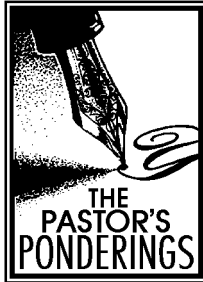


NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

APRIL 2009

ISSUE 4



The Grace of Jesus Christ is a never ending pool of acceptance and love from God for humanity. This is foreign to us because of our human nature to measure performance, worthiness, and to value people based on their level of productivity. We often do not seek to determine who someone is without looking at what it is they've done in the past or what they now do. This isn't to say that exercising wisdom and discernment need to be tossed out the window. Scripture speaks of Jesus' followers being asked to be wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove. It also speaks of us recognizing who a person is by the fruit they produce.

However, our calling as the followers of Jesus is to extend grace to even those who we may deem as rotten fruit or as corrupted or unworthy. We extend God's grace because we ourselves stand in need of it as does every other human being. So perhaps the measure we may use to examine how our congregation is doing, and for each of us individually, is the extent to which we radically accept the stranger, the orphan, and the widow into our midst. In what ways do you and I extend hospitality to people we may fear?

Do we open our hearts to those who are of a different race? Do we speak to anyone that is not a part of our generation and listen to what they have to say? Do we seek to understand the dramatic shifts in culture that have taken place rapidly during the past fifty years? If so, do we incorporate the process of opening up our hearts and minds into the practices of our congregation's worship and mission? And if so, why is it that those in our pews are so white, so uniform in age, so alike in socioeconomic background? Certainly our population within Springfield is more diverse.

In what ways can Northminster practice hospitality to welcome folks who are unlike us? Could this practice of welcoming people with open arms be a means of God's grace working through us? What does that look like in practical terms? Share your thoughts with me and answer some of these questions so we might continue to grow in our Christian faith. In the very holding of conversations about that which we fear, that which we hope, and that which we dream, we will discover the ways in which we can embody the Grace of Jesus Christ. God is present and moving among us. It's exciting, isn't it?

-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
Mark Brush	Custodian
Lydia C. Smith	Director of Music
Kristina Ahlstrom	Organist
Mark Brush	Youth Directors
Susan Dersch	
Howard Garrett	Adult Ministry
Dick White	
Dwilla 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>Stephanie Molnar-Whiteside</i>	April 2
<i>Anne Hines</i>	April 3
<i>Robert Digel</i>	April 6
<i>Gina Ricketts-Smith</i>	April 7
<i>Tim Wertime</i>	April 10
<i>Tom Stout</i>	April 11
<i>Maryellen Purkey</i>	April 12
<i>Jane Johnson</i>	April 14
<i>Melissa Long-Roby</i>	April 14
<i>Colin Creager</i>	April 15
<i>Laura Creager</i>	April 16
<i>Martha Ater</i>	April 17
<i>Mark Brush</i>	April 18
<i>Joyce Carpenter</i>	April 20
<i>June Hughes</i>	April 20
<i>Helen Spurgin</i>	April 20
<i>Kathryn Emmons</i>	April 22
<i>Joe Stalder</i>	April 24
<i>Marta Stalder</i>	April 26
<i>Lois Shroyer</i>	April 29
<i>Helen Stalder</i>	April 29

AVM Adult Visionary Ministry
“The Visionaries”

Our Annual day of Reflection is planned for Tuesday, April 7th. Our day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts in the Family Room. The program, led by Pastor McCormick, will begin at 10:00 a.m. We will break for lunch at noon and close the day with communion.

Thursday, April 23 we will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. to travel to the Air Force Museum for a tour and lunch.

Looking Ahead

On Tuesday, May 12 we will meet at Bradfields Restaurant at 12:15 p.m. for our 2nd Quarter Birthday Party. In June we are hoping to set a date to visit Bear Creek, IN for a show.

If you need transportation to an event, please indicate so on the sign-up sheet. For additional information on any “Visionary” activity, contact Howard Garrett 390-3194 or Dick White 399-7305, AVM Associates.

Men’s Breakfast Meeting

Northminster offers a men’s breakfast and prayer group the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 a.m. at Perkins Restaurant on North Limestone Street. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, April 21st.** For additional information contact John Roberts 964-9659.

Apostle Build Project

The Apostle Build Project is underway. The partner family and the 12 churches will be working with Habitat to build their new home. Building began Saturday, March 14 and will continue into the summer. Our church will be helping to build a Saturday in the spring. Donations for the Apostle Build Project are still being accepted. If you would like to make a donation by check, please make it payable to Northminster Presbyterian Church with a memo “*Apostle Build Project.*”



-Carol Emerich

“Spring clean your life: throw out old grudges, dust off your sweetest voice, paint a happy attitude, frame every happiness that you can list. God loves a cheerful giver . . . give some cheer.”

