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See  
ya'all  
at  
the

Birthday Fun  
Night Feb. 19!

Details inside



Easter Sunday,  
April 8, 2012

Details inside



## THINK!

Some thoughts from our  
Preaching Minister to help us think

*They read from the book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood . . .*

**Nehemiah 8:8**

I've never liked the word "sermon." It sounds like a cross between a serpent and a lemon. Regardless what we call it, however, it's been around a long, long, long time.

Nehemiah and the priests read and explained. Later, in the Jewish synagogue, one read from the scroll and commented on the text. The practice carried over into the church and has remained with us ever since.

These days a lot of people are turned off by preaching. I heard a country song about two fellows talking over a beer about raising hell and the grace of God. That's what a lot of people think church ought to be: if not burping God-talk on a barstool, then pooling ignorance over coffee at Tim Horton's.

Why do people flee from or yawn through preaching? It's not just because the preacher's boring, though sometimes that's unfortunately the case. *It's because nobody wants to be told what to do!* They dress it up by saying preaching is a monologue and nobody's listening anymore. They say it impedes the progress of the individual as he makes his lone, spiritual journey, the quest for self-discovery.

The truth is, God has always spoken through priests, prophets, and preachers, and nobody wanted to listen to them either!

But listen to this, beloved, I am committed to preaching and teaching. That's because I'm committed to the Word of God:

**In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.**

**2 Timothy 4:1-4**

Sometimes I fail at it. I swing hard every Sunday, and sometimes I over swing the ball and fall right on my, uh, notes. But I won't quit. Paid or not, I won't quit. Because it's important. It matters. Underneath the ridiculous mask of the preacher, God approaches. So sermon time is not just my time. It's *our* time. Woe unto you if you will not listen. Woe unto me if I don't hear what I'm saying! It's not just a monologue—especially if we do what it says.

Gary

Valentine Banquet, Tuesday, February 14, 6 p.m.

See back page for details.

# NSCC Dates to Remember



## FEBRUARY

- Feb. 14, 6 p.m. Valentine Banquet
- Feb. 14, 9:30 am. S.O.C.
- Feb. 19, 4 p.m. Birthday Night
- Feb. 24 Ladies' Night Out (plans are pending)
- Feb. 24-25 Men's Retreat at Butler Springs
- Feb. 24-25 Junior High "Believe", Cincinnati
- Feb. 29, 8:45 a.m. "Muffins for Mom"

## MARCH

- March 4, 4 p.m. S.I.S. Sisters In Service
- March 10, 9 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Breakfast
- March 18, after service, New Member's Reception & Anniversary Celebration
- March 22 Gary speaking at KCU

## APRIL

- April 1 Palm Sunday
- April 8 Easter
- April 29 Family Sunday
- April 29 Newsletter items needed for Summer edition



Easter  
Sunday,  
April 8, 2012

Join us for a special worship celebration here at North Side, Sunday, April 8. Invite your friends, neighbors, and everyone you see—they're already thinking about Easter—now's the time to tell them how to make this Easter more meaningful by joining us for worship at North Side!

**Bible classes—9 a.m.      Worship—10 a.m.**

**He is risen! He is risen, indeed.**

The deadline for submitting items for the Spring issue of North Side News is Sunday, April 29 (distribution May 6). The newsletter is printed and ready for distribution the first Sunday of the new quarter. The newsletter is printed four times a year: Nov./Dec./Jan., Feb./March/April, May/June/July, Aug./Sept./Oct. The newsletter will be emailed to all those with an email address on file. A printed copy will still be available. Those newsletters not picked up will be mailed. If you would like our letter sent to someone not on our mailing list, please let the office know. Your ideas for news items are appreciated! Church office hours are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, closed holidays.



Why  
Read  
the  
Scriptures?



Reason #1 "The disclosure of the mind of God" (See the Winter Edition of this newsletter for more.)

Reason #2 "The unmasking and disclosure of self"

The Bible tells us about ourselves. It will reveal what is right or wrong in our lives. Unfortunately, too many of us read the Bible for other purposes. The Scriptures are God's personal message to each of us. Psalm 119:9-12 put it in perspective by saying, "How can a person stay pure? By obeying Your word. I have tried hard to find you—don't let me wander from your commands. I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You." (NLT)

May I suggest that in 2012 that we not only read the Bible through, but personally seek to apply His Word to our lives.

