

March

2025

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A Note from Your Pastor

We are about to enter into the season of Lent, the 40 days prior to Easter. Lent is considered a time of reflection, a time to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter. Many traditions include the practice of giving something up, mimicking Jesus' 40 days fasting in the wilderness. Current traditions also include adding something on – a spiritual discipline of reading a daily devotional or adding a time of prayer to your day. Regardless of the practice, this is a season when we try to increase our intentionality in studying and thinking about Jesus and the path of his life's ministry.

Because the crucifixion and death of Jesus is so central to the story of Holy Week, we also take this time to consider our own mortality – ashes to ashes, dust to dust. In addition, this year, I invite you to consider your life – your uniqueness, your gifts, your joy. Each of us is made with specialness in the eyes of God, each of us has a sparkle.

During our Ash Wednesday service, there will be an opportunity to receive either traditional ashes, or to receive glitter ashes. With the use of glitter ashes, we take this moment to not only make a statement of repentance, but also one of hope. Glitter is a symbol of beauty, joy, and celebration. Communities that “glitter” display grit, courage, and the power to flourish. By combining glitter with ashes, we are alerting the world to love, not to hate – to empower rather than to hurt one another.

As we journey through this season of Lent, may we not only repent, but may we also flourish. May we consider our foundation in dust and our aspirations to shine. May we tell the world that we are here to share God's love, God's grace, and God's glittering presence in our lives.

Thanks be to God for all the ways God has enabled us to sparkle.

Pastor Joyce

Extravagant Generosity

2 Corinthians 13:5-9 Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it. I hope the test won't show that we have failed. But if it comes to that, we'd rather the test showed our failure than yours. We're rooting for the truth to win out in you. We couldn't possibly do otherwise. We don't just put up with our limitations; we celebrate them, and then go on to celebrate every strength, every triumph of the truth in you. We pray hard that it will all come together in your lives. (The Message)

It will soon be Lent, when Christians examine themselves and prepare for Easter. Paul was encouraging the Corinthians to do the same, in preparation for a third visit from him. Self examination is not easy. We don't like to face flaws, and often find it difficult to correct them.

But in relationship to Christ, this is exactly what we can successfully do. We can face our shortcomings and not bother with putting ourselves down. We simply turn them over to God and rejoice that He will forgive us and help us eliminate the faults.

With Christ in us, getting rid of shortcomings is still not easy, but certainly doable. And in the last verses of this passage, Paul encourages us to celebrate that we can turn them over to God and that we also have strengths and progress to be glad about.

Carla Nuenke, Extravagant Generosity





HeartSisters

THE PARABLES

Understanding
What Jesus Meant



GARY INRIG

Join us on Monday, March 31st (please note the date change) as we continue to explore the storytelling of Jesus by looking at the parable of the Unjust Judge found in Luke 18:1-8. You are encouraged to read the parable before you come and you can optionally purchase the study guide, *The Parables: Understanding What Jesus Meant* by Gary Inrig, if you want to explore the parable more fully. Bring your own dinner from 6-7pm and then join in the discussion starting at 7pm. Invite a friend and share the hospitality of NWCC!

Open Mic, Heart and Mind Coffee House "Home"

Come and share in the Gathering room on Sunday, March 9, 3-4pm.

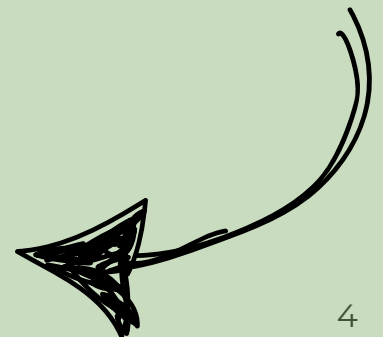
We will share stories, poems, and songs on the theme of "Home". Personal stories and original poems are invited, as well as the sharing of something meaningful to you, but written by someone else. You can sign up to share in one of these ways, or come and listen, or decide last minute to take the "stage". Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be served. All ages are invited, as are friends and neighbors. Look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex, sign up through this link or call Lori Beals 614-439-4342.



Open Mic, Heart and Mind Coffee House - "Home"

Come and share in the Gathering room on **Sunday, March 9, 3-4pm**. We will share stories, poems, and songs on the theme of "Home". Personal stories and original poems are invited, as well as the sharing of something meaningful to you, but written by someone else. You can sign up to share in one of these ways, or come and listen, or decide last minute to take the "stage". Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be served. All ages are invited, as are friends and neighbors.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)



Saturday, March 8th, at 10am
Bethany Christian church and NWCC will meet for a

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast at:
Cracker Barrell

1313 Hilliard Rome Rd.,
Columbus, OH 43228

Reply to Sam Moore at 614) 634-2065 or
samuel.moore@gmail.com



Winchester Steel Band

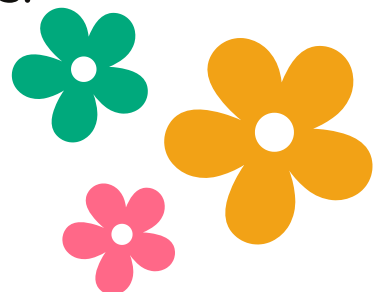


Flour Power

We are continuing to collect flour
through March 16th to support the
Flour Power project for NNEMAP.

Let's overflow the grocery
cart in the Narthex with our
donations.

