northminster's Caring Ministries

Would you like to be a Stephen Minister?

Are you concerned about the needs of many of our church members and others in the community? Have you wished you had a way to be supportive of others? Do you have a few hours of time that you would like to use in a constructive way?

Our Stephen Ministry has been serving Northminster for the past eight years. Some who have been faithfully serving find that they are no longer able to serve. We are in need of providing continuing care to many persons. In order to fill that need, we will be offering training for additional Stephen Ministers?

What is required of a Stephen Minister? First, you will need to attend a comprehensive training program on Monday evenings from 6–8. Following this training, you will continue to meet with all Stephen Ministers for further training and supervision the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. When you have been assigned a care receiver, you will likely spend an hour each week visiting with the care receiver.

If you would like to have more information about how Stephen Ministry serves, please contact a Stephen Leader (*listed below*) or a pastor.



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
Proverbs 3:5–6

Stephen Ministers offer support

Support means “to hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking or slipping.” Support is something we all need. God gives us support through our Christian brothers and sisters. Let us all be sensitive to one another’s needs and take the time to support each other through prayers, phone calls, friendly chats after church, and even visits.

Deacons’ Calling—a new ministry

Some of you may already have gotten a call from “your” Deacon in the past couple of weeks. If not, don’t hang up on that friendly Deacon! This is the new Deacons’ Calling Ministry, our effort to create another link for you to Northminster.

These are *not* calls to ask you for anything. Instead, consider the Deacon on the other end of the line as a source of information about the

church or someone to respond to your joys or concerns or a way for you to provide comments or suggestions. We promise not to call all the time—but hope you’re glad when we do. As your Deacons, we’re looking forward to serving you. ■

- Also, remember that we have Stephen Ministers who are willing to give you or someone you know their support. For more information about Stephen Ministers call a Stephen Leader:
- Betty Bowers at 259-7366
 - Carol Campbell at 776-2700
 - Ann Dunipace at 872-5686
 - Nancy Jarrell at 255-8829

Stewardship Brunch October 18

On Sunday, October 18, is a Stewardship Brunch. This Stewardship Campaign 2010 event will be held between worship services from 9:45–11:15 a.m. in our new Gathering Place. Hosting the gathering will be your Stewardship Committee.

Our guest speaker will be Jim Morris, president of the Indiana Pacers and former executive director of the United Nations World Food Program, the world’s largest humanitarian agency. He is also a good Presbyterian.

This is a gathering you don’t want to miss. So put a note on your calendar now!

Education for all ages

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Church School resumes Sunday, September 13

Please be sure your child is registered for Church School, beginning September 13 at 10 a.m. Check www.northminster-indy.org under Ministries/Church School for an on-line link.

Teaching Church School

Please let Debbie Bulloff know if you are thinking of teaching/helping in the Church School this fall. We have openings at all levels from holding babies in our growing nursery, our loquacious toddlers, wonderful preschoolers, kindergartners, and grade school children. Our youth and senior highs are so exciting as they learn and grow along their faith journeys. Children's Church is evolving as we learn more about prayer and worshipping together.

We have a place for you. Do you have a place for the children of our Northminster community? Contact Debbie Bulloff at dbulloff@northminster-indy.org or 251-9489. She will happily provide great curriculum, teacher training and a chance to make new friends in our congregation and of course a chance to be a part of our children's hearts.

Bible Sunday September 20

Third graders will receive their Merriman Bibles on Sunday morning on September 20. Please be

sure to bring your own Bible that morning to share with the congregation at Fellowship Hour.

Communion Training September 27

All children who are enrolled in kindergarten–5th grade in the fall are invited to Communion Class September 27. Parents are especially invited to attend with their children. We will all meet in Room 203 and



then move to our Church School classes for age-appropriate activities. We will all plan to take communion with our Northminster Church family on October 4.

September Church School

On September 6, we will consider Mark 7:24-37. We will discover, with Jesus, that God's love includes everyone. When we open ourselves to one another, God breaks open possibilities for change, healing, and welcome. September 13 is the beginning of Church School at the 10 a.m. hour for grades K–12th. We

return to ask, "Who are you, Jesus?" as we study Mark 8:27-38. Who do we say Jesus is today by what we pray for in our hearts?

September 20 finds the Church School considering Mark 9:30-37. "If anyone wants to be first, they must be last of all and servant of all." (Mark 9:35). Who are the greatest people of all time, based on the way Jesus describes greatness? Wise hands do good.

On September 27, our lesson will be Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 20-22. The people of Israel are at risk. Esther acts with great courage to save them. What can we do as a congregation to take courageous action on behalf of wholeness in the community?

