

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

JANUARY 2008

ISSUE



Why did the three wise men smell like smoke? Because they came from afar. Read “afar” as though you’re from my native West Virginia. Ohioans might say “a fire.”

Shake off the bad pun so I can remind you that Sunday January 6th is called Epiphany Sunday. Each year we celebrate Epiphany on the first Sunday of January. It is the Sunday that we recognize as

the arrival of Jesus to the Gentile community to which the “wise men” or Magi and of course any non-Jewish person belonged.

The Scripture lesson for Epiphany recounts their search for the Christ child and their following of a “star that rose in the east.” We often in our own lives do not have such obvious signs of the presence of the Divine. One comforting truth of our Christian faith though is that God is always with us—whether we see or feel God or not. God invites you and me to be seekers of the Divine in our everyday lives.

How is it that we may recognize God with us in the laughter of children? How might we see the kindness of Christ in someone who allows us to take our one item ahead of them in line before they pay for an entire cart full of groceries? It is my prayer for all of us that others may see the presence of God in the way that we live in relationship with our families, with people in the community, and even with those who we find especially difficult to love. By God’s grace we are empowered to live lovingly in such relationships. God help us to seek you and find you each day so that we may be filled with gratitude for your love. Amen.

Dwight

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00A.M.

400 Villa Road

Springfield, Ohio 45503

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nrthmnstr@sbcglobal.net

www.northminsterspringfield.org

PASTORS

Dwight McCormick II, Pastor
W. Franklin Sparks, Pastor Emeritus

CHURCH STAFF

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Deana Knotts | Office Manager |
| Gay Steiner | Bookkeeper |
| Allen Spriggs | Building Manager |
| Lydia C. Smith | Director of Music |
| Dawn White | Organist |
| Susan Dersch
Mary Dodds | Youth Directors |
| Howard Garrett
Dick White | Adult Ministry |
| Dwilla Cramer
Joan Generous | Presbyterian Women |
| Nancy Jean Graves | Parish Nurse |
| Virginia Phillips | Librarian |

The Northern Light is published monthly September thru May with one Summer issue.

If there is an omission or an error, please contact the editor so a correction can be made.

Thank You

Deana Knotts, Newsletter Editor

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

<i>LeaAnn Hoefler</i>	January 2
<i>Helen Roe</i>	January 2
<i>Denise Molnar</i>	January 4
<i>Doris De Mers</i>	January 5
<i>Norine Kmett</i>	January 5
<i>Deana Knotts</i>	January 5
<i>Gary Molnar</i>	January 7
<i>Pam Long</i>	January 8
<i>Kathryn Spurgin</i>	January 8
<i>Butch Dodds</i>	January 10
<i>Frank Sparks</i>	January 10
<i>Wayne Maurer</i>	January 17
<i>Jean Myers</i>	January 17
<i>Phoebe McCormick</i>	January 18
<i>Elise Spriggs</i>	January 18
<i>John King</i>	January 19
<i>Barb Aker</i>	January 20
<i>John Roberts</i>	January 21
<i>Jim Griffin</i>	January 22
<i>Roy Martin</i>	January 26
<i>Cindy Chesnut</i>	January 27
<i>Mindy Twiggs</i>	January 29
<i>Janet Digel-Koerner</i>	January 30

**ANNUAL REPORT
DATES AND
DEADLINES
ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**



The **deadline for individual committee reports** for the Annual Report will be **Monday, January 7th**. The *Annual Congregational Meeting* is scheduled for **Sunday, January 20th** immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to: Receive reports of the boards, committees and organizations and review and receive the Budget for 2008, as approved by the Session.

Beading and Jewelry Making Class

A Beading and Jewelry Making Class will meet on **Wednesday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.** at Sue Creager's home, 920 Santa Monica Ave. The class is for beginners and those with experience. We will start with learning how to make simple bracelets and earrings. Plans are to meet monthly to learn from each other and eventually make items to sell at the church bazaar. Please call Sue at 399-2349 for additional information.

