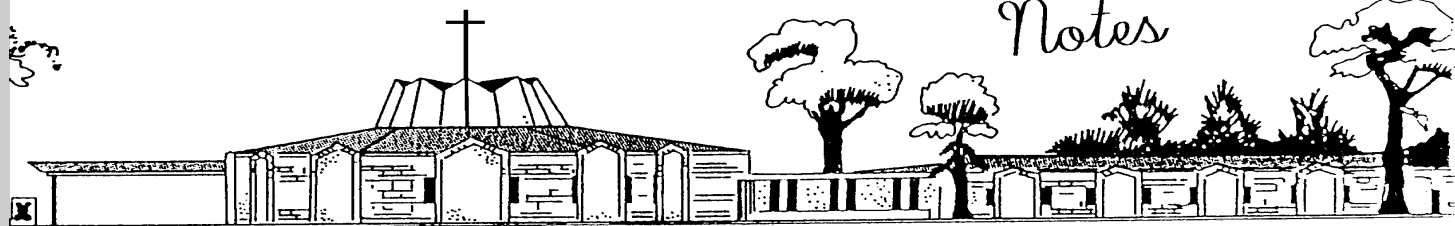


Northwood Christian Church



5050 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77708
Phone: (409) 892-3404

Sunday Services:
Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:50 a.m.

VOLUME 29, Number 19

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

September 22, 2004

NOTE FROM DON

I just want say "thank you" to all of you who were involved in Linda and my 25th anniversary celebration. I appreciate all the kind words, nice gifts, and wonderful cards that surrounded this past Sunday night. It was a wonderful evening and we will never forget it.

25 years is a long time. I still remember 20 minutes before the ceremony, I ate two large Schlotzky's sandwiches (It's funny what you remember). I also remember that while we were in college, many looked to us as the a couple that they would want to model their marriage after. And I remember vividly that there were times when I would not have bet a dime that our marriage would make it five years, much less 25. To say that it has been easy would just be a lie. To say that it has been a blessing would be a gross understatement.

But as a young couple it was our love for one another that brought us together, but it has been our commitment to one another that has kept us together. As human beings, we often equate love with how we feel, and that goes up and down or in and out like the tide. The love may be there, but if we don't "feel" it, we don't believe it's there.

Commitment on the other hand is not related to our feelings, although many of us are not sure what that is either. Someone once told me, "It's like when you decide to turn on the lightswitch in a room. It's a decision." A decision that must be made every day. The same is true in our walk with Christ. There are times when we don't "feel" his love or we may even question His existence. But it doesn't mean He isn't there, or He doesn't love us. It is our commitment that gets us through those difficult times. His love may envelop us but for some unknown reason we may not feel it. Christ himself shouted, "My God, why have You forsaken me?!" Commitment is a day to day decision to follow the risen Christ and His teachings, regardless of how we "feel". If I wake up someday and don't feel married, it just doesn't matter because regardless of how I feel...I am married. On August 6th, 1976, I made another commitment, a commitment to follow Christ. That has not always been easy either, but it has been the best decision I ever made. I've been with Linda since 1977 and we've struggled together, laughed together, celebrated together, and cried together. But we celebrated Sunday because of our commitment to Christ and to one another. And I've committed to try not to eat two Schlotzky's sandwiches for dinner or my heart may not make it for another 25 years.

In His Grip, DON

01' McDon's Barn Dance



Don't forget about the barn dance on **September 25th** in the activity center. It will begin @ **8:00 p.m.** and end around **11:00 p.m.** The cost is **\$3** as a single and **\$2** if you bring a date. A student ID is required unless you are with a parent or guardian. Don't forget to dress in:

*Countrree-A-Tire
(Clothes)*

Speak with D.J. if you would like to volunteer to help. We will need lots of hay and maybe even a fiddler or two...

Freewheelers' Lunch



The Freewheelers will be meeting on at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, October 11th for lunch at Spindletop. We hope to see all the Freewheelers there and we hope that they come hungry!

George Pillsbury B-Day Party



We know it's a month in advance, but it's time to start getting ready for George Pillsbury's 80th birthday party! The party will be held October 24th in the activity building from 3:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. We hope to see all of you there!

Pictorial Directory



Remember to sign up for the pictorial directory before you leave church on Sunday! The deadline to sign up has been extended one more week, so make sure to sign up! Our goal is 100% participation and with every family who takes their pictures here at Northwood, we receive credits and discounts towards "activity pages". If you **absolutely** cannot have your pictures taken here at the church on Oct. 5th or 6th, First Christian Church in Beaumont is shooting the pictures for their directory on the 27th and 28th of September. If you have your picture taken there, we can still get it in our directory.

Advent Devotional Booklet

The worship committee is planning to write our own Advent devotional booklet this year. If any of you are willing to contribute to the thoughts for one day, please contact Lora Parker and she will give you the scripture. Basically, the booklet wants to feature what good news means to each of us here at Northwood.

Pastor's Cabinet and Functional Committees



On Wednesday, October 29th, the Pastor's Cabinet will be meeting @ the church at 6:00 p.m. A Functional Committees meeting will follow afterwards, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Change of Address

J.R. Johnson has moved to Collier Park Asst. Living, Rm. #260. His new phone number is 347-0046.

Northwood Christian Church
5050 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77708
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE



Youth Calendar (subject to change)

- **Oct. 2nd** Casa Walk @ Entergy/Edison Plaza. Meet @ Northwood at 7:30 a.m. The walk starts at 8:30 a.m.
- **Oct. 10th** Youth Sunday (tentative date)
- **Oct. 17th** Crop Walk, meet @ Northwood at 2:00 p.m.
- **Oct. 22nd-24th** Service Rally, forms due Oct. 3rd
- **Oct. 26th** Picnic in park changed to upper room decoration & food.

College Group

The college group will be meeting this Thursday in the activity center at 7:00 p.m. If you are a college student and you would like to participate in this group then stop by!

OYC

Northwood's Open Youth Center continues to take place on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. in the activity building. If you are looking to have some fun, after taking care of your homework, then be sure to meet us there!

Random Thought



Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

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