

A Note from Your Pastor

It's the time of year when we think more intentionally about being thankful and expressing our gratitude. There are over 70 times in scripture where we are reminded to Give Thanks, yet sometimes we do need the reminder that an intentional season brings. We're coming to the end of our first year t<mark>ogether at Northwest.</mark> It seems hard to believe! In some ways, I feel like Ijust arrived. And in other moments, I feel I've been with you for much longer. I can say, without hesitation, that I am extremely grateful for this family of faith, and for each of you.

I am thankful for the warm welcomes. You've welcomed me with open arms. I've watched as visitors and guests have been greeted graciously. I've marveled at the depth of hospitality shown to grieving families as funerals and luncheons have been hosted. And I've enjoyed being a part of our every Sunday time of fellowship after worship when connections are established or renewed, when friends check in on one another, and where plans are made for service and companionship throughout the week. All of this speaks of our core value of welcome.

I am thankful for the compassion. Whether it's building houses, feeding neighbors, or visiting with those who are unable to leave their homes, the love felt for all God's children is evident. Desiring to make a difference in our world, each of you brings your compassionate heart and joyfully looks for ways in which to share your resources (time, talent, treasure, and heart) with any and all who are in need.

I am thankful for questions and open minds. Our God is not a static God. As we live and grow, our understanding of God grows and changes. Openly exploring our questions, our doubts, and our long-held understandings is a faithful practice and expression of our relationship with an unconditionally loving God. Respectful dialogue about our varied and different views makes us a beautiful mosaic representing God's creative force in our world.

I am thankful for each of you. You bring a depth and light to ou<mark>r life together as Nor</mark>thwest Christian Church. Our story is the story of each one of us, and the story of who we are together.

I am thankful for the story of God's mercy, justice, and love and the new ways we will find to tell the story in our community in the coming year. As we move forward into our next adventures together, may we do so with grateful hearts, filled with the love of Christ. May it be so.













Extravagant Generosity

Luke 6:34 Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that's charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that. I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind. (The Message)

This is a good summary of how to be a good steward of our relationship with God. We are to give love and kindness to all just because. We needn't even think about what good things we might get in return; we are to just serve other with much kindness.

Managing our attitude is not simple, it takes God's help. As humans we tend to notice how things affect us first. Others are often secondary, particularly those with whom we do not already have a positive relationship. Sometimes we are called to love those we don't know well, sometimes it's people we don't like. But in all cases love and kindness are to be at the forefront. The way we accomplish this is through God.

With the constant barrage of input from the world around us, it is sometimes difficult to maintain our Godly perspective, but it is certainly worth the effort. As we approach Thanksgiving, let's use that cultural gratitude to enhance our own relationship with God and thus serve and be kind to others.

Carla Nuenke, Extravagant Generosity

RECYCLE RIGHT



Basics of Home Recycling

When you recycle right, you make a difference. By taking a few minutes to recycle the right way, you help reduce pollution, conserve natural resources, support our economy and reduce central Ohio's reliance on landfills. SWACO will provide an update on the status of recycling in Franklin County and address your questions.

EPIC

WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY,
NOV. 19TH WITH POTLUCK AT 6:00
AND PROGRAM AT 6:45.
THE SPEAKER WILL BE AMY
DENSBORN, OUTREACH PROGRAM
SPECIALIST WITH THE SOLID WASTE
AUTHORITY OF CENTRAL OHIO
(SWACO).SWACO. AMY SAYS SHE IS
WORKING HARD TO SAVE THE
PLANET - ONE PIECE OF TRASH AT A
TIME.

EPIC STANDS FOR EXPERIENCED PERSONS IN COMMUNITY. WHILE IT IS A GROUP FOR MEMBERS AGE 50 AND UP, ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND! EACH MONTH, 20 TO 35 MEMBERS GATHER FOR DELICIOUS FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND AN INTERESTING PROGRAM.

TOPICS RANGE FROM MUSIC TO FABULOUS PHOTOGRAPHS TO RECYCLING.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EPIC, CONTACT CORWIN KUHN OR MARY SMITHSON, CO-FACILITATORS.

NOTE: EPIC WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER DUE TO AN ALL-CHURCH DINNER THE PRIOR SUNDAY. PROGRAMS ARE PLANNED FOR JANUARY THROUGH MAY 2025. ADDITIONAL IDEAS FOR SPEAKERS ARE WELCOMED.





