

North Cross Spirit

... telling the news of North Cross Church

February 2, 2009

...coming up in Worship...

Failure does not spell the end

All of us have probably experienced failure sometime in our lives. In this week's message for worship, Rick will be addressing this reality and looking at how our faith can help us move beyond failure to success. In looking ahead to Sunday's service Rick commented:

"Recognizing that failure is often a part of the reality of our living, I want to address how we can understand and grow beyond our failures. I'll be examining this issue in a message I'm entitling, *"How to Fail Successfully."*

Remember, we're seeking persons who are willing to share a "Witness to Faith" moment in our weekly services. To do so or to learn more about this call one of the pastors.

Join adults in Sunday study: 9:45 a.m.

You're invited to share in study and fellowship with these classes this Sunday:

Wesleyan Class: Room 215

Lesson: *"Nathan Challenges David"*

Deborah Mason

Good News: Room 206

Lesson: *"Be Mine"*

Jim Funk

Friendship: Room 202

Lesson: *"Nathan Challenges David"* Dick Powers

Inquirer's: Fellowship Hall

Lesson: *"Bioethics"*

Brian Hall

FaithWorks: Room 207

Lesson: *"Nathan Challenges David"*

David Batchelor

Pathfinders: Room 200

Lesson: *"The Importance of Naming Joseph"*

Tom Beckmann

Contemporary Conversations: Lounge

Lesson: *"Meeting with Inquirers"*

Superintendent will meet with congregation this Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Yolanda Villa, has called a special meeting for this Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. to meet with the congregation and answer questions about recent events that have taken place within the congregation. Some attended an earlier meeting and the leadership of the congregation has requested that she return to conduct an "open" meeting with any who wish to attend.

If you are confused, upset, have questions or simply don't understand recent events concerning the retention and appointment of clergy this is a meeting you will want to attend Thursday night in the sanctuary.

Valentine week-end offers entertainment

1. **The Three D's...** (Dan Sturdevant, Del Sutton, and Don Lipovak) share their music for the *5th Annual Three D's Concert* for the congregation on Friday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Come enjoy the music presented by Del, Dan and Dave as they entertain us with their special brand of musical melodies and vocalizations. There is no charge, but a "free-will" offering will be received to help with the cost of improving the lighting in the entry area outside the sanctuary (narthex).

2. **Adult Sweetheart Dance...** will be held on Valentine's Day beginning at 7 p.m. This event is sponsored by the youth, but is intended for adults of all ages. Music, fun and celebration will be enjoyed by those who share in this evening together. A live jazz band will be performing during part of the evening. Attire can be as formal or informal as you prefer. There will be food. There will be music from differing decades. The cost is \$15.00/couple or \$8.00/single if purchased in advance. You may also purchase tickets at the door that night at \$10.00/single or \$20.00/couple.

3. **Presidents' Day Potluck** Join us on Sunday, Feb. 15th from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. for cake walks, golf, Presidential quizzes, "Pin the Cherry on the Tree" and fellowship. Drinks and cherry dessert provided! Make plans now to join us for any or all of these special events and share in the fun with others from the church family. Guests are welcome at all three events. Why not invite others to come with you?



PRESIDENTS'
DAY

Transformed by Christ's love to make disciples and serve others.

Pre-School enrollments starts soon!

We will begin enrolling students for the 2009/2010 school year on Wednesday, February 25th, at 9 a.m. We offer classes for children 2 1/2 years old through Pre-Kindergarten. Enrollment begins with those students currently participating in our Early Childhood Program, or who are North Cross members. Enrollment will be open to the general public the first week of March. Some of the benefits of our program are:

- ◆ Great student/teacher ratio
- ◆ Teacher aids in every classroom
- ◆ Music and Movement classes every week
- ◆ Computer in classroom
- ◆ Parent/Teacher conference
- ◆ Field trips
- ◆ Fenced and age-appropriate playground equipment

Call Pre-school Director, Lynn Wollard at 816.459.8826 with any questions.