Thank you

We are so pleased at how beautiful and new our preschool and toddler rooms 111 and 112 look since their "make-over" by Bob and Cheri Gudgel and Gary and Mary Lee Ryan. We thank them so much!

Thank you

Thank you to the Do-in-a-Day Mission ChristCare group who came in on August 22 and cleaned our Church School cupboards, washed toys and spiffed us up to begin another Church School year.

Bread for World Communion

World Communion Sunday is October 4. If you would like to bake or bring bread, please let Debbie Bulloff know of your interest by September 20 at 251-9489 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org. ■

What's happening?

There's plenty to do at Northminster—whatever your time of life or interest

It is not too late to join choir

Live a thankful life by singing! See the schedule below and come join us. All choirs meet on Wednesday evenings. Contact Director of Music Ministries John Wright if you have questions or concerns at johnwright@northminster-indy.org.

- Celebration Choir, 6:30–7, Room 203, (K, or 5 by September 1–2nd grade) Director: Tammany Harding
- Peace Choir, 6–7, Choir Room (3rd–5th grade) Director: Krista Wright
- Middle High Choir, 6–7, Sanctuary Directors: John Wright and Marko Petricic
- Middle High Handbells, 7–7:35, Chapel, Director: Marko Petricic
- Chancel Choir (age 15 and up) 7–9, Choir Room, Director: John Wright

Parents with a Passion Wednesday evenings

Parents with a Passion resumed on August 26 at 6:15 p.m. at the church. Please join us as we get to know each other for these first few meetings and make plans for the rest of the year. There is child care.

Moms' Group September 29

The moms' group will have their first meeting of the season Tuesday, September 29, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Allison Gritton, 133 East 44th Street, Indianapolis. This group is for moms with kids 5 and under. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share. To RSVP or if you have questions contact Liz Neterval at eneterval@indy.rr.com.

Tandem September 15

Tandem (social group for people in their 70's and 80's) will meet for lunch at the MCL Cafeteria in Castleton Mall on the third Tuesday, September 15, at 11:30 a.m.

Men's Golf Outing report

Thank you to the 14 guys who signed up and played in this event on September 25 at Mohawk Hills Golf Club. Everyone seemed to have a great time (even though some of the scores were not great). The winner was Dwight Moritz.

Organizers of the golf event (Bob Bowers, Jack Wineman and Mike Shannon) extend a special thanks to the following businesses who made generous donations to our outing to help make it a great success: Binkley's Kitchen and Bar, Broad Ripple Brew Pub, Duke's Ultimate Car Wash in Carmel, Joe's Crab Shack, Just Judy's Cafe, McAlister's Deli on North Meridian and in Carmel, MCL Cafeteria in Carmel, Mo & Johnny's, Mohawk Hill Golf Club, and Yat's Restaurant.

Presbyterian Women (PWCN)

PWCN Moderators and Study Leaders will meet on Monday, September 14, at 10 a.m. in the Conference Room to review the Horizon Bible Study

Women's Retreat rescheduled

The Northminster Women's Retreat for September 26 has been canceled. It has been rescheduled for February 6 in our new Gathering Place from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Join us for a wonderful program on the "Art of Faith."



Tell your Bible's story September 20

Do you have a Bible that is special to you? Was it a gift? Perhaps it was given to you when you were confirmed. Maybe it belonged to your great, great, great grandparents who did not speak English. If your Bible has a personal story—or you just love the translation, pictures, maps or ease of use—bring it to Calvin Hall on Sunday, September 20, during Fellowship Hour so you can share *your* Bible's story in a table display.

Third graders will be presented with their own Merriman Memorial Bibles that day and we want them to see the variety of our Bibles and what it is that makes them important to us. Questions? Contact Mary Tarbell at 255-9250 or swansons3@comcast.net.

Senior University 2010

Save the date: March 10, 2010. In community with St. Paul's Episcopal, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, St. Luke's United Methodist, Progressive Baptist and Northminster Church, we will consider "Sacred Music: Our neighbor's experience in worship and prayer." More information later. ■

Time is winding down



Photos show the extension on the east side of the church, the scaffolding for completing the brickwork and the opening for the door leading to the south parking area.



Photos of the Gathering Place as workman shingle the roof and view of the Gathering Place clerestory windows, which help reduce or eliminate the need to use electrical lighting during the day.



New chancel furniture was placed after worship on August 23—communion table, pulpit, baptismal font and stand for multiple uses.

What's happening with youth?

Thank you from Victoria Eder

This summer with the help and kindness

of Northminster Church, I was able to spend an amazing seven weeks in Brest, France.

