

NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
921 COLLEGE AVE
ELMIRA NY 14901-2048

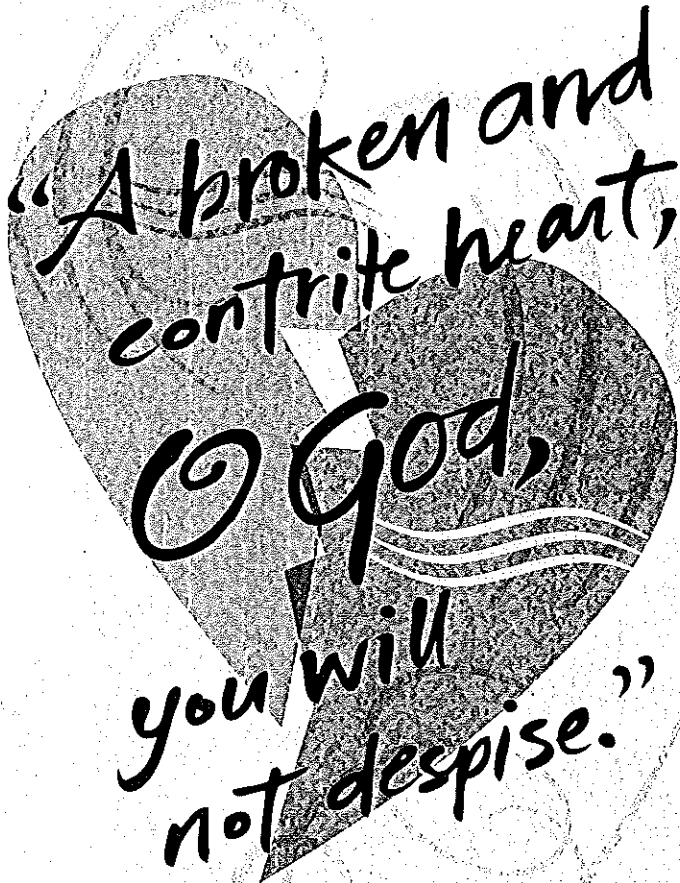
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March 2011

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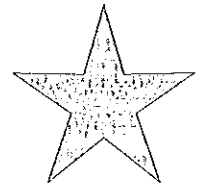
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A broken and
contrite heart,
O God,
you will
not despise."

Psalm 51:17, NRSV

NORTH STAR



NorthPres.com
NorthPresOffice@stny.rr.com
NorthPresPastor@stny.rr.com
North PresCollege@stny.rr.com



March

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Kindermuzik in Community Room | CASH - Tax Program | 1 8:30am - Yoga 12-Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA | 2 10-Food Pantry 12 - Bible Study 12-Cash 1- Pantry Coalition 4- CSI/EC 5:30 - Dinner 6:30 - Praise Ser 7:30 - Chancel Choir | 3 8:30am - Yoga 12-Cash 6:30 - AA 7 - Men's Bible Study | 4 9- Community Kitchen 10- Food Pantry 5:15 AA | 5 Presbytery-Phelps 8- AA |
| 6 8- Bell Choir 8:45 - Praise Band 9-Chancel Ch 9:30 - Worship/Com 10:35- Fellowship 10:35-Kingdom Bound meeting/lib 10:45 - Adult & Youth Ed 10:45 - New Member Class 1- College Bible Study 3-7 Kitchen in use Kiwaniis/EC | 7 10 - Food Pantry 12-Cash 4-7 -Spaghetti Dinner Kiwaniis/EC 6:30 - Deacons | 8 OFFICE CLOSED 8:30am - Yoga 10 -Trust Group 12 -Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA 7- Music & Worship | 9 Ash Wed 10-Food Pantry 12 - Bible Study 4-CSI/EC 5 - Fellowship 6:00-Soup sup 7- Ash Wed Serv 7:30 - Chancel Choir | 10 8:30am - Yoga 12-Cash 6:30 - AA 7 - Men's Bible Study | 11 10- Food Pantry 5:15 AA | 12 4:30- Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner 8- AA |
| 13Daylght Savings 9- Praise Band 9:30 - Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -SS Intergenerational 10:45 -New Member Class 1-College Bible Study | 14 10 - Food Pantry 12-Cash 6:30 - Trustees 7- Encounter group/Library | 15 8:30am -Yoga 12-Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA | 16 10 -Food Pantry 12-Bible Study 4- CSI/EC 6-Lenten Meal 7-Lenten Service 7:30-Chancel Ch | 17 8:30am - Yoga 12-Cash 4:30 -Northstar Deadline for April 6:30 - AA 7 - Audubon 7 - Men's Bible Study | 18 10-Food Pantry 5:15 AA | 19 9- Trustees Workday 8- AA |
| 20 8-Bell Choir 8:45 -Praise Band 9- Ch Choir 9:30 - Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -Adult & Youth Ed 10:45 New Member Class 1- College Bible Study | 21 10- Food Pantry 12- Cash 7- Session | 22 8:30am - Yoga 10 Trust Group 12- Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA | 23 10-Food Pantry 12 -Bible Study 4- CSI/EC 6:Lenten Meal 7 Lenten Service 7:30 - Chancel Choir | 24 8:30 - Yoga 12- Cash 6:30 - AA 7- Men's Bible Study | 25 10 - Food Pantry 5:15 - AA | 26 8am - Men's Breakfast 8-AA |
| 27 8- Bell Choir 8:45 - Praise Band 9- Ch Choir 9:30 Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -Adult & Youth Ed 10:45 - New Member Class 1- College Bible Study | 28 10- Food Pantry 12-Cash | 29 8:30 - Yoga 12- Cash 5:30 - Youth Choir 6:30 -AA | 30 10-Food Pantry 12 -Bible Study 4- CSI/EC 6-Lenten Meal 7 Lenten Service 7:30 - Chancel Choir | 31 8:30 - Yoga 12- Cash 6:30 - AA 7- Men's Bible Study | College Bible Study/Manse Sundays @1pm | CSI Christian Searching Issues Wednesdays @ 4 EC Campus Center |
| | | | | | | |

