

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

APRIL 2013

ISSUE 4

A Word from the Pastor . . .

The following text comes from a blog by the Rev. Dr. Wendy Berg Bailey. She currently works as the Regional Presbyter for the Presbytery of New Brunswick, New Jersey. Her thoughts ask a question that many folks, especially in mainline denominations are asking. She offers insight into how to answer it as well. Because we don't have an overflowing parking lot on Sunday mornings I'd like us to consider the question. I'd also like us to seek tangible ways of answering it. The text that follows the question is Dr. Bailey's take on it. The question is:

How do we get more people to come to church?

I've visited a few congregations this month talking and listening. My topics have been the future of the church, evangelism, congregational renewal, etc. Consistently, I've heard the same questions. The biggest one on people's minds is "How do we get more people to come to church?"

Congregations have tried lots of gimmicks . . . invite a friend Sunday, come as you are Sunday, bring your pets Sunday; at least one church even tried, come to church and win a car, Sunday! My answer is the same . . . it's the wrong question. People who want to go to church are going to church. The question isn't how do we get more people in here, the better question is how do we get our people out in the community and build faith-filled relationships with people longing to know Christ?

The thing is that just like most non-church-goers don't want to go to church, most church attenders . . . at least those in old-line denominations like the PCUSA . . . don't want to make new relationships with people who are not like them. They have an unrealistic expectation that they can attract "people" to come into the church, that the people will see how warm and friendly and inspirational the church is, and want to join the congregation and become just like them. OK, I know that's highly cynical of me . . . and most definitely unfair to the long-time church goers who genuinely don't "get" why others aren't as enamored with church life like they are. (continued on next page)



SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.

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PASTORS

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

CHURCH STAFF

Deana Knotts **Office Manager**
Gay Steiner **Financial Secretary**
Bill Harrison **Treasurer**
Greg Veith **Custodian**
Lydia Smith-Lockwood **Director of Music**
Dwight & Sarah McCormick **Youth Leaders**
Nate & Kate Smith
Joan Generous **Presbyterian Women**
June Hughes
Nancy Jean Graves **Parish Nurse**
Ruth George **Librarian**

The Northern Light is published
monthly September thru May
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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

It's not 1956 anymore. People don't feel guilty for not attending church anymore. There are lots of choices in people's lives for entertainment, community, and spiritual nurture. Even people who are spiritual seekers are not necessarily going to wander into a church building on Sunday morning. They will join discussion groups, seek spirituality groups and coaches, watch Oprah, gather with friends, and read blogs. Their concept of church-going Christians is that we are judgmental, hypocritical, irrelevant, and ... boring. I know that's harsh, and not necessarily true to our character, but if that's what they think, that's what we need to address.

So, the question is ... How can we make relationships with people who are not currently part of a faith community and begin to witness a nonjudgmental, non hypocritical, and very relevant faith in Jesus Christ that's vital to our lives? By answering this question well ... we will not only help other people grow in faith, but we, too, will be challenged to grow spiritually. Our new friends may never enter the church door, but we will have had the opportunity to witness to the Gospel in real and tangible ways. And we can trust that the Spirit will continue to work in their lives as they become disciples of Jesus.

So consider your own words, too -
the ones you say and write.

What is the message you
are conveying others?

*You may be the only Bible
some folks ever read.*

from the *Joyful Noiseletter*
Rev. Paul Holte

~ ~ ~

In everything set them an example
by doing what is good.

Titus 2:7

Session Highlights

The Session met in regular stated meeting March 19, 2013. The Moderator, Rev. Dwight McCormick, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM, with Scripture reading and prayer.

The pastor reported his plans for taking vacation time have changed; he will be taking vacation June 20 through June 30, not August 12 through 19. He will arrange for pulpit supply for June 23 and 30.

Finance Committee: The printed financial report and balance sheet shows that total income for January and February was \$30,076 and total expenses were \$32,401, producing a deficit of \$2,325. Committee member Kevin Creager pointed out that the January deficit (\$4,122) has shrunk by \$1,797; the committee had predicted that the large January deficit would be made up in the coming months.