Through the Indiana Honors Program in Foreign Languages, a group of about 30 students and I, all

from Indiana, spent the summer going to school and completely immersing ourselves in the French culture.

Everyday I took classes in literature, conversation, grammar and culture. I learned so much—everything from seventeenth century poetry to everyday expressions. Every other Friday, our teachers



took us to see amazing places around northern France including Omaha Beach and the Mont Saint Michel. At the end we were able to see Versailles and spend two days in Paris.

This trip was more incredible than I ever could have imagined, and I would return in a heartbeat. Thank you so much to everyone here at Northminster who helped make it possible. This summer was an experience that I will remember for the rest of my life. *(Victoria Eder is a senior at Broad Ripple High School. She is the daughter of Joy Eder.)*

Youth: Sunday morning and evening pizza

Youth Church School

Church School begins for middle school and senior high students on Sunday, September 13, at 10 am. Middle School Coordinator Jacob Mann and Youth Director Julie Shannon will be teaching Church School. Currently our classroom space is limited, so we will meet as a combined group, upstairs in room 207.

Youth contact information

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

Pizza at Youth Fellowship

We ask that youth contribute \$3 towards the cost of pizza each Sunday night. You can send this money each week or pay in larger amounts (\$50 for a 4-month period). If you write a check, put “youth pizza” in the memo line and the money will go directly in our youth activities fund, which helps to cover the cost of pizza each week. ■



Youth Fellowship activities

September 6

No Youth Fellowship

September 13

Youth Kickoff Party—Bollywood Style with Indian food and Bollywood music. Dress up in your best “India” inspired clothing! Gals, think sparkly scarves and bangles. Guys, think tunics and turbans! Prizes will be given out to best dressed and most creative. Even if you do not dress up—you will not want to miss out on the fun of our Kickoff Party. Henna tattoos available (if ok’d by your parents). We will also brainstorm ideas for the coming year of youth group.

September 20 and 27

Regular Youth Fellowship, 6 to 8 Sunday evenings at Northminster! You can expect food, fun, and fellowship. We’ll start with dinner from 6-6:30, play some combined games, and then split into separate middle school and high school groups for Bible study and prayer time.

October 4 and 11

Regular Youth Fellowship, 6–8 Sunday evenings at Northminster!

October 18

Kickball outing and dinner from 4–8 p.m.

October 31

Youth will participate in Trunk or Treat in north parking lot.

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

SEPTEMBER 2009

Community builds playground for School 55

BY ELEANOR KEPPLER, DEACON

Indianapolis Public School 55 is partnering with the Indianapolis Colts, Lucas Oil Products, Inc. and National Starch LLC to build a playground for the school and surrounding neighborhood. KaBOOM, a national nonprofit organization that builds playgrounds, is facilitating the project.

The playground's Build Day is Tuesday, September 29, with about 250 volunteers working from 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. to construct the dream playground. Saturday, September 27, will be a Preparation Day with 30 volunteers organizing the materials and equipment for Build Day.

Sound impossible? KaBOOM partners with community groups all over the country to complete such playgrounds. These same sponsors worked with KaBOOM last year and constructed a similar playground for an IPS school.

A committee of volunteers representing all of the project's partners met on July 27 to design

the playground and organize teams. After children completed playground drawings and wish lists were compiled, the planning portion of the project was broken down into seven teams with the community partners and School 55 contributing to each team. Northminster members Jinny and Bob Bork (School 55 volunteers), Dolly Craft (Evangelism Team), Stephanie Alexander (School 55 parent) and Elle Keppler (Deacon) participated in the planning session and are continuing to contribute in the weekly conference phone calls.

School 55 asked Northminster to assist with the food and recruitment/registration teams. We

will be working with volunteers from the other partners to obtain food, water and supply donations from various community restaurants and vendors. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for workers on both Preparation Day and Build Day.

For this endeavor to be a success, we need to help School 55 recruit volunteers. The community partners will supply about 150 volunteers and School 55 is responsible for the remaining 100. Principal Stephanie West hopes to recruit at least half of these from parents of students. Northminster hopes to support the school by recruiting the other 50 volunteers from the community and church. Volunteers can be any willing person who wants to

contribute to a project for the good of children. It is not necessary for volunteers to have construction skills. Volunteers will be divided into teams as they register on Build Day morning. A team of volunteers will work with a Build Team Captain to complete a component of the playground. Contact Jinny Bork at rbork3@comcast.net or 849-4410 if you want to volunteer or sign up on the volunteer board outside the Choir Room. ■

