



2024

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Pastor's Article

Celebrate Good Times!

June is such a celebratory month! We have the end of school, summer starting, graduations, and weddings. We have Pride and Juneteenth. And in our setting, we also have Adult Conference hosted here at Northwest Christian Church. What do they all have in common? The easy answer is that each event or occasion listed is one that brings someone joy, and who doesn't want to be a part of someone else's joy?

But if we dig a little deeper, each signifies a shift, a change, a transition, a moment of growth, a reason to celebrate! The first ones I mentioned – the end of school, summer starting, graduation, and weddings – those may seem kind of obvious. Seasons change, children move into their summer activities and get ready for a new grade, possibly a new school. All potentially life changing events. Graduations and weddings symbolize major shifts in one's focus. Moving into a new stage of life with new considerations and new approaches to making decisions and taking action.

But Pride? Juneteenth? How do those fit in? Both Pride and Juneteenth lift up and recognize the struggle that our siblings in the LGBTQIA+ community and our siblings of color have experienced. Pride and Juneteenth celebrations help to increase awareness, as well as offer opportunities for those not personally impacted to learn from another's lived realities. Acknowledging the historical challenge, the current challenges, the ways in which we can support, and the concerns still needing addressed are all ways in which we can engage in making a difference.

Adult Conference, June 17-21, brings various speakers, teachers, and workshop leaders together for one week, providing multiple options and moments to learn, a chance to stretch your understanding of topics you may not have considered, and all wrapped in fun and fellowship with others from the Ohio Region and the UCC Heartland Conference – here at Northwest! Contact the church office for more information on registration.

What a month! Let's engage with one another, let's take a new approach, and let's celebrate being a movement for wholeness in our fragmented world. May it be so.

Pastor Joyce Wealand

Extravagant

Matthew 5:1-10 When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said: "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule. "You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you. "You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought. "You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat. "You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for. "You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world. "You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family. "You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom. "Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble. (The Message)

We typically think of the above scripture as The Beatitudes, when Jesus describes all the ways Christians can be blessed during times of trouble. The Message puts a different spin on these verses. It doesn't emphasize how God helps us during difficult times, it stresses that nothing is more important than being closer in touch with Him.

Any disaster, threat, danger, or illness isn't nearly as important as we tend to think they are. Such things drive us closer to God, which pales in comparison to whatever problems we are forced to endure.

Jesus is actually telling us to be glad when things go wrong and we are at our wit's end. That's when we are nearest to him. The difficulties are worth it.

Carla Nuenke, Extravagant Generosity

Generosity



Heart**Sisters**

Heart Sisters

We need your ideas!

Connecting...to God, to each other, to community

We might be taking a break from our regular meetings during the summer, but we are still busy planning for the new programming year that begins in September.

If you have an idea for a program, a recommendation for a guest speaker, or a book/Bible study selection please let us know.

You are also encouraged to join the planning committee if you are interested! Please contact Carolyn Abels, Jane Russell or Debbie Stephan with your ideas.

Have a great summer!



Clint Taylor and Robert Vieth for spear heading the electrical updates throughout the building!

THANKS!
THANKS!
THANKS!
THANKS!
THANKS!

Thank you Clint Taylor and Gene Frye for painting much needed areas of the church!



John Bierley for creating beautiful banners and the pulpit and lectern covers for the sanctuary!



Would you like to help NNEMAP earn extra money during the Ohio State Fair? The NNEMAP parking lot is used for Ohio State Fair parking and they need volunteers to help direct cars and collect donations. Northwest Christian Church has committed to provide **8 volunteers on Wednesday, July 24th**, the opening day of the fair.

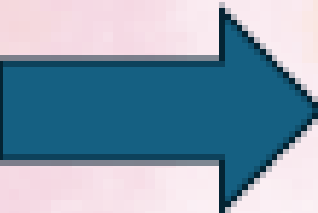
The following shifts are available:

8:00am – noon – 3 volunteers needed

Noon – 4:00pm – 3 volunteers needed

4:00pm – 8:00pm – 2 volunteers needed

If you are available to help, please contact Debbie Stephan. This is an important fundraiser for NNEMAP and a great way for our congregation to support NNEMAP's important role in the Columbus community.



During the summer, let's focus on donating toiletry items of all types. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shampoo, soap, and feminine products are always needed at NNEMAP and are in short supply.



We collected 330 bars of soap for NNEMAP in April and May! Thanks for your donations!!