Property Committee: The committee recommended proceeding with modifications to the chancel area that are intended to make it safer for the choir (and anyone else) to negotiate access. The modifications include taking off enough of the point so that people don't have to step up at an angle (this will not relocate the pulpit, communion table, or the piano). A contrasting color of carpet will be put on the chancel area, to make the step more visible. The committee expects that their budget contains funds to cover these modifications. Session approved going ahead with the project, with the understanding that the committee will come back to session if the quote exceeds their budget.

Session unanimously approved a motion to be a corporate sponsor of Equality Springfield's LGBT documentary film series being held at Upper Valley Mall Cinema 5. Northminster will be listed along with other churches and organizations in the ads for the series. Session members felt that this sponsorship is a natural outgrowth of our decision to stand for justice for LGBT persons in the community. Session members, being mindful of budget constraints, contributed the sponsorship fee from their own pockets.

The next stated meeting of Session is April 16, 2013 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

Presbyterian Women

Faith, Fellowship and Fun
with a Circle of Friends.

All are welcome to participate.

Co-Moderators.....Joan Generous & June Hughes
Secretary..... Anne Hines
Treasurer.....Ruth Martin

Esther Circle

Leader: Cindy Chesnut

Meets 2nd Monday

Meeting Date: Monday, April 8

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Olive Garden Restaurant

Hostess: Janet Digel-Koerner

Reservations may be made by calling Janet at 399-8777.

Ruth Circle

Leader: Joyce Carpenter

Meets 2nd Thursday

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 11

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Church

April 18th
PW Appreciation Dinner
Everyone is invited to the PW Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, April 18th at 6PM at the church.

Meal catered by Lee's Chicken
Cost: \$7.00 per person

Northminster's own Bill Benston will speak on the history and life of Springfield.
Sign-up sheets will be posted in the Family Room.

Reservation deadline:
Wednesday, April 10th

This is a time to gather and appreciate the work we do "together" as a church.

HEALTH NEWS from . . . the Parish Nurse Nancy Jean Graves April 2013 STRESS FRACTURES

One of the most common injuries in sports is a stress fracture. A stress fracture is an overuse injury. It occurs when muscles become fatigued and are unable to absorb added shock. Eventually the fatigued muscle transfers the overload of stress to the bone causing a tiny crack called a stress fracture. This is the result of increasing the amount or intensity of an activity too rapidly. They also can be caused by the impact of an unfamiliar surface, improper equipment, or increased physical stress.

Most occur in the weight bearing bones of the lower leg and the foot. Athletes participating in tennis, track and field, gymnastics, and basketball are very susceptible to stress fractures. Without sufficient rest between workouts, an athlete is at risk for developing a stress fracture. Stress fractures affect people of all ages who participate in repetitive sporting activities, like running. Female athletes seem to experience more stress fractures than their male counterparts. As a female's bone mass decreases, her chances of getting a stress fracture increase.

Pain with activity is the most common complaint with a stress fracture. It subsides with rest. X-rays are commonly used to determine a stress fracture. Occasionally a CT or MRI will be necessary.

The most important treatment is rest. Individuals need to engage in only pain-free activity for 6 to 8 weeks to permit healing of a stress fracture. In addition to rest, shoe inserts or braces may be used to help these injuries heal.

Prevention: When participating in any new sport, gradually build up length of activity. Alternating activities to accomplish fitness can help to prevent stress fractures. Maintain a healthy diet with additional calcium and Vitamin D. Use proper equipment — good running shoes. If pain and swelling occurs, REST. If pain persists, see an Orthopaedic surgeon.

Submitted by: Lisa Mayhugh, MSN
Springfield Regional Medical Center

Lectionary Readings/Worship Schedule for April

Sunday, April 7, 2013

Holy Humor Sunday

Acts 5:27-32; *Psalm 118:14-29* or *Psalm 150*

Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

- We will be celebrating Holy Humor Sunday, once again, the Sunday after Easter. People are encouraged to bring a favorite church joke to tell in worship, wear a playful hat or tie, or even plan a practical joke on the pastor. The idea is that the Resurrection was the biggest joke God played on the devil and against the forces of death and evil in the world so we extend the joyful day of Easter by enjoying laughter together.

