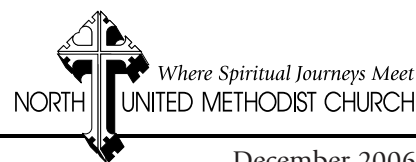


NORTH NOTES



3808 North Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46208 (317) 924-2612 Fax: (317) 924-5161

December 2006

Beginning Sunday, **December 3**, the first worship service will begin at **8:30 a.m.**, instead of 8:45. This small time adjustment allows for ease in going from the first service to the 9:45 a.m. Sunday School classes.

Christmas Eve Offering

December is a great month for missions at North Church. In addition to our ongoing projects like Bread 'n' Bowl every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and Emergency Assistance the second and fourth Wednesdays, we have some extra projects like Interfaith Hospitality Network and collection of school supplies in the Fall. If you want to get involved in hands-on mission, you can do it here.

However, not everyone can participate in the above projects because there are simply too many of us. But we can all participate in one December mission project. The year end SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MISSIONS will be received on Christmas Eve. This offering funds so many of our outreach ministries in the new year. If you cannot be present on Christmas Eve, you can make your contribution any time during the month. What a great way to celebrate the gift of Christmas. We thank you for your generosity!

Sharing Christmases Past

Saturday, December 9, 2-4pm

At that time North United Methodist Women will present their annual Christmas Tea. Do you remember your first Christmas as a newlywed? What is Christmas like on a tropical island? Share your favorite Christmas memory with **Dot Owen** and enjoy great fellowship with friends. Reservations are due in the in church office by Thursday, **December 7**.



Don't forget...

Remember to pick up your cookie order on Sunday, **December 3**. \$10.00 per box of 20 cookies. Orders not picked up on Sunday December 3 will be available for sale to others. Monday, December 4!



**Transforming
Ministries**
at the crossroads

A big THANK YOU from **Ron and Kathy Gifford** and the Stewardship Team for turning in your pledges!

Watch for a report in January *North Notes*.

Urgent Need:

Mission and Outreach is looking for a leadership team for the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) program at North Church.

IHN is a program in which participating congregations open their hearts and doors to homeless families. Twice a year for a week at a time, families call North Church "home."

North has been a vital partner in the IHN program for the past 4 years—many homeless families have benefited from our willingness to open our doors. More than 100 persons helped with the IHN visit in October. Their compassion and energy makes this ministry possible. Their participation is greatly appreciated. We couldn't do it without them.

Although we have this corps of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers, we currently do not have a coordinator or team of coordinators for this program. Mission and Outreach would like to continue to be part of this ministry; however, we cannot without strong leadership. We have tentatively committed this congregation to hosting IHN families two weeks in 2007, one in February and the other in October. If we do not have leadership in place by January 1, North will not host families in 2007.

Please search your heart. Is this an area in which you can serve? If so, please contact Shawn Dresser (dresserfour@sbcglobal.net, 291-0631) or Alice Brown (acwwb@sbcglobal.net, 885-9497).

ADULT SUNDAY MORNINGS EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Amazing Grace

Class continues with discussion of E. Tolle's *The Power of Now*.
No class Dec. 24 and 31.

Contemporary Biblical Forum

Perry Kea returns with a series on the birth stories in the gospels and in apocryphal literature. Perry is chair of Philosophy and Religion at University of Indianapolis and is a frequent presenter at North Church.
No class Dec. 24 and 31.

New Corinthians

Dec. 3—*Deep Impact*

Scriptures: Jeremiah 33: 14–16; 1Thessalonians 3: 9–13; Luke 21: 25–36.
Deep Impact suggests how people respond to an apocalyptic threat.

Dec. 10—*Beyond Rangoon*

Scriptures: Malachi 3: 1–4; Philippians 1: 3–11; Luke 3: 1–6. A central theme of the film is that suffering can bear fruit in a spirituality of joy.

Dec. 17—*The Year of Living Dangerously*

Scriptures: Zephaniah 3: 14–20; Philippians 4: 4–7; Luke 3: 7–18. Just as 1965 was a year that anticipated great change in Indonesia, Advent anticipates Jesus' coming.

Dec. 24—*Blessed By a Child*

Scriptures: Micah 5: 2–5a; Hebrews 10: 5–10; Luke 1: 39. Through letters to a sponsored orphan, a retiree examines his purpose in life and confesses his shortcomings, concerns, and joys.

