



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2. PASTOR'S ARTICLE
3. EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY
4. SUSTAINABILITY FAIR
 - HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
 - HEART SISTERS
5. PRAYER VIGIL
6. NNEMAP FOOD PANTRY
7. EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
8. EPIC
 - OPEN MIC THANK YOU
- 9 VOICES OF FREEDOM CONCERT
10. BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

A Note from Your Pastor

New Life

As we prepare for our Easter celebration, we are reminded that resurrection comes after death. We can't get to a glorious Easter morning and an empty tomb without passing through and experiencing the loss and pain of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. This year, we are again offering both a Maundy Thursday service and a Good Friday service.

Maundy Thursday is a time of remembering Jesus' commandment for us to love one another. Maundy comes from the same root as the word "mandate". Jesus gathered the disciples together, and in an act of extreme humbleness, servanthood, and love, he washed their feet. He then told them, "I've shown you what to do and how to do it. Love one another as I've loved you." This was his mandate. So we'll gather to remember that night. We'll gather in the Gathering Space off the Narthex at 6pm on Thursday, April 17 for a light meal together. Our meal will be our worship. We'll share some readings and some prayers. We'll share bread and cup. And we'll remember Christ's mandate to Love one another as Jesus loved us.

Good Friday we will hold our traditional Tenebrae service in the sanctuary at 7pm. We'll share song, prayer, and message, wrestling with how to interpret the meaning of the cross across multiple understandings. The Tenebrae service is a time of hearing the story of Jesus betrayal, desertion, and death amidst lowering light, ending in the darkness that surrounded Jesus' followers after his death. This is a time for contemplation and meditation.

And then...

Easter will come! We will celebrate the empty tomb and the new life we all find in the resurrected Christ!

We'll begin with an early service, outside if the weather permits, starting at 8am. Greet the glorious Easter morn with sunlight, song, and shared communion.

Easter Breakfast will be ready at 9am in the narthex. Come fellowship and enjoy time with old friends and new acquaintances. All are welcome!

Our traditional Easter service at 10:30 will include brass, celebration, and the Hallelujah Chorus.

New life comes after times of sadness, darkness, and death. That is the promise of resurrection. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Joyce

Extravagant Generosity

Isaiah 53:5-6 The servant grew up before God—a scrawny seedling, a scrubby plant in a parched field. There was nothing attractive about him, nothing to cause us to take a second look. He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. One look at him and people turned away. We looked down on him, thought he was scum. But the fact is, it was our pains he carried— our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us. We thought he brought it on himself, that God was punishing him for his own failures. But it was our sins that did that to him, that ripped and tore and crushed him—our sins! He took the punishment, and that made us whole. Through his bruises we get healed. We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost. We've all done our own thing, gone our own way. And God has piled all our sins, everything we've done wrong, on him, on him. (The Message)

As we approach Easter, we have the finest example possible of God's stewardship of His relationship to us. This description of Jesus's sacrifice proves God's love for us and what Love really means.

He was not only the equivalent of God's whistleblower to the religious authorities and was killed for telling the truth, His entire life was difficult on our behalf. Day after day – relating to people, bearing the burdens of others, giving of Himself to heal and to encourage.

This depth of understanding our plight and loving us out of that plight shows us what Holy Stewardship is all about. Seen in this light, it makes our efforts at stewardship of time, talents, and money seem quite doable. Hopefully, with God's help we can continue to be generous in our stewardship.



*May 17 - Celebration of Life for Lin Thompson
at Northwest. Visitation with family at 10am, service at 11.*

*June 7 - Celebration of Life for Barbara Young.
Times and details will be shared as soon as they are finalized.*

**Sustainability Fair
April 5, 2025
at the Upper
Arlington Library
from 10am-2pm.**

Northwest Christian will have a table sharing how we live into our core value of caring for God's creation. There will be lots of activities for the kids and lots of interaction and information for the adults! Come join us and learn more about keeping our earth healthy well into the future.



Habitat for Humanity- House Update

Wall Raising Ceremony: Come out see the house progress, meet the family and celebrate the start of our partnership house on Saturday April 26 at 10:00 am at 1493 Arlington Ave.

The exterior walls have been built in the Warehouse and await delivery to the homes site. Construction on site will begin Tuesday April 15. It requires over 2,500 volunteer hours to build a house. Work days will continue on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and Saturdays. No experience is necessary. To volunteer or to receive emailed progress updates, please contact John Beals at 614-928-8151 or email johnebeals@yahoo.com.



HeartSisters

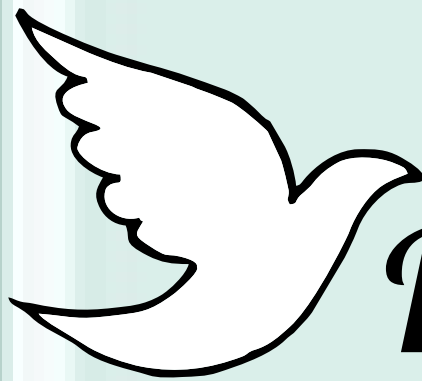
Join us on Monday, April 28th as we continue to explore the storytelling of Jesus by looking at another parable. We will be selecting the parable as a group at the March meeting, so watch your email for more details. You can optionally purchase the study guide, *The Parables: Understanding What Jesus Meant* by Gary Inrig, to explore the parables 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!