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); *Psalm 30*

Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

Sunday, April 21, 2013

Acts 9:36-43; *Psalm 23*

Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sunday, April 28, 2013

Congregational Meeting

Acts 11:1-18; *Psalm 148*

Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

- There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 28th immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new officers (Elders and Deacons) and congregation at large members of the nominating committee for next year.

Announcement

Saturday, April 20th—7:30 PM

“Back in Five” Comedy and Improv Troupe

On April 20th at 7:30 PM we'll be welcoming sketch comedy and improv troupe “Back in Five” to Northminster Presbyterian Church. They will be performing for Northminster family and friends, and the general public.

The group was started at Grace College in Indiana with the help of, Cheryl Spencer, a Shawnee High School graduate. She is a former student of Lydia Smith-Lockwood. It is through Lydia that Cheryl and “Back in Five” came to our attention. The group features four young men and four young women who are guaranteed to make you laugh with their clean, intelligent yet goofy brand of comedy.

Tickets are available at the door and are \$3.00 for students and children, and \$5.00 for adults. Half of the ticket sales will go to a charity. Please invite your friends and come support their ministry of comedy. You will be glad you did!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Stephanie Molnar-Whiteside	April 2
Anne Hines	April 3
Grace Adams	April 7
Tim Wertime	April 10
Tom Stout	April 11
Maryellen Purkey	April 12
Jane Johnson	April 14
Mary Green	April 14
Colin Creager	April 15
Laura Creager	April 16
Martha Ater	April 17
Mark Brush	April 18
Joyce Carpenter	April 20
June Hughes	April 20
Edna Roeder	April 23
Joe Stalder	April 24
Marta Stalder	April 26
Lois Shroyer	April 29
Helen Stalder	April 29



Women's Bible Study

A new Women's Bible Study with Beth Moore's course "Jesus the One and Only" will begin on

Tuesday, April 9th at 7PM,
meeting at the home of Diana Harrison.

Please contact Sue Creager (399-2349) if you are interested. A workbook for the course is available for \$15.30.

A daytime study group
will also be offered. Dates and times have not yet been determined.

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Springfield, Ohio

www.northminsterspringfield.org

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30 Young Woman's Mission 10:00 PW Board	2 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 6:30 Christian Ed. Meeting	3 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Youth First 7:15 Choir	4 6:00 Springfield Dulcimer Club	5	6 8:00 Pancake Breakfast
7 Holy Humor Sunday Blood Pressure Screening	8 6:00 Esther Circle @ Olive Garden Restaurant	9 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 6:30 Deacon Meeting 7:00 Women's Bible Study @ Harrison's	10 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Youth First 7:15 Choir	11 11:00 Ruth Circle 6:30 Mission Committee Meeting	12	13
14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 7a Men's Breakfast @ Perkins N. Limestone 9a Bazaar Workshop 6p Finance 7p Women's Bible Study @ Harrison's 7p Session Meeting	17 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Youth First 7:15 Choir	18 <i>6:00 PM P.W. Appreciation Dinner</i>	19	20 Clifton Ave. Breakfast <i>7:30 PM "Back in Five" Comedy Improv Troupe</i>
21	22 6:30 Remembrance Quilt Guild (tentative)	23 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 7:00 Women's Bible Study @ Harrison's	24 9:30 Mail Newsletter 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Youth First 7:15 Choir	25	26	27
28 Congregational Meeting 4PM Clark County Area Spring Ring @ Maiden Lane	29	30 9:00 Bazaar Workshop 7:00 Women's Bible Study @ Harrison's				

NORTHMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

400 Villa Road
Springfield, Ohio 45503



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April 2013

- | | |
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| April 6 | Pancake Breakfast |
| April 7 | Holy Humor Sunday |
| April 16 | Session Meeting |
| April 18 | PW Appreciation Dinner |
| April 20 | Clifton Ave. Breakfast
“Back in Five” Comedy Improv Troupe |
| April 28 | Congregational Meeting
Clark Co. Area Spring Ring @
Maiden Lane Church of God 4PM |



**‘Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to BELIEVE.’
John 20:29**

NORTHMINSTER’S PURPOSE STATEMENT

Northminster Presbyterian Church will develop disciples of Jesus Christ
and learn to follow the way of Jesus.