THE PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE OF MINISTRY AT NORTH CHURCH (AN OCCASIONAL SERIES)
The Congregational Care Fund and the Personal Needs Fund

Rev. Gary Chorpenning
northprespastor@stny.rr.com

In Acts 4, toward the end of the chapter, we read about how the early Christians pooled their resources and created a fund of money. They used that money, then, to help their brothers and sisters who were experiencing some serious need.

We live in a world of uncertainty and unexpected developments. Even with the best of intentions, people's plans and preparations can prove to be inadequate to the circumstances of their lives. The people of God should always be prepared and eager to rise to the aid of those in need in ways that are stewardly, generous, and appropriate to the situation.

A little over a year ago, the session of North Church decided to follow the example of our first century Christian brothers and sisters and create what we now call our Congregational Care Fund. The fund is administered by the pastor (*me*) and the moderator of the board of deacons (*currently, Audrey Vanderhoff*), under the financial oversight of the church treasurer (*currently, Larry Campbell*). During the past year and a half or so, the fund has provided several thousand dollars of help to a number of families and individuals within the North Church family. Though all of the recipients have been reluctant to accept the help, all have been very grateful to receive it.

Many members have contributed to the fund. Some do so on a regular basis. The fund currently has a bit over \$4,000 in it.

You may be wondering what the difference is between this Congregational Care Fund (CCF) and our other longer-standing financial assistance fund, the Personal Needs Fund

(PNF). While the nature of the two funds is similar, their target and scope are not.



The CCF is designed to help individuals and families what are part of the North Church family, people who are members or active participants in the life of the North Church congregation. Because of that relationship, we are able to use the fund to address rather large financial needs.

The PNF is designed to respond to the needs of people from the community who have had little or no previous involvement in the life of the North Church family. Because of that lack of an on-going relationship with the recipients, the PNF limits its aid to a once-a-year grant of \$25. These grants are never in cash and are generally for such things as emergency travel expenses and such small-scale needs that are not provided for by other social service agencies. Often North Church's \$25 is combined by the recipients with similar small-scale grants from other churches and agencies to address larger needs.

The PNF is currently administered by Becky Kowulich and Linda Palmer with funding from and the oversight of the Mission Committee. Referrals to Linda and Becky usually come from the church secretary, the North Church Food Pantry staff, or me.

In his first letter, the apostle John wrote this: "Little children, let us love not with word and tongue but in deed and truth." (1 John 3:18) These two funds are part of North Church's effort to follow the apostle's instructions. They are intended to be love in action – God's love put into action through the people and ministry

of North Church. If you'd like to know more about these ministries, feel free to talk to Audrey, Becky, Linda, or me about the CCF or the PNF. If you'd like to support these ministry funds, you can put a check in the offering plate and mark the memo line: "Congregational Care Fund" or "Personal Needs Fund." Or you can put cash in an envelope with the name of the fund written on the outside of the envelope.

✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

From the North Church mission statement:

We will build up the community around us, becoming "hope at work."

In a sense, the church of Jesus Christ exists for the sake of those people who do not yet belong. God's love and grace, showered freely upon us, invite from us a response toward God as well as toward our neighbors. We will be a church moving evermore away from self-concern and evermore toward concern for those outside our doors. We will continue to shift our focus from congregation building to kingdom building, from programs to people. We will, with God's help, raise our level of compassion for our community and our world. We will deepen our understanding of the social, economic, and moral issues of our time. We will stretch ourselves to become fully aware of issues of race, poverty, mental illness and family stressors in our community. And then we will strengthen our work to meet the needs of our community and our world as God leads us, whether those needs be spiritual or physical or social, whether the needs be found in community relations or family relations or in the personal struggles of individuals. We will be reconcilers, peacemakers. We believe that the gospel will change our community, not by the

imposition of our viewpoint upon people, but by inviting people to come and see who Jesus is, and what he can do. Our vision is, through the power and grace of God, to make North Presbyterian Church a point of hope, a place of peace, a house of healing for all people in our community.



**Every Wednesday
12:00 to 1:00 P.M.
in the Brisbane (Coffee Hour) Room**

Midweek Bible Study Led by Pastor Gary

There are usually about six or seven of us, so there's plenty of room for more.