*I ke*



## Preschool Corner

We are back in full session after a couple of weeks off from the holidays. We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! The children are glad to be back. As usual the teachers of the younger class have to get their class back into following the rules again, which is all part of the process.

It is always a lot of fun for the kids to make piñatas for our Valentine's Day Parties. They get to see what a process it is and **it is messy!** They also love to break it open and get that candy! The children will also be learning different numbers, shapes, letters and colors.

Enrollment will soon be open for the 2012-2013 year. The children who are here now and the siblings of previous students will have first choice of the class they want and then it will be open to the public on Feb. 15. We have already received a couple of calls from past families who have signed up a child, so that is encouraging. If you have a child or know someone who has a child preschool age that might be interested in the pre-school, please have them contact me as soon as possible.

Our Spring Break will be very short this year. We will be out on Friday, April 6 and Monday, April 9. We will return on Wednesday, April 11.

We ask that you pray for the preschool that we may continue to touch the lives of more children and their families.

Lynn



# Birthday Fun Night

Sunday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.

Happy birthday to me! Happy birthday to me! Happy birthday to me and you and everyone! This is a wild and zany kind of party that one has to experience to understand. Folks have already been enlisted (since last year's shin-dig) to celebrate a particular month, complete with decorations, food samples and sometimes games, centered around a theme often celebrated during that month. (Ever heard of National Pancake Day?) Your birthday is remembered with your month as we celebrate!

Words defy describing this accurately. Come and find out for yourself: **There are a couple of tables open.** So if you would like to participate or have questions, see Carol DeMent.

# NEW MEMBER RECEPTION & ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 18  
after worship service

A time to welcome new members (since this time last year) will be offered at North Side's annual Anniversary Celebration (48 years).

New members to be honored are:

March 27: Adriann Gregory

April 26: Dave & Rae Jeanne DeBord

May 1: Nissa Easterling

June 19: Colin Abriola

November 6: Bart Dolbeer

Bring a dish or two to share. Drinks and table service are provided. We'll see you there!

## Women's Prayer Breakfast



Ladies, mark your calendars now for Saturday, March 10, as the next Prayer Breakfast. Janet Ramey has a special session planned with her good friend as our speaker. Katie Bacholka, a missionary, who, with her doctor husband, has made many trips to Africa. Please come and take part—you will be blessed!

## Weekly Offering / Attendance

Date	GIVING		ATTENDANCE	
	Tithes & Offerings	Missions Offerings	Sunday School	Worship
11/6/11	\$5,091.71	\$685.00	75	129
11/13/11	\$3,659.40	\$180.00	81	142
11/20/11	\$3,366.38	\$395.00	70	135
11/27/11	\$2,914.73	\$290.00	68	104
12/4/11	\$5,829.18	\$740.00	76	124
12/11/11	\$3,964.74	\$190.00	66	127
12/18/11	\$3,482.20	\$305.00	79	137
12/25/11	\$2,078.00	\$285.00	n/a	86
1/1/12	\$5,863.90	\$595.00	51	86
1/8/12	\$4,183.00	\$420.00	71	126
1/15/12	\$2,454.90	\$305.00	71	112
1/22/12	\$3,907.26	\$315.00	65	104
1/29/12	\$3,560.00	\$220.00	73	131

## MONTHLY AVERAGES

	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.
SUNDAY SCHOOL	74	74	83
WORSHIP	128	119	112



"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."  
Matthew 6:21

## 2011 Giving Statistics-Year End

OUR OFFERINGS	Operating Expenses	Missions
Weekly Budgeted	\$4,159.05	\$461.54
Average Year-End	\$3,596.57	\$396.02

## 2012 Giving Statistics

OUR OFFERINGS	Operating Expenses	Missions
Weekly Budgeted	\$4,159.05	\$461.54
Average Year-to-Date	\$3993.81	\$371.00

# The Book of Chronicles

News and notes of what's happening with the

folks at North Side — Nov. -Dec. 2011, Jan. 2012

- ◆ We extend our sympathy to three of our families: **Al Hughes and family on the loss of Eileen** January 4; **Betty Delaney and family on the loss of Chester** February 1; and **Harold Ford and family on the loss of Rita** February 2.
- ◆ We rejoice with the angels in heaven as **Bart Dolbeer** was baptized into Christ November 6. God bless you, Bart, as you walk with our Savior.
- ◆ An updated pictorial directory is in process. Please see **Carol DeMent** for questions or to have an informal picture taken.

