

# News & Views

Northminster Presbyterian Church  
Indianapolis, IN 46220 317-251-9489

1660 Kessler Blvd. East Dr.  
www.northminster-indy.org

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2011

## Join us for Kick-Off Sunday on September 11 A Time to Remember, Restore and Renew

### Church School begins 9/11

Church School begins again on Sunday, Sept 11 at 10am. Contact Debbie Bulloff at 251-9489 x16 or dbulloff@northminster-indy.org for the location of your child's classroom. Nursery, Toddler and Preschool care continues all morning from 9 - noon. K-5<sup>th</sup> grade children will be dismissed from worship for Children's Church (Rm 204) after the Time with Children at both 9:20 and 11:20am.

### Sunday Adult Bible Study

Beginning on Sunday, September 11 at 10am in the Board Room (downstairs), Pastors Teri and Ruth will lead a weekly bible study. Our topic each week will be the lectionary scripture passages that we use in worship. We'll discuss the scripture passages that will be used in worship the following Sunday. Please join us as we begin this new weekly opportunity to learn and share the scriptures together.

### Interfaith Prayer & Service Project

On Sunday, Sept. 11, the Interfaith Hunger Initiative, Indy Worship Studio and Gleaners Food Bank invite people of all faiths to come together for an interfaith service of prayers, and an opportunity to make a difference for hungry people. For more information, see the article on page 4 in this *News & Views*.

### Kickoff Picnic on the Plaza!

Well....maybe more accurately, a picnic on the south parking lot. The Congregational Life Team invites everyone – friends and family – to a picnic following the 11 o'clock worship service on September 11. Please come and share a meal with friends, old and new. Why not invite someone to come to church with you that day? We'll supply the food – hot dogs, chips, lemonade, and dessert. Reservations are not required and a free-will offering will be accepted. Want to help with the picnic? Contact: Mary Tarbell, 255-9250, swansons3@comcast.net

JOIN US FOR  
KICK-OFF SUNDAY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
A Time to Remember, Restore and Renew



September is a time for all of us, no matter what age, to start new and to start again. Get *your* new season started with a time of remembering, restoring and renewing.

- **Worship at 9 and 11am**
- **Classes for adults and kids of all ages at 10am**
- **Picnic following worship at 12 noon**

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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 REV. DR. TERI THOMAS, HEAD PASTOR



**H**old onto your hats as we plow into the fall season with new and expanded programs for folks of all ages. "Parents with a Passion" is up and running. Be sure to join the pastors and Julie Shannon each Wednesday evening for discussions on topics of concern to those who parent children.

Ruth and I are going to start a Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study at 10am (or shortly thereafter) on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Many of you have been asking for this so we'll see how it goes. See the details in the article on the cover of this *News & Views*. Come help us explore the passages for the following Sunday's worship. You can influence the sermon this way.

We are calling all singles to a BBQ at my house on Sept 18. I'm meeting with the J.O.Y. Group (Just Older Youth) on Sept 8<sup>th</sup> for lunch and pictures from Alaska and my infamous glacier hike.

This is a good time to try out a new group or program. Tuesday Women's Bible Study is at 10:45am at the church. Watch the bulletin and email for news of periodic Book Studies or other Adult Classes. There really is something for every age and interest.

In all the busyness please do not

forget about worship. Our theme this fall is Remember, Restore, Renew. Each Sunday will be a new chapter so please try to be regular in your attendance. We really miss you when you are absent.

Welcome back for fall and I'll see you in Church!

Blessings,

Pastor Teri

### Ring my chimes!!!!

We have a steeple and we have some old speakers and we have some folks who would love to have the church play bells from the steeple. Would you like that? Would you like that enough to help make it happen?

We are looking for a few good folks with interest and/or expertise such as mechanical engineers, audio and technology wizards, electricians, handymen, building and grounds folks, musicians, etc. who would be willing to meet a couple of times and explore the possibility of our chimes ringing once again in Broad Ripple.

