



# the Well Spring

The monthly newsletter of North Spring United Methodist Church



## WHO IS THIS GUY?

Although Hubert Neth passed through here for a month three years ago, let's meet him anew. His report is that even older, he knows less now than he did then; assures us that we never need to agree with him and that if things aren't working out at any time he promises to disappear without dispute. (See Bob Dylan's "All I Really Want To Do" for details.) Hubert is a native of rural Clay County, Missouri. He is a graduate of William Jewell College and St. Paul School of Theology, studying also at Butler University and Christian Theological Seminary. He has served congregations in Newtown and Veedersburg,

Indiana and Gladstone, Princeton, Warrensburg and Kansas City in addition to a term as Superintendent of the Sedalia District. Hubert has been a resident of Lee's Summit for 22 years and was pastor of Lee's Summit United Methodist Church for 12 years. Since retirement, he has served as pastor for varying periods in Kansas City area churches, most recently at Oakland nearby. He is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Baker University and St. Paul School of Theology. He was elected a delegate to 3 General Conferences and 5 Jurisdictional Conferences. He serves currently on the Board of Trustees of Lee's Summit Medical Center. Hubert publishes a poem weekly in the Friday edition of Lee's Summit Journal. His work has appeared in the KC Star, Christian Century, small-press journals and a few refrigerator doors. His wife, Barbara, is a watercolor artist and has exhibited frequently in Blue Springs. Her work is on display at Powell Gardens during July and August and appears in several venues in the metro area. The Neths have 5 grandchildren. He says this is the obituary-like part. He is grateful for being allowed to pass this way again and write another chapter with us. "It is an interesting time to sit together around the same mystery and explore alternatives yet to be discovered about how best to cooperate with God's always-unfolding direction."



## THANKS TO EVERYONE

Thank you very much for the kind welcome. The cards from the children are on display in the pastor's office. I think there is a little cake left on the church kitchen counter and the aprons await an appropriate occasion.

Barbara & Hubert Neth

## July/August 2009

### What's Inside...

- Page 2** Garage Sale  
Money Matters
- Page 3** Music Notes  
Contact the Staff
- Page 4** Youth Stuff  
Outreach News  
Children's Ministry
- Page 5** Doom and Dort
- Page 6** Book Discussion Group



### News from the Fund Raising Team

As you probably know by now we have a new Fund Raising committee here at North Spring. This group is headed up by Bev Sloop. The purpose of the committee is to find ways to increase Church revenue primarily from activity involving non-members. This approach has a double benefit. If successful, these events provide funds for our Church with the possibility of attracting some new members.

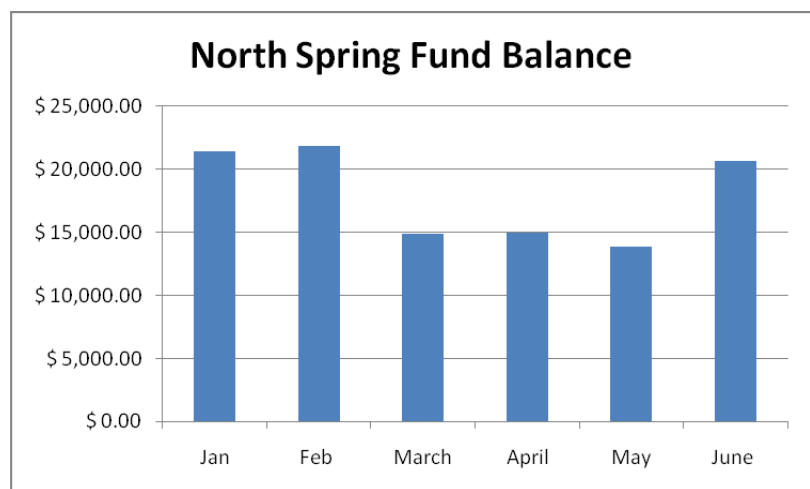
The Fund Raising Team is planning a new activity for August 22<sup>nd</sup> with August 29<sup>th</sup> as a back-up date. We are going to use our parking lot to host a Rent-a-Space Garage Sale. We will rent one space in our parking lot for \$20 for the day or \$30 for two spaces. This event will be widely advertised on Craigslist, the Examiner & the KC Star. We will set a minimum of 30 spaces sold or we will not hold the event. We also plan to have a Salvation Army truck available that day to dispose of items not sold. In addition to the revenue from the space rental we plan to sell hot dogs and soda as refreshments.

If you would like to help with this event or any future fund raising events, please contact Bev. She will be glad for the help. Hopefully we will make a little money and possibly some new friends for North Spring.

### \$\$Money Matters\$\$

Here is a quick update on where we stand through June on Church Finances.

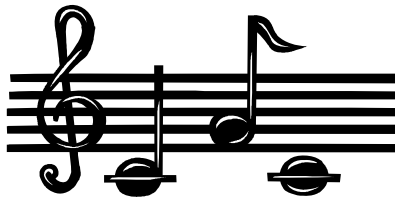
Our Fund Balance at the end of June improved to levels we had seen earlier in the year. However, we are carrying about \$1,500 in designated funds for the upcoming Sager Brown Mission Trip, and \$755 in designated funds for the Noisy Offering mission programs. As these funds are paid out, our balance will drop accordingly.