- ◆ A "heartfelt" thank you was received recently from the Greene county Combined Health District for the 20 hats, 53 pairs of mittens, 3 scarves, and 3 pairs of non-skid socks that we collected at Christmas. They wanted us to know that these will make a big difference in the lives of the families that utilize the Mitten Tree.



- ◆ There has been great rejoicing and giving of thanks to the Lord among our members for the new heating and air conditioning system recently installed. The project is now complete and paid for, due to the generous, sacrificial gifts given by many. This is a great blessing, the benefits to be experienced for many years to come. Thank you, **Jim Gable** and **Jimmie Sullivan**, for your hard work and dedication in seeing this project through to completion.



Right, a glimpse of the new boiler and a renovated room, and a cleaned and painted floor

- ◆ Since there is no longer any need for the window air conditioning units, several windows have been replaced, including the church office, kitchen, minister, and youth minister's offices. Many have remarked on the wonderful view now able to be seen, though it has always been there!



Left, office window installation—now a window with a view!

- ◆ A new walk-way and second loft have been constructed in the garage, mostly with recycled or left over lumber. This new addition will provide more storage space. If you haven't had any need to go out to the garage, here's what it looks like:



Above, new loft



Above, walkway between the two lofts



Above, have you noticed our new sign? It was replaced due to hail damage.

**S.O.C.** A group from S.I.S. Sisters In Service Serving Our Community

This community service group of ladies has been busy in the last few months, taking blankets to a homeless group in Xenia, taking cookies to the nursing home, and helping with Love Baskets. More projects of service to our community are planned. The next project will be serving muffins to our preschool moms (or whomever drops the children off). This group requests your prayers as they seek ways to serve our community.



S.O.C., a part of

Sisters In Service



# Mission Insights

*I want to take the opportunity in this newsletter to report on the six foreign missions North Side supports and their plans for this year.*

### **B.I.C.M. Bible Institute for Christian Missions—Wes Stepp, Director**

Wesley Stepp has directed this mission for 38 years. He will be teaching “The Church” in the Bible, into Theology and Leadership for Growth in Philippines, French Guiana, Cayenne and Suriname.

### **Hasten International—Dennis Pruett, M.D., President** Church Representatives, Clarence and Pat Mansfield

They believe that medical evangelism is the best way to put Christian ideals into action. Their desire is to establish churches/medical clinics with native Christians as preachers and physicians. Hasten has works established in Zimbabwe, Dominican Republic, India, Philippines, and Mexico.

### **P.O.E.M. Peace on Earth Ministries—“Proclaiming peace to the nations”—Victor Knowles, Founder and President**

Victor is a writer (Knowlesletter), preacher, and lecturer, has been to Russia, Cuba, and Poland, and travels will take him to Arizona, Oklahoma, California, Iowa, and Florida, in the first six months of 2012.

### **T.C.M. Training Christians for Ministry in Europe and Central Asia—Tony Twist, Director**

During 2011 there were 415 who studied at Haas Edelweiss. Short term worker construction crews will be painting and renovating various areas of the campus during the month of February to get ready for their spring academic season.

### **Strategic World Evangelism—Leonard Thompson, Founder**

After visiting supporting churches here in America this summer, Leonard and Pam have returned to India. This month there will be an all India Convention of Churches of Christ/Christian Churches. Leonard will be the opening night speaker. In January, he preached at the North India for Missions Board meeting. The first two weeks of February, Leonard will teach at Lakeview Bible College. Leonard still has time to record TV broadcasts, edit their magazines, and pursue lots of other kingdom endeavors.

### **Yucatan Peninsula Christian Mission—Sam and Elizabeth Gonzalez, Founders**

They ask us to pray for their health. Also, for more than a dozen churches they have started and their Bible College. Sam says people of the Yucatan are so hungry for the Word of God.

