

Join us for Vacation Bible
School

July 17 through 21

5:30 to 8:00 pm

Ages 3 through 11

Call 777-4044 to register



RIDE YOUR BIKE SUNDAY!

AUGUST 14TH – Weather Permitting

Ride your Bicycle, motorcycle, tricycle, pull a wagon – anything but drive a car. This will be a fun way for us to celebrate the day. Do you live too far away? Then drive closer and park down the street, ride your bike the last part! Life commission will greet you at the door with Energy Boosters....orange juice & energy bars. We will still have donuts and coffee before the service. Worship is at 9:30 am so come a little early to look at the bikes and to enjoy fellowship.

—Pack a Picnic and enjoy lunch at church on the lawn.—

—During the service: Security will be provided for the bikes.—

~Life Commission

Congregation News



Please keep a look-out for good deals on school supplies! Once again, we'll have a collection in August for the "School Tool" drive that is coordinated by the St. Paul Area Council of Churches, and in support of children served by the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf. Backpacks, pens, pencils, color crayons, notebooks, Kleenex boxes, rulers, & more will be given to young learners in need.

Thank you!

~Cindy Carlson, Outreach Commission

2011 Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure August 19-21

Yes, I am doing it again. I have signed up for the 2011 Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure August 19-21. I had such an incredible experience 2 years ago that I am back for more. My best friend who I walked for last time is walking with me this year. Donations can be made online @ www.the3day.org. Just click on Donate now and search for my personal fundraising page (Rebecca Hamilton) or you can send donations directly to me. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this event. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

Becky Hamilton

SHOWBOAT IS A' COMING!!!

Save the date! - Saturday, August 6th

The ice and snow have gone and now it's time to think ahead to summer and the Minnesota Centennial Showboat. This year's production is

***THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET:
THE MELODRAMA OF SWEENEY TODD***

Save the date of Saturday, August 6. We'll enjoy lunch at Joseph's on S. Wabasha St. before heading to the 2:30 matinee. The tickets are \$20 each and you can sign up right away for a great seat at a great show. We will be collecting the money in June, and as usual you will have until July 27th for a full refund if you need to cancel. Susanne and Stan Meyer are the people with the answers, so feel free to ask your questions (regarding the show and lunch, please). It is open to anyone from church, plus friends and relatives. The more the merrier!!!!

Thank YOU!

LADIES TEA AT NORTH WAS A HUGE SUCCESS.



The ladies tea was attended by almost 62 ladies of all ages. Snacks and entertainment was a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Thank you for your attendance and support that you gave. Additionally, we would like to thank all the performers, servers, set-up & clean-up crew for all they did to contribute to a great event. We look forward to hosting another ladies Tea next spring at North.

~Life Commission

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank-you from the Endowment Committee to everyone who so generously contributed to the Endowment fund over the past year. The Endowment funds have received money from Bequests, memorials, and outright gifts. Please see the recent annual report for a complete list of donors.

If you have included North Presbyterian Church in your will, please let us know. We want to include you in the list of Legacy Partners. If you have not, please consider doing so. It is a way to help ensure financial stability for our church for generations to come.

Endowment Committee,
George Smith, Bruce Beck, Tom Clark, Roy Ginn, Dave Hoffman, John Snell

Special Thanks For a Job Well Done to Outgoing Elders and Deacons.....

Outgoing Elders – Terri Arfi, Helen Enyeart, Crystal Miller and Sue Parnell

Outgoing Deacons – Mary Japs, Sheila Ferrazzo, Leanne Obernolte, Joan Ruppel and Becky Yust.

Special Thanks and Welcome to our new Elders and Deacons....

Session

Class of 2014: three-year term

Charlie Goebel Carole Javner

Kathie Johansen George Smith

Board of Deacons

Class of 2014: three-year term

Ila Basch

Paul Colton

Kevin Carlson

Marlene Zoya

Also welcome and congratulations those elected to other committees...

Audit Committee *Class of 2014: 3 three-year term* – John Parnell

Nominating Committee *Class of 2012: one-year term* – Kathy Carlson, Pat McKisson, Crystal Miller and Don Schroeder

Thank You John Blair. . . . for serving as our Treasurer since 2004!

Please thank John Blair for serving all of us as treasurer. Your appreciation is John's only compensation. John has generously given countless hours making sure that our finances are accurately recorded and distributed with integrity. Well done, John, you are a good and faithful servant of God.