If you are willing to help explore this possibility please send me an email at [terithomas@northminster-indy.org](mailto:terithomas@northminster-indy.org) or call the office with your name and interest at 251-9489. (Thanks for considering chiming in on this.)



## September Sundays at 9 & 11 am.

This fall our worship theme is- **Remember, Restore, Renew.**

Through the Book of Exodus, The Gospel of Matthew and some of Paul's letters we will look at our past, our present and our future as we recall the faith of our ancestors, work to restore our own relationships, and renew our own faith. Please join us each Sunday for Worship.

### Sunday, September 4 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we'll be remembering our past and exploring some of the stories that capture who we are as a congregation. Communion will be served by intinction at both 9 and 11am. Teri Thomas is preaching.

### Sunday, September 11 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Teri Thomas is preaching on restoration. We'll explore forgiveness as a journey toward freedom and reconciliation. Plan to stick around for the All-Church Picnic following the 11am service.

### Sunday, September 18 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Exodus passage is about manna from heaven and Matthew talks about fairness and equity. Through it all we learn of God's generous nature. Join us as Teri Thomas explores these passages.

### Sunday, September 25 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The scripture helps us look at the question, "Is God among us?" The third graders will receive their Bibles in worship. Teri Thomas is preaching.

# What's happening at Northminster?

## PLEASE, let us know . . . .

and remind your children or caregivers. Hospitals, care facilities, & retirement communities are not allowed to share any information with your pastors. They may ask you for your religious affiliation when you check in but they do not contact us to let us know.

## For Your Health. . . .

The health ministries bulletin board (located across from the chior room) is updated frequently with news, research and resorces from the community. If you see something you would like feel free to pull it off and take it home! If there is a specific topic you would like more information on feel free to email or call the parish nurse and a packet can be sent to your home. Email Liz Neterval at lneterval@northminter-indy.org or the call the church office ,251-9489 x28

## We're looking for a few good baristas.....

The Congregational Life Team wants YOU for coffee hour. The "perks" include: participating in a shared effort with a great group of people, a chance to circulate beyond your usual buddies at church and access to the first donut hole out of the box.

We also need volunteers to help with a variety of congregational events planned to bring members of the church together outside of worship. You determine your time commitment. You determine how involved you want to be. For more information and to volunteer contact: Shirley Smith , 7 5 2 - 4 5 2 9 , shirley.smith@indwes.edu; or Josh Hill, JoshHillNPC@yahoo.com, 317-695-8115

## Tuesday Women's Bible Study

All women of the congregation are invited to the Tuesday Morning Women's Bible study as we start our group up again on Tuesday, September 13 at 10:45 am. We begin our time together with sharing and prayers and then we will study the lectionary scripture passages for next Sunday's worship. This group is friendly, open and supportive of one another and we would love to have new folks join us. We meet each downstairs in the Board Room with Pastor Ruth Moore as our bible study leader. Come join us! For more information or questions contact Ruth Moore at 251-9489 or ruthmoore@northminster-indy.org.

## Welcome our new members

**Tim and Elizabeth Ballard:** Tim is an analyst/mgr at Indiana University Health and Elizabeth is at home right now although she is a trained therapist. They usually attend the 9 am service and come to us by reaffirmation of faith and affirmation of faith respectively.

**Jeff, Nannette and Nathan Kinney :** The Kinneys are former members. They were married at Northminster. Jeff is the owner and Nannette is a buyer for Kinney Dancewear on E. 62nd St. Their son Nathan is a college student.

**Russell and Lynda Cline:** The Clines are also former members reuniting with us. They are both retired and spend half the year at their home in Florida. Lynda's parents, Cecil and Elnora Ball, were active members at Northminster as is her sister, Cheryl Jacklin.

