

Living Out Loud
at North United Methodist Church
Lent/Easter, 2008

Sunday Worship Services

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
First Sunday of the month: Communion
Second Sunday of the month: Baptism

Alternative worship for children

11:00 a.m.

Kindergarten - 3rd grade is offered
each Sunday. Children leave part way through
the service for their own
worship experience.

Childcare for infants and pre-schoolers

is available during worship services
and Sunday School.

Sunday School classes

for age three through adults
begin at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday.

Taizé Prayer Service

4th Sunday of the month
5:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Living Out Loud: When Words Become Flesh

A story from my childhood still circulates: Nine-year-old Tony was always the last one picked for the baseball team and usually the first one to strike out. A high school neighbor



few batting lessons. They agreed to meet on Saturday morning at the park just across the street from their homes. At the appointed hour, the sky was dark, the rain was hammering the field, and the park was thick in mud. Tony ignored his parents' advice and stood waiting in the downpour with bat and ball in hand.

Tony's high school buddy looked with horror out the window. He ran outside and before he could say anything, Tony smiled. "I told 'em you'd be here. I told 'em you gave me your word."

Words. Some say they're cheap. Don't mean much these days. But no one really believes the childhood taunt: *Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never hurt me.* We've all experienced words that hurt and words that heal.

The Gospel of John is a book about the Word ... and about the One whose words are full of truth and life. This Lent we'll be studying the words of John and of the One whom John calls the Word.

John's Gospel is both familiar and unknown. Familiar in the sense that we remember many of John's words and stories: Jesus at a wedding in Cana, Jesus and Nicodemus, Jesus raising Lazarus, Jesus and the Samaritan woman. Even non-churchgoers recognize John 3:16. But John's language, his words, often has double meaning. There's bread and then there's *bread*; there's water and then there's *water*. You get the idea.

John also gives us words that can be both troubling and attractive. *Faith, power, chosen, and reconciliation* all become verbs in John's lexicon. They are words that when allowed to be themselves will shape our life and how we live. When these words are spoken by the Word, they have the power to renew, bless, heal, and empower. Misused, they can curse, wound, and divide.

In a recent Pew survey, 72% of Americans who don't go to church (and one in five Americans these days say they never go to church; the highest number recorded) agree "the church is full of hypocrites" and 44% concur with the statement that "Christians get on my nerves." These folks believe we Christians don't keep our Word. And yet, they're willing to listen to people who walk the talk, who live their faith out loud in a way that makes a difference.

There are words we casually toss around in church as well as words we heave and hoist. The poets remind us that when we let these words speak honestly and listen to them deeply, we discover they are wiser than we are.

We have been given a Word. This Lent we'll listen deeply to that Word in the hope that, come Easter, *resurrection* will not be just a word but a way of living.

Shalom,

Kevin

Worship at North during Lent, 2008

Living Out Loud: When Words Become Flesh

February 6, 2008

Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes

7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51: 1-17;

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

*Living Out Loud: Piety is Not a Four-Letter Word **

February 10, 2008

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11

Living Out Loud: Shared Temptations

February 17, 2008

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12: 1-4a; Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17;

John 3: 1-17

Living Out Loud: Faith is a Verb

February 24, 2008

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17: 1-7; Romans 5: 1-11; John 4: 5-42

Living Out Loud: Radical Hospitality

March 2, 2008

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

I Samuel 16: 1-13; John 9: 1-41

Living Out Loud: Choosy or Chosen

March 9, 2008

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Romans 8: 6-11; John 11: 1-45

Lisa D. Schubert, preaching

Living Out Loud: Bound to Loose

March 16, 2008

Palm/Passion Sunday

Requiem by John Rutter

Cathedral Singers, Carolers, and Choristers

March 20, 2008

Holy Thursday

Service of Holy Communion and Footwashing

7:30 p.m.

Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14; John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Lisa D. Schubert, preaching

Living Out Loud: Muddy Tracks

March 21, 2008

Good Friday

12:00 p.m.

Mid-North Church Council Community Service

March 21, 2008

Good Friday Service of Tenebrae

7:30 p.m.

The word "tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." In this dramatic service of scripture and song on Good Friday, all the lights and candles on the altar are gradually extinguished until the room is in complete darkness.

March 22, 2008

Easter Vigil, time TBD

An evening service of scripture, prayer, and song

A shared service with Broadway United Methodist Church

March 23, 2008

Easter Sunday

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3: 1-4;

John 20: 1-18

Living the Resurrection



**All Church Events: You're
Invited!**

Mardi Gras Party
Tuesday, February 5
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Laissez les bons temps rouler!
(Let the good times roll!)

Pancakes and sausage prepared
by North Church staff

Featuring Tom Mullinix and the

North Church String Quartet, Dixie Jazz Band

Lenten Supper Services

*Wednesdays, Feb. 13, 20, 27; March 5 and 12
5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall*

A light, family-friendly supper with members and neighbors.
Time for worship and prayer.
Invite your family, friends, and neighbors!

Wednesday, February 27

What's Right with North Church?

Fellowship Hall

Dinner: 5:45 p.m.

Program: 6:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Following our weekly Lenten dinner, the program will feature a high energy process giving you the opportunity to share what you believe is right about relationships in North, the neighborhood, the city and the world. You will also share your dreams about how we might further strengthen these relationships and build new ones. This input is a key part of the strategic planning process that is in progress.

Thursday, February 28

University Place Hotel Ballroom, IUPUI

“Successful Multiracial Churches: How It's Done”

5:30 p.m.

