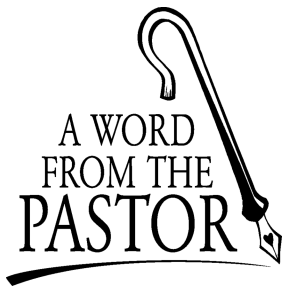




the WellSpring

The monthly newsletter of North Spring United Methodist Church



lots of
courage
is required
to become
a human being
we are such
mysteries
to ourselves
as well as
one another
genes are stirred
into our shaping
without choice
of where when
to whom
we are born
beginning on
uneven terms
wired so
differently
and from
first breath
we absorb
signals
that steer
our points
of view
family
clan
peers
help define
what is
approved
acceptable

in order to
belong
some choices
seem so
incidental
at the moment
we take
this street
go to
that school
meet
those people
start the
other job
add in
events
experiences
beyond our
control
and our
destiny
feels
determined
wear and tear
take their toll
too soon
turns into
too late
then we find
a message
on our cell
that says
there is
still time
to do to
others
as you
want done
to you
especially
the least
of them
and in
the end

we give
everything
away
lie down
whispering
mercy
on us
please
not sure
to who
but with hope
the executed
carpenters boy
will find us
like he did
others
trying to
reach home
or too tired
to even try
lots of courage
is required
to become
a human being
and perhaps
our only
purpose
is to help
each other
on the way
because
we may
arrive
together
or not
at all
h.



Advent Dawns Soon

Advent, the dawning season of the Christian Year, begins on Sunday, November 29th. It is a period of preparation and climaxes with the Festival of Christmas and 12 day celebration of Christmastide that follows. Personal, family and faith community activities will mark our observance. Watch for details on our website, in bulletins and the December edition of the WellSpring.

November 2009

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Children's Ministry News

By Lynette Harrenstien

The children of North Spring are learning about prayer through Sunday, November 15th. Activities for all ages have included: learning that we can pray anytime of day in a variety of ways, cooking items such as prayer pretzels, going on a silent prayer walk, creating prayer journals, beading our prayers and creating a prayer cord, and praying in creative ways by sending up bubble prayers!

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex that is dedicated to our Children. What you will see includes: a sign up sheet for teaching our PK-2nd grade group during church time on upcoming Sundays and a noisy offering update! Through past collections of noisy offering we gathered and recently sent \$500 to World Vision to support clean water development! October noisy offering will be used to purchase food and items for Hillcrest Ministries from their urgent needs list. Watch for an update on the actual amount of food collected and purchased! Future collections in November and December will include: purchasing items to fill shoeboxes with gifts for Operation Christmas Child as well as purchasing books for children and adults at Hillcrest Transitional Housing.

The children of our church are a great group! We have also been blessed recently with several children visiting in our classrooms. I would like to say thanks so much to all who assist with our children's programs. I would like to also encourage additional adults to step up and lend a hand! No experience required! We will provide training!

Check Out the Website

By Sherree Gorman

We have added some features to our website. You should check it out. We now have some interactive pages. In the "Your Turn" section, you can Sign the Guestbook, tell us your Favorite Sermons, or provide Recommendations for Book, Movies or Music. Also, you can provide Feedback on anything about the church, worship or the website. We want to hear from you!! And you will notice that there is now a link on the home page to take you to our very own church Facebook page. There we have posted pictures and other information. So come and join us on Facebook! And don't forget to keep abreast with happenings at the church by checking out the calendar and by reading the weekly news. And keep watching as we continue to provide more functionality on the website. Soon we will provide our sermons as PodCasts. You will be able to listen to Hubert's terrific sermons while at home or on the road if you were unable to attend with us at church. The web address is easy! It is www.northspring.org.