## Cool Off in September

Join the J.O.Y. Group's Virtual Alaska Tour on Thursday, 9/8. A tasty luncheon will be served at 12 noon. Afterlunch, don your binoculars and sunscreen as Rev. Teri Thomas takes us on an exciting cruise and tour to Alaska. Cost is \$7 each for lunch. Reserve your spot with church office by noon on Tuesday, 9/6.

## Invite Your Friends to Worship

Seventy percent of people who visit a church come because someone invited them. We have a perfect opportunity to invite our friends and neighbors to worship on September 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be starting up our new educational opportunities for children, youth and adults, and we will be having a picnic right after worship outside in the parking lot. It should be a fun and energy filled Sabbath so don't be shy, but instead be an evangelist and invite people to join us.

## Get on the Bus: Let's go!

We have a bus. Let's use it! NPC is starting a new get out and go singles ministry/group/mob/gang/team. Pastor & Barbeque Maven, Teri Thomas, is hosting the kickoff at her house 9/18 at 5pm. Northminster will provide the meat, veggie burgers, chips & and ice cream. Bring a drink or a little nibble, if you wish...and bring a list of places and things to do. The "Get on the Bus" gang will meet every 4-6 weeks. Contact the church office, 251-9489 or contact Jennifer Smith jennifer@avantgarb.com

## What Do Deacons Do?

The Deacons have been collecting and distributing new school supplies to School 55. If you still have some to donate please bring them in and put them in the baskets in the Gathering Place. The baskets will remain until mid to late September. The Deacons also prepared and served a Welcome Back luncheon for the teachers of School 55 on August 5<sup>th</sup>.



## IHI 9/11 Interfaith Prayer & Service Project

September 11, 2001 is forever etched in our hearts and minds. To acknowledge the tenth anniversary of that fateful day, the Interfaith Hunger Initiative, Indy Worship Studio and Gleaners Food Bank invite people of all faiths and spiritual journeys to come together for an interfaith service of prayers, community art, and an opportunity to make a difference for hungry people as we continue to bring hope and goodness from the ashes of tragedy.

The experience will give all participants the opportunity to explore the themes of Enormity and Abundance . . . the enormity of the 9/11 tragedy and the abundance of

humanity and selflessness we witnessed in its aftermath . . . the enormity of the problem of hunger in contrast to our abundance of food, resources and generosity . . . and the enormity of ignorance and intolerance countered by the abundance of people from different traditions or no faith tradition willing to work together to make a difference and live in peace.

All are invited to gather for an initial time of informal fellowship and the opportunity to participate in community art projects and place prayers in a prayer wall. The Interfaith Prayer Service will follow. Afterwards attendees are invited to

volunteer their time to a Gleaners work project, to take a tour of the impressive Gleaners Food Bank facilities, or to remain for food, fellowship and art activities.

**Location:** Gleaners Food Bank, 3737 Waldemere, Indianapolis, IN

**Time:** 3pm interfaith prayer service followed by community art experience and volunteer work at Gleaners.

**Cost:** Free and open to the public.

A freewill donation to IHI will be gratefully received. For more information visit [www.interfaithhungerinitiative.org](http://www.interfaithhungerinitiative.org), or email [interfaithhunger@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithhunger@gmail.com).

## God Loves a Cheerful Giver!

BY TONY RICCHIUTO & PAUL JOHNSON, CO-CHAIRS OF STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Every time I hear this phrase, I know what is coming next . . . Stewardship, the annual event of pledging our time, talents and, of course our financial resources. Paul's message in 2 Corinthians says "Each one should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." What does this mean to you?

In considering my annual pledge, I often forget about all the things our congregation does. There are many things we see each day (or Sunday) . . . the beautiful Gathering Place and

Sanctuary, the wonderful music, and of course, the meaningful sermons. However, I frequently forget all the things that go into these blessings . . . the many hours of practice by the choir, the hours of research to prepare for each sermon, and all those bills (electric, water, sewer, gas, etc.). All these things that generally go un-noticed are what make our services and events such a joyous time.