NOTE: Please welcome Nancy Glasenapp and Randy Smith as our Co-Treasurers.

Thank you!



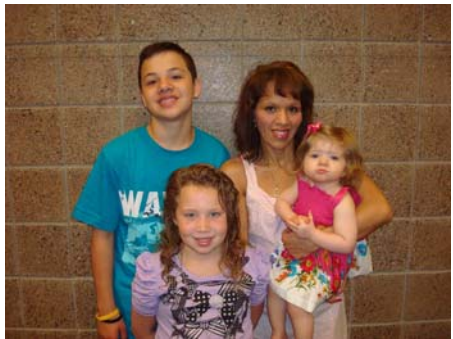
Please welcome our new members!



Nancy and Jack Twite

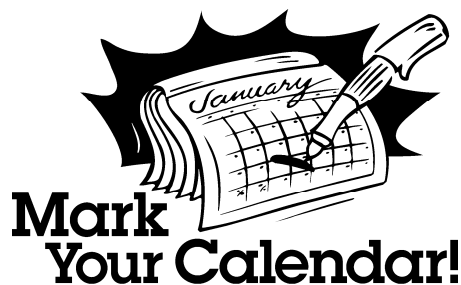
Jack and Nancy noticed North Church and our sign on Hwy. 36. Jack used to drive by every day on his way to and from work so they decided to visit us. They both stated that they have enjoyed and appreciate the welcoming atmosphere and the sense of community that they found at North. Nancy is an ordained Elder and Deacon from the First Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque NM where she comes to us by Letter of Transfer. Jack is relatively new to Presbyterianism and comes to us by Reaffirmation of Faith. He says that he is looking forward to

learning more about the Bible's teachings and relationships with the Lord and fellow Christians. Jack is employed as a Business Analyst for Comcast and Nancy is a Briefing Coordinator for Sherion @ Microsoft. Both enjoy board games. Jack says that he is a "not-so-good" golfer but enjoys the game. Nancy likes to crochet.



Melissa Kraus

Melissa was invited to enjoy worship at North by a friend, Shelley Ross. She was looking for a church where her family could grow spiritually. When she attended the praise service with her three children she felt warmly welcomed and she enjoyed the service. Melissa loves to spend time with her children, going to the zoo, etc. She also enjoys working out and dancing. Melissa was born and raised in St. Paul, and now she and her family lives in North St. Paul. Her family includes: Tyler age 12, Emma age 8, and Mia 18 months old.



Summer Wednesday Worship

7:00 pm to 7:45 pm (followed by refreshments)

July 13 at Chain of Lakes Presbyterian

July 27 at North Como Presbyterian

August 10 at North Presbyterian

The "Presbyterian Partnership" is a group of six Presbyterian churches: Chain of Lakes, White Bear Lake, North Como, Church of the Way, Arlington Hills and North. Together we are exploring how we can share resources to be better stewards and more effective in ministry. We hope to get to know each other better through three Wednesday worship services. Each service will start at 7 pm, end at 7:45 and be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Children's News

VBS Registration



We've got the solution to summertime boredom...*PandaMania*. Each evening begins with dinner and then it's the adventure of a lifetime where children discover that God is Wild about them! Children, ages 3 – 11, are invited to join us each evening for Bible-learning experiences that kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team-building games, and cool Bible songs that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life – something we call God Sightings. Your kids will also participate in a hands-on mission project call Operation Kid-to-Kid that let the kids show God's

love to children in Latin America. So mark July 17 – 21 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on your calendars and register today! We hope to see everyone there and don't forget to invite your friends!

VBS Wish List

We have our PandaMania VBS Wish List posted in the Narthex. These boards list supplies that are needed for a successful VBS. If you are able to make a donation, please remove the post-it note and drop off the item in Room 11 by July 10. Please label all perishable items with "VBS" and place them in the refrigerator or freezer. These gifts are greatly appreciated and help offset our costs. Thank you to everyone for your support!

VBS Volunteers Needed

We are excitedly planning our *Pandamania* Vacation Bible School and beginning to look for volunteers. Last year was a wonderful experience with almost 40 children and 30 volunteers attending a week of fun and fellowship. Please read the following job descriptions and prayerfully consider whether you can volunteer at least one evening during July 17-21. If you have any questions, please call Renee Kristensen at 651-777-4044 or email renee@northchurch-mn.org.