AVM—Adult Visionary Ministry

The "Visionaries" will meet on **Friday, January 18** at 12:00 noon at Northminster for a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon and an afternoon of Crazy Bridge.

Upcoming Dates for 2008 include:

February 14	6:00 p.m. Valentine Dinner
March 21	1:00 p.m. Bingo Party
April 17	9:30 a.m. Annual Day of Reflection
April 29	6:15 p.m. Dinner at Red Brick Tavern Entertainment by Glenn Parks
May 29	Bearcreek, IN "Branson on the Road"

Words to start the New Year

*Another fresh new year is here...
Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,
To love and laugh and give!
This bright new year is given me
To live each day with zest. . .
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!
I have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,
And sing more joyful songs!*

-William Arthur Ward

Via Apple Seeds

The Joyful Noiseletter, January 2008

WORSHIP

Music & Worship Committee Gary Molnar-Chair

Joan Garrett Julie Griffin Anne Hines
Jane Johnson Pastor McCormick
John Roberts Lydia Smith Dawn White

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, January 6

Communion

Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6; *Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14*

Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Communion Servers:

Joan Generous, John Roberts
Allen Spriggs, Marta Stalder
Jim Twiggs, Greg Veith

Sunday, January 13

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9; *Psalm 29*; Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 20

Annual Congregational Meeting

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:1-7; *Psalm 40:1-11*

1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 27

Service of Remembrance

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 9:1-4; *Psalm 27:1,4-9*

1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

Worship Committee Meeting

January 9, 2008

6:00 PM

NORTHMINSTER'S MILITARY MEN and WOMEN *Please remember those serving our Country in your prayers.*

Sgt. Nicholas Bare - U.S. Marines
Grandson of Dwilla Cramer
Currently stationed at Camp Pendleton, California

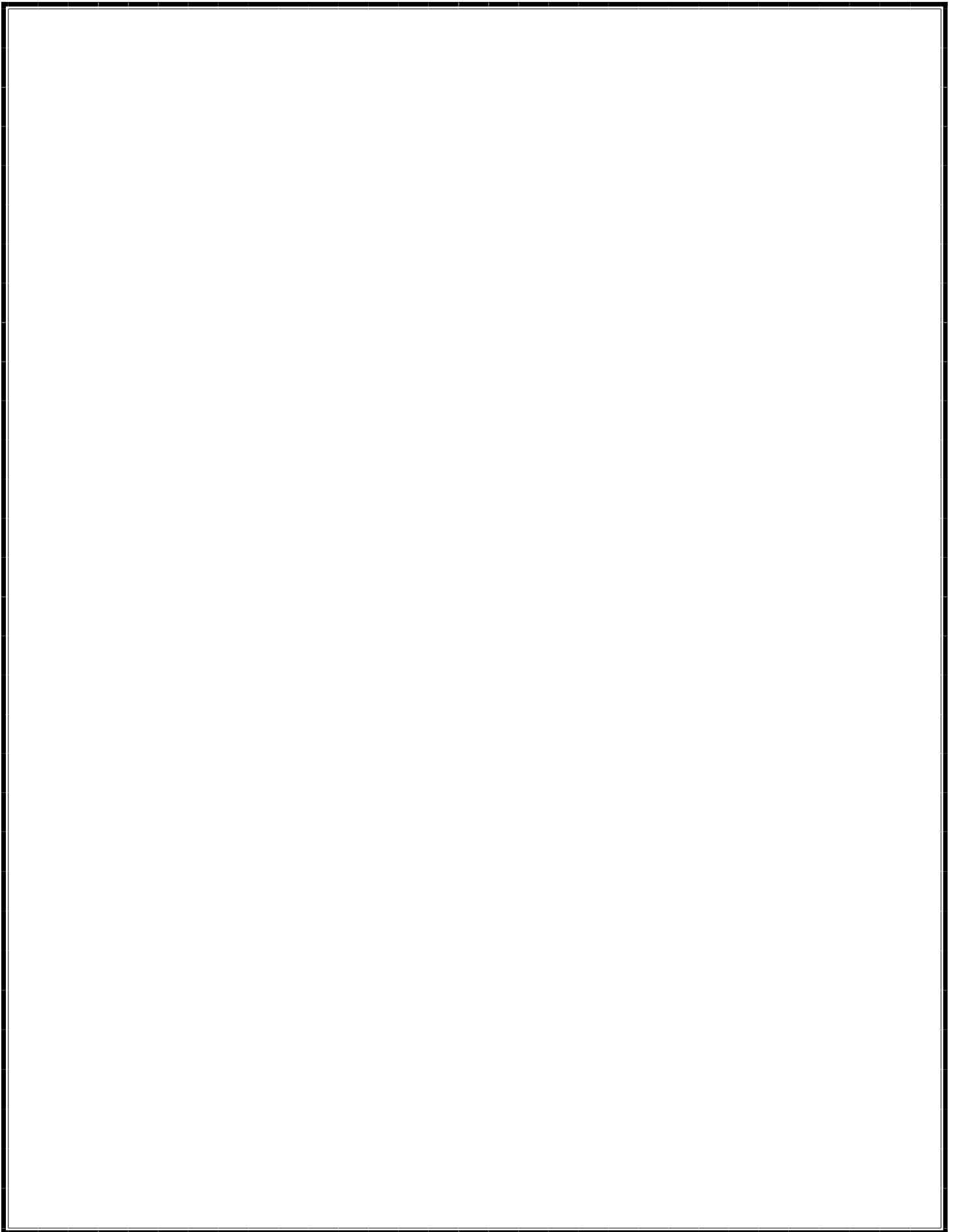
CPL Chad Barga - U.S. Marines
Grandson of Andy & Marcia Barga
Stationed in Iraq
MWSS 372 Alpha Company
Unit 42020
FPOAP 96426-2020