Family Fun! Family Camp at Wilderness

Dates: June 29—July 1st

Director: Cueni-Smith/Butler

Cost: \$135 for first family member; \$50 for any additional family member, including children 6 and older. If younger, they may attend for free.

Code: W101

Family Camp is designated for the whole family, including the youngest. To benefit from a fun, outdoor experience, a flexible, yet structured program is the perfect balance for family togetherness and camp adventure. The schedule includes daily Bible studies and worship services.

Families live together in air-conditioned units

that sleep a family of 6 comfortably. You can try fishing, boating or kayaking on the beautiful lake.

Scholarships are available. Contact Rev. Glenda Callicott at 816.452.2939 for more information.



Because we care

“This could *never* happen in our church.” This might be your response when hearing about cases of child/youth sexual abuse. It seems almost impossible that such a heinous activity could taint our community of faith. But it can. Incidents of child sexual abuse cut across every racial, social, economic, and religious boundary. This year alone over one million children will be victims.

Sexual abuse is devastating. It causes deep and sometimes lifelong psychological damage to the victim. The community reputation of a church is also jeopardized. However, North Cross UMC desires to be a safe place for all children/youth. We believe preventative steps can be taken to promote the safety of children, youth, and those who volunteer to work with them.

At Administrative Council on January 26, 2009 a new policy and procedures were approved. Part of this process is to have all children and youth workers be trained and have background checks. Upon completion, these people will become certified workers at North Cross. Rev. Glenda Callicott will be offering training throughout the spring. All people working with children and youth need to have this two-hour training. The following training dates are available:

Tuesday, Feb. 17th, 6 to 8 p.m.

Monday, March 30, 6 to 8 p.m.

Thursday, April 23, 6 to 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 26, 1 to 3 p.m.

Please register by e-mail:

gcallicott@northcrossumc.com, or sign up on the bulletin board between the PDO and Children’s Ministry office.

Women of Faith Conference Scheduled

The Women of Faith Conference will be held at the Sprint Center the evening of Friday March 13, and all day Saturday, March 14th. Tickets are \$99 for both sessions, Cost includes a box-lunch on Saturday. If you’re interested in attending this event, please contact Deborah Mason immediately at 816.453.7062. Don’t delay....call today!

Coming This Week...

Thursday, February 5

- 6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
9:00 a.m. UMW Sewing & Quilting
10:00 a.m. Mommy & Me
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi
4:30 p.m. 4 One Band Practice
6:30 p.m. Congregation Informa-
tional meeting with Rev. Yoland Villa
7:30 p.m. Women's Cursillo Retreat

Friday, February

Women's Cursillo Retreat

Saturday, February 7

Women's Cursillo Retreat

Sunday, February 8

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Children's Music
9:45 a.m. Sunday School - all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship
Women's Cursillo Retreat
3:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

Monday, February 9

- 9:30 a.m. Parkinson Exercise
11:00 a.m. Tai Chi
1:00 p.m. UMW Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Early Childhood Board
6:30 p.m. Staff Parish
6:30 p.m. Sign Language Class
7:00 p.m. Cub & Boy Scouts

Tuesday, February 10

- 9:00 a.m. TOPS
10:00 a.m. Paint for Fun
11:00 a.m. Home Schoolers
6:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge
7:00 p.m. DAR
7:00 p.m. Wood Carvers

Wednesday, February 11

- 11:00 a.m. Grandparent's Support
12:00 p.m. Mommy & Me
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:30 p.m. Youth
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Leadership Mtg.
8:00 p.m. Handbell Practice

Thursday, February 12

- 6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi
4:30 p.m. 4 One Band Practice
6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Unit Meeting

Check www.northcrossumc.org for the February birthday list, bi-weekly prayer updates and new classes.

Waste Not

How negative that sounds. I'm going to try that again. Good stewardship. That sounds better! As your Business Manager, Jackie (waste not), I mean (good steward) Whiston, I am quite passionate about finding waste in the church and finding a solution.

