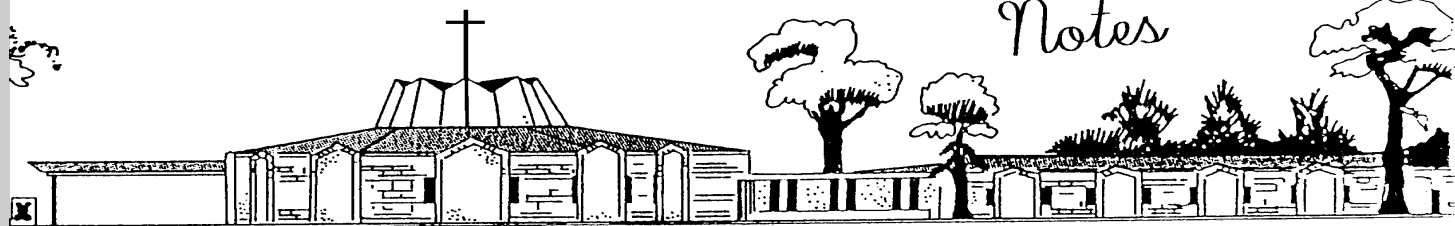


Northwood Christian Church



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

Website: www.northwood-christian.org

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

VOLUME 30, Number 17

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

September 13, 2005

NOTE FROM DON

As everyone probably knows by now, we have 27 evacuees living with us here in our Activities Center at Northwood, sleeping, cooking, showering and just relaxing. They range in age from 67 to 6 months. They've worked as cab drivers and in nursing homes. Some of them speak English better than I do and some hardly at all. Almost all of them immigrated from Haiti to New Orleans and now after Katrina find Beaumont, Texas, their new home (at least for now). Their school-aged children have picked up where they left off and they are now enrolled in public school. The two college girls got started out at Lamar. Everyone has been registered with FEMA and has begun weaving their way through the government's system for victims of Katrina. All the adults are actively looking for employment and planning where they will go after they leave the church. It's a frustrating process that takes time and a lot of patience. There are so many new lessons to learn every day.

I am so proud of our church for stepping up to the plate when called upon. Before our new friends arrived there were those who were more than a little nervous about what we had gotten ourselves into, and that's quite understandable. I was telling one of our guests this very thing, when she told me they were nervous about coming here as well. She said they had discussed that just because you have the name "church" on your building does not mean you will treat others as Christians should. I believe we here at Northwood have acted as people of faith. It is obvious our new friends from Louisiana are men and women of faith as well. Not just in words but in action. Bernard, the man who first contacted me, said he "believed God would use this incredible disaster to bring blessings into people's lives; just look at Job, it may take years to see how God has worked but it will be a good thing."

We entered into this relationship excited yet tentative with the mind set we will do whatever we can to help. And maybe we can be a blessing. I hope by now it is clear that YES we can help, but we are the ones that are going to be blessed. I wish everyone in the city could have seen this group of people who have been driven from their homes and lost everything. They came to church last Sunday and sang all three verses of Blessed Assurance in French. No one understood the words they spoke, but their heart and their spirit, THAT we understood. Verse 3 of Blessed Assurance says this, "Perfect submission all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blessed; watching and waiting, looking above; filled with His goodness, Lost in His Love."

Our new friends in this world's eyes have lost everything yet... we know they have it all. There are lessons to be learned; I hope we're good students.

In His grip, DON

GENEROSITY SO APPRECIATED

Heartfelt thanks to all the folks who have given so much to help with the needs of those that are staying with us. Whether it is in the form of your time, donated items or cash gifts, we appreciate it all. Special thanks goes to, Week of Compassion, First Christian Church Beaumont, and First Christian in Orange who helped us as well.

DIRECTORY

Betty Downs is working on a new church directory. If you need to update any information: address, phone, cell phone, e-mail, etc., please contact Betty at 861-3439, or you can call the church office.

GOOD WORK

For those who don't believe in miracles, sit up and take notice! The supply room is LOOKIN' GOOD! Loads of thanks to Billie Dunkleberger who has led the charge in this effort with the help of several others. Take a look, you will be surprised, and don't *anyone* dare put their stuff in that closet!

NEW MEMBERS

Glad to have among us those that have chosen to be a part of the body here at Northwood Christian Church, *Annie Brown, Norma Lancaster and Patsy Johnson*. Welcome! [and don't forget to contact Betty Downs with your directory info!]

ACTIVITY BUILDING

The garage sale has been postponed until further notice.

Regularly scheduled functions in the activity building will be postponed.

Cabinet/Functional Committees

- On Wednesday, September 14, CWF; and The **Pastor's Cabinet** meets at 6 p.m. @ Northwood.
- The **Functional Committees** meeting follows Cabinet at 7 p.m. @ Northwood.

September Worship Leaders

The following people are scheduled to serve as Worship Leaders for the remainder of the month:

18th Blane Dunkleberger

25th George Flower

CWF/CMF Calendar

- Friday Sept. 16 **CWF, Seekers** 10:00
Sept. 19, **CMF Men's Group** meets @ Northwood at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday Sept. 21, The **CWF Adventure Group** will meet at 7 p.m. at a destination yet to be confirmed.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Donna Ener
2 Denny Parker
3 Marie McCook
3 Jyles Kidd
5 Kathy Morris
9 Carol Mahan
16 Fidela Poff
16 Nathan Benson
24 Song Wallace
25 Bea Buller
25 Brenda Kidd
26 Thomas Mahan
27 Roland Williams
29 Wallace Bryan
30 Diana Schneider

YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE

This Saturday September 17th Our CYF Youth will be going to the Fall Rally!

CASA WALK

CASA WE ALL LOVE KIDS WALK will be held Saturday, Sept. 24th @ 9a.m. at the Entergy Building [350 Pine and Calder]. The walk will be held in memory of Judge Jim Ferris. Check in at 8:30 a.m. This is to raise support for abused and neglected children in Foster Care. Let's all try to be there rain or shine.

Lora's Letter....

My Dear Church Family,

The years I spent directing the choir at Northwood were some of my most joyful! I appreciate your having given me that opportunity. I'm so thankful for the touching tributes, gifts, cards, dinner, cake and beautiful framed print, given to me in appreciation. You're all precious to me! Northwood's choir members are such a gifted and precious group, and it was a privilege to minister with them. Leann has been, and will continue to be, a bright light to direct the music ministry in the years to come. The Lord has blessed us greatly in bringing her, and her family, to join our church family! God bless you all. I love you! Lora Parker

NO CROP WALK

We have just heard that the CROP WALK will not be done this year, due to Katrina. Look forward to next year.

Quilt Show

The Quilt Show will be in the Beaumont Civic Center, Saturday September 24th and Sunday September 25th. Hope to see you there!

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