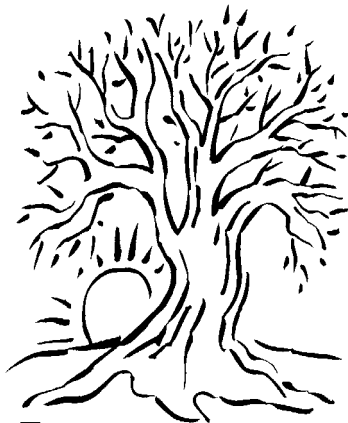


NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

MARCH 2008

ISSUE 3



Lent

Repentance is difficult. Scripture calls people throughout the Old and New Testaments to repentance. The prophets called Israel to repent. The Gospels and Paul all speak of repentance as part of our life of faith in the Living God. Repentance in oversimplified terms is turning away from that which breaks our relationships with God, self, and others and turning towards our relationship with God. It is a re-focusing of our Christian faith.

The reasons that repenting is difficult are many. One primary one, though, is that it is not a one time event. In other words, we can't turn away from sin and towards God and never sin again. If we look at it literally, turning away and toward in a physical way, we might imagine a duck in an old time carnival shooting gallery. Go this way it's God, BING. Turn around that's sin, BING. Back towards God, BING. Towards sin. It is more complicated than that.

Repentance is a way of life. It is daily acknowledging our tendency towards sin and our desperate longing for the grace-filled love and acceptance of Jesus Christ. Niebuhr's Serenity prayer comes to mind. "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." As we observe Lent, the season of repentance, my prayer is that we will be empowered to cast aside those practices that keep us from enriching our life of faith in Christ, and daily ask for God's help to experience and share love and forgiveness with one another. Amen.

Dwight

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00A.M.

400 Villa Road

Springfield, Ohio 45503

PHONE: 937-399-0838

FAX: 937-629-0881

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	Youth Directors
Mark Brush	
Howard Garrett	Adult Ministry
Dick White	
Dwillia Cramer	Presbyterian Women
Joan Generous	
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>Catherine Ricketts</i>	March 2
<i>Josh Twiggs</i>	March 4
<i>James Smith</i>	March 5
<i>Emily Spriggs</i>	March 6
<i>BettyLou Graven</i>	March 9
<i>Nicole Roberts</i>	March 9
<i>Ruth McAdams</i>	March 10
<i>Lucille Arthur</i>	March 12
<i>Ralph Watson</i>	March 13
<i>Geneva Nugent</i>	March 14
<i>Toni Conway</i>	March 16
<i>Shelia Carpenter</i>	March 17
<i>Laura Heida</i>	March 18
<i>Jason Spoon</i>	March 18
<i>Priscilla Cooke</i>	March 19
<i>Anne Longo</i>	March 19
<i>Amy Yeagle</i>	March 21
<i>Bud Graves</i>	March 24
<i>Carol Sparks</i>	March 24
<i>Dave Long</i>	March 25
<i>Megan Knotts</i>	March 26
<i>Carol Spurgin</i>	March 27

RELAY FOR LIFE

This year Relay for Life will be **June 6 and 7th** at the Clark County Fairgrounds. We are in need of help organizing our team. If you are interested in helping please contact Emily Spriggs or John Roberts. It would be helpful if we had a representative to attend the informational meetings that are held every two weeks or so to keep up with the new plans that are made. Our team has been successful in the past and we would like to continue.

What's New in the Library?

Did you know we have DVD & VHS videos in the library? We have had some nice ones added to our collection for children and family viewing. They are listed below and you will find them in a bookcase by the door into the hall going up to the office.

Veggie Tales DVD

Moe and the Big Exit
A Lesson in Followin' Directions

Double Features:
Sheerluck Holmes & the Golden Rules
The Ballad of Little Joe
Lessons in Friendship and Facing Hardship

Madame Blueberry
Esther—The Girl Who Became Queen
Lessons in Thankfulness and Courage

Larry Boy and the Fib from Outer Space
Larry Boy and the Rumor Weed
Lessons in Telling the Truth
and The Power of Words

VHS Video Tape: Disney's

A Bug's Life
Toy Story
101 Dalmatians
The Rescuers Down Under
Beauty and the Beast

Family Features:

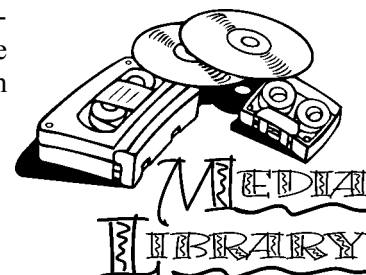
Fly Away Home
The Dream Is Alive (A window seat on
the space shuttle.)

