



The Good News

May 2011, Northfield Presbyterian Church

www.northfieldpreschurch.com

Dear Friends and Church Family,

This morning I was reflecting a bit on the Holy Week services from Palm Sunday with all the children from the Day Care, Maundy Thursday celebrating the Twelve Seats at the Table (see the visitor's note elsewhere), and Easter Sunday marking the Resurrection of our Lord. What a wonderful and powerful message of hope. Triumph on both ends of what appears to be human tragedy of greatest proportion.

How easy it is for us to get so excited about the day and the events. But, like a mountaintop experience, the feelings from these can and will fade away. The reality of them, however, needs to stay current and fresh day to day. We weren't given a super dose of resurrection that we could pop like a prescription and have it keep us strong for another year. So how do we keep our lives and faith fresh?

Allow me to suggest a few ways. They won't necessarily be easy, but they are guaranteed to strengthen the faith you embrace. First, remember to keep your life balanced with equal parts of Bible reading and devotion, prayer, service, fellowship and worship. For decades (literally) I have dealt with lower back pain. I asked my doctor about it and he immediately wrote a prescription for physical therapy. In less than five minutes of assessment by the Physical Therapist, he knew what the problem was. My entire left side was weaker than my right side. As a result the stronger muscles were pulling my spine to the right and causing pain. By working both sides and strengthening all the muscles there is balance and...no pain! Spiritually speaking we need to keep all the disciplines strong and in balance in order to maintain a fresh faith.

Second, we have been put into the body of Christ by faith. And we know from Paul's letters to the Corin-

thians and Ephesians that all believers have a special ability, or gift to share with other believers in order to strengthen one another. Allow Jesus to show you your spiritual gifts through the activities you enjoy or a small group, where people who know and love you can affirm the gifts and special abilities God has given you. Then as you test and try them out growth will occur and your desire to go deeper in faith with probably grow, too.

The third suggestion is somewhat related to the last one. Many believers go to church week in and week out. They occasionally will enjoy the music and the sermon, say "hello" to a few people but eventually boredom will set in with a question, "Is that all there is?" The answer is simple; if that's all you do, that's all there is! A pond that has only an entrance with no exit will eventually become stagnant and overgrown choking off the oxygen and other life that keep it fresh and it will die. Take what you are learning and put it to use. Find a place to serve and give to others.

Finally, ask the Lord to reveal some people in your life who don't share your faith. Write their names on a card and pray for them as often as you can. And when you pray, ask God for open doors to talk about spiritual things; for an open mouth that you will have the boldness to talk about Jesus when the time comes; and open hearts, that is a responsiveness on their part to good news that they need and you have.

These things can help keep the resurrection fresh in your life day by day.

In His Grip,

Art Helin

Easter Week Wrap Up and Photo Highlights



Palm Sunday Services enjoyed a visit from 17 Day Care children and their families for a special music presentation with our Kids Own Worship group. Our numbers swelled to 215 (53 kids) for the morning. They did a great job and the full church rang with the joy of the Lord. Sherry Pomeroy, Day Care Director, gave a moment for mission and after thanked the church for their hospitality and for supporting the recent Malley's Candy sale (profits: \$3200). Bob Taylor shared his drum talents also.



The **Maundy Thursday** presentation of **12 Seats at the Table** included a rehearsal dinner and cake the Sunday before the performance. Our men did a great job with the evening event. We had 131 members and guests present. One guest sent an email the next day that included:

"I have NEVER been to a more beautiful service. With Easter week being my favorite of the year. I always try to find either a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service where they re-enact the events that took place, as we know them. I believe that yours was the closest I have ever seen. The fact that we took part in the communion service with the disciples serving us made me feel like such a "Part-Of" the service. I felt like I was there, actually sharing Jesus's last meal with him. Gosh, none of us left there with a dry eye.



I wanted to Thank You for allowing us to be a part of your beautiful service and wanted to tell you how thrilled I was to be there. I only wish you could re-enact Good Friday service also. I think your church would do it best! I am originally from Friedens United Church of Christ in Cleveland, where I grew up and was Council President during its closing in November of 2009. I have been a lost sheep ever since. It was very hard for me to go back to church after that, but I certainly found comfort in your little church on Thursday night.

Thank you and God Bless all of you there at Northfield Presbyterian Church!"



Our **Easter Sunday Service** saw another full house. We enjoyed the musical talents of our Choir and Elayna Duitman-Zerhage from the Cleveland Orchestra on violin. The Easter Breakfast was well attended and enjoyed by all. (photo courtesy of Keri Forsythe)

Thanks to all who made the week so special!



Women's Association

The next meeting will be **Monday, May 9th** at **10:00 a.m.** We will continue our study of *Proverbs, Learning to Live Wisely*: May- "Wealth and Poverty. Business will include final details for the Rummage sale. Lunch together at a local restaurant follows the meeting.

Simple Supper and Prayer

May 12, 2011 6:30 p.m.

