

The Northside Spirit

Sunday Worship 10:00AM

Northside United Methodist Church
701 Airline Road, Brewster, MA 02631

October 2015



Pastor's Moment

June 26 seems so long ago now! It's now twelve weeks later ... the whole summer!! Wow, how time flies when you're having fun and feeling like you're able to make a contribution!

I'm definitely having fun! I've so enjoyed worshipping on the beach, sending our youth off and welcoming them back home from their mission trip, VBS, visiting and meeting you all, working with our various ministry teams, starting some new small groups, and beginning to connect with the community. It is such a blessing (often a challenge, but always a blessing) to be a pastor! I am so humbled to be used by God to try to positively impact your lives and to lead us as the body of Christ to be positive impacts on the lives of others...

Worship & Bulletin Changes:

Yes, some changes have already been made!



One area of the life of the church where the pastor has key responsibility is worship. I love worship; and I take responsibility for it very seriously. I see worship as the focal point for everything we do as the body of Christ. Worship is the experience of coming together in celebration, sharing, learning, remembering, and prayer. And, it should be such an inspiring experience that it sends us back out wanting to be about the things of God so that we can come back again next Sunday to celebrate again!

Worship, for me, must be Spirit-led. That means it might not be the same format every week. It must be alive, yet authentic. It must be engaging, yet of high quality.

I do like using an audio-visual system. I know that it can be valuable tool for vibrant worship. Right now, I ask for your patience as I experiment with our system and as we improve its quality.

I've also tried to respond to the challenge of starting worship on time. Here's how I think of the flow of worship:

We come into the church and sincerely greet one another on our way into the sanctuary. We don't linger very long in the narthex, though, because our priority is to first worship God. We enter into the sanctuary mindful that others are prayerfully listening to the gathering music and preparing themselves for worship.

Because I want worship to be Spirit-led, I go into the sanctuary 3 to 5 minutes before 10:00 and sit in a pew to do the same --- to invite the Spirit in and to ask God to just use me. That's why you won't often see me formally process in.

After the worship experience, we gather in the Fellowship Hall over coffee and other refreshments to fellowship and share with each other ... and then to walk out into the mission field with joy and as one in the Spirit of Christ!!

So, we begin on time and with focus on God. And we end with hearts on fire and time for each other!

Also, I hope you are okay with my asking for "Jesus Sightings" and for joys and concerns during worship. We've certainly had some wonderful sharing! You notice, also, that I like to walk around a bit when I preach. I don't want to make you feel uncomfortable, but I do like to invite you in to be a part of the message.

In working with the worship team, we've also made some changes to the bulletin. First, because we're not getting information from visitors on the pew sheets, we added the tear-off for visitors on the bulletin flap. (And, since nothing else is done with the info from the pew sheets, we've eliminated them from the pews.)

Second, we've also tried to respond to the need people have expressed about the calendar. That's why we've added a "2-week, at-a-quick-glance calendar" on the back of the bulletin.

It's also helpful to have a prayer list that we can take with us each week. That's why we added one to the flap of the bulletin. You are invited to add to this prayer list by calling or emailing the church office.

Setting hearts on fire & stewardship:

Even before I arrived in July, I heard from the Stewardship Committee about their excitement regarding "Setting Hearts on Fire" and "Stewardship 365."

Now, when I think of stewardship in the church, I think of our call to be good stewards of all the blessings we have from God. This includes our time, our talents, our presence, our gifts, and our witness. Our Book of Discipline calls for the formation of a Stewardship Committee. This committee is primarily responsible for reminding us that all that we have is God's, that we are called to be good stewards of those blessings, and that being good stewards includes giving a portion, of all that we have been entrusted with, back to God. ...And this includes our money. (The Stewardship Committee, therefore, runs the annual pledge drive.)

I am so thrilled to see that our Northside Stewardship Committee has taken on this challenge ... and more! The committee is tying Discipleship and Stewardship together. We are invited by God to be growing, serving, and giving back to the work of God every day of our lives – 24/7, 365! That's the message behind the pieces of paper they've printed up and taped to all the doors, walls, and windows!

