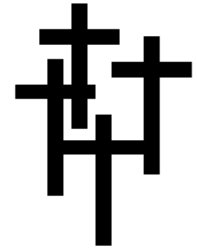


Northside News



Volume 42

May 20, 2011

Number

From the Pastor

I want to tell you about an important activity we are undertaking this summer. Starting in just a few weeks and going through June I want to encourage you to take a *Missional Readiness Survey*.

The Survey takes about 45 minutes, so it's a big investment of your time, but it is important that as many of us take it as possible so that we can have accurate results. The Survey will attempt to measure our readiness to be a *Missional Church*.

Missional is a relatively new word. It has emerged in just the past few years as Christians recognize that the world is changing rapidly. At the same time we're broadening our vision of the Gospel and coming to see that the Church has a unique place in the Gospel story in a changing world. The Church is called to be an outpost, a sign, a beacon, and a servant of God's reign in the middle of a mixed-up, changing, and challenging world.

This survey will help us *start* a conversation about how we are doing. Are we answering our call to join in God's work in the world, or are we still acting as if nothing has changed? Do we have any blind spots? Are there some simple changes we could make which would enhance our ability to be God's Church?

It is possible that the survey could reveal more challenging realities. It could reveal that some of our own values or habits actually undercut our mission. In that case we would have work to do, and it would not be easy.

It is highly likely that the survey will also reveal an abundance of gifts and possibilities already among us. In that case, we will face an equally challenging question: what is holding us back from becoming the Church we want to be?

Of course, no survey will do this work for us. We will be given a professional report later in the summer, and then in the fall we will gather in small groups to interpret the results.

You will soon receive a personal invitation to take this survey. If you respond, you will be given a link (for the computer savvy) or a paper copy. Please make time to take this survey if at all possible. You will be contributing a great deal to our common work.

Peace,

Stan

Vacation Bible School June 6-10

It's that time of the year again! Yes, VBS is upon us and as we do EVERY year, we are expecting to have a wonderful time! Our topic is "The Life of Moses." Already many of you have signed up to help but we still have some places where we need additional help. We always have such a great time decorating and preparing the classrooms the week before. If you would like to participate in this exciting experience, please call and have Frances add your name to the list. This is going to be the best year ever so pass the word to all the kids you know!

Neighborhood Walk

We will pass out VBS flyers this Sunday, May 22, at 5:00 to our surrounding neighborhoods. Please make plans to attend and spread the word about our wonderful exciting VBS program!

What's Your One?

For more than a year, our church has been prayerfully considering this question: what is our one Gospel ministry for healing and wholeness in our community? The Deacons and Missions Committee, recognizing that different members will answer this question in different ways, will hold a missions focus Sunday on June 12. More details will follow, but please make plans now to attend and get involved with our missions efforts.

Burial Plots

Several years ago, two burial plots in Lakewood Cemetery were donated to the church. The congregation has authorized the Deacons to dispose of these plots. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Update on the After School Ministry Proposal

This past month Frances Chisolm and Michael Williamson “sounded the call” in worship for the formation of an After School Ministry Team. They have a vision of creating an after school program at Northside beginning in August. Initially they want to begin by serving 15 children, from Kindergarten to 5th Grade.

Since that time they have formed a team, secured a pledge from the Missions Committee to cover the full cost of tuition for two students, and come up with a very promising budget. They have also contacted insurance agents and state licensing offices.

Now the team is meeting to answer further questions raised at the May Business Meeting. Those questions include: What kind of transportation will be used to get the students from school to Northside? What additional custodial and utilities costs will be involved? And will this be a separate non-profit institution, or will it operate as a ministry of Northside?

Soon the team anticipates that they will ask for a special called meeting of the church to approve their plan.

Sounding the Call to After School Ministry

By Michael Williamson

Frances and I expect at least one church window to be broken. We anticipate that sidewalks will be covered with chalk. The church parking lot may be damaged by a school bus. Messes will be made.

Hands-on ministry is dirty work. It just is.

Stan has recently encouraged each of us to find our calling and work at developing it. Instead of serving on many committees, we can focus on one thing. Out of a sense of calling Frances and I want to try an After School Ministry - our one thing. We want to serve and feel specifically called to this venture.

We love Northside and want it to prosper. We feel that one way to improve the church's future is to do just this kind of hands-on-ministry. We have a community of people around us who are yearning for the love of Jesus Christ but do not know how to find it. We have kids with "C" averages who desire to make "A"s and "B"s. We have boys who need adult male mentors and girls who wish for adult female relationships.