HeartSisters

Join us for Heart Sisters Monday, November 25th at 7:00 P.M. (fellowship starting at 6:00 P.M.) Join us this month as we continue with the theme "I Love to Tell the Story" as we welcome Pastor Joyce and hear her share her story with us. We also plan to work in a time to create some taco spice packets for the NNEMAP food pantry, so plan to come early and help with this important project.

The Fellowship Hall will be open at 6:00 P.M. and you are welcome to bring your own dinner and have a time to visit together. You are also encouraged to invite a friend – this is a great way to share the "radical hospitality" of NWCC with others. If you require transportation assistance or childcare, please contact Debbie Stephan (deb@stephanhouse.net) or the church office.











Green Chalice Initiatives

Pumpkin Carving & Get creative with your pumpkin carving! After Repurposing Columbus Specific drop spots

Get creative with your pumpkin carving! After Halloween, roast the seeds as a snack and compost the rest or use it in recipes. Avoid letting them go to waste in the trash.

Keep Columbus Beautiful will accept pumpkins for composting at the following locations October 31st - November 30th:

Alum Creek Waste & Reuse Convenience Center:

2100 Alum Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43207 Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Georgesville Waste & Reuse Convenience Center 1550 Georgsville Road, Columbus, OH 43207 Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - noon; Saturday Nov. 2 & 30 at 8 a.m.-noon



Please don't signs and metal stands in curbside or drop off containers.

Following Tuesday's General Election, SWACO is offering residents several convenient and free ways to recycle political yard signs and keep them from becoming roadside litter and out of the landfill. Franklin County residents are encouraged to recycle their signs, including the metal stands in one of the following manners:

*Mobile Collection Event: Saturday, November 9th, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Bill McDonald Athletic Complex, 4990 Olentangy River Rd.

*SWACO Recycling Convenience Center: Monday - Friday 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays throughout November 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2566

Jackson Pike in Columbus

*Board of Elections Drop-Off: November 5th - December 1st at the east end of the parking lot near the Franklin County Board of Elections building at 1700 Morse Rd.

All of the yard sign drop-off and collection options are free and open to the public. For more information about SWACO's election yard sign recycling program, visit: https://www.swaco.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=293



Harmony for Hunger Concert Friday, November 22nd at 7:30pm Linworth Methodist Church 7070 Bent Tree Blvd, Columbus 43235



You are invited to a wonderful night of music at the 2024 Harmony for Hunger concert. This concert is a major fundraiser for the NNEMAP pantry and highlights incredible musical talents from the central Ohio area. Of course, we will have great representation from NWCC! Bethel Folk Ensemble, along with Lori Beals on dulcimer, will be sharing their inspiring music. Also, John Bierley (on cornet) and Albert Adcock (on organ) will be treating us to one of Al's beautiful arrangements. This year, the Westerville Jazz Orchestra will be the featured performers. A silent auction will also be held with a wide variety of goodies for you to bid on. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the door or stop by the information table in the Narthex and see Debbie Stephan.



lt's time to do some holiday shopping!

Once again, NWCC will be helping to support the Holiday Shoppe at NNEMAP. Last year, over 1500 children received gifts through this wonderful program. Starting in early November, stop by the display in the Narthex to see what gifts are needed and return your purchases by Sunday, December 8th. Gifts are accepted for children of all ages from birth through high school. Volunteers are needed to help at the Holiday Shoppe from December 16th – 19th. If you are interested or would like additional information, please contact Debbie Stephan.



11/1 Jerry Anglim
11/2 Judy Fife
11/6 Paul Lantis
11/9 Corinne Femia
11/12 Chris Femia
11/12 Rhonda Rose
11/14 Barrett Taylor
11/17 Sydney Lee Badgeley
11/17 Adam Smith
11/25 Sam Moore
11/27 Jack Strawn
11/30 Christian Brongers

Disciples
LGBTQ+
Alliance

Poetry Zoom with Bob Nichols every second Tuesday of the month at 7pm

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

11/7 Chris and Kelley Femia 11/8 Tom and Sheri Lisak 11/18 Adam and Karen Smith 11/25 Paul and Pat Lantis

The Problem of Writing Poems in the Shape of Deciduous Trees

a comm n
pr ble whe writin
p ems in the shape of decid o s
trees is t at once t ere ar ives the fir t
sti rings of he new aut mn breeze, he
oems will begi to shake hemselves
ge tly ntil their letters loos n
like leaves, an
they
start
to
float
down
then
turntomushuponthegroun

Brian Bilston

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
Rebecca Bean, Secretary: office@northwestchristian.org
Madison Buty, Child Caregiver
Karly Dearth, Child Caregiver

