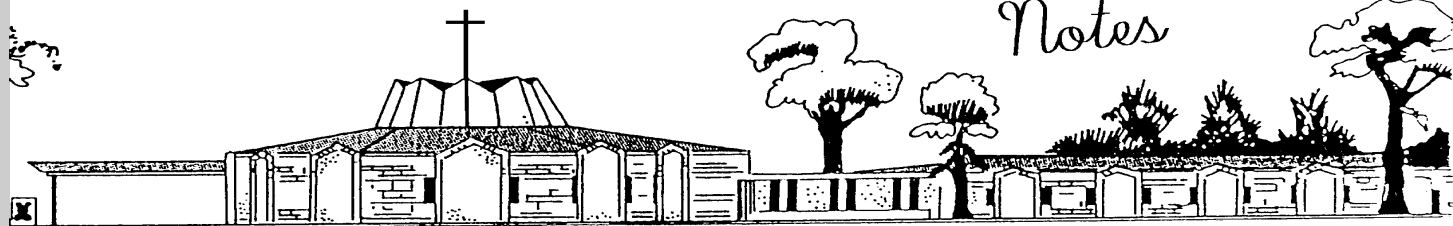


# Northwood Christian Church



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

Website: [www.northwood-christian.org](http://www.northwood-christian.org)

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

VOLUME 31, Number 9

Rev. Don Joseph, Minister

July 1, 2006

## NOTE FROM DON



Last night after our board meeting, the Parkers, the Fockens and myself went to eat at Novrosky's (our local burger joint), when three young men came in and asked if anyone there was driving a Saturn. Well, Steve Focken's brand new Saturn was parked right outside the door so he promptly said, "I do!" Then these three boys said, "We don't want to scare you or anything but a big snake just crawled up under the hood of your car!" Steve got up to go see and we all looked at each other and realized our conversation about good movies was no longer that interesting. So we went out to see what was going on. Now after the boys pointed out where the snake went....that was one thing, but for Steve to find the snake, that was another. But the most amazing though, is within minutes there was a "large" crowd of men and women had emptied out from all the restaurants to see what was going on. Some of the women were talking about how their hearts were pounding and the men how not much scared them....but snakes, well, "that" was another thing.

Well, all I'm going to say is it all ended well for everyone....everyone but the snake. For details, you can ask Steve, I'm sure he will be glad to tell you.

Last night, like I said, everyone seemed to want to find or see this snake. Some said their hearts were pounding. But for the most part, most were keeping their distance...

The world has convinced us that we should pursue God the same way they sought after the snake. And even as our hearts begin to pound as we draw closer to the One who made us. We often can't discern if that pounding is from an excitement that comes when we meet God face to face or a thrill that comes with danger. And the truth is that it may be both.

And why in today's world can there be more excitement about one small reptile who can give us a thrill for 10 minutes than there is for the God of the universe who can change our lives forever? I believe it's because that reptile at any time may do the unexpected. We, on the other hand, have worked so hard to domesticate God, and make Him behave by our rules. We can't tame God and put Him in a box. The people outside the church have no interest in the God we've tried to tame. They don't want a God whose been made to fit "our" idea of what He should and shouldn't do. He needs to be let loose to do as He wills and if this happens, He will go where He wants to go when he wants to go there. Crowds will gather....hearts will pound....and lives will change in parking lots and even in the church.

See ya Sunday!!

In His Grip, Don

## VBS WOW!!

What a week...I know everyone everywhere says that , BUT, What a Week! Since I've been here, this was the most kids we've ever had involved. Great kids from the neighborhood, kids from the church and their friends, and of course, none of this could have taken place without our quality leadership. Special thanks to: Karen Kidd, Carrie Weems and of course Liz Benson who made "FIESTA!" such a success.

## Update on Building

For those of you who want an update with what's going on with the special property committee and the plans for a new or refurbished building. Here's what is going on.....nothing.....yet. Although the Architect called and said he would like to go over some "potential" plans with us this past week. Those meetings had to be cancelled due to some kinks in their schedule. You must understand that the Special Property Committee will keep you informed as we go along and if you have questions, just ask. In the future we will do our best to post what's going on on a "Special Properties Update" on the Bulletin Board in the hallway. The "Special Properties Committee" was chosen to help expedite this process, and bring us to a place where we as a congregation can come to a decision. We All must trust this process. In so many ways it is an exercise in patience and faith, and it is obvious that we must trust Christ more and more as we go deeper and deeper into this Project of Faith

## Special Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup>

One Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, honor Sara Close as an Elder Emeritus. Sara has faithfully served Northwood for many years and her example to others as a woman of faith has touched many lives. As most of you know, Sara is a woman of few words, but incredible influence. There will be a luncheon after the service today to honor this fine woman.

## "Still" Moving Out

The special committee to help prepare the sanctuary met for the first time this past week to discuss all that was needed to turn our activity building into a wonderful worship environment. We are going to meet again on Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30

**Cabinet/Functional  
Committees**

- Wednesday, June 28, 7:00 p.m. Committee Mtgs.

**June Worship Leaders**

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

- 4 Mark Wallace                      11 Peter Perkolup
- 18 Zack Kidd                         25 Donna Givens

**CWF/CMF Calendar**

- Monday, June 19, CMF, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 21, CWF Adv. Grp. 7:00 p.m.

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Carolyn Mercer                      9 Lynne Weems
- 14 Jean Gibbs                         21 Amanda Wasguspack
- 24 Chris Williams                      27 Norma Lancaster

**SUBSTITUTE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

We still have a great need for Sunday school teachers to take over for Linda Joseph and Lora Parker for the Summer, they have been doing a great job but really need to take a break. I know you have all been holding out for us to offer some great prize for those willing to help, that's fine, there will be a prize we are just not going to tell you what it is until after you volunteer . You can fill in for one week, or as many as you like. Thank you so much for your help in this matter.

**Weddings**

Russel Mercer and Johana Melagrani Bridal shower will be held July 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The couple is registered at Target and Linen's n Things. The wedding is July 30<sup>th</sup>.

John Schneider and Angela Romero will be wed on July 15<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 pm at First Christian Church 205 W. West Street, El Campo, Texas, with a reception following at the VFW hall.

**YOUTH SIDE OF THE PAGE**

It looks as if our next "MONDAY NIGHT MANIA!!!" will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of July, the 17<sup>th</sup>. Our activity is not yet set, but whatever it is I assure you it will be even more fun and exciting than the last one.

Camp got off to a rough start, but in the end we all had a fun and memorable camp experience. I hope we can bring some of what we learned there back here to Beaumont.

Thankyou to all of the youth who helped out this week at VBS, and for those who didn't, you missed a great time of fun and fellowship

We will be leaving for our mission trip to South Padre Island on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July and returning the 29<sup>th</sup> we will be having one final fundraiser for the trip this month. Details for this fundraiser will be announced in church. A huge THANKYOU! to everyone in the congregation for supporting us.

- JAMES PAYNE

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