Home of Art and Jan Helin

Sign up in the Narthex



May

Ted Kokenos	2-May
Julia Geshke	3-May
Marc Russo	4-May
David Merryman	7-May
Dan Arnold	8-May
Kenneth White	10-May
Cindy Griffith	10-May
Cindy Gallagher	11-May
Bob Scott	12-May
Elaine Hall	16-May
Betty Jackson	17-May
Jeff Van Der Meulen	18-May
Michelle Williamson	20-May
Brian Fenn	26-May
Jennifer Scott	26-May
Caitlin Hicks	27-May
Linda Davies	28-May
James Harpster	28-May
Rachelle Geshke	29-May
Jonathan Oliver	29-May

SAVE THE DATE &
START SAVING YOUR
STUFF!



SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

When: Saturday, May 14, 2011

We will begin collecting items for the sale
Sunday May 8th thru Thursday May 13th
(During normal church hours)

Please place your donated items on the
stage in the Fellowship hall.

For special arrangement call Debbie @ 440-838-0460

Or leave a message with the church office.

We will take clean, usable
**TOOLS, FURNITURE, TOYS, HOUSE-
HOLD ITEMS, ELECTRONICS,
BOOKS, CLOTHES, ETC.**

**If you can help with set up/clean up
contact Debbie at the number above.**

PANTRY ITEMS CONTINUE TO BE COLLECTED

The Emergency Assistance Center always has
needs for food and toiletry items, however,
they have a very big need for Toilet Paper, Kleenex and Sham-
poo (not conditioner). Folks who are on Food Stamps cannot
use them to buy Toilet Paper! So this item they say is **GOLD!**
So, check your local grocery and drugstore ads and let's help
bring them some GOLD in May!

THANKS FOR YOUR ON-GOING GENEROSITY!





Help Us Maintain the Church Grounds

Church Work Day Saturday, May 21, 2011 9:00 a.m.

Many hands make light work.
BYO tools, rakes, clippers, etc.



Lucia Grace Helin



Brooklyn Anne Scott



Cara Shelo Helin

- Congratulations to Phil and Amanda Helin - Lucia Grace born March 26, 2011 Proud grandparents: Art and Jan Helin
- Congratulations to Jennifer and Travis Scott - Brooklyn Anne born April 17, 2011; 7lbs 2oz, 18.5" Proud grandparents Sue and Joe Russo.
- Congratulations to Tim and Clare Helin - Cara Shelo was born April 27, 2011; 8 lb. 2 oz. 20 inches long. After surgery for a congenital heart defect she will be home with the family.



Member and friend Jo Martin passed away on April 10, 2011. The funeral was held at Ferfolia on the 14th. She has been a member here since 1958; served as a Deacon, Deacon Moderator and worked on many church projects over the years including keeping our gardens looking nice and contributing to the quilt used in fundraising for the Scotland Mission Trip. Her quiet sense of humor and smile will be missed by all.

Stewardship Report

Please contact a member of the committee if you have any questions.

Mission Spending 2nd Quarter:

Campus Crusade for Christ: Akron	\$625.00
Wycliffe, The Seed Company: Africa	\$625.00
Globe Ministries: Scotland	\$375.00
Gospel for Asia: India	\$625.00
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Columbus	\$625.00
Interlink Ministries: Cleveland	\$500.00

April

INCOME:	\$ 16,375.00
EXPENSES:	\$ 17,814.00





We're hitting the beach!



And the waves are calling YOU
To be a VBS Volunteer!

July 11 – 15 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Our Beachcombers will discover, that Dude, it's all about Jesus!

Who is Jesus? Jesus is God's Son and when I **meet up** with Him, I discover how much God loves me. 1 John 4:9

Why do I need Jesus? Jesus' death & resurrection make it possible for me to **join up** with Him and be part of God's family. John 14:6

How can Jesus help me when I mess up? When I **open up** to Jesus about my sin, He forgives me & helps me make a fresh start. Daniel 9:9

What does Jesus want me to do? Jesus wants me to know & love Him and get **fired up** about sharing Him with others. Matt. 28:19-20

These five days of discovery not only give kids the knowledge of God's word, but also the opportunity to respond to His truth's by living out their Christian faith. You can help them in discovering a living, spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

You know how much fun this is! So here are ways you can help...

_____ Teacher _____ Crafts _____ Snacks _____ Co-Teacher _____ Registration
_____ Nursery _____ Music (help Zeger Verhage) _____ Photography _____ Praying
_____ Skits (Opening or class time) _____ Friday Night Event/Cookout _____ Help with preparation (pre-
assemble crafts, painting background murals for rooms, help making props)

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Evenings available to help _____

Any questions, please contact Debbie Brooks 440-838-0460 or Patti Maholm 330-468-2160

- 2011 VBS Mission Project -

"Birthday Room" Toy Drive
For Laura's Home



This year our mission project for VBS will focus on the needs of a local Women's & Children shelter, which is part of The City Mission here in Cleveland. The shelter is called "Laura's Home". Laura's Home is for women and children in need. They are a bridge from homelessness to wholeness. At Laura's Home, they give them shelter: warm beds, hearty meals, and basic necessities. They help the children to go to school. Most importantly, they offer them hope that the future can be different than the past.