Of course, it starts with hearts on fire; it depends on hearts on fire!! But, the "it" isn't a budget or the paying of bills! The "it" is transformed lives; the "it" is making real the kingdom of God!

So, the "it" really does depend on the stewardship of our relationship with God and with all that God loves. "It" depends on our taking time to grow and to share in Christ, so that our hearts, and the hearts of others, might be set on fire!

You know that! You feel that! You know the joy and excitement!

May we at Northside be about that joy and excitement all during the week, investing our time in it! And may we come into worship every Sunday on fire to celebrate it and to continue to invest our money in it!

Thank you, Stewardship Committee!



In closing

Wow, the opportunities for growth and sharing and serving! I'm so excited about the study of Mark on Tuesday mornings! What a challenge ... and yet, what a blessing to try to enter into the time and place that "Mark" was writing to and to encounter the witness to Jesus that he tried to offer!

I'm excited about offering Disciple 1 – a 32-week walk through the Bible. I'll offer both daytime and evening sessions starting the week of October 18. We're working on the logistics right now. Please know there are still openings! Call the office or me with your inquiries and interests.

I'm also excited about Gail Kerr's desire to offer a workshop on Living Prayer. Yet, as you are aware, her plate is rather full right now. Keep Tom and her in your prayers!!

And, I'm really being blessed by the "Home Gatherings." Thanks to the hosts and thank you to all for your open hearts, minds and sharing.

Oh and so much more!! The connections being made at our last Community Dinner!!!! Thanks to you all! I know God must be extremely thankful! ...I'm so overjoyed to be a part of the kingdom of God at Northside!

One last thing --- You want to really have your heart strangely warmed?! Take time to experience our Taize Service!!

Blessings,
Pastor Bob



From our ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR:

Dear Sojourners,

Over the summer I had the opportunity to engage in a wonderful conversation at one of our community dinners which left an incredible impact on my life and ministry and is one that I wanted to share with all of you. I pray you too will be transformed by reading this and feel challenged to engage with those in our community!

“Why do you hold these dinners? What’s the point?” This question was asked from an elderly couple who attended the community dinner in August. They continued with many questions and finished by saying that they attend these monthly meals for the social interaction and a break from their daily routines. Now without getting into much detail, this couple appeared primarily homebound, and limited by various mediums, but were very sweet and even said they had been attending our meals since the beginning. My response was “As Northside we decided to hold these dinners in order to introduce our church to the community, provide an opportunity to get to know our neighbors, offer a place for those in need of a meal and simply just have a place for fellowship for anyone in the community.” I continued to explain that the food was donated and all the funds from the free will offering will go to local outreach projects or help pay for the following month’s meal.

They said, “We’ve been here every month and we haven’t met anyone. But we’ll be back for the food because it’s delicious!” And in September sure enough they joined us again, and this time multiple people made it a point to interact with them. I share this story because it was a very humbling reminder to me that we need to always welcome the stranger-and not get so caught up in all the details that we miss the purpose of why we started the ministry outreach.

Therefore as the holidays begin to approach, small groups start up, new opportunities are available, I encourage everyone to not lose focus on the bigger picture and truly embrace the stranger, the new neighbor, the new kid at school, or the new visitor on Sunday mornings. Live in the moment, step outside the comfort zone, and build new relationships...because you never know where God is leading you and how you may have the opportunity to forever change a life!



With God’s Peace,
Kate

From our Director Of Children & Youth Ministries

October Jubilations



Sunday School: We offer Sunday School for our Nursery through 12th Grade Students each Sunday during our 10 o'clock Worship Service. We welcome everyone to start in Worship together and then our students are dismissed to class after the Children's Message.

Sunday School Teachers Needed! We are still in need of 10 Sunday School Teachers for the school year to teach classes from Nursery to 12th Grade. We aim to have 3 teachers per classroom so our teachers volunteer on a rotation. Please see Evy if interested.

