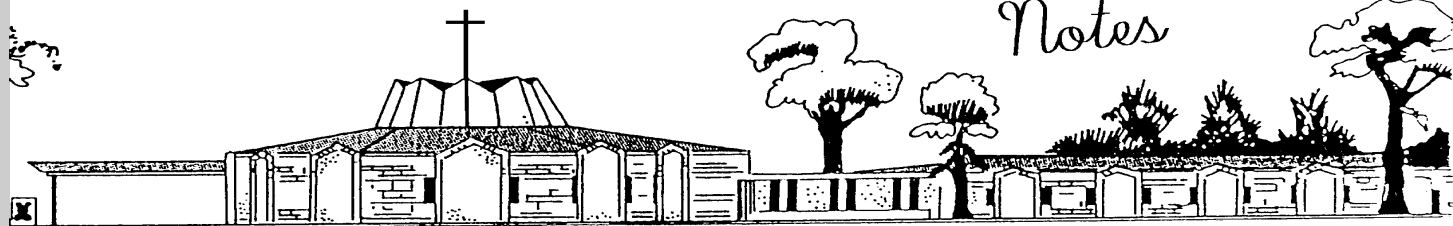


# Northwood Christian Church



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 28

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

January 28, 2005

## NOTE FROM DON



Last week, our family went to Houston to see something I've never seen before, something called the Cirque du Soleil. It took place in several big tents and it was amazing!

The performers had the most incredible costumes I'd never seen. There were acrobats, trapeze artists, and contortionists. There were dancers, jugglers, storytellers, and clowns. They told a beautiful story (all in French of course) and the light show was out of this world. While one group was performing, another was performing in the background, or overhead. One of the things that truly grabbed me was how these performers could do such difficult tricks while just holding on to their partner's hand or a single rope. They did so many amazing things with such precision and grace at incredible heights. They never missed a click and of course why clutter their beautiful stage with a net? They trusted each other and their skills. If they fell, well...I'm sure the show would have gone on. It was an experience of sensory overload!

When we walked out of there, everyone had this look of awe and wonder in their eyes. You could tell we had been to something special. I personally liked it best when the performers did the amazing things they did so very high in the air, I was captivated. And with no net!

I believe there was a time when the church performed without a net. They truly took risks and if things went wrong, you were thrown in jail or had to move to another town. Somewhere along the line we've put in a safety net. We put it in when we say things like, "We won't try that program unless we have the budget" or, "You want to take a mission trip where? To reach out to who? It won't be safe." Now, before anyone gets upset, I know it's not this way all the time and I know, we must ask these questions, but I honestly feel it's good for us to look at these things. But I also realize that our safety net is in the person of Jesus Christ, and it is Him we need to trust. Because just like a loving father, He has stretched out his arms to catch us any time we fall. I believe when we put in those safety nets is when people begin to lose their sense of awe and wonder in the church. I know the church is not here to entertain, but we should still be awe struck when we enter into the presence of the God of the universe. We can walk out of church feeling like we've truly been to something special...where people have to trust each other and where everybody has a role to play and a beautiful story is told (except its in a language we all can understand!)

In His Grip,

*DON*

## Valentine's Day



Don't forget  
that Valentine's  
Day is on  
February 14<sup>th</sup>!  
Go get your

### *CWS World Outreach*

Christian World Services has already sent relief to those effected by the recent tsunami disaster. The dollars you contributed during the week of compassion are hard at work bringing immediate relief to those who are suffering from this terrible tragedy.

### *Upcoming Meetings*

- **Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>- Game Day** will be held @ Northwood.
- **Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>- The Church Board** will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the church.
- **Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>- The Elders** will meet @ Northwood at 10:00 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>- The CWF Adventure Group** will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lanis McWilliams.
- **Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>- The CWF Seekers** will meet @ Northwood at 10:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>- A Fellowship Dinner** will take place after the church service.
- **Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>- The CMF Men's Group** will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the church.
- **Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>- The Cabinet** will meet at 6:00 p.m. followed by the **Functional Committees** meeting at 7:00 p.m. @ Northwood.

## Freewheelers' Lunch

On Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, the **Freewheelers Group** will meet @ **Lone Star** at 11:30 a.m. for lunch.

### *Lent*

Lent starts on February 9<sup>th</sup> on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a season of soul searching and repentance. It is a time for us to do a little reflection on who we are and who we want to be. It is a great time to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming again on Easter. What can we do this Lenten season that will help us draw closer to the risen Christ? What can we do to help us hear what God is saying to us this Lenten season? Only you know that. One thing is for sure, God wants to speak to us, and I hope we *all* have time to listen.

### *Ash Wednesday*

We will have a short **Ash Wednesday** service on **February 9<sup>th</sup>** at **6:00 p.m.** It will be followed by a humble dinner of beans and rice. We hope you will try to attend. The **Board Meeting** will take place after the dinner.

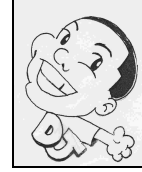
### *Donovan Taylor Acklin*

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, Christy and Matt Acklin once again became parents to a healthy baby boy. Donovan Taylor Acklin weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. and is 20 inches long. Congratulations to Christy, Matt, and Grandma!

### *FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS*

3 *Barbara Horn*  
4 *Torrie Weems*  
6 *Taryn Hebert*  
7 *Harrell Kunkel*  
8 *Matt Acklin*  
15 *Joyce Bordages*  
17 *Scott Boles*  
23 *Oscar Foshee*  
25 *Billie Dunkleberger*  
27 *Darrell Baker*

## **YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE**



### **Mid-Winter Rally**

This year's **Mid-Winter Rally** will take place on February 4-6. For time of departure, call D.J.

### *February Calendar of Events*

4-6: Mid-Winter Rally  
13: Valentine Program  
20: Batting Cage (or) fun event  
27: Yard Clean-up

### *O.Y.C.*

Open Youth Center will be held every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Activity Building.

### **Young Adult Group**

Northwood's Young Adult Group meets in the Activity Building every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Speak with D.J. if you are interested in becoming a part of this group.

### *Random Thought*



Why do ballet dancers always dance on their toes? Wouldn't it be easier to just hire taller dancers?

**Northwood Christian Church**  
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**Beaumont, Texas 77708**  
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