Just beginning to study our way through Paul's letter to the Galatians.

Bring your lunch if you like.

No special expertise required.

Can't come every week? No problem, come when you can.



By Ericka Hachmeister
College Minister



College Ministry

A CCO Ministry at Elmira College

Making Disciples ~ Making a Difference

It Could Change Everything...

This March Northstar is usually a difficult one to write, because two days from the time of it's writing and one day before it's mass duplication, I will venture south to Pittsburgh, PA with a group of students as I do every year for the Jubilee Conference. All of my focus is absorbed by the pending Jubilee Conference. Since my focus is on Jubilee, I have opted to use this newsletter to share the pending experience... next month you will get to hear from students and elders who were able to take advantage of the conference.

This years Jubilee slogan is "It Could Change Everything."

Everything.

That's what God made. That's what God cares about. That's what Jesus reconciled through His blood on the cross. That's what Gad calls us—as followers of Jesus, enlivened by the Holy spirit—to engage for His Kingdom's sake.

It's audacious to claim that a conference could change all that, all that **everything**. And though we may lean toward audacity from time to time, we know it is not this weekend that could change **everything**. But the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the promise that His sacrifice make possible the redemption and restoration of the whole world—nothing is more audacious than that.

That's a truth that will change—well *everything!*

Certainly, I hope that this weekend will change students, too. I hope that at Jubilee, God will expose them to new ideas, new passions, new callings and meaning for their life. I'm praying that they will be transformed into a change agent for God's Kingdom. After all, the whole story of the bible points us to God's work of changing a broken world back into the perfectly aligned and thriving creation He originally intended. While we know that Jesus will be the ultimate restorer, as bearers of His image and members of His body, He invites us into the family business—to create signposts in our pieces of the **everything** that will point toward their ultimate restoration.

This conference has been designed to introduce students to people who are seeking to live their lives as those signposts. The hope is that in hearing from them, and from one another as students process what they are hearing, they will understand more deeply their place in the larger work that Christ is doing in the world. I hope that they will hear things that excite them, that challenge them, that confuse them, and that inspire them. Most of all, I hope this weekend isn't just a weekend for them, but rather a signpost on their journey—the journey of a life animated by Jesus' love and grace in order to reflect the love and grace of Jesus in all they do.

It could change **everything**.

Dates for the Winter:

- College Bible Study: When: Sunday's @ 1:00pm, Topic: The Sermon on the Mount, Where: The Manse.
- Christians Searching Issues: When: Wednesday's @ 4:00pm, What: Being a Good Samaritan, Where: EC campus center.
- Women's Backpacking Trip: When: Sun, April 17—Sun, April 24, Where: Cumberland Island, GA, What: backpacking, reading, reflection, and play!

A Transformative Opportunity

Spring Break
College Women's Backpacking Trip
Cumberland Island, GA
Dates: April 17th—24th

Challenge * Grow * Play * Connect

A transformative opportunity is defined as favorable conditions for complete change for the better. Often times our daily lives do not produce favorable conditions for anything beyond simple survival. With growing work loads, mind-numbing entertainment, and countless electronic distractions filling our days, we can become stuck or stalled in our life... and our faith.

I believe creating transformative opportunities for students to have encounters—whether with self, others, creation, or God (all of which *are* God's). The Jubilee conference is a transformative opportunity that challenges students intellectually with theology, world-view, and calling. This April I will take a group of ten women students into the island wilderness for a physical challenge which will require them to leave their physical distractions behind and encounter their loneliness, hostility, and delusion and learn how God can move us from loneliness to solitude, from hostility to hospitality, and from delusion to prayer. It is my hope that students will find themselves in favorable conditions for complete change for the better.

Great, Ericka is taking students backpacking... now what? PRAY! The trip is not yet filled, pray that God will connect me and this trip to students that need it. SUPPORT! The total cost of this trip for each students is \$370. I don't believe that money should ever be the reason a student can not participate in a transformative opportunity. Watch out for opportunities to support this trip or simply contact me if you would like to sponsor a student!

A Message on Education and Discipleship From the Adult Ed. Committee

ADULT ED. SUNDAY SCHOOL

March 13th – Intergenerational Sunday School Activity

We will once again provide a time for children and adults of all ages to gather immediately after worship and spend some 'family' time together. We will prepare a special hands-on Lenten activity to promote fellowship and reflection. This activity will take the place of typical Sunday School activities and is open to the ENTIRE church family.

March 20st – An Update on Denominational Issues

In light of recent questions raised in the Congregational meeting, discussions from the current Adult Sunday School class, the ongoing membership class, and upcoming Presbytery votes it has been suggested that we provide a time for us to come together for an update on Denominational issues. We will plan on providing a summary of current issues and highlight ways in which you can inform yourselves, and each other. This is single session devoted to providing you with updated information.

March 27th – June 12th - New Adult Sunday School Classes Begin

Class #1 – What Presbyterians Believe – This is a follow-up to the current class on the Confessions of our Faith. Participants will learn what theology is, why it is important, and find out more about the systematic theology of our reformed Fathers and our Denomination. We will also explore, as time and discussion allow, how Presbyterian beliefs may differ from other denominations around us.