Edward J. O'Neil - Lt. Col. U.S. Army
Son-in-law of Roy & Ruth Martin
Currently stationed in Okinawa, Japan
Patriot Battalion Commander Kadena Air Force Base

11 Steps to a Joyful You

Cheryl B. Fell, RN, aka "Nurse FUNshine," of Scott, LA
Composed "The Self-Kindness Connection: Steps to a Joyful You."

1. Work towards a healthy sense of self. Remind yourself that you are striving for progress, not perfection!
2. Jump start your heart with an attitude of gratitude. Count your blessings daily. Practice random acts of kindness.
3. **Choose to live in the "now."** Let go of yesterday and quit worrying about tomorrow. Slow down and enjoy life.
4. Let go of hurts and disappointments. Make some mistakes. Learn to forgive yourself and others. Forgiveness means freedom.
5. Smile at yourself in the mirror. Smile at others. Give compliments generously. Receive compliments gracefully.
6. Gently poke fun at yourself. Silliness will help you relax and become more spontaneous and less self-conscious.
7. **Hang around with positive, optimistic, fun-loving people.**
8. Set realistic goals on a regular basis. Beginnings create exciting energy and new experiences rejuvenate us. Take time to celebrate accomplishments; then give yourself a break from the hustle and bustle of life.
9. Try to keep your life balanced by prioritizing your wants and needs. Pray for wisdom and courage. Practice saying "no."
10. Take risks using healthy, compassionate humor with your family and friends. Make joyful connections in your world.
11. Feed your soul once a week by doing something you love.



HEALTH NEWS
from the Parish Nurse . .
Nancy Jean Graves
January 2008
MRSA—Fact or Fiction

The big medical topic right now is MRSA. Is it a super bug? Is it life threatening? Is it contagious? It generally is NOT!

MRSA is short for methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus. It has been around for a long time. It is a staph bacteria that is resistant to some antibiotics, but does respond to several others.

FACT: It causes a minor skin infection—it may be a rash, pimple, or boil. Often it will heal itself. Many lesions can be treated without antibiotics. If you suspect a skin infection may be staph, and the area is red, swollen, painful and warm to the touch, see a doctor.