I've received several inquiries wondering why North Cross is mailing the contribution envelopes. Isn't that expensive and wasteful? You may remember years ago the church used to allow you to pick up your contribution envelope packets before the end of the year for the following year. Those that didn't get picked up were then mailed first class. That seemed outrageous to me. So I sought a solution. I researched how much it might cost to send them by bulk mail. It became clear that it was cheaper to send them **all** bulk rate, than to send 100 or so by first class mail. A bulk mailing requires 200 pieces.

This year and last year I mailed around 300+ packets, at a cost of \$80 - \$84 for postage. I didn't want to push that job onto someone else, so I just decided that I would do it. I spent many hours preparing that mailing. No labor cost came to the church, as I am on salary. I think the savings is worth it.

Because the numbers change each year, I mail them to arrive at your home after the last Sunday of the year. That way your contribution is not credited to someone else because you used next year's envelope too soon. Many people like to grumble about the post office, but I find the U.S. Postal Service does a marvelous job. This year I had only one person tell me they didn't have their envelopes by the first Sunday of the year.

Keep bringing your questions to me rather than stressing about the unknown. I'd be happy to visit with you.

Jackie Whiston
Business Manager

Bible study offered

Women's Bible Study: The life of a woman today isn't really all that different from that of Mary and Martha in the New Testament. Like Mary, you long to sit at the Lord's feet...but the daily demands of a busy world just won't leave you alone. Well, let's take our break from the daily demands and study, "Having a **Mary** Heart in a **Martha** World." Class begins at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, February 24th and the cost of the book is \$13. Patsy Schmutz will lead the class. Pick up your book in the church office.

Plan to make a difference. Remember North Cross United Methodist Church in your will, living trust, or other estate plans.

Rick's Ruminations:

Some don't understand.
Others are upset.
Some are simply misinformed
Still, others just have questions.

I'm talking about the coming change in pastors at the end of this conference year in June.

For the reasons noted above, our District Superintendent, The Rev. Yolanda Villa, is conducting a congregational meeting this Thursday night in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

A few weeks ago our Superintendent met with some people from the church. Not everyone was aware of this meeting and, while many attended, it was **not** announced as a meeting open to any and all who wanted to attend. *This week's meeting should give everybody an opportunity to ask questions and to better understand the appointment process and the role the local church has in that process.*

No one should attend if they don't want to do so. No one should stay away if they have questions or misgivings about what they've heard or think they know. Yolanda will address the congregation's questions with honesty and integrity. That's what's important.

As I have stated before, Karen and I have decided that I will enter the "retired" relationship with the Annual Conference at the end of this conference year. We are happy, confident and beginning to get excited about what this coming change in our lives could mean for us, our grandchildren and extended family.

It's important that the "church family" feels confident about its future as well and knows that the "powers that be" (The Bishop and Cabinet) are working to appoint a new senior pastor who will bring his/her energy and spiritual leadership, as well as comforting pastoral care, to this congregation.

I pray that this week's meeting will help in that process and ease the concern and anxiety some have expressed.

...rmh

Person to person:

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- **Hospitalized:** Don Shortess, NKC
- Menu for February 11th: *Chili & Hot Dogs, Corn, Fresh Fruit, Rolls*
- My sincere thanks to all who expressed sympathy either in person, with telephone calls, cards, and/or prayers during the illness and at the time of my sister's death. *Val Burton*
- Please consider donating a package of valentines for Crestview students who will not have valentine cards to share with their classmates. You may leave them under the Sharing Tree (by Feb. 8th) so they may be delivered to Crestview before Valentine's Day. Thank you for sharing!
- The United Methodist Men have 2 containers where you may recycle your aluminum cans: one is in Fellowship Hall, another is in the back parking lot, east side, near the dumpster.
- *Valentine Idea!* Give someone you love a pound of coffee, some cocoa, or tea from Equal Exchange. The Seekers Circle has these items for sale in Fellowship Hall every Sunday.

Publication Deadline: Wednesday at noon
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Send email to mamorrissey@northcrossumc.org
Visit our new website at www.northcrossumc.org

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