

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

DECEMBER 2009

ISSUE 10

FROM the PASTOR . . .

The economy and its impact on our lives makes choosing just the right Christmas gift a little more challenging this year. Choosing “the perfect gift” may require more careful consideration. Let me suggest gifts that reflect the care of Jesus Christ for the most vulnerable in our town as well as globally. Jesus represents hope and salvation for humankind so why don’t we work to provide hope in Christ’s name through our gift giving this year? Instead of buying from the sale tables in department stores that little knick-knack, or a box of chocolates or some other gift someone likely doesn’t need, I offer the following alternative choices:

The Heifer Project is a mission we have supported in the past at Northminster and we are looking at being even more involved in the future. You can support it individually too. The project is about working to end global poverty and produce sustainable assistance in third world countries across the globe. You purchase animals for a family or village. The recipients of the livestock promise to pass on the gift—meaning they use the animals not just to benefit themselves but improve the village and/or the lives of their neighbors as well. Julie Griffin is an individual here that can tell you more about it or you can visit the website www.heifer.org. The gift options vary in amounts from \$20.00 for a flock of ducks, geese, or chicks to thousands of dollars for helping to raise herds of animals.

Some folks may have a more local mission focus in mind. If so, I encourage you to speak with Trish Foster or Marcia Barga who will be posting the names of several families in Clark County to receive help with food and toys. The grocery cart outside the sanctuary is the place to put food donations for the families. During December the food placed in the grocery cart goes to local families in need. Food placed there the other 11 months of the year goes to Christ Episcopal Food Pantry.

Another fine mission opportunity that feeds families locally is actually accomplished through buying the poinsettias for the sanctuary during Advent. \$3.50 from each poinsettia purchase goes to buy meals for Clark County families in need. Clark State identifies the families of students who come from financially impoverished backgrounds and feeds the families from the proceeds of the plant sales. Contact Mark Brush for details on how you may like to help.

Several other Mission and Outreach projects are listed in the newsletter as well—Oesterlen Services for the Youth, Interfaith Hospitality Network, and the Christmas Joy Offering are all possible ways of us showing the Christmas Spirit. Space doesn’t permit me to promote all the opportunities for gift giving here, but let’s all find the one(s) that speak to our hearts and that we feel God would have us support this year as an extension of our faith in Jesus Christ. *(Continued on next page)*



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 Debbie Spoon	Youth Directors
Howard Garrett	Adult Ministry
Dick White	
Dwillia Cramer Joan Generous	Presbyterian Women
Nancy Jean Graves	Parish Nurse
Ruth George	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

Pastor's Page Continued

I know the hearts and minds of the folks at Northminster are often seeking how to serve God and help further the Kingdom of God. I pray God brings us all blessings through our willingness to give gifts in the name of Jesus Christ. Unto us a child is born. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Merry Christmas everyone! Happy New Year!

Dwight

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- December 2 *Joshilyn Hoefler*
- December 2 *Janet Hooper*
- December 3 *Griffin Baggs*
- December 3 *Jacob Baggs*
- December 5 *Sally Asper*
- December 8 *George Koerner*
- December 11 *Kevin Spriggs*
- December 12 *Andy Barga*
- December 14 *Nancy Baker*
- December 18 *Ray Gorby*
- December 21 *Robert Digel*
- December 21 *Jennifer Henze*
- December 22 *Marge Johnson*
- December 25 *Kristen Brandeberry*
- December 28 *Frankie Walters*
- December 31 *Larry Hines*

December Youth Group Calendar

Friday, December 4 7 PM
 Skillet Concert at Hobart Arena in Troy
 We will meet at CiCi's Pizza at 4:30 p.m. for food and fellowship prior to the concert.

Saturday, December 12 11 AM to 4 PM
 Babysitting Fundraiser organized by Mindy Twiggs

Sunday, December 13 4:30 to 7 PM
 Youth Group at the church

Sunday, December 27 9:30 AM
 Youth Hosting Café

For additional information about youth group activities, contact youth leaders Mark Brush, 399-5012 or Debbie Spoon 390-6693.

Session Highlights

The Session met in Regular stated meeting November 17, 2009 at 7:00 PM, beginning in the sanctuary for a time of prayer, and meeting with and receiving a new member. The Session then returned to the Family Room for the rest of the meeting.

The Session received reports from the Pastor and most of the committees of Session.

Mark Brush, moderator of the Deacons, reported that the Deacons will meet on December 10th to complete plans for the congregational Christmas dinner on December 20.

Elder Jim Griffin, chair of Mission and Outreach reported that the "Chocolate Tasting" netted several hundred dollars for the Apostle Build project. He expressed thanks for all who supported the event.

Finance Committee reported that total receipts year to date are \$146,015 and expenses are \$164,675, making a deficit of \$18,660.

Treasurer Bill Harrison and members of the Finance committee then presented the proposed and the working budget for 2010. The requests of each committee had been carefully considered for opportunities to reduce expenses. Session approved a budget with a projected deficit of \$5,582. While we didn't reach our goal of a balanced budget, it is considerably better than the 2009 budget that had a projected deficit of \$27,128.