It is good to assess where we stand vs. our Budget since we have gone through half of the year now. I am pleased to report that giving from January through June was 5% over the budget. Our budget deficit through June was \$1014 which is considerably less than we were expecting. So we are holding our own financially in a difficult economic year.

Things are difficult, but God is always there. He is watching over our Church and is with us. Keep praying and the numbers will take care of themselves!

Tom Gorman  
Finance Chair



## Music Notes

Heidi Rater  
 MUSIC DIRECTOR  
 heidirater@comcast.net  
 623-9105

Hello everyone! Summer is speeding by fast again!

We have lots of new and exciting things happening at North Spring!

--First, a big welcome to Hubert and Barbara! It's great to have them as a part of our church family.

--Second, a big THANK YOU to Nathan Long for arranging the purchase of the drum set and getting them set up. It is WONDERFUL to have the drums as part of our worship again. If you look closely at the drums, you'll see they are a dark wood grain that very closely matches our cross and altar table. That wasn't done entirely on purpose, but I think there was a divine hand that helped choose that color for us.

--Third, we are going to have some awesome music in July. I want to especially draw your attention to July 26<sup>th</sup>. We are having "Christmas in July." I was inspired by a Christmas decoration I saw blowing across the highway in the summer time. I'm hoping we can catch some of the excitement of celebrating Jesus' birthday again! And just think, you don't have to buy any presents! Also, on July 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a special drama presentation from the Lee's Summit UMC Players.

--Fourth, I wanted to say thanks to Tracey Mulholland for all her hard work with the North Spring music for many, many years. She will be GREATLY missed! Soul Food is taking July and August off, but they plan to be back in September.

Our music planning meetings will be July 21 and August 18 at 6:00 p.m. right before Selah practice. Anyone is welcome to attend. If this is a bad time for you, and you want to attend, let me know.

DON'T FORGET we can always use more musicians of any kind for special music and song leaders.

Special Music for July  
 July 19: Lee's Summit UMC Players  
 July 26: Heidi Rater

Special Music for August:  
 August 2: Selah and Trent Weigel  
 August 9: Elizabeth and Laura Rater  
 August 16: Ann Marie Campbell  
 August 23: Davey Sooley  
 August 30: Praise Band from Quest Church

## Contact our Staff...

**Rev. Hubert Neth, Pastor**  
 church: 224-9490,  
 home: 347-0390,  
 cell: 516-9238,  
 e-mail: hneth@northspring.org

**Heidi Rater, Music Director**  
 heidirater@comcast.net

**Heather Sooley, Office Manager**  
 hsooley@northspring.org



## Note...

The deadline for submitting items for the **September WellSpring is Wednesday, August 19.**

Please have all articles and information turned in to the office before this date.

Contact Heather at:  
 hsooley@northspring.org



**For prayer requests or  
 to join the prayer chain,  
 call Grace Lakey  
 at 224-3098**



Calling all youth! Calling all youth! This is an important message for all youth that will be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade this coming school year: CIA Youth Group meetings will start up again the Sunday evening after Labor Day (September 13th, 2009). Our first regular meeting will be at North Spring from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Hope UMC youth will be invited to join us again this year. I hope to make this year a fun and wonderful learning experience for all of us. As was the case last year, we will be traveling to Hope UMC every other week for our meetings, on those weeks we will need to leave North Spring parking lot around 6:00PM, and will arrive back around 8:30PM. This year will be challenging for travel back and forth to Hope, since I am the only full time Youth Director. If any adults are interested in helping out, please contact me (Dave Taylor – cia.dave@yahoo.com or (816) 305-8847)

In addition to our regular Sunday evening meetings, a special event in August will be planned. Keep an eye out for the place and time. Bulletins will be posted and handed out for this event.

In July, many of us had a wonderful time swimming at Janet and Culley Scott's house. A great big "Thank you" goes out to them

for letting us use their pool, as well as Pam Campbell and Dave Raines for lending a helping hand as adult volunteers.

--

Lord,  
As we get ready to start a new school year, please help us to make a difference in the lives of our teenagers. Help them to make a difference in the lives of others. Help me teach them the way of your Son Jesus Christ, and allow them to follow in His footsteps.  
Amen

--

Your new Youth Director,  
Dave Taylor

### Outreach News

By Sherree Gorman

#### Sager Brown Mission Trip

Please remember to keep our missions' team in your prayers as they travel to Baldwin, Louisiana the last week of July and through August 1. Most of the team will be working in the warehouse, sorting and packing up kits that will be shipped out nationally and internationally. Also, some team members will be working on reconstruction projects still needed because of hurricane damage. We have 14 team members that will be making this mission journey.

Also, this is just a preliminary note to let you know what we are going to be collecting for the Festival of Sharing (which will eventually end up at the Sager Brown Depot). We are collecting Health Kits this year. The collection will start on September 6 and will be completed

by October 11. The Health Kits consist of the following:

#### Health Kit

1 Hand Towel  
1 Wash cloth  
1 toothbrush (in original packaging)  
1 sturdy comb  
6 Band-Aids  
1 metal nail file or nail clippers with file  
1 bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)  
Place items in a 1-gallon zip lock bag. (Toothpaste will be added by Church World Service.)