Bus Stop Ministry: We are in need of snacks to serve. If interested in providing a snack for the fabulous young people please see Evy. Snacks should be individually wrapped, (please NO peanuts), juice boxes are perfect and they are quite fond of fruit snacks! We have around **50 students** that use us as a bus stop each day ;)

CPR/AED & First Aid Class: Saturday October 3rd at 9am we will be having Sylvester Consultants come to Northside and lead a class. Make sure to sign up in the Narthex! Cost is \$40.00 per person, 50% off for Sunday School Teachers.



NEW DATE ~ Youth Mission Trip Brunch Celebration: We would like to thank everyone who supported us all year long to go and serve the community of Pocahontas, Virginia with a Brunch on **Sunday October 4th**. There will be a slide show, photos, games, awesome food and testaments from our youth. Hear their experience, see their experience and get a taste of appreciation! Please make sure to **sign up** on the Sunday School Bulletin Board/Narthex so we know how much awesome food to make! There is no charge for our Celebration Brunch; however there is a limit of 100 guests due to the size of our Fellowship Hall. Menu: Cheesy Egg Frittata, Sausages, Blueberry Bread, Fresh Fruit, Coffee & Juice.



College, Military & Young Adult Care Packages: On **Sunday October 11th** our Youth Group will be putting together Care Packages to be sent to all of our High School Grad students. Before the 11th, we will have the boxes in the Narthex for our Church family to also add to the Care Packages. Please bring items for **32 Care Packages**. Items can be from the dollar store and you could get packs of gum, chips, snacks, candy, and quarters for laundry and/or writing special notes to them. Our grads names, college they are attending and other information will be on each box. Packages will be sent to Military, those studying in college and to our other graduates that are exploring their dreams and aspirations in the working field and starting their own families. If you know of another graduate of Northside, please let us know so we can also send them a package of love.

“Words of Inspiration” for our High School Grads: *NEW this year*, we would like to put together a devotional written by our church family. We would like everyone to participate by sharing a personal story, poetry, art, words of wisdom, advice or anything you can think of that would have been helpful for you to know when you were just starting out after High School. This devotional will be sent to students that are in college, the military and to those that are exploring other adventures. Some of our students that have graduated in the last 8 years have even started their own families. Any words you can offer would be wonderful and we will add your name to your piece. Please send your “Words of Inspiration” to Evy at evy@northside-umc.org by **Sunday October 18th**. We will be putting the collection of words together into a little book. We are aiming to send these out in addition to the college care packages so our young adults can have a couple of mailings this Fall Season.

From our Director Of Children and Youth Ministries (continued)

October Youth Group:

Youth Group College Care Packaging: for our 7th-12th grade students, we will be meeting on Sunday October 11th from 5-7pm. We will be having tacos for dinner and then making care packages for our High School Grads. Make sure to sign up on the Sunday School Bulletin Board and let us know what you can bring to share for dinner! Invite a friend!

Youth Group “Geocaching”: 7th-12th Graders please join us on Sunday October 25th at Northside for a game of Geocaching, it’s an app on your phone and we go on a local real treasure hunt! We’ll be having a Domino’s Pizza Lunch and then heading out in groups to travel for treasures! After church until 2pm! Invite a friend!

Family Fall Event ~ Davis Farmland: Fun for the whole family! Come and enjoy a fabulous *Corn Mega Maze*, *Apple* and *Pumpkin picking* on **Saturday October 17th**! We will be going to Davis Farmland in Sterling Mass! Cost is \$11.00 per person, (5 years old & under is free) and we have cap-off amounts for families @ \$35.00. Please meet at Northside at **8am** where we will car pool together up to the farm. We should be back around **4:30pm**. Bring your own bag lunch and snacks! Once we are there, families can go and enjoy the Park! Please bring additional money for purchasing your harvest day items. Parents must come on this trip with their kiddos! We encourage you to invite your friends! Sign up on the Sunday School Bulletin Board today! Don’t forget to fill out the form!



Movie Night for our children at our Community Dinner: We invite all of our Sunday School Families to come for a **FREE** dinner here at Northside on **Tuesday October 20th from 5-6:30pm!** It’s open to everyone in our community! For our children, we invite you to come and enjoy a movie in the Library after you’re done with dinner! We’ll have arts and crafts for all ages! Make sure to invite your friends!

