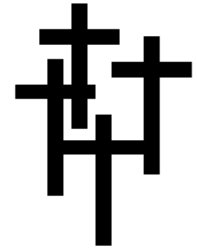


Northside News



Volume 41

January 28, 2010

Number 2

From the Pastor

Two Things.

You need to know about two things happening right now at Northside.

First, the deacons are leading us to consider a ministry to our surrounding neighborhood or community. When we met last fall, we agreed that we want to reach out, open our doors, become more visible to our neighborhood, and offer our unique gifts in service. We do not know how we want to do this, but we believe this is the time to explore. So, the deacons are leading us by listening. They are going to be coming to you for one on one conversations, and they are going to be leading us in prayer on Wednesday nights.

You are also invited to listen and to pray about our ministry, however small or large it may be. Here's the question: What one Gospel ministry would you like to join our church in offering toward the healing and wholeness of our community?

Please note, that the question tries to get at what we *desire* to offer. That's a different question from what we do think we *should* do. What unique gifts has the Spirit given this church which long to be expressed and offered in our community?

This is a great big, wide-open question, and it's meant to start an ongoing conversation among us about where the Spirit is leading us. So, let's pledge to listen to one another and open our ears and hearts for the Spirit.

Second, alongside this outward venture, we're beginning a new Christian Formation Covenant Group. This group will meet for two years (in four 7-8 week units) and covenant together to pray and study about what it means to form and be formed as disciples over the long haul. We'll ask central, but often overlooked questions like "What is the church for?" or "What does salvation mean?" or "What do we truly believe and desire?"

It is very important that we do this reflective work alongside our outreach. The two things go together. I encourage you to give each of these ventures your strongest consideration.

If you are interested in *deepening* your own practices of discipleship, like prayer and Bible Study, and you want to *broaden* your understanding of the church and its mission, and you want to *strengthen* the ties that bind us in this church, I would be very glad to speak to you. The group begins on February 21.

Grace and Peace,
Stan

Christian Formation Covenant Group

(Based on the CFI Experience from 2005-7)

What: A Two-year intensive exploration of the church and its mission.

Who: Anyone interested in deepening their own practices of discipleship and strengthening the ties that bind us together in Christ.

When: Beginning February 21

Cost: \$50/year for materials

Schedule

Lent/Easter 2010. Sundays from 5:-6:30 p.m.

The Shape of Our Lives: A close look at the factors that make us who we are.

February 21: Formation Happens

February 28: Desires

March 7: Convictions

March 21: Character

March 28: Stories

April 11: Practices

April 25: Institutions: What's the Purpose of the Church?

Fall 2010 (Dates and times to be determined)

The Shape of God's Reign: An Extended Conversation about the Purpose and Mission of the Church

Conversation 1: What's the Point?

Conversation 2: Image is Everything

Conversation 3: Kingdoms, Reigns, and Other Social Orders

Conversation 4: The Shape of God's Reign: Wholeness

Conversation 5: The Shape of God's Reign: Truthfulness

Conversation 6: The Shape of God's Reign: Forgiveness

Conversation 7: The Shape of God's Reign

Reconciliation

A retreat lead by Northside members and outside partners will be planned for the fall of 2010.

Lent/Easter 2011

Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Tentative)

A manual for a community of faith in a fragmented world.

Fall 2011

Philippians

A close reading of a biblical book about Friendship in Christian Community.

9:03 Club

Here is a list of upcoming speakers at 9:03 club.

February 2

Trey Jones

February 9

Martha Hutston

February 16

Musical entertainment

We hope you will join us and bring a friend!

New Hymnal Project

Celebrating Grace Hymnal for Baptist Worship

The Worship Committee is beginning a two week intense effort to purchase our new hymnals. We are trying to place the order in time for the new hymnals to arrive by Easter. As of press time we need only 99 more hymnals (out of a total order of 250).

You may purchase a hymnal for \$17, and we encourage you to give more than one. Contact the office to pledge, or send a check to Northside Baptist Church, 1475 E. Northside Drive, 39056, Attn: New Hymnals.