This is the hands-on ministry we want to do through Northside. We hope that we will “find ourselves” through this ministry and that we “will be found.” We will learn to relate better to God’s kingdom and the

living creatures in it. That makes all the difference.

If you are interested in joining us on our After School Ministry Team, we would welcome you. Please give it some thought.

Acknowledgements from Bob and Janice Newell

Your prayers and your generous gift for Porta – the Albania House in Athens, are so encouraging and are genuine blessings to us and Albanians in Athens. Thank you for helping us to become the presence of Christ among these worthy, but most-neglected people.

We plan to direct your most recent gift to the “Porta Today” account, to be used to help to defray the expenses of two innovative new programs scheduled to occur this year. The Patjeter Program is a program which will bring 10 top leadership undergraduate students and 3 professors from Baylor University, Waco, Texas in July, to mentor 10 select Albanian high school students on leadership principles and practices. In the fall of this year, we plan to bring Bible and church leadership training to Albanian church leaders through an innovative partnership with the Albanian Bible Institute of Dures, Albania. The ABI will send professors from Albania to train students, using a weekend schedule and format. In these two ways, you are helping us to achieve one of our significant Phase Two goals – leadership development for Albanians.

Despite these difficult financial times, God continues to bless this ministry. We know that you must make choices in your giving. We are grateful to God that you have chosen to continue to support Porta – the Albania House in Athens.

Bob and Janice Newell
Ministry Coordinators – Athens, Greece
The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Youth

If you have not yet paid for the upcoming youth trip, please have your money turned in by the end of next week! You may turn it in to the office or drop in the offering plate.

Upcoming Youth Trip

From May 31-June 3 ten younger youth and three chaperones will be rafting the Nantahala and Ocoee Rivers and camping out. If you have a tent suitable for campground camping, may we borrow it? Also, we need one female chaperone. If you’re interested in a great trip with fun kids, please let us know.

Prayer Requests

Geri Bowie, Thelma Basley's sister
Jim Bowie, Thelma Basley's brother-in-law
Evelyn Brewer, mother of David Parks
Howard Cohen at home, dialysis
Callie Cole, neurologic rehab therapy
Mattie Cooper, home
Charles Gearhart, Greg Gearhart's father
Marjorie Gore
Lee Hackett, Carrie Chester's sister
Nancy Hancock
Clarissa Hickman, friend of Edith Kennedy
Carolyn Hisaw, wife of Tony Hisaw
William Howard Hollman, brother of Harold Hollman
Paul Jacobs Jr.
Carol Meadors, mother of John Meadors
Mary Sue Nations, at home
Ruth Parker, daughter-in-law of Lynda Cook
Quentin Peterson, friend of the Brogans, cancer
Melissa Powell, family friend of the Dickinsons'
Clayton Powers
Barbara Randman, recovering from a fall
Ryan Robertson, Yates' grandson
Bernice Rook, charter member, leukemia
John Sherrod, uncle of Michael Williamson
Carolyn Snell, Linda McComb's mother
Bill Strum, recovering from eye surgery
Sue Thayer
Dan Toohey, stroke, friend of Ben Randman
Cliff Tucker, recovering from back injury
Freddie Weeks, cancer, friend of Graham Carner
Johney Williams, mother of Roxie Parks
Roy and Gladys Williams, grandparents of
Graham Carner

Members at Home

Wilma Cooper
Clyde Hemphill
Mrs. Margaret Hensley
Chrys Ray

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Buddy and Sheila Wagner on the birth of granddaughter, Macias Katherynne "Macie" James, born May 19, 7 lbs 6 oz.

Sympathy

We extend loving sympathy to Martha and Jerrell Hutson, Ellen and Quentin Brewer, Joshua and Hutson, in the death of Martha's father, Earl Gillon.

We also extend loving sympathy to Anna Patterson Murray in the death of her husband, Jeff Murray. We remember also Anna's father, Mike Patterson and Jeff's parents, Vicki and Keyn Murray, and Jeff's sister Brook Murray.



Northside Baptist Church
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PERMIT #116

Church Staff

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Frances Chisolm | Secretary |
| Jamie Meaders | Minister of Music |
| Susan Meadors | Associate Pastor |
| Mack Murriel | Custodian and Chef |
| Troy Murriel | Custodian |
| Jo Ann Pope | Organist |
| Dottie Serio | Pianist |
| Stan Wilson | Pastor |

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