Peace OUT



NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CHALICE ARTS SERIES

CHORAL CONCERT



FEATURING

The Ohio State University Men's Glee Club & Chorale
with
Wooster Chorale from the College of Wooster

Monday, March 24, 2025 | 7:30pm
1340 Fishinger Rd, Upper Arlington, OH 43221

concert is free, but a free-will offering will be taken



Easter Eggstravaganza

Bring a friend!

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
10:00 - 11:30AM

Mark your calendars for NWCC's annual Easter Eggstravaganza scheduled for Saturday, April 12th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

This event is for all children through 5th grade and their families. Crafts, games, refreshments, and a candy hunt will be available.

It is also rumored that the Easter Bunny might make an appearance!
Plan to attend and bring along a friend or two!

How can YOU help?


- Place donations of wrapped candy, mini individual snack bags (goldfish, teddy grahams, etc.) and/or small toys/trinkets that can fit in plastic eggs in the basket provided at the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

Donations are needed by Sunday, April 6th.

Volunteers are needed:

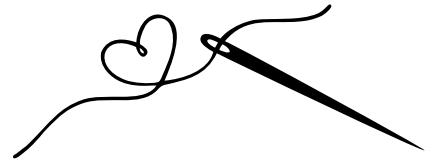
- Prior to the event to fill plastic eggs and prepare crafts
- On the day of the event to help with crafts, games, refreshments, and the candy hunt
- To help set up/clean up

Stop by the Welcome table to sign up or contact Debbie Stephan with your interest. Pass the invitation along and share our wonderful church with others!



EPIC

 Gifts for Angels, Inc.



The March EPIC gathering will include an opportunity for hands-on service. We will meet on March 18th for pot-luck dinner at 6:00 p.m.

The program at 6:45 will feature Katrina Durst from Gifts for Angels, a local non-profit volunteer organization. Their mission is to support the emotional and physical needs of families by providing free handmade items for needy and premature infants, as well as clothing and memorial items for families affected by infant loss.

Katrina will bring bibs which will already be sewn that we can finish by cutting away excess material and then turning them right side out.

 PLEASE BRING SCISSORS. She may bring other items that need hand sewing.

Also, Gifts for Angels can use any raw materials you may have. These include flannel, fleece, cotton, thread and baby yarn. If you have any of these you want to give away, please bring them.

Although EPIC is our church's group for those 50 and up, we welcome all members and guests.



DIY Dinners of 8

Are you missing Dinners of 8? Maybe you weren't sure about signing up for Dinners of 8. Maybe you would like it to be organized differently. Traditionally, guests are randomly grouped to be guests of a volunteer host, each bringing a contribution to the meal.

You are invited to design your own "Dinners of 8!"



-Plan a date for dinner at your house, or at a restaurant

-Invite 6-7 people to join you



-Consider combining "old" friends with new friends or potential friends

-You can ask them if they would like to contribute something to the meal, or let them offer without asking



-Enjoy getting to know members of NWCC

Habitat for Humanity-Mid Ohio Happenings:

Our 2025 Partnership house begins!

Northwest Christian is again partnering with seven other area church's to build a house with Habitat for Humanity. We will start construction in late March in the Habitat warehouse building the walls. Then in early April we will start construction on site. Construction days will be Saturday's and Thursday morning's until the house is completed probably in August. We will be building a three bedroom two story house for Alamin and Tarikua and their two children. Alamin and Tarikua are refugees who have emigrated to the U.S. through the International Organization for Migration.

Partner Church's:– This is our 31st house with the partnership. Together we share construction and financial responsibility for this house with Habitat for Humanity-MidOhio and these partner churches:

Covenant Presbyterian
St Agatha Catholic
St. Mark's Episcopal
Atonement Lutheran

Riverside Church
Holy Trinity Lutheran
First Community

Location: This year's house is at 1493 Arlington Ave. in Linden. Our house last year was across the street at 1496 Arlington. These houses are part of an initiative with the city of Columbus to help revitalize the Linden neighborhood.

Volunteers needed: – It requires over 2,500 volunteer hours to build a house. Most work is performed on Saturday's and Thursday mornings. Workdays typically run from 8:30 am to mid afternoon and lunch is provided. Volunteers can come and go as their schedule permits. No experience is necessary. Please consider volunteering! To volunteer or to receive emailed progress updates, please complete the volunteer form or contact John Beals at 614-928-8151 or email johnebeals@yahoo.com.

Habitat for Humanity Interested Volunteer signup

Name _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

___ **Lunches** - prepare and deliver lunch for Saturday work crew

___ **Construction** – No experience needed. Come on out, instruction is provided

Happy Birthday

3/3 Kathryn Bierley

3/5 Marsha Mueller

3/7 Warren Fife

3/7 David O'Dell

3/8 Victor Jochem

3/15 Lanny Rhodes

3/18 Melissa Allen

3/19 Laura Stafford

3/19 Barbara Thomas

3/21 Paul Hill

3/21 Cheryl Jennings

3/23 Evelyn Behm

3/26 Koral Alexander

3/26 Kim Badgeley

3/29 Bruce Anschutz

3/31 Alexandra Smith

HAPPY Anniversary

3/10 Bill and Renee Taylor

3/13 Rob McConathy and Jan Heppner-McConathy

3/24 Bruce and Linda Anschutz

**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

**Disciples
LGBTQ+
Alliance**