Party Time Sing & Play Leader and Rowdy Wrap-Up Leader: Lead or co-lead the music and finale each day using video clips and skits provided in the curriculum.

Crazy Crafts & Missions Leader: Help children create one-of-a-kind crafts that reinforce the daily Bible stories.

Bamboo Blast Games Leader: Play games with the children that relate to the daily Bible point.

Spotlight VBS Leader: Take pictures of children and copy them into a special slide show to use during the Rowdy Wrap-Up.

Treetop Treats Leader: Help children prepare snacks for the entire group.

Wild Bible Adventures Leader: Perform simple roles as Bible characters along with other volunteers.

Chadder's Movie Mania Leader: Present a DVD segment followed by a short discussion.

Panda Preschool Teachers: Lead or co-lead Bible lessons, crafts, snacks, and games with preschool children.

Crew Leaders: Participate in fun activities while shepherding a group of three to five elementary-age kids.

INVEST IN A WORKCAMPER!

For just \$50 dollars you can invest in a youth who is serving this summer at the Grand Rapids, July 8-16 workcamp. Your investment will yield...

- ◆ changed lives. over 90% of workcampers comment that the experience deepens their faith.
- ◆ joy, love and compassion for the residents AND new friendships
- ◆ service that inspires the school, community and all involved.
- ◆ youth learning home repair skills and the joy of completing a challenging project AND a repaired home for the resident.
- ◆ a boost in confidence.
- ◆ inspiring worship.
- ◆ jobs for local residents to support all the workcampers.
- ◆ the satisfaction in knowing you are making earth more like heaven.
- ◆ a postcard from a workcamper during the trip.
- ◆ a get-together with a workcamper where they will share stories and pictures.
- ◆ a workcamp stock certificate with picture.

and much more!

Simply write "Workcamp Stock" in the memo line of your check and place it in the offering or drop it off in the church office and your investment will yield priceless eternal blessings.

Congratulations to our High School Seniors



Alex Hummel, son of Alan and Karen Hummel graduated from Mounds View High School. He plans on attending the University of Minnesota, Duluth, majoring in music performance.

During high school, Alex was involved in the Science Olympiad, performed with the orchestra (all state, SEC all conference). He enjoys tennis, paintball and hanging out with friends.

Alex has been involved with Workcamp 2009 and 2010 and attended the "Deep Freeze" retreat. The most memorable experience connected with church was while at workcamp. He was able to learn more about himself and his faith. He was also able to learn that there are people at church he can talk to if he's struggling with anything.

Colton Smit, son of Amy Smit and Brian Smit, graduated from White Bear High School. He plans on attending Southwest State University in Marshall MN playing baseball. He plans on majoring in marketing.

During high school he was on the honor role and was honorable mention for baseball.

The most memorable experience at church was getting confirmed and becoming a part of the church. He learned a lot about our church and many parts of Christianity.



Both Alex and Colton received a scholarship award for outstanding seniors from the Presbyterian Women's Association.

From Pastor James

“Love God with all your strength”

Jesus said “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” Mark 12:30

Summer is a great time to love God with all your strength by walking, swimming, hiking, biking, climbing, canoeing or running. Imagine that you are with God. Notice the rhythm, notice the air filling your lungs, your heart beating, the motion of your arms and legs.

Jesus said "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." Matthew 11:28-30

Walking with God, the rhythm, the beauty of creation renews me. I love God through the strength of my movement. Usually I begin by thanking God for all the wonderful people and things in my life. I am thankful and aware of the food I partook that replenished my strength. I am thankful for rest and sleep. Gradually I become in tune with my body, in tune with God. I become aware of rhythm, the beating of my heart, my breath, my footsteps, the swing of my arms. I become aware of the rhythm of walking, resting, sleeping, waking, burning calories, eating. These rhythms reminded me that everything is grace, that God is always walking with me, sometimes God carries me. Sometimes I think of a song of praise. After awhile my thoughts settle and I am able to hear God. God reveals how to be in harmony, to live freely, to be joyful.

Love God with all your strength. Enjoy activities with God this summer. Discover rhythm, grace and how to live freely and lightly.

Pastor James



On April 10th six youth were confirmed at North (Ryan Bearth, Ellie Blair, Courtney Colton, Kendra Durst, Rachael Holle and Rachael Marah). A Faith Statement from a youth will appear in the Innovator each month. Below are the faith statements from Rachael Marah and Courtney Colton.