Outreach News

By Sherree Gorman

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the Health Kits for the Festival of Sharing! We collected 25 kits that were taken by the Youth Group to the festival in Sedalia. I also want to thank all of you who so generously donated their time and food to provide an awesome lunch for Lazarus Table at Grand Avenue Temple. We served over 150 people with almost 180 meals. How awesome is that? I am so thankful for all of you. If you would like to join the Outreach Team, please call me (Sherree Gorman) at 841-2842 or email me at sgorman4@att.net. I look forward to having you join the team.

ReThink Church

The Church with Open Doors

By Sherree Gorman

"Jesus founded the church to carry on his mission; to serve as his hands and voice in the world. He loved broken and lost people. He offered healing and hope and forgiveness. He proclaimed good news of a God who loved prodigal children. Yet, recent national surveys of young adults reveal a great interest in Jesus, but an antipathy to the church. As one author has put it, 'They like Jesus, but not the church.' Perhaps it's time to **ReThink Church.**" Pastor Adam Hamilton asks:

What if the church?
 Was prayerful
 Challenged bigotry
 Created a new culture
 Never belittled
 Helped people find meaning
 Stood up for the weak
 Opened doors
 Challenged itself
 Fed the hungry
 Was amazing
 Confronted poverty
 Was source of light
 Was bold
 Offered mercy
 Gave you comfort
 Saved your soul
 Was a catalyst for good
 Was community
 Took your breath away
 Never glorified itself
 Fostered peace
 Was empowering
 Fostered peace

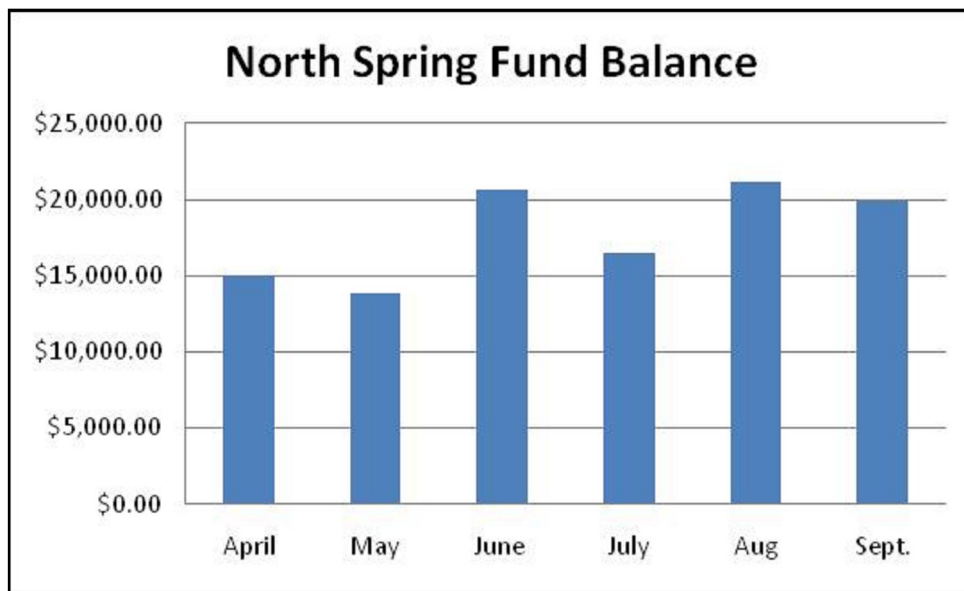
What is Jesus' view of the church? It is not a building. It is not merely an organization. What if the church looked and acted like Jesus? Then we, who are the Church, who are the body of Christ, who are the bride, are: doing, believing, being, caring, helping, listening, encouraging, forgiving, loving - as Christ loves us, 24 X 7 (not just on Sunday mornings). And enjoying, laughing, working together, and sometimes weeping together, becoming, Today, in Ancient days, in this nation, in All nations.

ReThink "Church".

\$\$Money Matters\$\$

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

Our Fund Balance at the end of September dropped slightly from the August balance; however the funds from the Fall Fund Fest were not included in the balance as they were not deposited until October.



