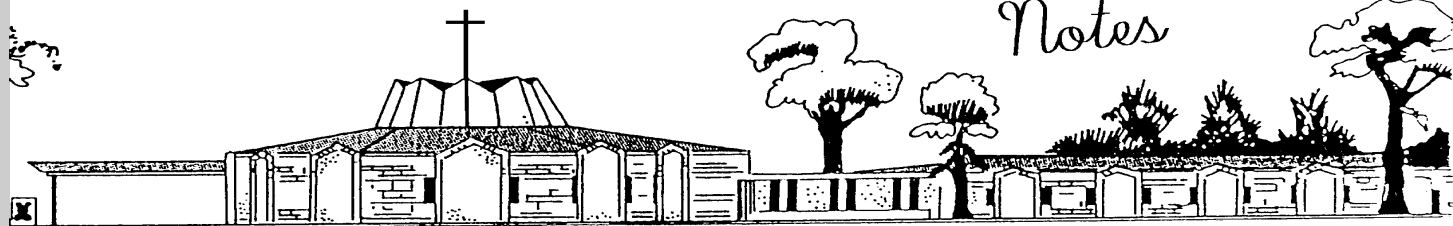


Northwood Christian Church



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 31, Number 1

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

January 16, 2006

NOTE FROM DON

It was about a month ago and my family was all in the car together when my daughter, Kelsey, stuck her head up and said, "Guess, what, Dad, I fixed the toilet last night!" Looking a little puzzled both Linda and I said, "Well.....good. How did this happen?" She said, "It didn't 'exactly' happen all at once. I got up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom and when I went to flush the toilet, it didn't work, so I went back to bed. Later that night I woke up again and took the back off the toilet to see what was wrong, but didn't know what to do. So I went back to bed and got some sleep. I couldn't sleep very well so I went downstairs and looked at the other toilet and saw it had a "chainey thing" hooked on it and I went back to bed again. Then finally I woke up once more and went to the toilet in my bedroom and hooked up that "chainey thing" and the toilet started working." By this time Linda and I were in tears with laughter and Kelsey could not understand why we thought this was so funny. After all she did fix her own toilet in the middle of the night.

I was laying in bed later that evening thinking of how my daughter's story could be a great analogy for our spiritual lives and even our churches. I'm not really sure where we got this idea that change occurs in a "snap" and, I guess, in some cases, it might. But so often it seems like it is a process of discovering what needs to be done, going back to the way things were, doing a little investigative work, going back and having another revelation, thinking we have it figured out and pushing forward and going back and eventually completing the work that must be finished. But the thing that is consistent is that the Holy Spirit stays on us, keeps convicting us that something needs to be changed, something needs to be done. It is a process of discovery. We may think we are too tired to go on at times and we may want to go lie down and go back to sleep and just let things stay the way there are. But once it is clear that something needs to be accomplished, we will never be able to rest until it is done. And when it is, the pride we feel is as much from persistence as accomplishment. What is God calling us to do? Let's be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and be bold enough to go up and repair whatever "chainey thing" in our life or church that needs work and not give up until it is done.

See ya Sunday

In His Grip, Don

MISSION GROUPS AT NORTHWOOD

This last week we opened our activity building to mission groups coming from Missouri and California to assist in the Hurricane Rita clean-up effort. There will be more groups coming in the next few months. There is still so much work to be done and we appreciate so much all the help that God sends our way. Homes have been found all over the Golden Triangle and western Louisiana for the mission groups to work on, so be praying for these groups as they prepare to come and serve.

THANK YOU, CHOIR

We would like to thank LeAnn Wallace and the choir, along with the youth and children, for a beautiful Christmas Cantata. The hard work and long practices was very evident in the beautiful performances by all. It was a special blessing to attend the service.

ELDERS & DEACON'S RETREAT

A retreat is going to be held Saturday, January 28, for all elders and deacons. It will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the youth room at First Christian Church, Beaumont. Brent Parker will be leading us in this time & you won't want to miss it! Please call our church office if you plan to attend.

THANK YOU TO WILLIE RAY'S

We would like to thank Willie Ray's for giving us a fantastic deal on the best BBQ in the triangle and church members for helping provide a great going away supper for the mission groups.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members to our church!
Christiana Stylianou and her children, Chelsea, & Savannah joined NWCC, Sunday, January 8, along with Regina Nash and her children, Morgan and Cameron. We are so happy to have them become a part of our growing church family.

Cabinet/Functional Committees

- Wednesday January 25, Pastor's Mtg. 6:00 p.m., Committee Mtg. immediately following
- Saturday, January 28, Elder's Retreat, 9:00 a.m. @ First Christian Church, Beaumont

January Worship Leaders

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

1 st Bill Navarre	8 th Liz Benson
15 th Carrie Weems	22 nd Diana Schneider
29 th Craig Mercer	

CWF/CMF Calendar

- Monday, January 16 **CMF Men's Group** meets @ NWCC at 7 p.m.
- Wed. Jan. 18, The **CWF Adventure Group** will meet at 7 p.m. @ the home of Michelle Huynh
- Friday, Jan. 20 **CWF, Seekers** at 10:00 a.m @ NWCC

CONGRATULATIONS

Brent Parker has been elected moderator – student body president – of Brite Divinity School! Congratulations, Brent!!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Janet Perkolup	22 George Flower
5 Sigi Kessler	26 Donnie Allen
6 Michael Givens	26 Hazel Harmon
8 Lucille Bryan	26 Donovan Acklin
10 John Kline	26 Thelma Herbert
10 Mike Waguspack	26 Heather Dunkleberger
13 J. R. Johnson	30 David Earle
13 Kimberly Williams	
18 Sara Close	

YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE

We had a fantastic time on the camp-out this last weekend. Next time we plan on scheduling it closer to the actual time we will be going so perhaps we can get a weather report first. There is nothing like waking up covered in frost!!

This coming weekend, January 20-21, is **Hot Hearts with a lock-in** at the church on the night of the 20th. We will be meeting at the church at 4:30 p.m. **GET READY FOR A GREAT TIME THIS WEEKEND!!!**

- JAMES PAYNE

THANK YOU

This past Christmas I went to see George & Delores Flower's home for just a moment. I had just had lunch with Brock and we were standing around talking when they gave me a Christmas card. In this card were more than just your typical words of Merry Christmas and good cheer. There was the title to their car. Instead of trading their '98 Chrysler van in when they bought a new car, they gave it to the Joseph family. Kelsey had just had an accident and it was still being repaired. And, we were still trying to get around with one car with 170,000 miles on it. I was and am overwhelmed by generosity like this. This is faith in action not because it was given to us but because it was something precious that was given to someone else. Thank you for your kindness, thank you for your love.

In His Grip, The Joseph Family

STAFF AT NWCC

We, the staff at NWCC, would like to thank the congregation for their love and generosity during Christmas. NWCC is a great place to work and worship and it is because of all of you. Again, thanks for thinking of us.

<p>Northwood Christian Church 5050 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77708 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED</p>

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