Christmas Wish

To check them out please sign the card and leave in box on the desk marked "Videos." If there isn't a card, sign on a slip from the box what you have taken along with your name and date. When returning, leave them on the desk and I will check them in and return to the shelf.

Thank you and enjoy—

Virginia Phillips



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, March 2 4th Sunday in Lent
 1 Samuel 16:1-13; *Psalm 23*; Ephesians 5:8-14
 John 9:1-41

Sunday, March 9 5th Sunday in Lent
Celebrate the Gifts of Women
 Ezekiel 37:1-14; *Psalm 130*; Romans 8:6-11
 John 11:1-45

Sunday, March 16 Palm Sunday
 Matthew 21:1-11; *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*;
 Isaiah 50:4-9a; *Psalm 31:9-16*; Philippians 2:5-11
 Matthew 26:14—27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54

Thursday, March 20 Maundy Thursday
 Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14; *Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19*
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Friday, March 21 Good Friday
 Isaiah 52:13—53:12; *Psalm 22*; Hebrews 10:16-25
 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

Sunday, March 23 Easter Sunday/Communion
 Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6;
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or
 Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10;
 Isaiah 25:6-9; *Psalm 114*; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8;
 Luke 24:13-49



**CHRIST THE LORD
 IS RISEN TODAY!**

Sunday, March 30 2nd Sunday of Easter
 Acts 2:14a, 22-32; *Psalm 16*; 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31



Maundy Thursday
 Covenant, Northminster
 and Oakland Presbyterian
 churches will combine for a
 Maundy Thursday Service
 at Oakland Presbyterian
 on **March 20th at 7 PM.**

Easter Sunrise Service

Join us for an Easter Sunrise Service
 at Northminster Presbyterian
 on Sunday, **March 23 at 7:00 AM.**

Breakfast to Follow.

This will also be a combined service
 with Covenant and Oakland churches.

Easter Worship Service

Easter Sunday - March 23

@ 10:00 a.m.

Northminster

Presbyterian Church



Adult Visionary Ministry (AVM)

Howard Garrett & Dick White, Associates

AVM Calendar of Events

- March 21** **Bingo Party**
 1:00 p.m. Snacks and drinks provided.
- April 17** **Annual Day of Reflection**
 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Donut Holes
 10:00 a.m. Program
 Speaker to be announced at a later date.
- April 29** **Red Brick Tavern, Lafayette, OH**
 6:15 p.m. Dinner
 Entertainment by Glenn Parks
- May 29** **Bear Creek, Indiana**
 "Branson on the Road"
- June 14** **Cook-Out/ Picnic @ Shelter House**
 12 Noon AVM will furnish meat & drinks.
 Bring a covered dish (vegetable or salad)



YOUTH GROUP

Leadership Change

In January, Mary Dodds stepped down from being co-director for the Youth, and Mark Brush has taken her place. Mary's willingness to help support Northminster's youth programs has been a great blessing, and her shared leadership has been a big help. She will continue to help with the youth program as she is able. Thank you, Mary, for sharing your many gifts!

Many thanks to Mark for stepping up to fill this position! Mark has worked with youth programs in the past and brings these unique experiences to bless the work here at Northminster. In addition, his own youth group experiences provide motivation as well as inspiration to him.

Together, we hope to strengthen Northminster's youth program so that when Northminster's current crop of children are of age, the program will be ready for them!

HomeFest Raises \$382.75!

In Northminster's first venture as a food vendor at HomeFest, the youth group was able to net \$382.75 to go towards the mission trip being planned for this summer. Many thanks to Mary Dodds who worked with suppliers to obtain food/drink donations and purchase the other needed items. Your connections helped boost our profits!

Thank you, also, to all the kids, and adults, who helped serve the hotdogs, chili dogs, chips and drinks. We enjoyed the fellowship with all who helped with the PW side and appreciate the assistance they gave during the busy times!