In need of some financial assistance to attend a trip or event? Have multiple kids in your herd and want to make sure they all can come? We want to make sure that any child/youth wanting to attend any trip or function has the opportunity to go. We can always work out payment plans, help with scholarships and much more. Please do not hesitate to ask. We love all of our children and youth and want all of them to enjoy every program and event that is offered in our church family. We offer scholarships, payment plans and cap-off amounts for families.

Young Adult Ministries: We have opportunities for our College Age students that are not quite 21 to serve in leadership as Junior Chaperones. Interested in joining? Please see Evy! You can also check out our events and other activities online at www.northside-umc.org!

“You’re my place of quiet retreat. I wait for your word to renew me.”
~Psalm 119:114

With excitement and passion for the autumn season,
Evy Nickerson
Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Outreach Committee:

In October we continue with our theme of *"Feeding Hearts, Minds, Souls and Stomachs!"* In September we raised up various outreach activities that we have been involved in and ones that we are planning on growing in the fall months. These outreach opportunities are open to everyone and we hope you will join us in making a difference in changing lives in many of these upcoming events!

October provides many opportunities to get involved which include our **Community Dinner on Tuesday October 20th at 5pm.** Additionally on **Sunday October 11th we will continue with our Red Wagon Ministry** and bring boxes of instant rice and potatoes to help with the food pantry's request for this upcoming month.



Champ Homes will also be looking for volunteers to help make the food, and serve the food in Hyannis and welcomes any donations on or before **Monday October 26th.** This is an amazing ministry and one that has truly been a blessing to connect with! Most recently this group has inquired about not only sharing a meal with them but possibly engaging in a bible study with them. We are still exploring many possibilities but if this seems interesting or you have more questions please contact Kate for details.

Alongside these opportunities is the **Changing the World Loose Change Outreach Project.** October's focus will be the **Wounded Warriors of Cape Cod.** By bringing in your loose change and putting it in the collection places on Sunday mornings you are making a difference and showing how much you care about those in need in our community. This program not only works with those who have served, but those who are still serving our country in all branches of the military. There are many veterans who have returned and have been forever changed. Wounded Warriors not only helps them to readjust back into the community, but provides their families with the support system they need as well. If you are interested in learning more please click: www.woundedwarriorproject.org
Thank you for your support.



Continuing with our exciting mission of "feeding" we invited everyone to a **Community Connection Night on Tuesday October 20th from 5pm to 630pm.** We will

provide a free dinner at Northside UMC and have a movie playing in the library for the kids so that after they are done they can enjoy a movie while we have fellowship! This is open to everyone in the church and community. This month we will serve American Chop Suey, a fresh garden salad and dessert. Our hope is that everyone can feel fed by our church in multiple ways and a free will offering will be accepted. We look forward to having you join us in sharing God's love with our community! If you are interested in donating, serving or preparing the meal please contact Kate LaCroix.



The **Yarmouth Food Pantry** is growing and needs our continued support with their feeding ministry. So far we have made an enormous impact over the course of this year especially within our community and have even helped individuals in our congregation as well. **This month the pantry has asked for boxes of instant potatoes and rice (or bags).** If you are able to provide any of these items the pantry would be incredibly grateful as they are coming up on a very busy time of year. Please feel free to bring your donations and place them in the Red Wagon or in the brown box located in the narthex by the church offices. Thank you so much for your support and making a difference!

Don't forget this month is **Miracle Kitchen! October 23rd.** Anyone interested in volunteering to serve, bake, or donate please contact the office or sign up in the book in the Narthex. This month sandwiches, cookies, and soup are need to help with this awesome feeding ministry which is vital to assisting those in need in Hyannis and a wonderful experience for all who are involved. Interested? Come join us! Need more info and details contact the church office.

Lastly, don't forget to purchase **DY-ECH Cards** before you go shopping at Stop and Shop, Shaws, or Dunkin' Donuts! All cards are sold after the service in the fellowship hall. A portion of the sales is donated to preventing homelessness on Cape Cod and certainly make a difference in changing lives! Questions see a member of the Outreach Committee.

