

# North Cross Spirit

. . . *telling the news of North Cross Church*

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January 19, 2009

*...coming up in Worship...*

## Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me...

The words above are the title of one of the hymns in the church's hymnal. We'll be singing this song in the 8:30 service this week. Your pastor will be preaching on a similar subject and has determined that the title for Sunday's message at both services will simply be, *Pilot*.

"Each of us in our life and in our faith need to determine who is in charge and what it is that calls us to our actions, behaviors and decisions," said Rick, as he looked toward Sunday's message.

The scriptural basis for the message is an event that Mark records very early in the ministry of Jesus. You might want to read Mark 1: 21-28 in preparation for this week's services.

## 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: "*Samson's Mother Prepares for His Birth*" Glenn Corwin

### Good News: Room 206

Lesson: "*Conspiracies of Grace*" Jim Funk

### Friendship: Room 202

Lesson: "*Samson's Mother Prepares for His Birth*"

### Inquirer's: Fellowship Hall

Lesson: "*Lives of Jesus*" Susie Watson

### FaithWorks: Room 207

Lesson: "*Samson's Mother Prepares for His Birth*" Betty Greiner

### Pathfinders: Room 200

Lesson: "*The Second Sin*" Randy Young

### Contemporary Conversations: Lounge

Lesson: "*Religion in America*"  
Dr. Thomas Howell

## Trustees continue to work on *Look Ahead* program to secure our future

Many of you (through Sunday School presentations or at other times) have been introduced to the background work of the Trustees called the *Look Ahead* program for updating and addressing the long-delayed maintenance issues of heating and cooling systems.

Many of you have heard of the plans to replace our aging and inefficient (and in some cases non-working) units with what is called "Geothermal" (Ground Source) energy efficient replacements. Detailed bids are being received and will be presented to the Trustees this week for further consideration and evaluation.

As this information is processed recommendations will be shared with the congregation. It is important to remember that such work promises to nearly eliminate our dependence upon fossil fuels, as well as significantly reduce annual repairs and maintenance of the current heating and cooling systems (some of which are more than 50 years old.)

Watch for future information concerning this important issue for the congregation.

## [northcrossumc.org](http://northcrossumc.org) now activated!

Last week we announced that the church's new website is now accessible at [northcrossumc.org](http://northcrossumc.org). At this new web address you will find a link to the daily *Upper Room* devotional, as well as links to many of the church's areas of ministry. The church's calendar is reproduced in great detail, telling of all the groups using the facility. There are links to the weekly newsletter and other useful information. You will also find that all of the church's staff now has new e-mail addresses with an ".org" ending.

The previous website continues to be in operation. It is important for you to know that this new website is the one that is fully featured. At some date in the future the old one will no longer be relevant to the church's ministry.

Megan Robertson, our new "webmaster" is eager to hear your comments about this new resource.

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

## Can you help at 11 a.m. worship?

Ushers are needed to assist at the 11 a.m. worship service. Ushers/Greeters are our first line of “welcoming.” If you would like to be a part of a team, serving a month at a time, three or four times a year, please call Patsy in the church office at 452.2939.



Thank you for considering serving your church in this very important position.

## Seeking Mentors for Confirmation Class

Nine youth will be participating in a five-week confirmation class beginning Sunday, February 1st.

Confirmation is an opportunity for these youth to more intentionally explore the Christian faith and their faith journey. It will also be an opportunity for them to say “yes” to Christ.

Classes will be led by Rev. Rick Hammett, Rev. Dennis Stone, and Vickie Linch. In addition, we are hoping each youth will have an adult mentor who would be available to them for questions, support, and prayer during the confirmation process.

Classes for the youth will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following Sundays: Feb. 1, Feb. 8, Feb. 22, March 1 and March 8. Mentors should plan to attend the first class to meet their youth partner. Mentors may attend any of the classes as their schedule allows. In addition, mentors should be in contact with their youth partner at least once a week in person, by phone, or by e-mail. If you would be interested in becoming a confirmation mentor, please contact Vickie, Dennis, or Rick at 452.2939.



## *The Three D's in concert*

*Friday, February 13th  
6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.*

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

## 2009 United Methodist Women Resources

In the Spiritual Growth area we have added Peace in the Storm: Meditations on Chronic Pain and Illness. The author shares how she navigates through the frustrations, fears and complexities of living with chronic pain and illness. She uses a combination of Bible passages, personal observations, insights and prayer to provide help on issues that include dealing with isolation, medical expenses and saying no.

In large print we have added a book from the Nurturing for Community area - Here if You Need Me: A True Story. This is Kate Braestrup's story of her remarkable journey from grief to faith to happiness, as she holds her family together in the wake of her husband's death, pursues his dream of becoming a minister, and then ultimately finds her calling as a chaplain to search-and-rescue workers. This is an uplifting account of finding God through helping others.

This year a booklet has not been printed out for our readers to use. There is now a paper leaflet form of resource. I have made copies of the form that you will use to list the books you have read. One advantage for the loose form is that it can be folded easily and kept inside your purse.

Please check your shelves to make sure that you do not have any books that need to be returned to the reading cart. If you happen across any, please return them as soon as possible, so that they might be enjoyed by others.

If any of our circles or individuals would like to purchase any books for our reading cart, please check with me to be sure that no one else has ordered the same item. We greatly appreciate the support of everyone who helps us build up our reading library.

Happy Reading!