The Stewardship Committee is planning several events as part of the annual campaign. Our intent is to shine a light on the numerous behind-the-

scenes things that go on in the daily life of the church, all of which are supported by your generous tithes and offerings. Please stop by the Support Team table between services to learn more about our budget and the many activities you support. Although Stewardship is an ongoing event, the 2011-12 campaign will culminate on October 30th (Commitment Sunday). As we prepare to begin the Annual Campaign, I encourage you to pray for the Lord's guidance in deciding what is in your heart . . . and to be a Cheerful Giver!

## Picturing the Face of Jesus on 9/25

BY BETH BOORAM, AUTHOR AND PRESENTER

*A presentation on how contemplating images of Jesus can enhance your spiritual life*

For many Christians, Jesus has never been all that personal or real. Some are weary with the plethora of information about Christ but long for an experience with him. Picturing the Face of Jesus is an invitation to experience Jesus more deeply.

Through a rich palette of experiential mediums — art contemplation, gospel story-telling, and imaginative prayer— this class will invite participants to picture the face of Jesus, his expressive, one-of-a-kind, human face.

This presentation, to be held in Calvin Hall will help you cultivate an imagination for the face of Jesus as he was encountered by people in the gospels. You will learn to see his humanness as

you look beneath his words to the powerful effect he had on individuals. In turn, your heart will be transformed as you begin to mirror the face of Christ in the world.

Beth Booram will facilitate this presentation based upon her book, *Picturing the Face of Jesus*. She is a local author and life-time vocational minister. For more info go to: [www.bethbooram.org](http://www.bethbooram.org)

# Mission and outreach

## PDA Responding to famine in Somalia & Horn of Africa

BY REV. RUTH CHADWICK MOORE, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The major famine in Somalia and other parts of the Horn of Africa has become a significant humanitarian crisis. The Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) have declared famine in five areas in Somalia. Although many organizations are working aggressively in the southern regions of Somalia, with access restrictions and difficulties in scaling up emergency assistance programs, famine could spread across all regions of the south in the coming four to six weeks.

The number of people in need of assistance has risen to 12.4 million. About 29,000 children have died from the famine, and thousands more are at risk.

An unprecedented number of Somalis are taking huge risks every day, walking hundreds of miles and crossing borders into neighboring countries hoping to reach the safety of refugee camps and feeding centers. The Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya—the world’s largest refugee camp—has exceeded its capacity. The camp, originally built to hold 90,000 refugees, is now holding more than 420,000 refugees.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is responding to this crisis in cooperation with members of ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together). ACT members with experience and partnerships in the area are working to help meet basic humanitarian needs of food, water and sanitation, and medical care for people in the camp and in host

communities in both Kenya and Somalia. Special therapeutic feeding and nutrition is being provided to children under the age of five. PDA has provided \$200,000 from One Great Hour of Sharing funds towards relief efforts in Somalia and the Horn of Africa.

You can help respond to this critical need by standing in the GAP for affected families.

**GIVE.** Share your financial blessings. Make a gift online, through your local Presbyterian congregation, or from your cell phone: text PDACARES to 20222.

**ACT.** Stay informed and share information about the need with others. Use some of the prayers and worship resources found on the Horn of Africa response index to help lift up the need.

**PRAY.** Our best response is prayer. Please pray for families struggling to survive the harsh conditions of this famine and for those who lost loved ones due to this crisis. Pray for those responding to the disaster, and for those whose lives are linked to both the disaster survivors and the workers who minister to them.

### Hands ON/Hands Involved

Upcoming mission events & volunteer opportunities

- **Coming in September**

Underwear collection on 2 Sundays in mid-September for the MLK Multi-Service Center, Illinois St. All sizes, all kinds, all new. Watch for baskets around the church.

- **Coming in October**

**Walbicus**, walk, bike, bus, or carpool to church for a greener congregation.

**Crop Walk**, sponsored by Church World Service, raises funds to end hunger here and around the world. Plan to walk or sponsor someone who can.