Spiritual Life Groups:

Crossroads will gather on Thursday October 22, 2015 at 7pm at Marshside in Dennis. We will continue to explore with each other where our life, work, family and our faith intersect. As we look at transitions, holidays, and upcoming events let us be in fellowship with one another and see where we can continue to grow with God and grow as a church family. If you are interested in connecting with this group, or have questions please contact Kate. Also, if you want to join us please RSVP by Sunday October 18th at the latest. I look forward to you joining us!

From Your Thrift Shop

Transportation is provided to and from Sunday
Worship
for those who meet at the Thrift Shop at 9:30am.

Spring/Summer Hours
Monday—Saturday, 10am-4pm
Wednesday—10am-8pm

The address is 18 Hall Street in Dennis Port
Telephone: 508-760-5300.



Volunteers needed for Wednesday afternoons 1-4. Please contact Terry Curry 508-430-4252

What is Taizé prayer?

Taizé prayer is a quiet simple way of prayer designed for people of all Christian traditions. These meditative candle lit services include simple chants sung repeatedly; rich silence; and prayers of praise and intercession.



History of Taizé:

These prayer services emerged from an ecumenical community of monks in Taizé, France. Brother Roger, Taize's founder, arrived in the village of Taizé, France in 1940. In the midst of World War II, he dreamed of creating a community where reconciliation was a daily reality. He began by giving shelter to refugees of the war, especially the Jewish community. Brother Roger recognized that the search for reconciliation was within each individual as well as within the community. Initially, the Taizé founder lived alone, until brothers from various Protestant and Roman Catholic backgrounds followed. Today, as an ecumenical monastic community, Taizé is a sign of reconciliation. People from around the world, especially young people, come to Taizé looking for meaning in their lives as they prepare for responsibilities in their own communities. The brothers seek to awaken spirituality, particularly in young adults, and promote Christian unity and peace. The community's style of worship, including the mixing of meditative prayer and song, periods of silence, and the use of light have influenced services in many Christian churches.

Invitation to join us: (note the change in days)

Monday, October 12, 2015 at 7pm at Northside United Methodist Church in the sanctuary for a time of prayer, worship, singing and silence. This service is open to all. Questions, please contact Kate LaCroix.

Holly Fair



HOLLY FAIR SILENT AUCTION TABLE

The Silent Auction at Northside's Annual Holly Fair has always been a tremendous success. This committee really needs help from all church members in gathering items or gift certificates from area businesses. If you are willing to assist this committee by gathering donations or assisting with clerical duties, please contact Joan Anderson (508-385-9155) or Chris Harrington (508-385-0044). Following is the letter you can give to donors.

NORTHSIDE RED SHIRTS

Northside Red Sweatshirts and T-Shirts needed for the November Fair and other activities will be ordered in the next few weeks. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Joan Anderson, 508-385-9155 or email joananders@comast.net. Some sweatshirts available in stock.

NORTHSIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
701 Airline Rd. (at Setucket)
Brewster, Massachusetts 02631
www.northside-umc.org

Robert Schneider, Pastor
Office (508) 385-8622

Email: office@northside-umc.org
Fax: (508) 385-8642

Dear Friends:

Northside United Methodist Church is planning its 29th Annual “Holly Fair” which will be held on Saturday, November 7th, at the Dennis Senior Center, Route 134 and Setucket Rd., South Dennis.

Because of friends such as you, the Silent Auction at the fair has always been a tremendous success! We are seeking your help with a donation of an item or gift certificate for our auction. Your donation would be most appreciated and is tax-deductible.* Proceeds from the fair benefit local outreach programs such as free monthly community dinners, Nauset School bus stop ministry, monthly meals at Champ Homes, the Yarmouth Food Pantry, as well as others listed below.**

We sincerely thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Silent Auction Committee

Joan Anderson (508-385-9155)

Christine Harrington (508-385-0044)

If you have an item that needs to be picked up, please call a member of the Silent Auction Committee listed above.