FACT: Any break in the skin can become infected. Keep it clean and covered. Take showers, not baths. Bar soaps can be contaminated, liquid soaps are recommended.

FACT: MRSA transmission can be prevented by simply washing hands and covering any areas that look infected. Send your child to school with individual bottles of an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and instruct them to use it several times a day. Don't share personal items: towels, razors, clothing, and athletic gear—anything that comes in contact with skin.

MRSA, like all infections, is more serious when the people infected are already sick, elderly, or have weakened immune systems.

For more information: www.cdc.gov—the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Submitted by: Patricia Fairbanks,
Parish Nurse St. Bernards



Presbyterian Women

**Faith, Fellowship and Fun with a Circle of Friends.
All are welcome to participate.**

Co-Moderators
Dwillla Cramer
Joan Generous

Secretary
Anne Hines

Treasurer
Ruth Martin



ESTHER CIRCLE

Leader: Ruth George

Meets 2nd Monday 7:15 P.M.

Esther Circle will not meet during the month of January. Our next meeting will be **Monday, February 11th** at 7:15 p.m. at the church.

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Leader: Ruth Martin

Meets 3rd Wednesday 10:30 A.M.

Mary-Martha Circle will not meet during the month of January. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 20th** at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

REBEKAH/SARAH CIRCLE

Leader: Joyce Carpenter

Meets 2nd Thursday 12:00 Noon

Rebekah/Sarah Circle will not meet in January. Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 14th** at 12:00 noon at the church. Hostesses will be Barb Aker and Irene Hughes.

**PW BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 7
10:00 AM**

Craig House Meals

On the 4th Monday of each month, PW delivers an evening meal for 12 men living at Craig House, a homeless shelter for men. If you would like to help by providing either a **meat, vegetable, salad** or **dessert**, please sign-up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the Family Room. Your donations may be brought to the church on the Sunday before or picked up at your home. **This month's meal date is Monday, January 28th.** Call or see Marcia or Andy Barga (399-9839) for more information.

BAKE SALE—JANUARY 26 & 27, 2008

P.W. will sponsor a bake sale on **Saturday, January 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, January 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the *Home Builders Association HomeFest at the Clark County Fairgrounds*. We will need baked goods which can be brought to the church. Workers will be needed and a work schedule (sign-up sheet) will be posted in January.

Money raised from this project will be used for projects at Northminster and also for local mission. Please mark your calendars and if you have questions or suggestions call Cindy Chesnut.

2007 PW Mission Contributions

Salvation Army	\$500.00
Interfaith Hospitality	500.00
Food Pantry	300.00
Urban Light	200.00
Red Cross	150.00
Peace School	150.00



YOUTH GROUP

NORTHMINSTER'S YOUTH
Leaders: Susan Dersch & Mary Dodds

Saturday, January 12, 2008

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Help at the food pantry at the Church of God on Clifton Avenue.

Sunday, January 13, 2008

2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Son Day's Cool at the Salvation Army. We will be helping wherever they need us.

4:30/5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Hang Out Night at Northminster. An activity is being planned and food will be served.

Saturday and Sunday, January 26 and 27, 2008

The youth will be helping with the PW Bake Sale at the Home Builders Association HomeFest at the Clark County Fairgrounds. Details about this will be sent to parents via e-mail.

Looking ahead to February, we hope the weather will allow us to go tubing at Mad River Mountain. A full schedule of 2008 activities is being pulled together for parents and will be sent out via e-mail.

Many thanks!

To all those who accepted the challenge and helped us provide food to the food pantry at the Clifton Avenue Church of God.

To Cindy Ater, once again, for coordinating the painting of The Loft. The youth put the final coat on the walls on December 9th and the trim will be done by Cindy and her crew.

Parent Meeting

Tuesday, January 8, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m.

Topic: Youth Mission Trip, Summer 2008
 We have had discussions for doing this. Please come to this meeting to hear about the options, to bring up any concerns to determine your level of support for this idea. This trip cannot happen with your help!