Class #2 – Building Communities of Faith – This class will focus on the foundational issues of what it means to be a community of faith. We will explore the role of small groups, what support ministries are available, our use of gifts, and possible caring models. We hope that each participant will walk away with a better understanding of God's purposes for our church family, a better awareness of our own unique role, and a desire to become more active in supporting one another.

UPCOMING SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES:

We will be looking for interested study facilitators. For those of you who noted an interest on the recent membership directory questionnaire we will be contacting you shortly to see what and when you may be willing to lead a class. If you have a topic to suggest or would like to facilitate a class please see Adam or Mary Ruth.

Adult Education Committee:

Do you have an interest in guiding the adult education opportunities here at North Pres?

Do you have an interest in facilitating a class?

We are looking for persons who have a heart to equip the congregation, encourage others in their spiritual growth, and have a conviction to fulfill our Mission & Vision Statement. We meet every 1-2 months. Please see Adam or Mary Ruth if you would like to help.

WATCH THE NORTHSTAR, BULLETINS, AND WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



LENT

Please Join Us
Wednesday Evenings Throughout
the Season of Lent

Soup Suppers at 6:00pm
Worship Services at 7:00pm

These events will begin on
Ash Wednesday, March 9th

If you would like to help with the Soup Suppers,
see Noel Weigel or sign up at the Welcome
Center in the Narthex. Thank You!

Recommended reading March 2011

I'm Fine With God... It's Christians I can't Stand by Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz

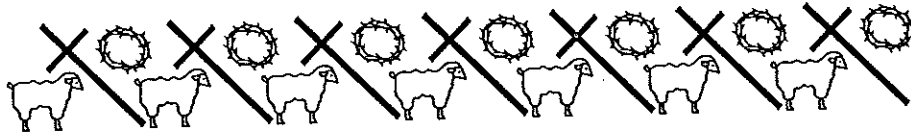
This book won't be for everyone. The authors put down people who act certain ways and if you happen to fall into one of their categories, you may be upset. However, if you are looking for areas of your life to improve how you portray the life of Jesus, this book can be for you.

The authors make their points in an amusing introduction, pointing out the foibles of famous Christians that most people agree with. Then they go on to explain why each point bothers them and what they propose as a solution for the following chapters.

Their main argument is that Christians, instead of gathering people to Christ, are scaring people away for various reasons, either on purpose or accidently. What are we doing to change that? Why is America shifting away from a nation of prayer in school and God in our government? What can we do about it? These questions are ultimately addressed in this book, in sometimes funny, sometimes scathing comments from this duo who aren't afraid to point out our failings.

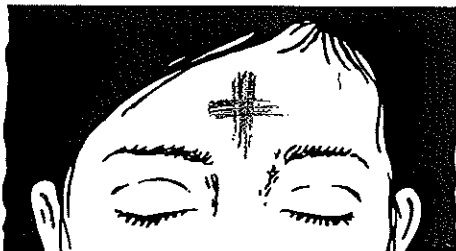
In all of their fault finding, it seems ironic to me that one of their highlighted sayings is "Some Christians find fault as if a reward is being offered for it." But that is one of the points, they are trying to convey, none of us is above ridicule.

This book is available in the Church Library.



Men's Breakfast (March)

The March monthly Men's breakfast will be held Saturday March 26th - Start at 8:00 a.m. - out by - 9:00. The kitchen crew is cooking up the best breakfast and fellowship in town. Jeff Richards will update us on plans for the NPC veggie garden. Come and find out what is growing at the NPC garden and the latest chatter around the church.



Ash Wednesday

March 9



Lenten Services

**Wednesday March 16, 23, 30,
April 6, 13**

A View from the Pew:

Squishy Again

Some words in the English language are downright squishy. One supposes the precise meaning of a given word is in hand and then *voila*, the word has squished into an unfamiliar morph. It rattles the mind, embarrasses the face, and causes one to wonder when in history the morph was spun off.

Take for example the word “again”. It has been around since the 13th century. One would think we should have it well in hand. Of course “again” usually means something like a do over – “Play it again Sam.”

But there is that line in most of the early translations of the Apostles’ Creed, “He rose AGAIN from the dead.” It rocks the head and boggles the mind for what in the world is “again” doing there? It all has to do with the Apostles’ Creed and its historical time travel. Its written form dates to the fourth century. But it goes back farther. Tradition has it that each of the Apostles contributed a line as indicated by 12 numbered lines in Roman Catholic editions. Like many early documents of the church, it was passed down in oral form until its written appearance. At this point English was still locked in the genetic code of some forefather.

In about the fourteenth century the creed found itself in an English format. But, the English then was a bit different from today. “Again” was inserted for a very good reason. It was used to call one’s attention to a preceding fact.

“He descended into hell; the third day he rose ‘again’ from the dead; He ascended into heaven.”

The ancient English had the meaning of – in contrast to – He rose again, as compared to being with the dead.