Most churches in the U.S. are racially segregated. But a few exceptional churches defy the racial divide. Dr. George Yancey has researched the principle strategies of multi-racial churches and will present his findings. Following the event, interested North members and neighbors will be invited to join a discussion of how North Church may be called to deepen our commitment to living God's vision of multi-racial, multi-cultural communities of faith.

Sunday, March 9

“A Vision for the Future”

Fellowship Hall

12:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

A second gathering of North members, friends, and neighbors will provide a chance for you to give input to our future planning. What is there about North that has nourished your faith journey? Where do you believe God is calling us to go in the next 3-5 years and what role will North and you play in witnessing God's vision in our congregation, local community, and around the world?



Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

led by Kevin Armstrong

Sundays, February 10, 17, 24; March 2 and 9

9:45 a.m.

Game Room East

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations was written by Robert Schnase, bishop of the Missouri Area of the United Methodist Church. Though he first wrote it to describe the five core practices of congregational life for his Missouri congregations, the book is proving useful for congregations across the country and across denominations of the Christian faith. It includes a chapter on each practice plus a chapter on excellence and fruitfulness. The practices include Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. Copies of the book will be available for sale.



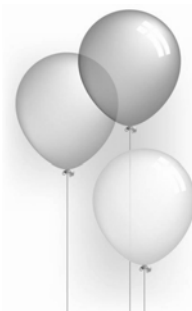
Special Events for Children and Youth

Wednesday, February 6

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Children's Ash Wednesday Service

Room 202 (The Godly Play Classroom)



How do you explain Ash Wednesday to a child? How can children experience this day in meaningful ways? This year we offer an evening worship service for children in grades K-5 to help them learn about Ash Wednesday in ways they can understand. We will spend time learning, praying, worshipping, and placing ashes upon each child's head. Parents can attend the service in the Chapel during the same time. Childcare is available.

*Wednesday, February 6
6:15 p.m.*

Youth Ash Wednesday Service at St. Luke's UMC

Youth in grades six through twelve are invited to a youth Ash Wednesday Service at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. We will meet at the church at 6:15 p.m. and return about 8:30 p.m. Please join us in this exciting worship experience.



Friday, March 7 – Saturday, March 9

Youth Lenten Retreat

Camp Indi-Co-So

Youth in grades six through twelve are invited to this annual two-night retreat. The theme this year is "Earth." Activities include time to create, worship, be with friends, and make music. Cost for the weekend is \$90. RSVP to the church office by calling 924-2612 by February 18th. Scholarships are available.

Saturday, March 22

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Children's Easter Retreat –

Waiting for Wings!



Do you know why the butterfly is a symbol of Easter, of the resurrection? Children in grades K-5 will learn about butterflies and more on this spring Saturday! Invite a friend to come and hear stories, create butterfly art using various art forms, and bake "butterfly bread" together. It will be fun to learn about the caterpillar who's waiting for wings! There will be caterpillars and, hopefully, the release of the butterflies! Do you think they will be ready to fly away? Cost for the event is \$20. Let us know you're coming by March 15th. Call the church office to register your child!

March Concert Series

North Church Sanctuary

Baroque Bash II

Wednesday, March 5

7:30 p.m.

Butler University Orchestra

Music of Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach & Handel

with special guests Tom Gerber, Nancy Davis-Booth
& North-ern Voices

Bradley University Chorale

Sunday, March 16

7:00 p.m.

Performing Bach's "Christ lag in Todesbanden," and
works by Palestrina, Schütz, Mechem, and others.

Martin Ellis, organist

Sunday, March 30

7:00 p.m.



Indianapolis East and West Districts
United Methodist Church
Lenten Breakfast Series Kick-Off

Coming Together for Christ

“May they be brought to complete unity
to let the world know that you sent me
and have loved them even as you
have loved me.” (John 17:23b)

Saturday, February 9
7:00 a.m.
Schwitzer Student Center
University of Indianapolis
1400 E. Hanna Avenue
Keynote Speaker: Bishop Michael Coyner

The cost is \$6.00 per person.
Please make your reservation at the front office.

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31, 2008
(limited to 500 reservations)

*Additional Lenten Breakfast Series
opportunities:*

*All programs are Saturdays,
7:30 a.m. - 8:40 a.m.*

February 16
University UMC
5959 Grandview Drive

February 23
Meridian Street UMC
5500 N. Meridian Street

March 1
Wesley UMC
3425 W. 30th Street

March 8
Barnes UMC
900 W. 30th Street

March 15
North UMC
3808 N. Meridian Street



George Yancey

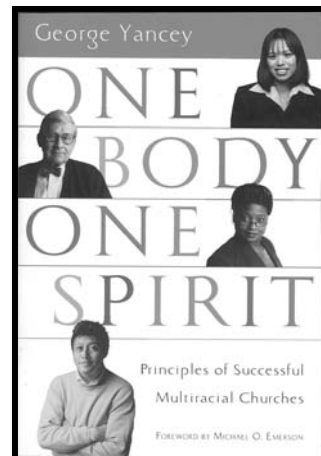
“Successful
Multiracial
Churches:
How It’s Done”

Most churches in the U.S. are racially segregated.
But a few exceptional churches defy the racial
divide. Come hear how it’s done.

University Place Hotel Ballroom
February 28, 2008
5:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by
the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts,
Celebration of Hope,
Ebenezer Baptist,
St. Luke’s,
Progressive Baptist,
St. Lawrence,
North UMC,
and Crossroads Bible College.

For ticket information,
please contact
Edward Curtis at
ecurtis4@iupui.edu.





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