-CrossWays
 Covenant Moravian Church
 York, PA

Clark State Community College
Holocaust Awareness 2009

Remembering the Holocaust
 Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
 Clark State Community College
 Leffel Lane Campus
 Library Resource Center, Rooms 207/209
 Free and Open to the Public

“A Survivor’s Story”

Guest Speaker:
 Mr. Henry Guggenheimer

Awards Presentation:
 High School Essay and Poetry Contest

St. Teresa Catholic Church Choir
 Directed by: Judge Richard Carey

Reception Hosted by:
 Phi Theta Kappa

Funding Agencies:
 Clark State Interfaith Campus Ministry
 Clark State Community College

WORSHIP

Music & Worship Committee
Gary Molnar-Chair

Kristina Ahlstrom Joan Garrett
 Julie Griffin Anne Hines
 Pastor McCormick Jane Johnson
 Diana Schneider Lydia Smith

Lectionary Readings

Sunday, April 5

Passion/Palm Sunday/Communion

Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

Communion Servers: Emily Spriggs,
 John Roberts, Butch Dodds, Carol Emerich,
 Elise Spriggs, Greg Veith

Maundy Thursday, April 9

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

Good Friday, April 10

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, April 12

Easter Sunday
 Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43
 John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

Sunday, April 19

2nd Sunday of Easter
 Acts 4:32-35; *Psalm 133*
 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 26

Gifts of Women
 Acts 3:12-19; *Psalm 4*
 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48



Maundy Thursday
 Covenant, Northminster
 and Oakland Presbyterian
 churches will combine for a
 Maundy Thursday Service
 at Northminster on
April 9th at 7 PM.

Usher Schedule

April 5 Steve and Kathie Harbaugh
 April 12 Joe Bindley and Phil Kunkle
 April 19 Joe Bindley and Phil Kunkle
 April 26 Jim and Julie Griffin

Greeter Schedule

April 5 Ruth George and Burt McKaig
 April 12 Dick Krichbaum
 Bill & Barbara Benston
 April 19 Tom and BettyLou Graven
 April 26 Kris and Elise Spriggs

Crib Room Schedule

April 5 Deana Knotts
 April 12 Marcia Barga
 April 19 Cindy Ater
 April 26 Mary Dodds

Easter Worship Service

Easter Sunday - April 12

@ 10:00 a.m.

Northminster

Presbyterian Church





YOUTH GROUP NEWS

April 17-19 the youth will be staying at the Dunaway Lodge at Kirkmont. As in the past, Toni Cox, Education Coordinator, will lead us in activities, and

we are sure to have some rousing games of cageball. This will be the first time we'll spend two nights and part of our extra time will be spent helping Kirkmont get ready for a busy summer. Details for the retreat will be sent to all parents.

Other April activities will include our usual assistance at the Church of God on Clifton Avenue food pantry on the second Saturday (April 11th). Our youth helpers have been a bit scarce the last two months. After talking with Debbie Hilliard, who runs the pantry, she has asked if we might consider moving our day to the third Saturday as they are more often short-handed on that day. We will talk about this at our next Hang Out Night and hope to renew our efforts to provide this assistance.

We also have one Hang Out Night in April (the 26th). We meet at the church at 4:30 p.m.

Many thanks to Debbie Spoon for coordinating the tubing at Mad River Mountain and LeaAnn Hoefler for coordinating our Laser Tag outing. Thanks to LeaAnn, also, for fixing dinner for the March 15th Hang Out Night and to Janet Hooper for providing dinner on the 29th. Finally, a thank you to all the parents who signed up to do CAFÉ and donated the proceeds to the youth. We appreciate all the support of the parents and the congregation!



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

April 2009
GOSSIP

“Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.” Eleanor Roosevelt.

Gossip is defined as idle talk or rumor about the person or private affairs of others. It is the oldest and most common form of spreading and sharing facts and views. It also has a reputation for the introduction of errors and misinformation that often leads to scandal.

Gossip is used passive aggressively, as a tool to isolate and harm others. It is considered a type of workplace violence, essentially a form of attack. Companies have formal policies against workplace gossip. Low self-esteem and a desire to “fit in” are frequently cited as motivations for workplace gossip.

Negative consequences of gossip: low productivity and wasted time, erosion of trust and morale, increased anxiety as rumors circulate without clearly defined facts, divisiveness/taking sides, hurt feelings and reputations, jeopardized advancement due to unprofessional behavior and attrition, as good employees leave for healthier environments.

