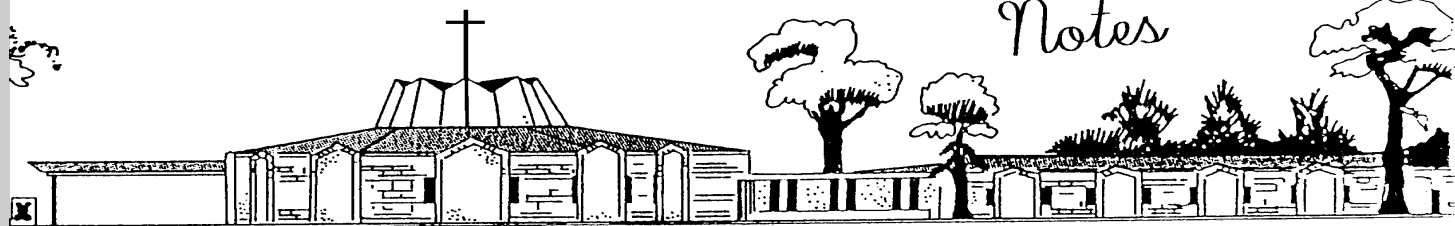


Northwood Christian Church



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 11

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

June 8, 2005

Vacation Bible School

NOTE FROM DON

This past week I did one of the saddest things I've done in a long time. I said goodbye to some of our dearest friends that we have in the city of Beaumont. We've known the Figari family for almost 16 years. They were one of the first families we met when we moved to Beaumont. It was just one of those immediate things where everything fits. We've celebrated births in our families and we've buried dear friends. We've gone through job changes and financial difficulties. We've celebrated as we've watched our children grow and mature both physically and in their faith. When things would get tough for Linda, she would always call her friend Sandy, who so often had just the "right words to say." The Figari family never attended the same church as we did, and they were not officially involved in our young life program. They were just solid Christian friends who we laughed with, loved with, and leaned on. I believe we were the same kind of friends for them. The other night, right before they left, we knew they were busy packing but we went and got a keylime pie and dropped it in to say our good-byes. We spent several hours sitting in lawn chairs watching the fireflies and reminiscing about the last 16 years. Toward the end of the evening we all joined hands and prayed and cried. I know we will see them soon, they are only moving the San Antonio.

I hope we all have friendships that are based on more than the fact that we go to church together or live next door or that our kids are friends. All of these things can change but to base a friendship on our common bond in Jesus Christ that will last. And just like the fireflies lit up the font lawn, a good friend can light up your life. We are called to be real friends to those around us. To take a genuine interest in the people God has placed in our lives. He has put them there for a reason, sometimes so we can be a blessing and sometimes so we can be blessed, and in special cases both can occur. But it doesn't come without some investment on our part. Some sharing, some reaching out and occasionally getting burned.

But often with a little effort and a little risk, you'll find a treasure. One that will change your life. It can happen at 18 or 80, it's never too late. God sends fireflies to bless our evenings and friends to light up our lives. Let's not miss the blessing. See ya Sunday.

In His Grip,

DON

VBS Marketplace is almost here! It will be held on June 21-24 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. in the Activity Building. This is a wonderful time to take the children of the church back in time to see what life was really like in 29 AD. Call Liz Benson at 755-3761 for more information. We hope to see you there! Bring friends!

Youth Dinner

Don't forget about the Youth Dinner on June 12 after church! The auction which was to be held will take place at a later date. All proceeds from this dinner will go towards the youth Mission Trip. We look forward to seeing you there. If you have questions, please contact D.J. or call the church.

Copy Machine

As many of our members know, we are in **desperate** need of a new copy machine. The life expectancy of our current machine has passed and we are now starting to look for a new one. We would like all of you to look sharp for a machine that is affordable and that we could use. Please contact us if you have any suggestions. Thanks!!

CWF/CMF Meetings & Events

- **Wednesday, June 8:** The CWF Executive Board Meeting will take place at 6 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.
- **Wednesday, June 15:** The CWF Adventure Group meets @ the home of Rosalind Dunkleberger at 7 p.m.
- **Friday, June 17:** The CWF Seekers Group meets @ Northwood at 10 a.m.
- **Monday, June 20:** The CMF Group meets @ Northwood at 7 p.m.

Cabinet/Functional Committees

On Wednesday, June 29 the **Pastor's Cabinet** will meet at 6 p.m. followed by the **Functional Committees** meeting at 7 p.m.

Congregational Meeting

YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE

Don't forget about our Congregational Meeting this Sunday to vote on new deacons, elders, and officers. We will meet right after the church service.

Northwood Website

If you are browsing the internet we would love for you to stop by our website: www.northwood-christian.org. Our very own Bruce Benson maintains the site and has updated it recently. You can find pictures from past events and a newsletter section as well. Please stop by and let Bruce know what a great job he is doing!

Article Deadline

If you would like to have an article put in an upcoming newsletter, please make sure that we have received it by Monday afternoon on newsletter weeks. You can get the article to us by e-mail: nwcc@cybersope.net, you can call the office at 892-3404, or you can simply drop it off. Thanks!

June Worship Leaders

June 12: Sara Close

June 19: Clarence Kessler

June 26: Denny Parker

Freewheelers' Lunch

The Freewheelers will be stopping by Frankie's for some Italian cuisine on Monday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m. to get rid of their appetites. Have a great lunch guys!

Fellowship Dinner

We will be having a Fellowship Dinner after the church service on Sunday, June 19 (Father's Day). We'd love for you to stay for some great food and treat all the Northwood dads to a wonderful meal!

Oh Faithful Northwood.

For those of you who did get a chance to read our last newsletter and our plea, we have provided it again this week.

Thank you for all of your support in our mission fundraising efforts. However, our group is still not out of hot water yet. We are in need of 1,000 dollars more to cover our costs. To help in our matters, the youth group would like to have a dinner this Sunday. A silent auction will be held at a later date. Should you have any semi-new or new items that could be donated, we would love it. If you would like to make a monetary donation WE WOULD LOVE THAT EVEN MORE. We look forward to seeing you at our dinner this Sunday right after church. We are going with a Mexican theme, so expect some tasty food. Again, we're counting on you.

NEW ORLEANS MISSION.

This year, the Northwood Christian Church youth group will be working with Youth On Mission in New Orleans. We will be working in an inner city soup kitchen and mowing lawns. We are looking forward to this assignment. Our departure date is July 16 returning on the 22. A week of hard work.

- **Open Youth Center** has changed for the summer. We will begin our OYC day at 12:00 p.m., Wed. or an Announced Scheduled Time. Should you have any questions feel free to call 351-0259 DJ cell!

Random Thought



Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

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