**THE
PARABLES**

Understanding
What Jesus Meant



GARY INRIG



2025

Prayer Vigil

8:00pm Good Friday, April 18th

Through

8:00am Easter Morning, April 20th

From our recognition of the Crucifixion through our celebration of the Resurrection, we, as a congregation, will be in prayer.

Sign-up in the Narthex for a one hour time slot to participate in a sacred time of extended, focused prayer and contemplation.

This time of prayer will address specific needs and events affecting our world today, while deepening each one's connection with the divine.

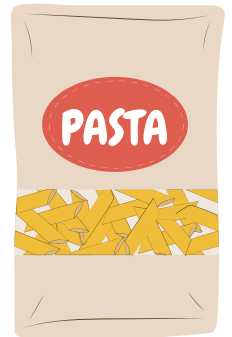




NNEMAP food pantry

Pasta-bilities

So many pasta-bilities in April and May!



We will focus on collecting pasta and pasta sauce during April and May. In addition, shelf-stable items and toiletries are always needed at the pantry. Bring your donations to the cart in the Narthex.



Thank you for your flour donations! The children will be packaging the flour on April 6th during Bible Zone.



Sign up for the Top Golf fundraiser to be held on Sunday, April 27th from 2-4pm and help to drive out hunger in Columbus. Ticket information coming soon.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 14th and plan to attend the Taste at German Village. In addition to German Village restaurants, several downtown restaurants will be participating this year as well. More details coming soon!



Dear Northwest Christian Church,

The NNEMAP Food Pantry would like to thank you so much for your continued support of our mission and your recent gift of \$1,000 dated 3/14/2025.

Your gift is gratefully acknowledged, and we truly appreciate your recognizing the importance of helping the hungry and less fortunate members of our community.

With Gratitude, Roy Clark, Executive Director
NNEMAP Food Pantry





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!



LOST + FOUND HISTORY

EPIC

LOST + FOUND FRIENDSHIP

April 15, 1865 at 7:22am



Eyewitness of the greatest single tragedy in American history
the death of President Lincoln.

Today, 155 years after Mary Lincoln and her friend,
Elizabeth Dixon witnessed the tragedy together, the story of
their friendship is shared for the first time.

LOST + FOUND FRIENDSHIP
offers us a rare glimpse into the lives of the Lincolns from a
new vantage point.

EPIC will meet on Tuesday, April 15 with pot-luck
at 6:00 p.m. followed by the program at 6:45.

Presenter Caroline Van Deusen is a Grandview
Heights resident and friend of the Beals. She will
present "Glimpses into the Lives of the Lincolns."

She is the great-great granddaughter of
Elizabeth L.C. Dixon, who was a close friend of
the Lincolns. Caroline has collected and
researched family relics, letters, and keepsakes
of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln from the Civil
War times and their time in Washington, D.C.
Caroline is a New England and Lincoln historian
and writer, and a project archivist.

Please put this on your calendar. It should be an
excellent program. All ages are welcome, as are
guests.

Thank
You



**Thank you to our eight presenters at our first Open Mic,
Heart and Mind event on Sunday, March 9th. We filled
the gathering space with 22 people and enjoyed a
wonderful variety of "home" themed poems, stories, a
song, Spokes coffee (thanks, Rolando!), and great
results on the kids' house craft! Presenters were Leslie
Ahmadi, Carolyn Abels, April Bryant, Mary Smithson,
Bob Nichols, Fred Stephens, Lisa Monterosso, Mary
Harris, and Ann Callahan (with the shortest poem). It
was a fun and meaningful time of connection! Stay
tuned for the next event in the summer or fall.**

justnorthucc.org



VOICES OF FREEDOM:

A CONCERT FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

FEATURING
*SIRENS &
JESSE POWERS*



7-9 p.m.



04.26.2025

2040 W. Henderson Road 43220

North Congregational United Church of Christ

Benefiting C.R.I.S. - Community Refugee and Immigration Services
Silent Auction begins at 6 p.m.



Scan for
ticket information



Tickets \$25

Recommended
Donation



Happy Birthdays

4/11 Doug and Rebecca Allen
4/25 John and Marsha Mueller
4/28 Sam and Mary Moore

Happy Anniversary

4/4 Tom Lisak
4/9 Se'kani Grabbe-Harraman
4/16 April Steffy
4/16 Spencer Velazquez
4/23 Mira Taylor
4/26 Bob Nichols
4/28 Campbell Taylor

**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

Yiwen Zhu, Accompanist

Madison Buty, Child Caregiver

Karly Dearth, Child Caregiver

**Disciples
LGBTQ+
Alliance**