There are numerous words of the squishy type, especially if one searches the King James’ Bible (Authorized Version of 1611). Well, it’s not really the 1611 edition one buys today, but a fourth revision surfacing about the time of George Washington; however, it retains all the squishy words of its now unavailable predecessor.

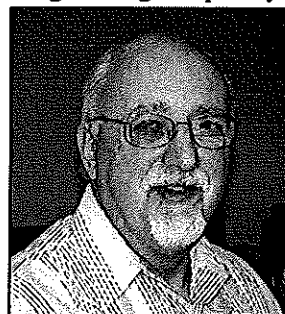
The passage of time and the influence of social groups nudge word meaning to and fro. This can affect our understanding. This explains why pastors spend so much time in Seminary learning the ancient languages, the history of the faith, and how to understand all this squishy material.

It would be great if we could leave the squishy stuff with “again” but sadly that isn’t the case. Again (do over) in March we will send our pastor and a commissioner to Presbytery to vote their conscious on, among other things, the removal of the “fidelity and chastity” clause in ordination requirements. This is a potentially major change as to how one views Scripture and the mores of our Presbyterian community. The voting results will be combined with all the other Presbyteries and a final result will be available in June.

In the ancient world (and that of not so long ago) church life was the main focus of social life. Even though potentially incomprehensible to some, the vote may cause a few of us to be a bit more focused on what is happening within our denomination and our fellowship. Things can get squishy.

Come Sunday, again pay attention for the squish moments and stay tuned, for whatever. We are Christ’s body of believers, and He is in control.

See Ya’ Sunday
Barry L. Colyer
bcolyer@stny.rr.com
March 2011





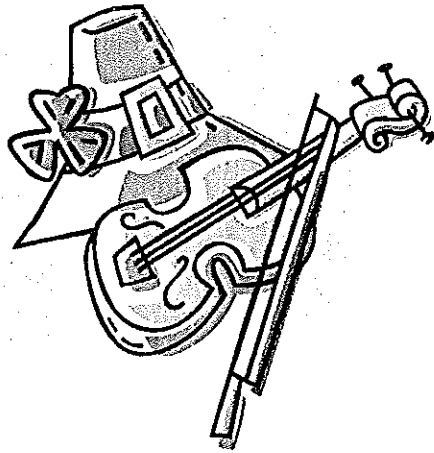
NPC YOUTH ARE BOUND FOR
KINGDOM BOUND
IN 2011

The Board of Youth Ministries is **excited** to announce that plans are being made to provide our youth with the opportunity to participate in the annual Kingdom Bound Festival, a four day, family Christian music festival held at Darien Lake theme park which presents the Gospel through the Arts in a friendly, caring and encouraging way. The festival begins on Sunday, July 31 and continues through Wednesday night, August 3, offering over 45 national and local artists, extreme sports demonstrations and practical and challenging seminars.

The trip includes 4 nights of camping (Sunday through Wednesday) and 4 days of unlimited rides in the Park as well as cooking and sharing meals together, daily devotional time, and evening “wrap-up” around the camp fire. We are opening the trip to youth in (entering) 6th grade through 12th grade, including any who graduate in June. Younger children are welcome to attend but must be accompanied by a parent.

A brief informational meeting for youth and parents will take place immediately following worship (during fellowship time) on Sunday, March 6th in the Library.

“Kingdom Bound Ministries Inc. exists to present the gospel through a variety of art forms including concerts, outreaches and an annual performing arts festival; to bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and to encourage believers in their walk with God.”



Corned beef & cabbage dinner...

Saturday, March 12, 2011

4:30-6:30 p.m.

(or until sold out)

\$7 each (age 10 and under \$5 each)

Take-out available

North Presbyterian Church

921 College Avenue, Elmira, NY

607.734.2977 for information

Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, applesauce,
rolls & butter, dessert, beverage

My sincerest thanks to all of you at North Pres for my wonderful Christmas card shower and for spending your precious holiday time to make the trip to Horseheads. The poinsettia was beautiful and lasted several weeks!

May good health and all things good be yours in this New Year.

God's blessings to you all
Diane Green



The Food Pantry thanks everyone who supported the Crop Walk last fall. We have just received a check from the local Crop Walk organizers for \$288.75. Also a big thank you for the wonderful Souper Bowl collection of \$400.63. Your donations help to keep our shelves full and allow the Pantry to continue our service to the community.



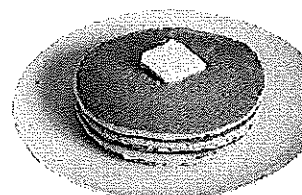
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST -- 8AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

All men of the church are invited to a fellowship breakfast. Meet at North Church for good food, good conversation, great fellowship. BRING A FRIEND

Guest Speaker - Jeff Richards

"How our garden will grow"



Notes from the Stated Session Meeting of January 17, 2011

Pastor Gary Chorpensing led in opening prayer.

The financial report for December 2010 and year-to-date was reviewed and received.

A four-point proposal for a balanced budget, year-round stewardship, wills emphasis and capital expenditures plan was reviewed and approved.

The proposed budget for 2011 was reviewed and received.

