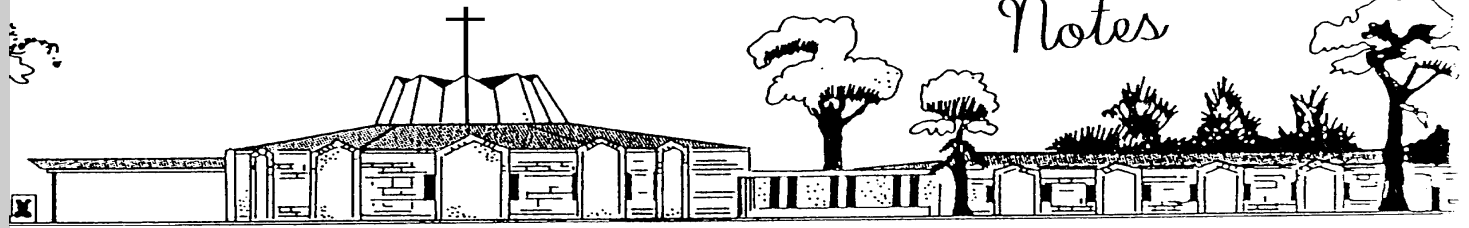


Northwood Christian Church



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 22

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

November 3, 2004

NOTE FROM DON



As I write this, it is Tuesday, November 2nd, election day. At this moment, I have *no idea* who our next President will be. All I know is that I am sick and tired of everyone talking about the election *all* the time. Every time I turn on the news, I'm hearing about the latest polling group, or what needs to happen with these "swing" states. We have so many experts, it makes me think it must be a very easy field to get into. The one thing I've heard more than anything else this year is that I must get out and vote! Because every vote counts.

It must, because everyone from rock stars to baseball players, to the people on the TV shows and movies; have all made quite the point that I need to get out and perform my public duty and cast my ballot. These very same people have said that this is the most important choice I will ever make. It's not that I don't believe them, but I'm thinking I heard the same thing in the 2000 election, and they will probably tell me that again in another four years. I want you to know that I believe choosing the leader of this country is by far one of the most important choices we can ever make, but there are other choices that are even more important still.

In Joshua, we read these words: "... choose this day who we will serve." Ours is a daily choice whether or not to follow the risen Savior. The question of who we will follow is without a doubt one of the greatest choices that we will ever make. That single choice dictates all of our other choices - what we do, where we live, and whom we spend our time with. It's always been hard for me to believe that individuals have chosen to go another direction when they actually know what the truth is.

One of the things that really got me thinking was that God said He chose me before the beginning of creation for salvation (2 Th. 2:13). What a privilege. What an honor. So with all the opportunities we have been given to choose, this opportunity to choose to follow Him dwarfs every other choice I've ever been faced with. The difficult part is realizing what an incredible privilege I've been given, and in the same breath not taking it for granted. The fact that the God of the universe has chosen you to be with Him forever can take your breath away. One thing's for sure, there is not gonna be a run-off in this election ... not for His love. We're the winners by a landslide! See ya Sunday.

In His Grip, **DON**

New Website



Bruce Benson has been hard at work designing Northwood's new website. Be sure to check it out! The URL is www.northwood-christian.org Great job, Bruce!

Upcoming Meetings

- **Wednesday, November 10th:** The Church Board will be meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 13th:** The Elders will be meeting at 10:00 a.m.
- **Monday, November 15th:** CMF will be meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, November 17th:** The CWF Adventure Group will meet at 7:00 p.m.
- **Friday, November 19th:** The CWF Seekers will meet at 10:00 a.m.
- **Wednesday, November 24th:** The Pastors Cabinet will meet at 7:00 p.m. (tentative)



Freewheelers' Lunch

The Freewheelers will be meeting for lunch @ Ryan's Steakhouse at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, November 8th, 2004.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The stewardship program this year concluded a three-week pledge drive in October. Pledges have been both very strong in that we have received new first-time pledges, yet there are families who faithfully pledge every year who have not yet pledged. The program only lasted three weeks this year, so if you are a family who normally pledges, we need your pledge for 2005. To date, we have received approximately \$50,000 in pledges, but need \$78,000. Please consider pledging this Sunday as we must prepare the budget for the board review on Wednesday, November 10. Thank you.

The Stewardship Committee

Thanksgiving



Don't forget that Thanksgiving is just around the corner! On November 25th, we will be sharing our friendship and love with our families and friends, along with some turkey and dressing!

S.O.P. Thanksgiving Distribution

On Monday, November 22nd, Some Other Place's Thanksgiving Store Set-Up will be taking place. The actual distribution will occur on Tuesday, November 23rd.

Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws Review and Revision Committee has been meeting for the past year. This committee has been chaired by Linn Wallace. The committee has been responsible for reviewing and revising and updating Northwood's constitution and bylaws. The committee presented their revisions to the board where they were unanimously approved. We will vote on this new constitution at our congregational meeting on December 5th. If you would like to come by and review the new constitution *before* the congregational meeting, please drop by the church office where we have several copies of the new constitution for your convenience.

Choir Practice

The choir will meet on Thursday, November 11th and 18th, but they will not be meeting on November 25th (Thanksgiving).

Fellowship Dinner

A Fellowship Dinner will be held after the church service on Sunday, November 21st. Make sure to stick around for some delicious food!

YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE



Winter Retreat



This year's Winter Retreat will be taking place on November 12-14th at Indian Springs Camp Ground. The cost is \$25.00 dollars per youth plus a \$5.00 deposit to ensure your spot, which will go towards your \$25. We will be meeting @ Northwood on Friday, November 12th, at 5:30 p.m. and returning on Sunday, November 14th, in the morning, just in time to make worship. Stop by the office soon if you want to sign up.

OYC

Northwood's Open Youth Center will continue to take place on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Come on by!

College Group

The college group will be meeting every 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 speak to D.J.!

Random Thought



If the #2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still #2?

**Northwood Christian Church
5050 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77708
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