The Loft Redo

Things have slowed down with our Loft redecoration. The painting is now finished, many thanks to Cindy Ater's supervision of youth and donation of the services of her painting crew. Things are on hold until a decision regarding funds is made. In the meantime, we thank Josh Twiggs for the donation of a Play Station 2 and Guitar Hero!

Youth Team to Head to Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania!

Eight youth under the supervision and care of Bill Harrison and Susan Dersch will be participating in YouthWorks in Schuylkill County, PA the week of July 6th. While there, the youth will help with YouthWorks ministry projects:

- Kids Club, an afternoon program offering games, crafts, skits and songs so kids in the area can learn about Jesus, and
- Minor home repair and painting projects.

The youth may also be asked to provide support to already existing social service organizations.

In the evening, there will be activities that will help the youth have a better understanding of the local culture. Schuylkill County, just west of the Pocono Mountains, is an area of natural beauty, with a history of a bustling coal mining industry. This has led to some economic challenges in recent years.

Northminster's own Alex Creager has been a YouthWorks leader while in college, and Sue and Kevin have assured us that YouthWorks has a great program that our youth will enjoy!

The youth who have signed up are Emily and Robbie Aldinger, Eric Barga, Kaila Hoefler, Dylan Hooper, Jason and Tim Spoon and Josh Twiggs. A mission trip planning team will be working with the youth to help raise the needed funds.

March Youth Activities – Come Join Us!

*Saturday, March 8 – 10-11:30 a.m. **

Help at the food pantry
Church of God on Clifton Avenue

Sunday, March 9 – 2-4:30 p.m.

Help at Son Day's Cool at Salvation Army

Saturday, March 29 – time TBD
Play Laser Tag!

*The food pantry organizers are establishing a new scheduling process. If the date changes, an e-mail will be sent to parents and notification will be put in the church bulletin.

HEALTH NEWS
from the Parish Nurse . .
Nancy Jean Graves
March 2008

AUTISM

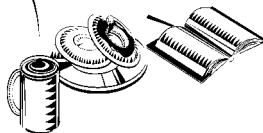
Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime. Today 1 in 150 children are being diagnosed with autism. It occurs in all racial, ethnic and social groups, and is four times more likely to strike boys than girls. Autism impairs the child's ability to communicate and relate to others. Autism can be reliably diagnosed by age three, although new research is pushing back the age of diagnosis to as early as six months. Parents are usually the first to notice unusual behaviors in their child or child's failure to reach appropriate developmental milestones. If you have concerns about your child's development, don't wait. Speak to your pediatrician or family practitioner about getting your child screened for autism. Early intervention is critical to gain maximum benefit from existing therapies. Effective programs, usually in an appropriate educational setting, focus on developing communication, social and cognitive skills.

Early symptoms may include some or all of the following:

- No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions by six months or thereafter
- No back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles, or other facial expressions by 9 months.
- No babbling by 12 months
- No back-and-forth gestures, such as pointing, showing, reaching, or waving by 12 months.
- No words by 16 months
- No two-word meaningful phrases (without imitating or repeating) by 24 months
- Any loss of speech or babbling or social skills at any age.

Submitted by: Ginny Carlisle R.N., M.Div.

**BREAKFAST
MEETING**



BREAKFAST MEETING FOR MEN

Men of the church. We are trying to start a breakfast meeting and prayer group for the men of the church. We have set the date of **March 26th** at Perkins Restaurant on North Limestone St. at **7:00 AM**. This should last no longer than an hour. Please call John Roberts at 964-9659 for reservations for the meeting. There is limited space. Hope to see you there!

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 meet on **Monday, March 10** at 7:15 p.m. at the church.

Hostess: Anne Hines

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Leader: Ruth Martin

Meets 3rd Wednesday 10:30 A.M.

Mary-Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, March 19th** at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

REBEKAH/SARAH CIRCLE

Leader: Joyce Carpenter

Meets 2nd Thursday 12:00 Noon

Rebekah/Sarah Circle will meet on **Thursday, March 13th** at 12:00 noon at the church.