**Alternative Christmas**, later this fall. Ways to honor friends and family at Christmas with gifts that also benefit various missions.



## Education for all ages

### We learned to 'Pass on the Gift'. We did it!

BY DEBBIE BULLOFF, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

The VBS 2011 Heifer International Mission Challenge to the NPC Congregation was a huge success. We learned to Pass on the Gift and worked to raise \$5000 and with your help, we did it! NPC's Vacation Bible School always has a Mission component and this year our summer project was to raise \$5000 to buy goats and chickens and help folks learn about gardening for Heifer Project at the schools we help with lunch in the Meseno District in Kenya. We began with Lemonade Day in May and continued with VBS

and worked all summer to raise money to buy animals and "pass on the gift." Thanks to all of you, we made our goal and passed it! Your gifts through the Milk Pail, the Quarter Tube, the Lemonade stands, anonymously given with love, publicly given with love and lots of Noise (thanks to Pastor Teri), birthday cash, and all that change in your cars and homes will allow the Church School and the VBS kids to send a really BIG gift to Kenya to help other families pass on the gift! Bless you and thank you all!

### God's calling. Are you listening?

Serve the Lord in a new way this year. Teachers and Helpers needed for Church School 2011-2012 Classes are forming for Church School this fall and the only thing we are missing is you! If you love children and Jesus, you are qualified! Talk with Debbie Bulloff 251-9489 ext. 16 [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org) about serving one Sunday/month for the Church School year. We especially need baby holders, toddler-lovers, and fans of preschoolers, to help out one Sunday each month. Easy-to-use curriculum and all resources provided. This is a great way to meet and team with folks here at Northminster. God is calling you. Are you listening?

### Northminster Church Library

Our library has many new books and resources available for check out. The Library is located upstairs right by the elevator. Come visit and check out a book or DVD. Check books out from the book carts in the Gathering Place on Sunday mornings, too. [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org).

### Important dates to remember

#### Sept. 11: Church School begins

Church school begins today at 10am Check with Debbie Bulloff at [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org) for location of your child's classroom.

#### September 25: Bible Sunday

Third Graders will receive their Merriman Bibles in worship.

#### September 25: Communion Training

All Church School students will have training at 10 am in preparation for World Communion Sunday. **Parents, attend with your children.**

#### October 2: World Communion Sunday

All children and youth K-12<sup>th</sup> grade will join their families in Worship at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. for World Communion Sunday

#### October 2: Bread to Share

If you can bring your favorite bread to share with the Congregation at Fellowship Time at 10 a.m. on Oct. 2, let Debbie Bulloff know at [dbulloff@northminster-indy.org](mailto:dbulloff@northminster-indy.org).

## Church School in September

The Church School will be celebrating the "Season of Creation," a month when we celebrate the awesome creative powers of God. Children will talk about an "eco challenge" to reduce our environmental footprint on creation.

### Sunday, September 4 Forest Sunday

#### Focus Scripture: Acts 17: 22-28

The children will consider Paul's visit to Athens. During that visit he spoke about God's awesome power of creation and how it could not be contained in statues. God's love is deep inside us and all around us. What can the forest teach us about ourselves and about God?

### Sunday, September 11 Land Sunday

#### Focus Scripture: Psalm 139: 7-12

The psalmist stood on the land, looked up to the heavens, and saw a great dome covering the land. We'll wonder what it means that God is with all creation. We will consider ways we might work with God to bring healing and harmony to Earth.

### Sunday, September 18 Wilderness/Outback Sunday

#### Focus Scripture: Romans 8: 18-27

In Jesus' relationship with God and in Paul's teaching, wilderness — the place of desolation, barrenness, isolation — becomes the place where hope is alive and comfort is a gift from God. What will we hear?