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Rachael Marah

I believe creation happened just like God said in Genesis; the first day He made light and darkness, on the second day He made sky, on the third day He made land, ocean and plants, on the fourth day He made sun, moon and stars, on the fifth day He made ocean animals, on the sixth day He made land animals and humans, and on the seventh day he rested. Just like there are seven days of creation there are also seven days of the week! I believe there is a relation to that happening. I believe God's will for my life is to live life to the fullest and to live each day like it would be the last. I believe I am a member of God's family and in God's family we are loved equally, no more no less. I believe God created me with special gifts, those special gifts include being caring, funny, being athletic, and an animal lover. I will use my gifts to serve God by volunteering, donating, giving to the needy and giving back to the church. I believe being created in

God's image affects our life by putting pressure on us to try and act just like God even though we sometimes fail at it.

I know Jesus Christ is my Savior. I know He will come down from his seat at the right hand of the Father to come and save me when the world ends. I believe Jesus is also fully God and fully human. I believe Jesus is fully human and that impacts my life by thinking that a guy like Him could be feeling the same things that I feel so he is able to relate to my life because he knows exactly what I am going through. I believe Jesus needed to be fully human so He could die a human death on the cross. Jesus is fully God to be everybody's Savior and Redeemer; He will come down to judge the living and the dead. I know that Jesus died for everybody's sins; which means a lot because that is just one special demonstration that shows he loves us very much.

I believe grace is the action of God renewing us from sin, by using His love He saves us from hell. We are weak against sin and hell, but Jesus saves us with His love and His grace. God has a unique place in Heaven for each one of us so we should have a chance to get in that place. When we were kids we were taught the Ten Commandments and about the birth of Jesus, but we weren't really taught about God's grace. I believe they didn't teach us about God's grace because we have to find it ourselves.

I believe sin is the process of doing wrong, or going against something you know that is not right. I believe God gave us the Ten Commandments to live our lives by, but we just turn away from them and sin against them. I believe another way to sin is to go against state or federal law because God wants you to follow all the rules so you don't get into any trouble. I believe another way to sin is to use God's name in vane. God's name is Holy and you should never use it in vane because you're just cursing your life when you say it like that. I believe another way to sin would be to think dirty or bad thoughts about someone or something that you dislike. I believe the acts of care, love and help that you just ignore to do is sin. For example, if you see someone drop their things or a homeless person begging for money would you help them? I believe I would help them.

I believe the Holy Spirit guides us through life. I believe the Holy Spirit is a little ghost with a halo on its head that follows us around through our whole life and guides us to do the right thing. I believe whenever you hear "Jesus is always with you," that the Holy Spirit is with us! The Holy Spirit is like our own little personal ghost who will protect us and guide us on the right path in life. I believe the Word of God is the Bible and God's signs to us. The Word of God is the Bible because the Bible is His beautiful love letter to us. The Word of God is also His signs to us. What I mean by signs would be God sightings. God sightings are special things in your life that happen because God was doing it or God was a part of it.

I believe church is a state of mind or place where you can become one with God and other Christians. I believe it is a state of mind because you can do it anywhere; at home, work, or school. I believe it is also a place where people just like me come together and worship the same God. I believe the church's mission is to spread the Word of God and to reach out to the community. The church does this by talking to people about Him and by working in the community. When we help in the community, we show generosity. I believe generosity is taking time out of my life and helping the needy by donating food to the food shelf or to volunteer where ever help is needed.

I believe that the purpose of the sacraments of the church, baptism and the Lord's Supper, are to wash away evil and be joined together in God's grace. I believe baptism is being washed away from sin and Satan's grasp on me has been let go and I am apart of God's Holy and never-ending family. I believe the Lord's Supper is taking part of Jesus' body that he sacrificed for us to be rescued from sin; by taking part of His body we become one with God and Jesus to become renewed in Him and with Him to have eternal life.

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Courtney Colton

I believe that the story of creation is true, but on a less literal scale than the Bible portrays it at. I believe that creationism and evolutionism can be combined to explain how we and the earth came to be. In the story of creation, it tells that God created the world in seven days. But what if it wasn't the seven week days we know, Sunday through Saturday? What if it was a much broader calendar? Maybe a "day" to God is actually a million years to us on earth. If this were true, then evolution can also exist. Perhaps we did evolve from other species, but it wasn't until God blew the breath of life into us that we became humans in His image. After all, God created everything including the ideas of creationism and evolution, so why can't they both be right and be intertwined into one unique story?