Last year, Laura's Home provided 53,928 meals and 37,132 nights of shelter to 639 women and **376 children** in crisis. They helped 117 women and 95 children as they worked through their 180-day Long-term Program.

Our VBS Mission is this: Laura's Home has a "Birthday Room" that allows Mom's to go in and pick out a present for their child/children to give to them on their birthday. This may not sound like much to us, but to a homeless mom and kids this is truly a *wonderful* blessing. Our goal this year is to collect new toys to give to the Birthday Room.

Everyone was so generous last year with our "Pack the Backpack" mission that we know that this shelter can benefit from our caring and generous families! The shelter has kids from infant to 17 years. If you look at the numbers above, there is a great need for wonderful surprises and I know that our NPC & VBS families can help fill this need.

Please pray for these moms and kids; and we know that whatever you choose to give will be treasured! *(They also have a wish list at Target if you would prefer to provide something from the wish list.)*

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Christian Career Group

Meeting the 3rd Thursday of each Month
7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

This is a Christian career networking group to assist people that are under and UN-employed, teens that are beginning their careers, and college students and graduates.

In addition, another focus is to help people develop career paths, networking, interviewing, resume development, open discussions about job issues, and provide support to each other in our careers and job searches. Please bring a current copy of your resumé (can be a rough draft), questions, and ideas!

We are looking for volunteers to assist in meeting planning, mentoring, interview practicing, career advice etc...

Contact Tim or Patti Maholm through ccg_npc@yahoo.com with questions.

Open to all...tell a friend!

May's Meeting: May 19th. Mock Interviews for teens/young adults to help get that summer job!

PAPER RECYCLING BIN ON SITE SOON

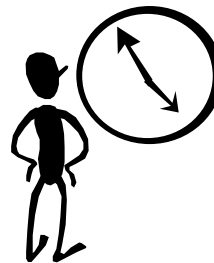
The school age kids from the Day Care have researched, sent letters of interest and request and have secured permission to have a paper recycling bin on the church property. The proceeds (paid by weight) will go to Day Care programming for the school age program. Look for the green bin soon on the back drive of the church.

Bring in your scrap paper, newspaper, catalogs, junk mail, flyers, phone books, etc. and put them in the bin. Great for end of school year paper disposal (remove any wire bindings first).

The more you bring, the more \$ they make!

Don't forget the Day Care also takes used cell phones and ink cartridges (collection box in Narthex).

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE



Beginning in June, there will no longer be an early (8am) service on Communion Sundays. Session, with input from the Deacons and others have determined that until the 10:15 am service is more fully attended, it will decrease the schedule to just one service. We regret the inconvenience but hope that all would understand the need for this change.

Stay tuned for a possible Summer Worship time change. Check for bulletin announcements or the website at the end of May.



May 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 COMMUNION 8am Worship 9 am Sun. School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 am VBC Worship	2 6pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	3 ELECTIONS 7pm Bible Study	4 9:45 am DC Chapel 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Venture 7pm Choir	5 8pm AA	6	7
8 9 am Sun. School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 am VBC Worship	9 10am PWNPC 7:30 pm Deacons 6pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	10 7pm Bible Study	11 6:30 am Men's Bible Study at Chick-fil-A 9:45 am DC Chapel 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7pm Choir	12 6:30 pm Simple Supper & Prayer at Helins 7pm Bldg & Grounds Rummage Sale Set-up 8pm AA	13 Rummage Sale Set-up	14 7am Session Prayer 8:00 am Men's Bible Study at Chick-fil-A RUMMAGE SALE
15 9 am Sun. School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 am VBC Worship 1pm Matchcover Club	16 7pm Session 6pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	17 7pm Day Care Board 7pm Bible Study	18 9:45 am DC Chapel 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Venture 7pm Choir	19 7pm Christian Career Group 8pm AA	20	21
22 9 am Sun. School 10:15 am Worship— Youth Sunday 12:30 am VBC Worship 1:30pm VBC Couples Picnic	23 6pm VBC Choir 7pm Boy Scouts	24 7pm Bible Study	25 6:30 am Men's Bible Study at Chick-fil-A 9:45 am DC Chapel 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	26 8pm AA	27 5:30 pm Community Meal	28 8:00 am Men's Bible Study at Chick-fil-A
29 9 am Sun. School 10:15 am Worship 12:30 am VBC Worship 2:30 pm Eagle Scout Ceremony	30 Memorial Day	31 7pm Bible Study				



New Photo Directory Planned

Plans are in the works to create a new Photo Directory of church members and friends. We are going to produce in house this year! No sales pitches or return to select photos! Photos will be taken by Cory Louis and Tim Maholm on the Sundays of May 15, 22 and June 5.

On May 15 the photos will be taken in room 201.

On May 22 the photos will be taken in the Living Area

(those unable to do stairs should plan on being here this Sunday if possible).

On June 5, pictures will be back in room 201.



Cindy Gallagher and Cindy Maxhimer will be available to coordinate folks and get pertinent information for the directory.

If you/your family is not going to be in church any of these Sundays, please contact the church office and Tim or Cory will come do a casual photo in your home, or meet you at the church during the week.

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