Power and Light

Dec. 3—Class will prepare college care packages.
No other classes in December.

Sojourners

Continues with discussion of Allison Stokes, *Shalom, Salaam, Peace*.

Dec. 3—*Practice Forgiveness and Reconciliation*

Dec. 10—*Engage Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation*

Dec. 17—*Women Engaged in Peacemaking*

Dec. 24—No class

Dec. 31—*Open discussion*

New Member Class for 2007

- Sunday, **Jan. 7** at 4 p.m. at the home of Rev. Kevin Armstrong, 1504 N. Broadway. You will have an opportunity to spend time with our senior pastor and become more acquainted with North Church.
- Sundays, **Jan. 14, 21, 28**, and **Feb. 4** from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel of North Church.
- Sunday, **Feb. 11** at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services we will receive new members.

Deadline for January North Notes is December 10.

Information can be submitted to Marcia Lurie at the church or by email to mlurie@northchurchindy.com

Year-End Contributions

Sunday, **December 31** is the final day North Church can receive contributions for credit on your 2006 giving statement. The IRS specifies:

- Checks dated on or before Dec. 31, 2006 and received in the church office by that date or postmarked Dec. 31, 2006 but received in 2007 will be credited as 2006 giving.
- Any check dated Dec. 31, 2006 but received in a Sunday offering after Dec. 31, 2006 will be credited as a 2007 contribution.
- Securities given to North United Methodist Church must be in an account in North Church's name by Dec. 31, 2006 to receive credit as a 2006 contribution.

Charitable Contribution Provision of the 2006 Pension Protection Act

On Aug. 17 the Pension Protection Act of 2006 was signed into law. The Act is mainly a pension reform law, but one section of the new law provides for tax-free distributions from IRAs for charitable purposes. This affects charitable contributions for the calendar years 2006-2007.

For a withdrawal from a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA to qualify for this exclusion from gross income, requirements include:

- a maximum of \$100,000 per donor per year may be given
- charitable gifts must be completed by Dec. 31, 2007
- the IRA owner must be at least seventy and one-half years of age
- the gift must be made outright
- distribution must be made directly from the trustee of the IRA to a qualified charitable organization such as NUMC

There may be other requirements of which you need to be aware, so please check with your financial advisor if this type of gift to North Church is of interest to you.

PARISH NEWS

Sympathy to:

Debbie Burger on the death of her aunt following a lengthy illness.

Jo and Garland Pannell on the death of **A.J. Pannell**, October 7.

Thank you:

"The family of **A.J. Pannell** is most appreciative of those who sent notes, cards, flowers, e-mails as well as those who telephoned and visited A.J. We are grateful for your memorial gifts along with your prayers for healing, comfort and peace. Please know that your prayers have been answered."

Jo Pannell

Names in the News:

Waldine Anderson, one of North's active constituents, received two awards recently. In September she received a Crime Fighter of the Year award from the Indianapolis Police Department for her work as director of the Concerned, Dedicated, and Determined (CDD) Crime Watch Program. Then in October she received one of the 2006 Mayor's Community Service Awards at a special ceremony at the Indiana Historical Society.

Greg and Rosie Jordan were featured in the November issue of *Money* magazine. The article focused on the "empty nest" syndrome and how that impacts financial resources. The Jordans are now in this category with both **Michael** and **Jennifer** gone from home.

Three North Church members were included in the *Best Lawyers in America*. They are **Ron Gifford**, **Bill Groth**, and **Phil Whistler**. The book includes the names of 27,000 lawyers nationwide with 340 of them from Indiana.

Joe Mamlin was featured in the *Indianapolis Star* November 12 in an article about his extensive work with the IU-Kenya partnership at Moi Hospital in Eldoret Kenya.

Amy Strawbridge was pictured and mentioned in the *Indianapolis Star* for her work as goalie on the University High School girls' soccer team. She made several key saves to help her team to victories. Amy is the daughter of **Bob and Marilyn Strawbridge** and the sister of **Katie**.