The next stated meeting of Session is January 19, 2010 at 7:00 PM. Please continue to pray for the Pastor and Session as we try to serve this congregation and our Lord Jesus Christ.
-Lois Shroyer, Clerk

Welcome New Member

Theresa (Terry) Rigio
 498 Forest Drive
 Springfield, OH 45505
 937-325-7406



Christmas gift suggestions:

- For your enemies—forgiveness. For a friend—your heart.*
- For family—your love and caring. For all—charity.*
- For every child—a good example. For yourself—respect.*

-via Rev. Sam Laswell
 Korean Presbyterian Church, Redford, MI
 "The Joyful Noiseletter"

**Northminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, OH
Proposed Church Library Donation Guidelines**

The generosity of Northminster Presbyterian's members is greatly appreciated. Often we want to share out of the resources we have to benefit the life of the congregation. Doing so is a good practice of our Christian faith. Due to the church's generosity, we have reached and exceeded our capacity for books in the library. The library space is limited. With no immediate plans of renovation or expansion, we ask that when you want to donate to the library please consider the following guidelines.

Due to the limited space, we are asking that you only donate books (audio or print) and videos that are related to:

- 1) The Bible, theology, or spiritual practices
- 2) Inspirational and/or encouraging themes
- 3) Presbyterian Church U.S.A. publications
- 4) Christian Ethics such as periodicals:
The Christian Century or Christianity Today

Due to the limited space, the books (audio or print) and videos we are unable to accept at this time are:

- 1) Paperback novels
- 2) Cookbooks
- 3) Reader's Digest condensed books
- 4) Periodicals strictly related to entertainment, fashion, or automobiles. i.e. any periodical not pertaining to theological or faith matters please do not donate.
- 5) National Geographic magazines older than six months.

If you have books you would like to donate to someone, please call the **Salvation Army 15 S. Plum St. Springfield, OH 45506-1599 (937)322-3434** or **Goodwill Industries 1961 N. Bechtle Ave. Springfield, OH 45504 (937)399-8980.**

Another alternative is to sell the books to **Half Price Books** in Beavercreek, OH. **Fairfield Commons** 3310 A. Pentagon Blvd. Beavercreek, OH 45431. Store Hours: Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. **Phone (937) 431-1820.** They will look at boxes of full books and purchase the ones they can use, then you could donate the remaining books to Goodwill or Salvation Army

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

*Submitted by:
The Church Library Committee*

**HEALTH NEWS
from the Parish Nurse . . .
Nancy Jean Graves
COMPASSION FATIGUE
December 2009**

This is a condition that has many meanings. In this article, it refers to the stress or burnout experienced by caregivers in any setting such as: at home, a hospital, or hospice facility. It results from the taxing nature of deep caring and compassion for someone whose illness and suffering is ongoing (such as: Cancer, Parkinson's Disease, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Alzheimer's Disease, ALS, caring for a mentally or physically challenged child, or any other debilitating disorder that requires close supervision and care and is irresolvable.

It may be present in the caregiver as depression, anxiety, stress-related symptoms, or exhaustion. It can even manifest as an uncaring attitude in a person known to be a caring and compassionate individual.

It may present itself in parents of a cranky, colicky infant that wails unceasingly for days or even weeks. It affects family members who care for very emotionally dependent members. It is apparent in the most loving elderly spouse who is daily caring for the physical and emotional needs of his/her infirm beloved.

A young family physician described his compassion fatigue this way, "I feel like a baby bottle that has been sucked dry and I don't know how to refill it." At 38, he was tired, cynical, lonely - suffering deep physical, emotional and spiritual exhaustion.

To recover from compassion fatigue, one has to arrange "time away" from the constant caring - time for self-reflection - time for spiritual caring, time for self, reflection, time for spiritual nurturing, a way to sustain oneself with integrity. Some suggestions are engaging in activities that one knows will replenish and recharge their energy. Find ways to reconnect with friends who encourage one's own deep feelings, even anger, guilt and hopelessness. These efforts will help in a return to hope and life once again.

*Submitted by:
Rev. Ginny Carlisle
Northminster Presbyterian Church*

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 on **Monday, December 14th** at 7:00 p.m. @ Prestwick Village.

Hostesses: Doris DeMers and Lee Jordan

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Leader: Ruth Martin

Meets 3rd Friday

Mary-Martha Circle will meet on **Friday, December 18th** at 10:30 a.m. at the church for a cookie and gift exchange.

REBEKAH/SARAH CIRCLE

Leader: Joyce Carpenter

Meets 2nd Thursday

Rebekah/Sarah Circle will meet on **Thursday, December 3rd** at 12:00 noon for a Christmas Luncheon at Tea Berries Restaurant.