A recommendation from Trustees to purchase of one or more automated electronic defibrillators (AED) was discussed.

The proposed street sign project will now be managed by Trustees.

A letter from Faith Chorpensing outlining an opportunity for a short-term mission trip was presented. Faith will travel to the Dominican Republic the week of March 5 – 12 for mission work in villages of Haitian immigrants.

February 13th is set as the date for the installation and ordination of new Session, Trustee and Deacon members.

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of December 20th, 2010 were reviewed and approved.

Statistics:

Sacraments of the Lord's Supper was served on Sunday, January 2nd, 2010

Baptisms: 0

Weddings: 0

Deaths: Gerald Patno, 1/17/2011

A "Survey of the Beliefs, Attitudes and Practices of the Congregation of North Presbyterian Church" will be placed in the pews for the next few weeks.

The annual "Souper Bowl" collection will be conducted on February 6th. All proceeds go to the food pantry

A new member's class will start next month.

Adjourned with prayer led by Reverend Chorpensing.





Cosmo and his new owner, Kathleen

COSMO GRADUATED!

Cosmo, the last of the 4 dogs I raised for Canine Companions for Independence, graduated from his training program on February 12. He was placed as a service dog for Kathleen, a woman who sustained an injury that left her a paraplegic. Cosmo is now living with Kathleen and her husband in Maryland and is providing help in opening doors, turning on and off light switches, retrieving dropped items, pulling her wheelchair and giving her lots of dog love and companionship. Thanks to all of you who helped Cosmo on his journey to become a service dog by giving him so many opportunities for socialization here at North.

Meg Chorpensing

WHAT IS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING?

Sixty years ago, in response to the devastation of World War II, a Saturday evening nationwide broadcast asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable variety of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast and more than 75,000 churches responded. Since 1949, One Great Hour of Sharing has continued to reach out financially to help people throughout the world to survive from disasters, hunger, lack of adequate housing and other life threatening circumstances.

Within the Presbyterian church programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing have evolved over the last half century along with our understanding of how best to stand with people in their suffering and offer an authentic witness of God's healing love.

Does our support for One Great Hour of Sharing make a difference? It sure does!

Each week during the months of March/April there will be inserts about how individuals have benefited from our generosity and support for One Great Hour of Sharing. Please take the time to read each one to realize its full meaning. Offering envelopes are available in the narthex. We pray that our congregation and friends will help us do our share in giving to this great cause. God Bless!

***“Sharing Resources
Changing Lives”***



A Sharing Calendar

It's remarkable what your gift will do.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Monday

Dehydration caused by diarrhea kills 2 million children a year. Oral rehydration therapy for 11 children costs \$10. Give one unit for each child precious to your heart.

Tuesday

400,000 Chicago residents live in areas with no or very distant grocery stores, predisposing children to obesity and Type 2 diabetes. Give one unit if you have access to a grocery store.

Wednesday

Child labor is a fact of life for children in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Ghana, and Mexico. Give one unit for every unemployed person you know.

Thursday

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good (Ps. 122:1-9). Give two units in honor of your congregation.

Friday

The leading cause of preventable childhood blindness, Vitamin A deficiency, affects 190 million preschool-age children. Give one unit if you had your eyes checked in the last year.

Saturday

About 17.5 million children under the age of 18 have lost one or both parents to AIDS. Give one unit for each of your parents who is alive now or was alive when you turned 18.

Sunday

1.3 million babies die every year because they are not properly breastfed. Give one unit for each time you have eaten today.

The 2010 earthquake that rocked Haiti left more than 1 million people in need of shelter. Give one unit for each home you've lived in throughout your life.

The Haitian earthquake killed at least 230,000 people. Give one unit for each blessing that provides you a strong foundation in times of trouble.

For the cost of a 55" HDTV, a disaster survivor can be trained in a construction trade, helping rebuild the community plus earning a livelihood. Give one unit for each TV in your home.

God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7b). Give one unit for each thing that made you laugh today.

Emergency preparedness training and shelter upgrades help communities through typhoon and flooding disasters. Give one unit for each time you have been awed by creation this week.

Damage to local food stocks and infrastructure meant Chilean families affected by the 2010 earthquake lost access to adequate food for 3 months. Give one unit for each snack you ate today.

For the cost of a CD, three disaster survivors can each receive a blanket providing shelter, privacy, and a way to carry belongings. Give one unit for each 10 CDs you own.

1.1 billion people in the world still rely on unsafe sources of drinking water. Give one unit for each glass of water you drank today.

About 2.5 billion people lack adequate sanitation facilities. About 1 in 4 people in developing countries have no plumbing. Give one unit for each bathroom in your home.

About 14 million adolescent girls become mothers every year. More than 90 percent of these very young mothers live in developing countries. Give two units in sorrow for lost childhoods.

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Ps. 63:1) Give one unit as an "Amen."

Educating girls affects not only their but their children's survivability, health, and productivity. Gender gaps in school attendance have closed in many foreign countries. Give one unit in thanks.

Education can break the cycle of poverty. Yet 46 million primary school-age children are out of school in sub-Saharan Africa. Give one unit if you have an elementary school education.