*Ann Ousley*

UMW Program Resources Secretary

## Coming This Week...

### Thursday, January 22

11:30 a.m. .... Tai Chi  
4:30 p.m. .... 4 One Band Practice

### Friday, January 23

9:30 a.m. .... Adventures In Learning

### Saturday, January 24

Youth to WOW  
6:30 p.m. .... Movie Night:  
*The Great Debaters*

### Sunday, January 25

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  
*CICI Pizza Day*  
5:00 p.m. .... Healing & Wholeness  
6:30 p.m. .... God & Country Program

### Monday, January 26

9:30 a.m. .... Parkinson Exercise  
11:00 a.m. .... Tai Chi  
1:00 p.m. .... UMW Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. .... Sign Language Class  
6:30 p.m. .... Administrative Council  
7:00 p.m. .... Republican Women  
7:00 p.m. .... Cub & Boy Scouts

### Tuesday, January 27

9:00 a.m. .... TOPS  
9:30 a.m. .... Mommy & Me  
10:00 a.m. .... Paint for Fun  
6:30 p.m. .... Duplicate Bridge  
6:30 p.m. .... Daisy Scouts

### Wednesday, January 28

11:00 a.m. .... Grandparent Support  
5:30 p.m. .... Supper  
6:30 p.m. .... Youth  
6:30 p.m. .... Chancel Choir Practice  
8:00 p.m. .... Handbell Practice

### Thursday, January 29

6:00 a.m. .... Tai Chi  
9:00 a.m. .... UMW Sewing & Quilting  
11:30 a.m. .... Tai Chi

## Movie Night - Saturday, January 24th 6:30 p.m. The Great Debaters PG-13

Inspired by a true story, "The Great Debaters" is a film that tells the story of a debate team at Wiley College, a small black college in Marshall, Texas. Professor Tolson, played by Denzel Washington, inspires his small, underdog team to believe in themselves, their cause and truth. He instilled in his debate team the belief that they could use the debates for more than personal glory; they could also be tools of change and enlightenment.

Wiley College is one of the oldest historically black colleges west of the Mississippi, and has strong ties to the United Methodist Church. The college was founded by a Methodist Episcopal Bishop, Isaac Wiley, in 1873. Part of our annual apportionments go toward supporting the college featured in this movie.

All are welcome to attend this free screening. Please note that the movie is rated PG-13 due to some sexually suggestive scenes. It may not be appropriate for young children.

## How are you celebrating Valentine's Day?

The North Cross youth suggest you celebrate Valentine's Day dancing, dining, and enjoying the evening at the *Adult Sweetheart Dance*, Saturday, February 14th. The event is a time for fun and celebration. It may be a time when you remember some of your past or a time to make new memories.

The music featured this night will be reflective of earlier times, and the evening an opportunity to celebrate the magic of music, dance, and fellowship with friends and loved ones. A light buffet, childcare, and dance photos will also be provided at no extra cost. Youth are selling tickets in the entryway now until February 8th. Ticket proceeds will help fund the youth's mission trip to Sikeston, Missouri, this summer.



## From Den's Pen:

My old Baptist hero, Grady Nutt, once said: "In the beginning, God created. Now, it's your turn!" I thought of that little nugget as I attend the Creative Ministries Conference in Orlando, Florida recently. Bob Pierson, a retired United Methodist pastor from Tulsa and the founder of Leadership Nexus, was the one who put this conference together. There were about 100 participants from all parts of the United States; Kyle Hern, pastor at St. Johns UMC (on Ward Parkway) was the only other one from Kansas City.

The meeting site was St. Luke's United Methodist Church, the largest UM church in Florida. They have several people on staff who work at Disney in creative areas; the Staff Parish Chair is in charge of advertising for Disney World and Disney Land. Included on the program were: the two fellows who founded "Midnight Oil Productions," a group that produces presentations for churches utilizing screens in worship; Phil & Tess Card, who lead a Reader's Theatre group that provides workshops and worship scripts; Doug Pagitt, who is the leader of Solomon's Porch in Minneapolis, reaching out to "post-moderns" with a creative ministry; Jennifer Brassard, who led a workshop on Improvisation (for worship); and Becky Pierson, who spoke on concepts in ministry in a post-modern culture, dealing with the way in which cultural shifts have created new understandings, new needs, and new opportunities for the church.

One day was spent at Disney World as we attempted to take in the creative elements of Disney: from signage, to the way in which themes were communicated, to hospitality issues, to the attention to detail, to the way in which everyone had "bought into" the system. (They had no "employees". . .they had "cast members" who were all commissioned to relay the Disney story to others.) Aside from the fact that it was fun, it was an exhausting day (plus, it was the only day it rained while we were there). In addition, we participated in some extremely creative worship services which were wonderful experiences as well as giving us some things to try in our own situations.

Since I have been involved in the Course of Study program for the past years, this is the first conference I have been able to attend. It was truly an inspiring, learning environment, one which should enhance my ministry here at North Cross.

And realizing that everyone has creativity within them, I'll close by saying, "Make it a good. . .and creative. . .week!"

## Person to person:

### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- **Hospitalized:** No known at time of publication. If you wish to have information on hospitalizations, please call the church office at 452.2939.
- Menu for January 28th: *Enchilada Casserole, Refried Beans, Corn, Chips and Cheese*
- We offer our sympathy to Patsy and Tom Schmutz and family in the death of Patsy's cousin, Yancey Bryant Price, on January 6th, and to Jerry and Barbara Moody, in the death of Jerry's sister, Carrie Bayouth, in Hominy, OK on January 14th.
- The next *Healing and Wholeness* service will be held on Sunday, March 25th, at 5 p.m. in the chapel. All are welcome to attend.

**Publication Deadline: Wednesday at noon**  
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**Send email to [mamorrissey@northcrossumc.org](mailto:mamorrissey@northcrossumc.org)**

**Visit our new website at [www.northcrossumc.org](http://www.northcrossumc.org)**

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