Hostesses: Martha Clement & Virginia Phillips

PW BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 3

10:00 AM

PW 2008 Calendar

April 11—Friday

Celebration Dinner 6:00 PM

June 12—Thursday

Indoor Picnic/Blind Auction 12 Noon

September 18—Thursday

Spaghetti Supper 5 to 7 PM

November 1—Saturday

Christmas Bazaar 9 AM to 3 PM

December 5—Friday

PW / AVM Christmas Dinner 6 PM

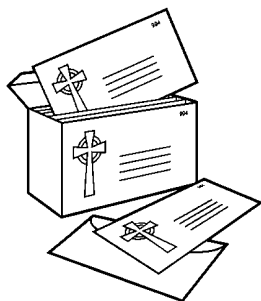
BAZAAR WORKSHOP

Come join us in the fun of making items for our annual Christmas Bazaar. No experience is needed. **Starting March 11**, we will meet on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the Community Room.

If you are unable to attend workshops but would like to make items, please call Barb Aker 399-3967 or Joan Generous 969-8130.

We look forward to seeing you!

PER CAPITA AND INITIAL OFFERING



Each year Northminster pays a per capita amount based on the number of members in the congregation. This money is used to support the work of the Presbyterian Church's governing bodies - the Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly. **The 2008 per capita amount is \$24.55** When members pay their own per capita apportionment, this amount need not come from the church's operating budget. The **Per Capita** envelope (**blue**)

is included in the box with your offering envelopes.

The **Initial Offering** envelope (**yellow**) is also included in the offering envelope box. This offering is used to help cover the cost of the offering envelopes each year.



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

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

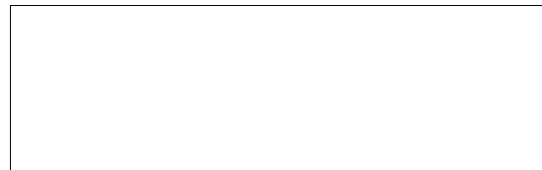


THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Return Service Requested

Issue 3

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



March 2008

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| March 1 | Pancake Breakfast |
| March 4 | Election Day—Polling Place |
| March 16 | Palm Sunday |
| March 18 | Session Meeting |
| March 20 | Maundy Thursday Service @ Oakland 7:00 PM |
| March 21 | Good Friday—Office Closed
AVM Bingo |
| March 23 | Sunrise Service @ Northminster 7:00 AM
Breakfast to Follow |
| March 26 | Easter Sunday Service 10:00 AM
Men's Breakfast Meeting @ Perkins |

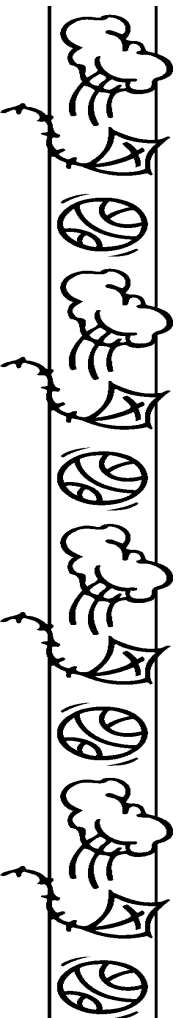


NORTHMINSTER'S VISION STATEMENT
REJOICE! RENEW! REACHOUT!

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

March 2008

Northminster Presbyterian Church



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 8:00 Pancake Breakfast
2 4:00 Confirmation	3 9:30 YWM Lunch 10:00 PW Board 6:30 Administration	4 Election Day Polling Place 6:00 Girl Scouts	5 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	6 6:30 Girl Scouts	7	8 10:00 Youth help @ Clifton Ave Church of God Food Pantry
9 2:00 Youth help at Son Day's Cool @ Salvation Army 4:00 Confirmation	10 10:00 AVM Board 6:00 Finance 7:15 Esther Circle	11 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp	12 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	13 12:00 Rebekah/ Sarah Circle 6:30 Girl Scouts	14	15
16	17 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	18 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 6:00 Girl Scouts 7:00 Session	19 10:30 Mary/Martha Circle 6:00 Worship Cmte 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	20 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service @ Oakland	21 1:00 AVM Bingo	22
Palm Sunday	St. Patrick's Day				Good Friday Office Closed	
23 7:00 Easter Sunrise @ Northminster Breakfast to Follow	24 6:30 Quilt Guild Delivery of Craig House Meal	25 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 7:00 Cub Pack	26 7:00 Men's Breakfast Mtg. 10:00 Mail Newsletter 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	27 6:30 Girl Scouts	28 Red Hat Club	29 Youth Group Laser Tag Time TBD
30 4:00 Confirmation	31					