As of October 19th, our Income statement for the month of August was a surplus of \$5,164 vs. a Budget projection for the end of year of \$-7,661. So we are well ahead of the game at this point in the year.

We completed an early projection of the 2010 Budget in October and this very early view shows a deficit of \$-3,683 for the year. If this number holds up, next year should be very manageable. We need to get the various Ad Council committees to approve their budget and we need to go through our Stewardship campaign to determine if the pledges support our budget estimates.

We will hold our Stewardship campaign in November. Key dates for the campaign are:

- Church service of November 8th – Finance Chairman announces beginning of campaign.
- Week of November 9th – Send out pledge cards
- Church Service of November 15th – Finance Chairman announce reminder that cards will be collected the following week.
- Church Service of November 22nd – Collect Pledges
- November 22nd thru end of year – Follow up on missing pledges

Please be prompt in turning in your pledge.

God bless.

Tom Gorman
Finance Chair



Youth News

By Dave Taylor

Festival of Sharing

Ministry and Mission work

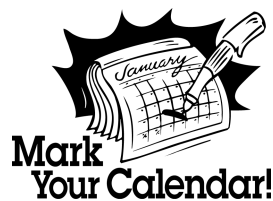
Many of the youth were blessed to be part of an amazing experience in October by traveling to Sedalia, MO for YouthFest and the Festival of Sharing. Please ask one of the youth about their experiences at this wonderful event.

Regular Meetings

CIA Youth Group meetings for November will be on a regular schedule rotation starting with a meeting at Hope UMC on November 1st.

Thanksgiving Dinner Service

Sunday, November 22nd at 6:00 PM. Youth Group will meet at North Spring UMC for a very special and heartfelt Thanksgiving service and dinner. Dinner will be provided by members of North Spring as an appreciation for our Youth and their dedication to Christ. If, as a member, you would like to provide part of the meal, please contact myself or Michelle Sloop.



A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Mark your calendars for the second Sunday evening in Advent. On Sunday, December 6, 2009 at 6:30

PM the Christians in Action (CIA) will be leading a worship service celebrating a Festival of Lessons and Carols. After the 15 minute service there will be an old-fashioned Christmas Carol sing where we sing your favorite carols. When we are finished, we will have a reception in Fellowship Hall where cookies and Wassail will be served. If you are interested in donating home-baked cookies for this event, please call Steve Campbell at 816-427-6603 or 816-519-2677.

Hospitality Notes

By Betty Witt

For those of you who have a service that someone in our Church might be able to use or sell some product, please turn your business card into the office. We will post them on the Hospitality Board at the west Narthex. They will be on the part behind the door to the fellowship hall. That way they will be visible to those interested.

The next quarter of ushers and greeters will be starting in December. I could use some more who would like to usher/greet on Sunday mornings. Please contact Betty Witt 229-7988. With enough people, you will only need to do it once every 3 months.

Parish Nurse News

By Betty Witt

Look for hand sanitizer in each classroom, office and narthex. It should be placed by the plates at potlucks also. If you do not find them around, please let me know. Always wash before eating or touching face.

Don't forget your seasonal flu shot.

Betty Witt, RN, BSN

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...

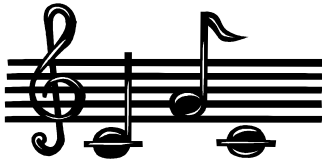
The deadline for submitting items for the **December WellSpring is Friday, November 20.** Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, I won't be able to take any items after that date.

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



Music Notes

By Heidi Rater
Music Director
623-9105

heidirater@comcast.net

November is here! Where has the fall gone? Some days it already feels like winter! Anyway, we are hard at work for the Children's Christmas Program. It is called "A Poem for Christmas". We are practicing each Sunday right after worship services. There will be NO practice on Pot Luck Sundays. If your kiddo would still like to be a part of this, let me know. We will be presenting the program on December 20 during the service. Also, if you have a Christmas song you'd like to hear at church during Advent, write it down and give it to me.