CALENDAR



December 3

Cookie pick-up

December 9

2:00 p.m. UMW Christmas Tea

December 10

4:00 p.m. Becky Archibald concert

December 21

6:00 p.m. Eatin' Meetin'

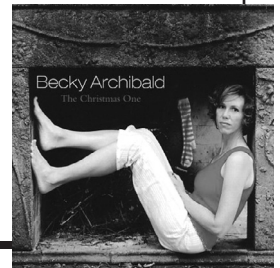
An Intimate Christmas

Becky Archibald and The Maple Trio

Sunday, December 10:00, 4 p.m.

Start your holiday season on the right note with the soothing sounds of piano music, and the gentle strumming of guitar, mandolin, cello, violin and banjo. Enjoy progressive acoustic arrangements of your favorite Christmas songs by Doug, Matt and Grover (The Maple Trio) and by North's own Becky Archibald, composer/pianist.

Becky will sign copies of her award-winning CD, *The Christmas One*, following the concert.



Women's Retreat

The intergenerational Women's Retreat, *Friends for a Reason, a Season, a Lifetime...* scheduled for **Feb. 17 & 18**, will resume registration in the West Entry again on January 14. As you begin your new calendars, please include these dates! Cost is \$100 per person. Scholarships are available. In the meantime, if you need more information, contact **Marcia Knight** at 507-6305 or mknight2@indy.rr.com.

also

Family Retreat: March 10-11

You're invited to the next EATIN' MEETIN' Thursday, Dec. 21 at 6 p.m.

How do we offer greater hospitality to the neighbors of North Church? What does it mean to build relationships with them? We recognized the model that Jesus used—breaking bread together. Eatin' Meetin' is a monthly meeting where folks from North Church have supper with those in the neighboring community.

Since June we've been meeting monthly for these suppers. We have the best environment for fostering conversation at the Eatin' Meetin' when we have a balance of participants from the neighborhood and from North Church.

Join us for good food, conversation, sharing, and building relationships together! All who are interested are invited to attend. (That includes families & children!) Please RSVP to Lisa Schubert, 924-2612 or lschubert@northchurchindy.com so that we can have a head count.



3808 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208-4067

Pastoral Staff

Kevin R. Armstrong
Lisa Schubert
Richard L. Pickering

*Pastor of Stewardship
and Administration*

James R. Martin

*Interim Minister of
Mission and Outreach*

Rev. Chuck Johnson

*Minister of Children
and Youth*

Christine L. Rembert

*Minister of Worship
and the Arts*

Mark Gilgallon

*Assistant Director
of Music*

Martin Ellis

Student Interns

Andrea Berger *Butler*

Garland Pannell *CTS*

Coordinator of

Connecting Ministries

Lisa Hamilton

Assistant to the

Senior Pastor

Mary Beth Ingram

Bookkeeper

Dolores Heaton

Lead Office Assistant

Nancy Sala

Office Assistants

Barbara Ireland

Karen Kenyon

Marcia Lurie

Facilities Staff

James Fields

Estell McAllister

NORTH NOTES



Monthly Newsletter from North United Methodist Church

December 2006

Sundays at North Worship: 8:30 (*new start time for early service*) and 11:00 am, Sunday School: 9:45 am

December Sermon Schedule

Dec. 3

Advent One

Displaced

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

Genesis 3: 1-13, 22-24

(Kicked out of the Garden of Eden)

Luke 21: 25-36 (Signs of the End Times)

Dec, 10

Advent Two

The Journey of Faith

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

Genesis 11: 31-12: 5; 15 ("Go ...

I will make of you a new people")

Luke 3: 1-6 ("Prepare the Way of the Lord")

Dec. 17

Advent Three

A Place to Call Home

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

1 Kings 8: 1-12, 54-61 ("I have built

you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever.")

Luke 3: 7-18 ("What should we do?")

Dec. 24 (Morning Worship)

Advent Four

An Unlikely Place of Unlikely People

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

1 Samuel 16: 6-13

Luke 2: 1-7 ("The City of David called Bethlehem")

Dec. 24 (Evening Worship)

Christmas Eve/Christmas

Our Place

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

Isaiah 9: 2-7 ("The people who

walked in darkness have seen a great light.")

Luke 2: 1-20

Dec. 31

First Sunday After Christmas

Kevin R. Armstrong preaching

A Familiar Yet New Place

Revelation 21: 1-5

Luke 2: 41-52