Church Corporation

Kent Sherry	President
Allen Spriggs	Vice President
Lois Shroyer	Clerk of Session
Bill Harrison	Treasurer

Session

Class of 2008

Sally Asper
 Cindy Ater
 Bill Carpenter
 Mary Dodds
 Joan Generous

Class of 2009

Butch Dodds
 Bud Graves
 Gary Molnar
 John Roberts
 Kent Sherry

Class of 2010

Jim Griffin
 Diana Harrison
 Lois Shroyer
 Allen Spriggs
 Jim Twiggs

Deacons

Class of 2008

Bill Chesnut
 Chuck Mansfield
 Debbie Spoon

Class of 2009

Marcia Barga
 Elise Spriggs
 Marta Stalder

Class of 2010

Mark Brush
 Joan Garrett
 Greg Veith

Chairman

Bill Chesnut

Treasurer

Joan Garrett

Christmas Families

Marcia Barga

Communion

Chuck Mansfield
 Marta Stalder

Communion for Shut-Ins

Bill & Cindy Chesnut

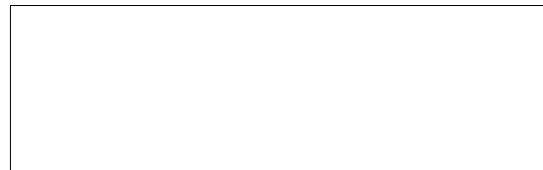
NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 Villa Road
Springfield, Ohio 45503



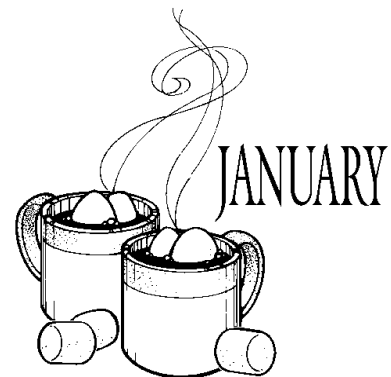
THE NORTHERN LIGHT
Return Service Requested
Issue 1

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 75



January 2008

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|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| January 1 | New Year's Day Office Closed |
| January 5 | Pancake Breakfast |
| January 6 | Communion/Epiphany |
| January 7 | Deadline for Annual Report |
| January 8 | Session Meeting |
| January 18 | AVM Soup/Sandwich/Crazy Bridge |
| January 20 | Annual Congregational Meeting |
| January 21 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day |
| January 26/27 | PW Bake Sale @ HomeFest |



NORTHMINSTER'S VISION STATEMENT
REJOICE! RENEW! REACHOUT!

A church family that lives and shares its Christian faith by rejoicing, renewing and reaching out!

January 2008

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 Office Closed New Year's Day	2 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	3 6:30 Girl Scouts	4	5 8:00 Pancake Breakfast
6 Epiphany Communion Take down decorations	7 9:30 YWM 10:00 PW Bd Mtg 6:00 Finance DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORT	8 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Youth Group Parent Mtg. 7:00 Session	9 6:00 Worship Mtg. 7:00 Bead Making @ Sue Creager's 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	10 6:30 Girl Scouts	11 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	12 10:00 Youth help @ Clifton Ave Church of God Food Pantry
13 2:00 Youth help @ Son Day's Cool 4:30 Youth Hang Out Night @ the Church	14 10:00 AVIM Bd Mtg	15	16 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	17 6:30 Girl Scouts	18 12:00 AVIM Soup/Sandwich Crazy Bridge	19
20 Annual Congregational Meeting	21 7:00 Mission/ Outreach Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22 6:00 Girl Scouts	23 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	24 6:30 Girl Scouts	25 Red Hat Club	26 PW Bake Sale at Home Fest @ Clark County Fairgrounds 9am to 6pm
27 PW Bake Sale @ Home Fest @ Clark County Fairgrounds 11am to 4pm	28 6:30 Quilt Guild Delivery of Craig House Meal	29 7:00 Cub Pack	30 10:00 Mail Newsletter 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	31		