We had a new treat in October. The Harp Ensemble shared their music with us for the first time. It's amazing what beautiful music those instruments can make! We had a little taste of heaven right in our own sanctuary.

Now, looking ahead, I've decided to make a small change in the planning process. In place of the monthly Music Planning meeting, we will start having Worship Committee meetings every two or three months to get ideas and opinions and song suggestions. The first one of these will be the second Sunday of January right after worship. Before then, if you have a song suggestion, let me know!

- Special Music for November:
- November 1: Soul Food
- November 8: Marie Ware
- November 15: David McDougal
- November 22: Selah
- November 29: Trent Weigel

Scouting News

By Dick Witt

Scout Unit Web Sites

Both Pack and Troop 306 now have web sites. The new websites are easier to maintain and for the best part – They Are Free! The web sites are www.pack306.scoutlander.com and www.troop306.scoutlander.com.

If you want to see what is coming up, go ahead and check it out. More information will be appearing on the web site when it is updated.

Scouting Bulletin Board

The North Spring Scouting Activities Bulletin Board is getting a face lift. Many of the older pictures have been removed with new ones added, etc. Thanks to Karen Gleich for making the face lift. Plans including placing the web site url's on the board and more pictures of various activities.

Medicine Bottles Needed

The H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation Health Lodge is in need of empty medicine bottles. The translucent colored variety are preferred, any size will do. The label on this type of bottle is easily removed. Depending on availability and need, certain medication is provided to campers and staff with the pill bottles providing convenient containers for those who need to receive medication. If you have some bottles, simply bring them to the church office and put them in the Scouting Coordinator's mail box.

Scout Sunday Chili Supper

The fourth annual Scout Sunday

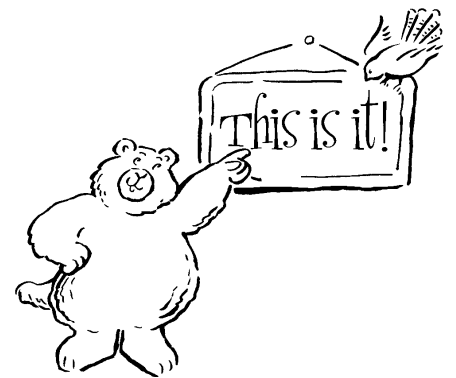
Chili Supper will be held on Sunday, February 7, 2010. Tickets will be on sale just before Christmas and continue through January. Proceeds from the Chili Supper will benefit the Scout Units sponsored by The Spring.

There will be Chili with all the fixins, homemade vegetable soup, drink, and a desert. Hot dogs and chips will be available for those who will not eat soup.

This year we will be trying a new desert product to solve production problems for a Troop fund raising activity next fall. Plans also include the annual Pie Auction to benefit the outreach mission work of our congregation.

To help you prepare for your Super Bowl party, bulk chili and soup will be available. Please let Dick or Betty Witt know of you needs so we can plan accordingly.

So mark your calendars for the first Sunday in February, come enjoy good chili, good fellowship,



DRAMA TEAM

Looking for people interest in sharing in the acting experience. No experience necessary. Meetings will be on Wednesdays 8:00pm to 9:00pm. If interested please contact Timothy Reynolds 816-810-0669 or Tim Cook 816-229-4032.


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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.

Fund Raising Opportunities

Do your Christmas shopping and help North Spring at the same time!



Usborne Books – Buy Usborne Books for your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews or any other child and help make money for North Spring UMC.

Laurie's Kitchen —Purchase gourmet seasoning mixes for every stage of meal preparation.

The Pickles and Poinsettias Home Tour – A Holiday Tour to benefit the Pilot Club of Blue Springs will be held on December 5th North Spring will receive \$5 for every ticket we sell.

See the enclosed insert for more details.

visit us on the web @ www.northspring.org