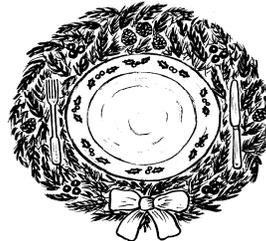
PW BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 7
@ 10:00 AM

Holiday Bazaar Raffle Winners

- Quilt.....Cheri VanHorn
- Stained Glass Angel.....Dick White
- Wall Hanging.....Vickie Crabill
- Pair of Musical Bears.....Wayne Schatz
- Handblown Glass Bowl.....Joan Morris

AVM & PW *Christmas Dinner*

Presbyterian Women *and* The Adult Visionary Ministry will join together for a combined Christmas Dinner on Thursday, **December 10** at 6:00 p.m. at the church. The dinner will be catered by Chef Chetty. Cost of the dinner will be \$11.00 per person.



MENU

- Roasted Pork Loin*
- Augratin Potatoes*
- Roasted Vegetables*
- Salad and Rolls*
- Dessert—Apple Strudel*

Christmas Dinner

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by a choral group from Shawnee High School. Reservations are necessary for this dinner, so be sure to include your name on the sign-up sheet that will be posted in the Family Room a few weeks prior to the event. For additional information contact Dwillla Cramer at 399-3935. Plan to join us for a very enjoyable evening!!

CRAIG HOUSE MEALS

PW will deliver an evening meal for 12 men living at Craig House, a homeless shelter for men on **Monday, December 28th**. If you are interested in providing either a **meat, vegetable, salad or dessert**, please sign-up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the Family Room. Your donation may be brought to the church on the Sunday before or picked up at your home. Call or see Marcia or Andy Barga (399-9839) for more information.

Lectionary Readings

Sunday, December 6

2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, December 13

3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 20

4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55

or Psalm 80:1-7

Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Friday, December 25

Nativity of Jesus Christ/Christmas

Dawn: Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97;

Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20

Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98;

Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14

Sunday, December 27

1st Sunday after Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148;

Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

**Christmas Eve
Worship**

Christmas Eve
A Service of
Lessons and Carols
December 24th
6:00 PM



**CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
and
THE DEACONS'
CHRISTMAS DINNER
Sunday, December 20th**

The Children's Christmas Pageant will be held during worship on Sunday, December 20th. Plan now to attend this always enjoyable performance by the children and youth of our church.

After worship you are invited to stay for the Christmas Dinner prepared by our Deacons. The dinner will consist of: *ham loaf, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls and drinks.* **Please bring a dessert to share.**

ADOPTED CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

The Deacons are adopting four families (children only) this year. The "giving tree" is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. As in the past, please pull the ornaments off the tree for the gifts you are willing to purchase. *The gifts need to be wrapped (with the ornament from the giving tree on the outside of the package) and brought to the church by Sunday, December 6th.* The Deacons will deliver the gifts on December 7th. Anyone that is unable or wishes not to shop, but would like to help, may give money (cash or check payable to: Trish Foster) and Trish will be glad to shop for them.

MISSION and OUTREACH

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to reintroduce offering gifts for those in need during the Advent Season. Sue Creager will address these needs on Sunday, December 6th during a "Minute for Mission" in worship. This year we are asking you to bring:

Dec. 13 - Toilet Tissue

for use by the Interfaith Hospitality Network

Dec. 20 - School Supplies

(pencils/crayons/markers/etc.) for use by Oesterlen Services for the Youth

DECEMBER IS VISITORS' MONTH

December has been designated as "*Visitors' Month*" here at Northminster. Please take this opportunity to personally invite 1,2,3 or even 4 friends and/or neighbors to join us in worship during the month of December. Let's break the attendance records here at Northminster in December. We hope to see you and your friends in worship!!

NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 Villa Road
Springfield, Ohio 45503



THE NORTHERN LIGHT
Issue 10

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

Return Service Requested



December 2009

December 10	AVM & PW Christmas Dinner
December 12	Youth Babysitting for Christmas Shoppers
December 15	Men's Breakfast
December 20	Children's Christmas Pageant Deacons' Christmas Dinner
December 24	Christmas Eve Service 6PM
December 25	Christmas Day—Office Closed

But the angel said to them,

"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

Luke 2:10-11

December 2009

Northminster Presbyterian Church



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	3 12:00 Rebekah/ Sarah Circle Christmas Luncheon at Tea Berries	4 7:00 Youth Group Skilllet Concert at Troy, OH	5 8:00 Pancake Breakfast
6 Blood Pressure Screening	7 9:30 YWM Meeting and Luncheon 10:00 PW Board Meeting	8	9 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	10 6:00 PW/AVM Christmas Dinner	11	12 11am to 4pm Youth Babysitting for Christmas Shoppers
13 4:30 Youth Group	14 10:00 AVM Adv. Bd. 6:00 Finance Mtg. 7:00 Esther Circle @ Prestwick Village	15 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Perkins	16 No bell or choir practice 7:00 Boy Scouts	17	18 10:30 Mary/Martha Circle	19
20 Christmas Pageant Christmas Dinner	21	22 Deadline for Jan. Newsletter	23 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Choir	24 <i>Christmas Eve Service 6PM</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day Office Closed</i>	26
27 Youth Hosting Cafe	28	29	30 9:30 Mail January Newsletter	31	HAPPY NEW YEAR! January 1, 2010 New Year's Day Office Closed	