### Children's Ministry News

By Kara Taylor  
Children's Ministry Director

The VBS kids, with the Congregation's help, collected \$125 for the Youth Bible Curriculum through World Vision...great job! The congregational donation nearly doubled the amount the children collected during VBS alone... AWESOME! That said; however, I have decided to step down as Director of Children's Ministries, effective September 1, 2009. In addition, I will not be teaching the Curious Kids this coming Fall, either...after 3 or 4 years, I need a break. Therefore, at least, one person will be required to fill my position as Director/teacher.

As our current teachers are aware, we have had a very difficult time getting volunteers to help teach our Curious Kids. Please take time to consider teaching these Children how to follow in Jesus' footsteps. You do not have to any experience to teach these kids...just a desire. Thanks...Kara Taylor.

DOOM AND DORT



The person who has been intercepting Emails between two fallen angels, “Doom” and “Dort,” recently stole a page out of their anti-ekklesia manual.

1) Rule #1: always make sure the main focus is on what the head guy is doing or not doing rather than what he is teaching. This will keep the followers from thinking about their own growth and keep the group from maturing.

2) make sure that the ekklesia focuses on religious traditions and rituals rather than relationships.

3) make sure each follower has less than 7 friends in the ekklesia since those who have 7 or more friends usually stay with the group.

4) remember Rule #1!

5) make sure the followers focus on what they want in the first-of-the-week meeting rather than what would attract and retain new people/seekers.

6) If we fail and the ekklesia *does* begin to attract new followers than our second line of defense is to make sure there is no focus on helping them mature. In other words, no focus on talking to you-know-who and no studying of the awful book!

7) If they insist on studying the awful book make sure they never take seriously the commands of the little sheep, especially his final commands at the end of the awful writing they call Matthew.

8) remember Rule #1!

Key: ekklesia=gathering/assembly-=church; “little sheep” (arnion)=the lamb/Jesus Christ; the awful book=the Bible;

Parish Nurse News

By Betty Witt, RN, BSN

Hand sanitizer is available in each narthex. Keeping hands clean to prevent the spread of germs is important even in nicer weather. Remember in hot weather to drink plenty of water. Soda pop and fluids with sugar are not hydrating fluids.

Use plenty of sunscreen even in cloudy weather and reapply often. Have a safe and healthy summer. I will be at Scout camp through August 6th. I can usually be reached by cell phone @ 816-582-7809, or by e-mail @ wb0ps@aol.com.



Church Calendar

You can now check the church calendar any time you'd like, right from the comforts of your home! It is on the church website. The web address is: <http://www.northspring.org/Calendar.aspx>. If the calendar doesn't show an activity that should be scheduled, just contact Heather to add the activity to the calendar. This calendar has the ability to generate an email to invite people to our activities. Just click on the activity and fill out the form to send an email. You can view the calendar by the month or by the week. You can scroll to future or past months. So, we hope you will find this new calendar to be helpful in keeping abreast with activities in the church and planning your activities. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact Sherree Gorman.



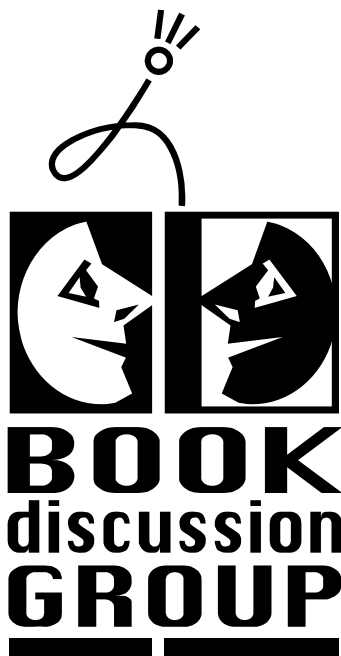
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 BLUE SPRINGS, MO  
 PERMIT NO. 5

Return Service Requested

Postmaster: Dated Material!  
 Please Deliver As Soon As Possible!

**Our Mission:** To build a Christian family where all are welcomed, valued, and inspired to become deeply committed Christians.

**Our Vision:** To be agents of Christ to transform lives and community through Christ by prayer, discipleship, fellowship, and outreach.



### Discussion Group on “The Shack”

Have you read “The Shack”? If so, did it leave you with the feeling that you would like to discuss it with others? If you haven’t read “The Shack”, have you been meaning to read it? Well, here is your opportunity to discuss it with others once you have read it. We will have a two part discussion group on Wednesday, August 19 and August 26. We have a list of discussion questions plus there will be time to discuss any burning question that you may have. The group will meet in Fellowship Hall from 7 pm until 8:30 pm. If you have not read the book, it is available at WalMart for \$7.50 or it is probably available in the library. Sherree Gorman will facilitate the discussion.

visit us on the web @ [www.northspring.org](http://www.northspring.org)