Every school day, about 7,000 U.S. students drop out of school. Only 70 percent of entering high school freshmen graduate each year. Give one unit to honor a teacher important in your life.

Worldwide, one billion people, about 1 in 7, are chronically hungry. Give four units to help.

Without the right nutrition in the first two years of life, a child's physical and mental development is compromised irreversibly. Give one unit for your favorite fresh food item.

Children who experience hunger have higher levels of chronic illness, anxiety, depression, and behavior problems than children with don't. Give two units if being hungry made you irritable this week.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice (Phil. 4:4). Give one unit for each person, experience, thought, or blessing today that brought you joy.

A child dies every 5 seconds from hunger. That is like more than 23 elementary schools being wiped out each day. Give one unit for each child in your family who ate a school lunch this week.

Nearly one in four children in the U.S. is at risk for hunger. Give two units if you remember feeling hungry as a child or teenager.

Poor nutrition and calorie deficiencies cause nearly one in three people to die prematurely or have disabilities. Give two units for each vegetable you ate this week.

Both urgency and joy pervade the work of One Great Hour of Sharing. The calendar above highlights some of the challenging situations we address when extending care to God's people in the U.S. and around the world. Each day suggests a donation of coins. Your household can decide what coin is best for your situation each day.

"I know without a shadow of a doubt what God has done for me; I get pleasure from being able to bless others." —Yvonne Douglas, OGH's contributor

"Giving just feeds my soul; this is what life is about—not collecting things, but helping people." —Frederick Schmidt, OGH's contributor

Sources: Church World Service, Bread for the World, Children's Defense Fund, UNICEF (United Nation's Children's Fund), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Food Programme, World Health Organization, American Red Cross, the U.S. Census Bureau.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LILY FUND


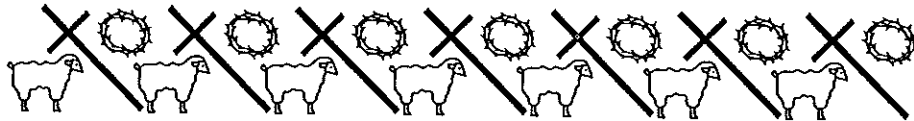
May be given in Loving Memory or in Honor of a relative or friend. (Deadline April 17)

In Loving Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

Please enclose a check made out to NPC.



Flower Delivery for March
6 Dave Ostrander
13 Jim Mosher
20 Cathy Campbell
27 Dick and Marge Schornstheimer

A decorative border featuring stylized flowers and leaves, with a central floral arrangement and smaller flowers scattered around the text.

THE JOSEPH AND ARMELLE MEYER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

DEADLINE JUNE 30, 2011

The Meyer Scholarship Fund, administered by North Presbyterian Church, has been established to help needy and worthy students further their education. The Scholarship may be used at any nationally accredited post-high school or post-graduate institution. The Scholarship will consist of a one-year grant to be awarded annually in a number and amount to be determined by The Scholarship Committee.

The Scholarship Committee believes that the Meyer Fund allows North Church an opportunity to be unique in the world of academic scholarships. While the typical academic scholarship focuses primarily on scholastic achievement measured by grades. The Meyer Scholarship Fund is designed with the understanding that applicants have spiritual as well as academic experiences. In short, The Meyer Scholarship will recognize the applicant's Christian experience, their journey of faith. Thus the criteria to be used in making awards will consist of the following: the applicant's Christian experience, financial need, past academic achievement, the applicant's goals and aspirations, the applicant's activities and life experiences. A personal interview or personal references may be requested.



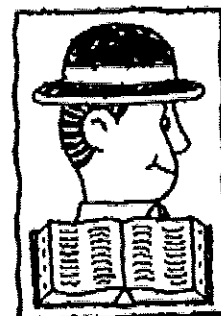
Thursday Night Men's Bible Study

The Thursday night Men's Bible Study will continue study in I Samuel led by Tom Knight. Starts at 7:00 P.M. out by 8:30. Coffee is hot, munchies available and the conversation insures smiles abound. Come on over and find out if Saul would have made a great defensive end?



World Day
of Prayer

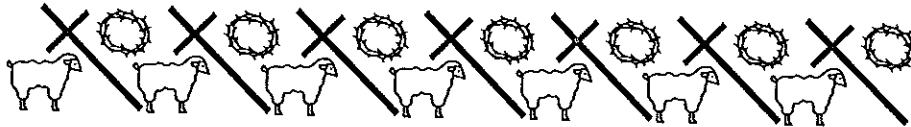
March 4



Bible
Study
for
Men

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|----------------------------------|
| 2 | Lindsay Batrowny Gary Mosher Stacia Kruckow | 12 | Angelique Duryea |
| 3 | Alan Russell | 13 | Joseph Kowulich |
| 4 | Lyle Motley | 19 | Becky Rogers Piper Ann Duryea |
| 5 | J.R. Bobby Edward Patno Brian Tebin | 24 | Leister Shirk Tessa Hoskins |
| 7 | Deborah Stamp Gloria Dildine | 25 | Joseph DiCinti |
| 8 | Elizabeth Wilson | 26 | Debra Weigel |
| 9 | Nicole Mosher | 28 | Paige Duryea |
| 10 | John White | 30 | Edward Wilson Dave Ostrander |
| 11 | Sylvia Tuller Ethel Keranen Jason Hendershot | 31 | Christine Miller David Stamp |