(Information will follow shortly detailing opportunities for honorary and memorial gifts.)

From the Minister of Youth

Already, one month of 2010 is gone. Have you given up on your New Year's resolutions? Is your year going the way you thought it would? Is it going the way you wanted it to? Take the time to reevaluate where you are, what you are doing, and where you are going. Make 2010 a significant year for faith, family, and church. Solon

Women's Retreat



The Northside Women's Annual Retreat, *The Work of Our Hands*, was held again at the St. Moses the Black Norbertine Priory in Raymond, Mississippi. It was a peaceful, restful time for us all. Time away and time together is an incalculable gift and blessing. It was good to re-connect with Suzanne Stovall Vinson, to see her gifts at work facilitating our sessions, to know Northside has made an impression on her ministry as she has on ours. And, of course, Linda McComb's stories are the reason many of us keep coming back year after year; they feed our souls. This year we had the added dimension of together creating a gift for our church family, a quilt banner to hang during the season of ordinary time when we celebrate the work of our hands as we follow Christ. Make plans to join us next year.

Lenten Book Recommended

The Seven Deadly Sins Sampler, edited by Daniel Born, Mike Levine, and Don Whitfield. This sampler is fourteen short story masterpieces selected for discussion and reflection on the seven deadly sins of Pride, Envy, Anger, Sloth, Greed, Gluttony, and Lust. As a preview, the first is Pride: "A Rose for Emily" by William Faulkner and "Good Country People" by Flannery O'Connor. The book is \$20 and needs to be ordered as soon as possible in order to be received by Lent. Sign up if you want to be a part of one of the discussion groups or would like to host one in your home.

From the Wellness Ministry

In one state it was found that 17% of persons trying to open new items that are packaged in very strong plastic packaging are injured in the attempt to open the package. Often a sharp instrument is resorted to use in the attempt as regular hand strength is not sufficient. Preventive suggestions include:

- Wear protective gloves
- Do not open in crowds
- Don't use your legs or body to brace the package
- If using a sharp instrument, cut away from your body
- Look for a tool that has a blunt tip or is less dangerous
- Consider removing the tough packaging before giving the item to someone who might hurt themselves attempting to open it.

Extended Session

January 31

Infants

Toddlers

Preschool

February 7

Infants

Toddlers

Preschool

Lisa Edwards

Amy Williamson

Emily Fokeladeh

Marijane Whitfield

M. D. Whitfield

Cindy Ringler

Sunday School for Babies

January 31

February 7

Ruth Randman

Daphne Myers

Caregiving Concerns

Antonio Dillon, student of Andrew Meaders', at UMC

Brina Gutierrez, granddaughter of Ann and John Marquez

Virgie Murriel, recovering from knee surgery

Itaska Woods, at home

On-Going Caregiving Concerns

Helen Breedlove, aunt of Jackie Wright

Evelyn Brewer, mother of David Parks

Wanda Caldwell, sister of Bill Stark

Shirley Campbell, sister of Jo Ann Pope

Bill and Charlotte Causey

Callie Cole

Jamie Franks, daughter of Lynda Cook, with Crohn's disease

Marjorie Gore

Becky Harrison, aunt of Beth Dickinson

John Hendrix

Clarissa Hickman, friend of Edith Kennedy

Carolyn Hisaw, wife of Tony Hisaw

June Hodge

Karen Holland, friend of Beth Dickinson

Lake Jones

Matthew McCartney, nephew of Anne Powers

Diane Meadows

Ruth Parker, daughter-in-law of Lynda Cook

Clayton Powers

Chrys Ray

Margaret Stephens, John Marquez' sister

Merle Thomas

Jennifer Tucker

Rhonda Upton, friend of Christina Kelsey

Betty Gordon Watson, sister of Emily Fokeladeh

Freddie Weeks, cancer

Johnnie Williams, mother of Roxie Parks



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