### Sunday, September 25 River Sunday

#### Focus Scripture: Revelation 22: 1-5

We will step into John's vision: step into the water of life, hear the sound of the river singing us into renewed relationship with all creation. What would a world overflowing with God's love look like?



# What else is happening at Northminster?

## Volunteers needed for *Ken-ya Help Us? Carnival*

BY JULIE SHANNON, DIRECTOR YOUTH MINISTRIES

**K**en-ya Carnival - Calling youth & parent volunteers to help run our inflatable Skee Ball game during the Carnival. The shifts are 2-4pm and 4-6pm. The Carnival is a lot of fun and raises a ton of money for The Global Interfaith Partnership. "Ken-Ya Help Us?" is a kid-led, community-wide, interfaith project that supports orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya. We support the Global Interfaith

Partnership and their mission to provide Kenyan orphans with education, food, and care. Our goal is not only to support students in Kenya but also to raise awareness of the poverty and struggles in our world, empower kids to be leaders, and bring the community together for a good cause. Please email Julie Shannon with the hours you'd like to volunteer. Plus, please enjoy the carnival too! It's a great day of fun, all for a great cause (and cheaper than the State Fair)

### IRA's and the Church

The 2010 Tax Relief Act extended a rule that is currently available only until December 31, 2011. If you are over 70½, you can make a distribution directly from a regular IRA to one or more of your favorite charities, and exclude up to \$100,000 from your gross income. This giving option may benefit you even if you don't itemize your deductions, or may help if you itemize and have already maximized your deductible contributions. Indiana taxpayers don't receive a charitable deduction for state income taxes, but you could benefit if you make this type of gift

because you will avoid federal, state, and county income taxes on the amount withdrawn from your IRA and distributed directly to the church. Another benefit: a charitable distribution from your IRA counts toward your required minimum distributions (RMDs.) This type of gift is pretty easy to complete, but to maximize benefits and to avoid pitfalls, it is wise to get advice from someone who has experience with this technique and other giving alternatives that may be even more beneficial to you and Northminster.

### Want to help serve Communion?

Included in this issue of News & Views is the Communion signup sheet for the fourth quarter of 2011. Communion will be served to the congregation in their seats all three Sundays. This means that 12 volunteers are needed for each service on each of these Sundays. **Anyone who has been ordained as an Elder or Deacon in the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)** can serve Communion — you do not have to

currently be serving as an Elder or Deacon at Northminster in order to be eligible to participate. Newcomers are always welcome and assignments and instructions are given prior to each service. Please consider signing up to serve. Place completed sign-up sheets in the Worship Team mailbox in the church office.

## Youth Activities in September



Welcome Back to our regular school year schedule!. By this time you have attended our fabulous Kick-Off Cookout at the Yohn's home. Here's what else is going on...

**Saturday, Sept. 3**  
**Ken-ya Help Us? Carnival**  
See article this page.

**Sunday, Sept. 4**  
No Youth Fellowship

**Sunday, Sept. 11**  
**All-Church Picnic at noon!**  
Meet at church at 2pm to carpool, or meet us at Gleaners Food Bank (3737 Waldemere, Indy) for the IHI Interfaith Prayer Service & Project. For more info see article on page 4 of this *News & Views*.

**Sunday, Sept. 18**  
Regular Youth Fellowship 6-8pm  
6-6:30pm Pizza  
6:30-7:15pm Games  
7:15pm-8pm Middle & H.S. groups meet separately for bible study, discussion, and prayer time. Come back and reconnect with all your church buds!

**Sat. - Sun., Sept. 24 - 25**  
**St. Louis Trip**

We'll depart early on Saturday, spend Saturday at the City Museum (cost is \$17), spend the night at a hotel, relax a little on Sunday morning, worship together, and head back to Indy by the afternoon.

