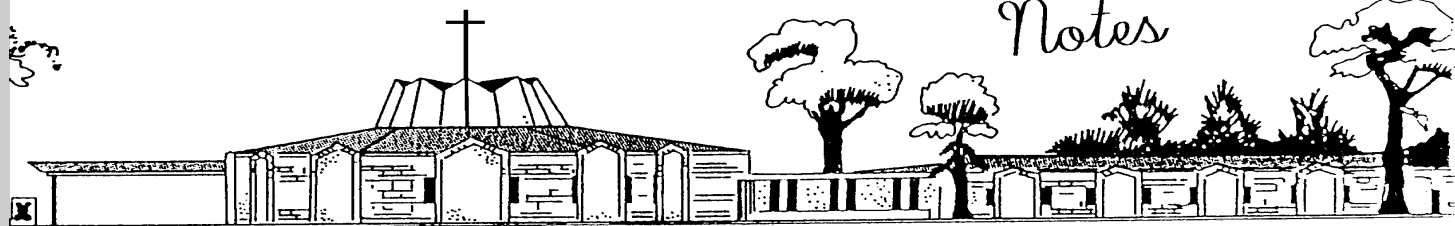


Northwood Christian Church



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 30, Number 7

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

April 13, 2005

NOTE FROM DON

A couple of weeks ago, I was getting out of my car in my driveway, when my next door neighbor Mike drove up and said he had been wanting to talk to me. He then asked me if I had noticed what appeared to be a green cross growing in my lawn. Obviously I hadn't, but as I followed him to the street to look at my front lawn, I saw it. It was huge, perfect in shape and it just seemed to jump out at you with a much darker color of grass growing in the shape of a cross on the day after Easter. I showed it to my daughter Kelsey and she thought it was fantastic, a real God thing. And my wife Linda wanted to get the camera to document such a phenomena. When they asked me what I said to my neighbor, Mike, when he first showed me I said, "I asked him exactly how much fertilizer he had left over from fertilizing his yard, when he made the cross." He told me, "About a bucket." And next year I would get the chalice too, but there just wasn't enough to go around for this year. We all had a great laugh, and at least for this spring my yard will bear the "Mark of the Cross". Tours will be held daily if you would like to come by.

One thing is for sure; my yard does not have to do much to live up to its name as a Christian lawn. It will just sit there. It may get a little long, maybe get a few weeds, but it's not going to offend anybody.

On the other hand, we as believers have much more to be concerned about. Though "most" of us are not wearing our Jesus loves you t-shirts every day. And I don't see many turn or burn bumper stickers in the parking lot on Sunday. How we treat people is definitely the loudest witness we have. The ability to embrace others with a smile. Extend a hand to those less fortunate than yourselves. Take time to speak to people and offer a kind word wherever you go. Stay away from negative conversations and realize you don't have to always be right or have the last word. If we can do these things, people will want to be around us, and want to know what or better yet, "Who" makes us the way we are.

Having a cross-burned on our lawn won't change a thing. Having Christ in our hearts and being Christ-like wherever we go will make a difference. Small things done with great love can change the world. Believers can love and serve the people around them into a relationship with Christ. It's more a conspiracy of kindness than anything else. Like when, a week later, Mike mowed my

lawn because I was just too busy or maybe that was guilt. Hope to see you Sunday. In His Grip, *DON*

We Need Your Help

(A Report from the Stewardship Committee)

The Stewardship Committee would like for you, the congregation, to know the status of the Building Fund, the fund set up to pay off the debt of constructing the Activity Building in 1996. As of 3/31/05, the Building Fund has a balance in A.G. Edwards of \$8,032. That sounds like a lot of money, until you know that on June 30 the church will need \$12,840 to pay the interest of \$840 and principal of \$12,000 on the building note due. The difference in these amounts is \$4,808, which is what we need to raise in the next three months. That is where your help comes in. If you have not paid your pledge for 2005, or if you have never pledged to help pay off this building, please prayerfully consider our request. We need your contributions, both large and small, to pay off this debt. After this payment is made in June, there will only be one more payment due on the building in June 2006, of \$12,000 plus interest. Please consider our request.

Welcome New Members!

We had two families join our church this past Sunday! Coming to us from Lumberton is the Kidd Family: **Zack, Karen, Zack, and Jyles.** **Peter** and **Janet Perkolup** also joined on Sunday. We are so happy that they now call Northwood their church home. Welcome!

New Choral Director

We would like to welcome the very gifted and talented LeAnn Wallace as our new Choir Director. LeAnn and her husband Mark accepted the call to come to Northwood as did their two children Song and Moriah. LeAnn has served as a worship leader at both Cathedral Christian Church and Cathedral Christian School as well as other churches in the area. We are looking forward to seeing how God will use the Wallace family here at Northwood.

Thank You Lora

Lora Parker has stepped down after many years as serving as our Choir Director here at Northwood. Lora has put in endless hours in expanding and improving our music program here at the church. Whether it was a Christmas Cantata, a worship service, or handbells for a wedding, everything Lora did she did with passion and an attitude of excellence. Lora will be stepping down to spend more time with her grandson in Fort Worth and take care of her other child at home, Denny. Lora, you will be missed.

Restocking Some Other Place

Don't forget that April is the month Northwood is in charge of restocking the pantry at Some Other Place. Please bring the following foods each Sunday in April.

April 17: Sugar, Macaroni and Cheese, and Jello

April 24: Canned fruit

First Sunday Worship

We will be starting up an Evening Worship Service that will take place once a month and meet on the first Sunday of each month. The time will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and it will meet in the activity building. We hope to see many of you there.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- **4/13/05:** The Church Board will meet at 7:00 p.m. @ Northwood.
- **4/17/05:** A Fellowship Dinner will be held after the church service.
- **4/27/05:** The Pastor's Cabinet will meet at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Functional Committees meeting at 7:00 p.m.

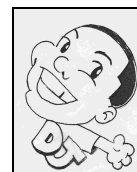
Fundraiser and Dessert This Sunday Night!

An evening of entertainment and desserts is on its way THIS Sunday night! April 17, at 6:30 p.m., Virgilio (D.J.) Davis and LeAnn Wallace will both be performing and the youth will be serving you desserts, as this will be a night you will not soon forget. The cost will be \$10 per person with all proceeds going to underwrite the youth mission trip. We hope to see you there and we hope you bring a friend!

Change of Address

Just to let you know, this is the home address of Bob and Sally Candler, who were visiting us from Brownwood.

*Bob and Sally Candler
100 Tangerine Blvd #25
Brownsville, TX 78521-4346*



Spring Rally

Just to let you know, the youth had a great time at Spring Rally! We would like to thank everyone who made the trip a possibility.

Weekly Youth Activities

Wednesdays: OYC meets at 4:30 p.m. in the Activity Building to hang out and eat snacks. The group has really been growing over the months, so come and get in on the fun!

Thursdays: The College Group meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Activity Building for a Bible lesson. After the lesson the group usually goes to a restaurant for supper. Contact D.J. if you are interested in becoming a part of the group!

Sundays: The Youth Group gets together at 4:00 p.m. in the Activity Building.

Portraits

Don't forget that D.J. is still doing portraits for the Mission Trip fund. If you would like to have a portrait done, please sign up on the sheet in D.J.'s office.

Random Thought



If you have dyslexia and you are cross-eyed can you read okay?

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