DEACONS VISITATION LIST FOR MARCH

MARCH 6

Fredrick Box
Woodbrook
1250 Maple Ave
Elmira NY 14904

MARCH 20

Gary Doolittle
Bartons Rest Home
301 Grove Street
Elmira NY 14905



MARCH 13

Margaret Carney
Elcor #9 Maple Creek
48 Colonial Drive
Horseheads NY 14845

MARCH 27

Theresa DeZee
Appleridge C405
3005 Watkins Road
Horseheads NY 14845

MARCH PRAYER FAMILIES

MARCH 6

David & Joanne Dalrymple
...Henry, Matthew
Anne Dennington
Peg Densberger
Rita Dery
Theresa Dezee

MARCH 20

Barbara Duryea
Kurtis & Angelique Duryea
...Joseph, Piper Ann
Emily Edmunds
Marilyn & Harry Edwards
Bob & Susan Emanuel
....Meghan, Matthew

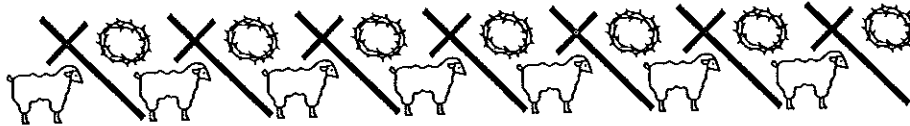


MARCH 13

Joe & Sandy DiCinti
...Grace
Gloria Dildine
Theresa Donovan
...Kayla, Chloe
Gary Doolittle
Robert & Patricia Drake
...Rebeka, Christopher

MARCH 27

Doris Ernest
Sharon Evans
Harry & Barbara Fitzsimmons
...Allison , Gregory
Bruce & Jean Flaherty



**Canned Peas/and or Carrots
Pork 'n' Beans**

Forgiveness BRACELET

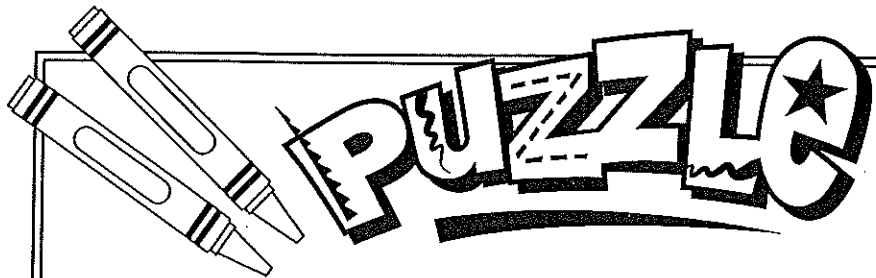
Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins, and he tells us to forgive other people, too. Make and wear this craft as a reminder that you are forgiven — and should be forgiving.

What you need:

- Clear plastic bottle (about 16 oz.)
- An adult to help
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Permanent black marker
- Glue or clear tape
- Thin ribbon or yarn
- Small hole punch

What you do:

1. Remove any label from the bottle. Have an adult help you cut the bottle in half, width-wise. At the middle, cut out two identical half-inch-wide strips.
2. Cut out paper the same size as the plastic strips.
3. On the paper, write "Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (Luke 6:37, NIV).
4. Place the paper between the two plastic strips.
5. Cut and glue the ribbon or yarn to run along the top and bottom of the verse, framing the words.
6. Punch a hole at each end, through all three layers.
7. Tie the bracelet to your wrist with ribbon or yarn.

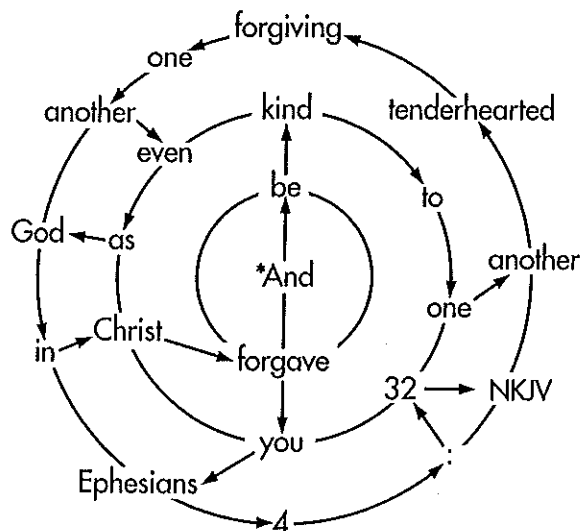


WHY FORGIVE?



This Bible verse teaches an important lesson about how we should treat others — and why.

Directions: Start with the asterisk in the center circle and follow the arrows. Write the words in order on the blanks below.



"And _____ ,
 _____ , _____
 _____ , _____
 _____ ."

Answers: And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32, NKJV