Judaism teaches that gossip without a constructive purpose is sinful. Spreading gossip, even when true, demeans the dignity of the speaker and the subject. Islamics believe that “backbiting” is akin to eating the dead flesh of one’s brother. It harms without the option of a defense. Christians cite Matthew 18, where Jesus instructs the aggrieved to attempt to resolve their disputes with their brother before involving another. Jesus never said to complain to another church member without confronting the offender first.

Gossip serves no good purpose. It is used to tear down and harm another’s reputation. It is malicious, evil and degrading, even when it is true. If your conversation begins with “Guess what I just heard”- STOP.

Submitted by: Mary Caputo, RN
St. Teresa Church
(from Wikipedia)

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

Esther Circle will meet for dinner on **Monday, April 13th**, at 6:30 p.m. at the Simon Kenton Inn, 4690 Urbana Road. The cost is \$17.95, including tax and tip. Please call Janet Digel-Koerner at 399-8777, by Sunday, April 5th, for a reservation.

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Leader: Ruth Martin

Meets 3rd Wednesday

Mary-Martha Circle will meet on **Wednesday, April 15th** at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

REBEKAH/SARAH CIRCLE

Leader: Joyce Carpenter

Meets 2nd Thursday

Rebekah/Sarah Circle will meet on **Thursday, April 9th** at 12:00 noon at the church.
Hostess: Donna Rankin

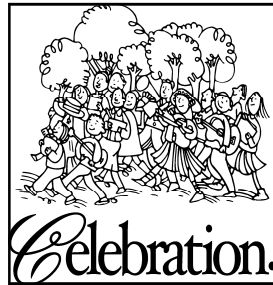
PW BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 6
@ 10:00 AM

UPCOMING DATES

June 11.....Picnic/Blind Auction
Sept. 17.....Spaghetti Supper
Nov. 7.....Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 10.....AVM/PW Christmas Dinner

PW Annual Celebration Dinner

COME ONE—COME ALL! Everyone is invited for dinner and entertainment as we hold our annual celebration of Northminster Church and the coming of the spring season with the P.W. Celebration Dinner. The



dinner will be held at the church on **Friday, April 17th at 6:00 p.m.** It will be catered by Chef Chetty from Northwood Hills Country Club and the cost of the meal is **\$10.00.**

Because the meal is catered, advance reservations are required and a sign-up sheet will be posted. (If you do make a reservation and are unable to attend, please contact Dwillla Cramer 399-3935, as we are responsible for the cost of all reservations made).

Entertainment will be a sing-a-long led by our own Kristina Ahlstrom. Sounds like a fine, fun, evening. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!



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, April 27th.** Call or see Marcia or Andy Barga (399-9839) for more information.

NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 Villa Road
Springfield, Ohio 45503



THE NORTHERN LIGHT
Return Service Requested
Issue 4

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 75



April 2009

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| April 4 | Pancake Breakfast |
| April 5 | Palm Sunday/Communion
Blood Pressure Screening |
| April 7 | AVM Annual Day of Reflection |
| April 9 | Maundy Thursday Service @ Northminster |
| April 10 | Good Friday—Office Closed |
| April 12 | Easter Sunday |
| April 17 | PW Celebration Dinner |
| April 17-19 | Youth Group Retreat @ Kirkmont |
| April 21 | Session Meeting |
| April 23 | AVM Air Force Museum |
| April 26 | Gifts of Women Sunday |



NORTHMINSTER'S VISION STATEMENT
REJOICE! RENEW! REACHOUT!

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

April 2009

Northminster Presbyterian Church

APRIL

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	2	3	4 8:00 Pancake Breakfast
5 Palm Sunday Communion Congregational Mtg. Blood Pressure Screening	6 9:30 YWM Meeting 10:00 PW Board	7 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 9:30 AVM Annual Day of Reflection	8 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	9 12:00 Rebekah/ Sarah Circle 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	10 Good Friday Office Closed	11 10:00 Youth help @ Clifton Ave. Church of God Food Pantry
12 Easter Sunday 7:00 Sunrise Service Breakfast to follow 10:00 Worship	13 10:00 AVM Board 6:00 Finance 6:30 Esther Circle @ Simon Kenton Inn	14 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 6:30 Administration 6:30 Girl Scouts	15 10:30 Mary/Martha Circle 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	16	17 Youth Group Retreat @ Kirkmont 6:00 Celebration Dinner	18 Youth Group Retreat @ Kirkmont
19 Youth Group Retreat @ Kirkmont	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Perkins 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Session Meeting	22 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	23 AVM Air Force Museum	24	25 All Day Workshop Remembrance Quilt Guild
26 Gifts of Women Youth Hosting CAFÉ 4:30 Youth Hang Out Night	27	28 9:00 Bazaar Wrkshp 7:00 Cub Pack	29 9:30 Mail Newsletter 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	30		