God's will for me is to love endlessly and unconditionally. He wants me to live like Him and show others how amazing His love is. I believe that He will use me to make the place where we are a more God centered one so we can be less afraid to show our love of God and others. God's will or human kind is to be more loving and expressive of our faith.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Son of the Virgin Mary. I believe that he is the Triune God and that he came from Heaven to Earth to save us from our sins and show us the way to and eternal life in Heaven with God. Jesus was fully human because he was born into this world as a baby and suffered under his own people. He is also fully God because he is flawless and perfect, he never sinned. Jesus is love and pure and good. Jesus Christ is my savior. He humbled himself and came into an imperfect world full of hatred and evil and was rejected by his own people. Jesus came here to die for our sins and welcome us into his Heavenly Home.

I believe that sin is anything that distances yourself and your heart from God. Sinning can include breaking rules and laws, but I think more importantly sin is not loving others, yourself, and God fully. By not loving others with your entire being, you are not fulfilling God's will for you. I believe that Jesus died on the cross to forgive us of our sins. That does not mean that we should sin however, yet it is unavoidable because we are humans.

When you sin, you are not only hurting God, but you are also hurting yourself as well as those around you. If sinning becomes a habit, you continue to distance yourself from God's amazing love. I think by sinning you enter a place like Hell, where you can no longer feel God's love.

I believe that grace is the free gift of God's love. God's grace is what saves us from our sins. God saves us because His love for us is unconditional. He takes away our sins from us and makes us whole again, and then welcomes us into His heavenly family. God sent Jesus into the world to save us from our sins, which shows His immense love for us. That doesn't mean we shouldn't apologize and feel bad for our sins. It is God's amazing grace that saves us, so we should be praising and giving thanks to God every moment of the day.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is part of the complete Triune God. I believe that the Holy Spirit is the "visual" part of the Trinity. It communicates to us through our Bibles, the sacraments, and through God Sightings. The Holy Spirit is what connects us to each other and connects us to God. It helps remind us of God's constant love for us. I believe the Holy Spirit inspires us to speak God's word to others and helps us spread God's amazing love to others.

I believe that the church's mission is to reach out and bring in as many people to Christ as possible. I believe the church is not so much a building as it is a group of people gathering together in fellowship to worship God. The church is a place where Christians can come together to show their love for one another and our God.

I believe baptism is the sacrament when God cleanses us. It is a symbol of our sins being washed away because of Jesus saving us from our sins. We only need to be baptized once because God's promise to us lasts forever and never needs to be renewed. We are baptized to show that we are welcome into our church community and to show that God has accepted and adopted us into his heavenly family and home.

It's Time for a Renovation!

Renovation is the process of making something like new again; to refresh something and give it new vigor. It is a renewing, a reconditioning, a modernizing, a refurbishing, a repairing, a restoring, a remodeling or a redecorating.

Here at North Church a special team of members has been reviewing ways on how to update our church home and make it more comfortable and inviting to everyone; long-time members, new members and visitors alike. The first project we would like to undertake is the renovation of the men's and women's narthex area bathrooms. They are in sorry shape, and the time has come for improvement.

The team has been looking into the cost of this remodeling endeavor. For \$3,000 both bathrooms can be updated and have a fresh new look. The \$3,000 price includes new flooring, paint, new light fixtures, cabinets and sinks, new toilets, and new chairs and a table for the women's room. How can all of this be accomplished so inexpensively? The team intends to purchase items at a discount through Craig's List, a builders discount warehouse, and/or on sale from area retailers. Labor will be donated by our church members.

In order to help pay for this renovation, we are challenged to raise \$1,500 to cover half of the cost. The other \$1,500 will come from the Building Fund. With the help of each and every one of us, this can be accomplished. If you can collect your change each day for a week or month just think of the amount you can put in for the cause.

There will be special receptacles located in the narthex where you can place your donations. If you prefer to pay by check, please make it out to North Presbyterian Church and put "bathroom renovation" in the remarks section.

Thank you for helping us to "take the plunge" into our first major renovation which will help make our church home a more welcoming place!

—Pat McKisson for the Outreach Committee