A note in closing, the National Missionary Convention has changed its name after 66 years to International Conference on Missions (ICOM).

Our foreign missions that we support are a global outreach covering South America, Europe, Asia, India, Philippines, and other nations, with radio and TV broadcasts from India. Please pray and continue your support for these kingdom workers.

*Tom Whitaker, Mission Chairman*

## FOOD PANTRY



Keep the aluminum cans coming!

Here are some things to donate by the month:



**February**

{ Anything with a red label or lid: spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, soup



**March**

{ Anything with a green label: green beans, peas



**April**

{ Non-perishables: toilet paper (single rolls or 4-packs only), detergent, dish soap

The food pantry is currently being reorganized. Though still in the planning phase, there are several things we'd like to share with you:

- 1) Our food dollars will stretch even further. As you know, Bev Grimes is an expert shopper, always able to get the “rock bottom” price. As members of the Dayton Food Bank, food will be purchased at six cents per pound.
- 2) Our pantry will be open once a month, the third Tuesday of each month, 5:30-8 p.m.
- 3) There will continue to be food in the pantry during the month for needs among our church members and emergency needs.

How can I help?” We're glad you asked!

Here are some ways you can help:

- Help unload food at the church and set up at the church building on the third Monday of each month (the day **before** distribution)
- Help pass out food on the third Tuesday of each month (day **of** distribution). There will be several jobs available, such as registration, greeting people, and passing out food.
- Steel shelves are needed. If you have or know of someone who has them available, let us know.

*Bev & Wanda*

# Valentine Banquet Tuesday, Feb. 14 6 p.m.



Come one, come all—single or married, to the Valentine Banquet, February 14, 6 p.m. at North Side in the Fellowship Hall, catered by Peggy Vanderhoff. The cost is \$15 per person. See Wanda Gossett to sign up for this fun event.

Menu: Wedding chicken, baked ham, red-skinned potatoes, green beans, vegetable medley, mixed green salad, and rolls. As you sign up, you will need to choose your dessert: Texas sheet cake with icing OR cheesecake with cherries.

Fine and free entertainment is planned by North Side's own quartet, consisting of Alan and Karen Wallace and Don and JoAnn Mullins. There'll be door prizes, too, by that one and only, Mike Vinson! Don't miss this one—it'll be loads of fun!



## Men's Retreat

Our men will be traveling to Butler Springs Camp Friday evening, February 24, for an overnight retreat. We plan on eating supper on the way down.

Last year, we had a great time together and look forward to the same this year. Cost is \$28 (overnight accommodations, two meals at the camp). See Gary or one of the elders for more information.

**P.S.** Ladies, stay-tuned! Plans are in the works for a "night out" with dinner and a movie, while the men are on the retreat.

## Ladies' Book Club



The next meeting of the Ladies' Book Club will be Saturday, Feb. 11, 8:30 a.m. at Perkins.

The group is reading a wonderful story, Same Kind of Different As Me, by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. For the next meeting, we'll be reading the Autobiography of Max Wallace. There are three copies available to share. If YOU have just read a good book you'd love to discuss with someone, let us know about it. We'll read it, too. Then we'd love for you to join us in our discussion. Questions, see Kathy Van Tress.

**NORTH SIDE**  
Christian Church

*"The Open Arms of Jesus"*

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Xenia, OH 45385

Phone: 937-372-9611

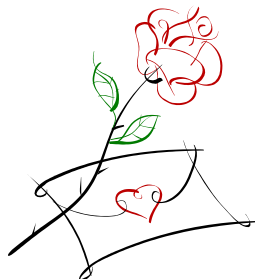
Website: [www.xenianorthside.com](http://www.xenianorthside.com)

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Preschool: [nscps1988@aol.com](mailto:nscps1988@aol.com)

Yes, we're on FaceBook!



God loves . . .

**Church Office Hours:**

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Gary Robinson, Preaching Minister**

**Matt Porter, Youth Minister**

**Isaac Flora, Minister to Seniors**

**Barbara Robinson, Office Manager**

**Lynn Stanek, Preschool Director**

**Sunday Service Times:**

Bible School, 9 a.m.

Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.

**Wednesdays**

Fellowship Meal, 6 p.m.

Classes for all ages, 7 p.m..