**Sunday, Sept. 25**  
Regular Youth Fellowship, 6-8pm



# seek, serve and embrace

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NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2011

## New Presbyterian Hymnal, 2013

BY JOHN WRIGHT, DIRECTOR MUSIC MINISTRIES

You may have heard, or read in News and Views, that the Presbyterian Church is making plans to publish a new hymnal. It has been twenty one years since our current hymnal was published. Most denominations print an updated hymnal every twenty to twenty-five years.

Throughout the ages the people of God have been called to claim their song, to bear witness to the new thing that God is doing in the world here and now. Our new hymnal is a process of discerning what the Spirit is saying to the church today. Responding to that call, the General Assembly, in 2006, granted authorization for the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation to research, develop, and produce a new hymnal. Shortly thereafter, the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song (PCOCS) was formed. This is a committee of twelve Presbyterians, two under the age of twenty-five, with Mary Louise Bringle as chair, and David Eicher as editor. The committee is responsible for the content of the hymnal, and will present a complete list to the 2012 General Assembly meeting in Pittsburgh.

I have been very impressed with the inclusive nature of the committee's work on this project. Their website and their Facebook page

keep us informed as to the status, and welcomes and encourages input from all. For instance, their page *Frequently Asked Questions* addresses eleven good questions including, "Why do we need a new hymnal?" and "Who will decide what goes into the next hymnal?"

As one may imagine, the challenges of deciding which hymns should comprise a Presbyterian hymnal are great. Questions of language, theology, and Psalms are just a few issues the committee is continuing to address. For the past twenty-five years, the church has enjoyed an explosion of new and old songs and hymns available for congregations, and the committee is making an effort to use all of these forms including chant, folk music, world music, 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century hymns, contemporary hymns, and newly composed classical hymns. Then there's the obvious – which hymns are retained, which are cut. Did you know, for instance, that "Shall We Gather at the River" has never appeared in a Presbyterian Hymnal? Did you know "Be Thou My Vision" first appeared in the 1933 Presbyterian hymnal?

Northminster Presbyterian Church is a "hymnal advocate" church. This means that we have agreed to use certain hymns as per the committee's request. We will "try out" these hymns and provide feedback. Three of these

made appearances in our services this past winter and spring – "Toda la Tierra" ("All Earth is Waiting"), "Canticle of the Turning," and "Now the Silence." This fall the PCOCS asks all hymnal advocate churches to sing two old favorites - "Blest be the Tie that Binds" on Sunday, September 4 and "A Mighty Fortress is our God" on Sunday, October 30. The idea is for as many Presbyterian churches as possible to sing the same hymn on the same day, thereby raising awareness and support of the new hymnal process.

If you'd like more information regarding the Presbyterian Hymnal project, you may visit [www.thepresbyterianhymnal.org](http://www.thepresbyterianhymnal.org). "And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!" (from "When in our Music God is Glorified.")



**COMMUNION SIGN UP SHEET  
October, November, December 2011**

The Worship Team is seeking volunteers to serve communion in October, Novemeber & December of 2011. Retired clergy and anyone who has been ordained as an Elder or Deacon in the church are eligible to serve communion. (Eligibility to serve is *not* limited to those who are *currently* installed as Elders and Deacons.) The Worship Team encourages all eligible servers to participate.

At the bottom of this page you will find a list of dates. Please circle the date(s) and the worship service(s) when you are willing to serve. Be sure to put your name and contact information in the spaces provided.

Please mail or deliver this form to the church office by Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, or e-mail your availability to Bobbie Cann at [bcann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bcann@sbcglobal.net). You will be contacted to confirm your participation the week prior to the communion service.

Thank you for your continued service to Northminster.  
The Worship Team

(cut along dotted line)

**Server Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the date(s) and service(s) when you are available to serve.

**October 2**             **9:00 AM**             **11:00 AM**            **Seated**

**November 6**             **9:00 AM**             **11:00 AM**            **Seated**

**December 4**             **9:00 AM**             **11:00 AM**            **Seated**

**December 24**             **7:00PM (Christmas Eve)**            **Intinction**