Save the Date!
Ice Cream Social after
church on July 7

You are invited to the

Ordination & Installation

of Pastor Gladys Davis

Sunday June 23, 2024
3:00 PM

Highwater Church (UCC)
1213 Dutch Lane Rd NW
Newark Ohio 43055

Officiated by:

Rev. Allen V. Harris
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Patricia Battle
United Church of Christ





Piano & Organ Concert

June 9th, 7pm

Northwest Christian Church

1340 Fishinger Rd, Columbus, OH 43221

**Bach, Mendelssohn, Alain, Debussy, Mamma Mia,
Chinese music**

Yu (Tracy) Qian

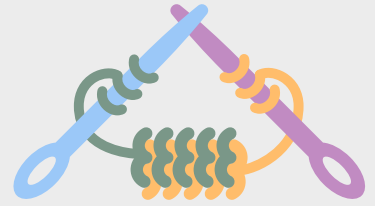


"I will be giving a farewell concert on Sunday, June 9th, at 7 pm at NWCC to mark the end of my 8 fabulous years in Columbus and 2 wonderful years at NWCC.

The program will especially feature organ arrangements of Chinese music and selections from "Mamma Mia," all arranged by me. My last Sunday at NWCC will be on June 30th. After earning a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance from The Ohio State University, I am pleased to continue my Master of Art studies in Organ Performance at The University of Iowa with a full scholarship, beginning this August." Tracy Qian

Stitchers

CIRCLE



Stitchers Circle meets on the first Wednesday of each month to make prayer shawls. If you are unable to meet at this time it would still be helpful to make prayer shawls at home and bring them in for donation. Not only do we share our prayer shawls with our church family, but we also donate to "Lifeline of Ohio".

Lifeline
of **Ohio**



Participate in the Shawls of Support Program
Gifted to families of organ, eye and tissue donors to offer comfort in their time of loss, these handmade shawls are made by Lifeline of Ohio Donate Life Ambassadors including transplant recipients, donor family members and people in the community.

Currently, the Shawls of Support Program is seeking rectangle or triangle-shaped shawls which can be given to our donor families.

Prayer Shawls

Create a shawl

The Shawls of Support Program is seeking rectangle or triangle-shaped shawls that can be given to our donor families. Below are a few specific shawl requests.

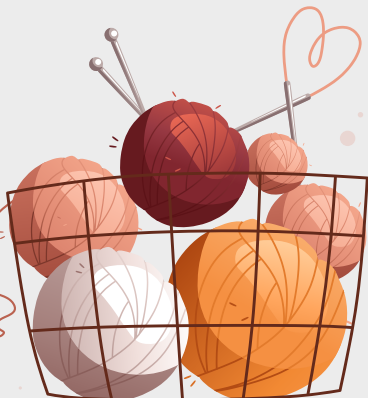
Dimensions

Rectangle: 24-26" wide by 60" long
Triangle: No smaller than 60" wide

The shawls don't have to be these exact measurements; however, we ask that they are close to these general dimensions.

Color

While we love all colors, we know that softer, more muted colors provide extra comfort during a family's most difficult moments.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6/1 Ken Evans

6/1 Amy Flaws

6/3 Jesse Rogers

6/4 Joanne Howard

6/6 Linda Anschutz

6/8 Sharmon Rudin

6/9 Madison Buty

6/12 Kyla Hammond

6/15 John Bierley

6/17 Paige Buty

6/18 Jim Embree

6/20 Connie Long

6/23 Ellen Anglim

6/23 Terri Pfenning

6/26 Lucas Monterroso

6/28 Jacob Monterroso

6/29 Ms'Layla Grabbe-Harraman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

6/7 Paul and Betty Hill

6/11 Dave and Connie Loynachan

6/12 Gene Frye and Laura Stafford

6/15 Ted and Terri Pfenning

6/17 Ellen and Jerry Anglim

6/20 Karen and Paul King

6/25 David and Laura Rings

6/29 Warren and Judy Fife

6/30 Jack and Carole Strawn

Should you have any pastoral needs or concerns, please let our Pastor know.

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister: pastor@northwestchristian.org

Dr. Tim Sarsany, Minister of Music: tsarsany@gmail.com

Tracy Qian, Accompanist / Organist

Rebecca Bean, Secretary: office@northwestchristian.org

Madison Buty, Child Caregiver

Karly Dearth, Child Caregiver

**Disciples
LGBTQ+
Alliance**