If you prefer to mail a gift certificate directly to our church, please use the following address:

Northside United Methodist Church
Att: Silent Auction
701 Airline Road
Brewster, MA 02631

*Northside United Methodist Church is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Tax ID #042790556

**Additional outreach: Habitat for Humanity, Cape Cod Times Needy Fund, Salvation Army “Dress a Live Doll” Program, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), United Methodist Church World Services, Cape Cod Council of Churches, Salvation Army “Miracle Kitchen”, Hands of Hope Food Pantry, Heifer Project, Cape Abilities, Neighborhood Faith Kitchen, Independence House, Katelyn’s Closet, and others.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Summer is officially over as I write this, and everyone is back to ~~school~~ I mean church! Wait, school might not be a bad word - it has five letters after all. Sunday worship, family time, friends and coffee hour chat go hand-in-hand with small groups, good conversation, and spiritual growth. Christian Education, in all of its varied forms, is an integral part of a flourishing Methodist congregation. Most of us begin our faith journey with stories from the bible showing us what faith, love, courage and justice mean - they tell us that we are forgiven and that we are loved.

It's funny how we can sometimes forget, as adults, the most simplest aspects of our faith. We get so bogged down by stress, complications and busy schedules. When we take the time to get back to basics, clearing our hearts and minds to listen for God, the sense of peace we can achieve is inestimable.

Leading a Sunday School class, adult or youth, is a wonderful and enjoyable way to get back to our core beliefs. I have always found, personally, that I learned more from our youth than I ever taught. We forget, as adults, how it feels to be young, to see life from an entirely different perspective and to feel everything more keenly. Justice issues take on a whole different meaning when you are able to look at them from a different point of view. Talk with Evy if you ever feel called to this incredibly important and vital ministry - a way to express our love for our families and a way to feel the love right back!

Now for the studies...

Join us this Autumn to get back to our Methodist roots and find the answer to that question "Why are you a Methodist?" - what is the structure of our church, our core beliefs. Pastor Bob will be guiding a study group to re-discover what makes us Methodists, and who is this John Wesley we keep hearing about...

Laurie Higgins is going to lead a study and conversation based on the book "Finding God in Suffering: A Study on Job" later this Autumn.

Pastor Bob is going to lead the "Disciple" series for those who are ready for an inspirational long-term group study.

Cindy Horgan from Cape Cod Children's Place, will be joining us on November 17. Cindy is a wonderful and talented speaker and has worked with families and schools here on the Cape for many years. Stay tuned for more info...

We are making plans, now, for advent studies, small groups and maybe a potluck dinner/forum. We would love to hear your comments, ideas and suggestions about Christian Education. Take a minute to send us a Northside Love Note (forms are in the Narthex) or just send me an email.

Your friends in Christian Education



John Wesley preaches in the meeting house of Mathew Bagshaw in Nottingham, England, in 1747. Courtesy of United Methodist Commission on Archives and History -

From the Choir Director

Hello Fellow Northsiders!

As you have most likely heard by this point in time, I suffered a grand mal seizure on September 9 after I returned home from a day of work and meetings. While I was diagnosed with epilepsy 6 years ago at this exact time of year, I've confidently had it under great control and have little if no problems with the condition. So, to say my life was turned upside down with this event would be a gross understatement.

I must say, the outpouring of love and prayer was and has been greatly felt by myself and my family. One of the hardest things about going through seizures is losing your license for an undetermined amount of time. As you know my personality, I hardly sit still, and sitting still isn't much of something I do or do well for that matter. It's a small adjustment.

However, as I'm approaching the half way point in my pregnancy with #3(!) and wondering if I'm going to be able to handle things that are inevitably going to come my way, I'm taking this episode as a message from God that it may be time to either slow down or just shift gears in a different direction for a little while. I've been praying for quite some time, and after discussions with Sue Eldridge, Pastor Bob, and the mentorship of Janet Golden and Jill Brennan, I feel that the time for me to taking a year leave of absence is of most value for my health, the health of my growing child, and the health of my family.

It's a decision that I did not come to lightly or quickly for that matter. Each and every moment that I get to spend with our choir is and has been a sweet gift from God as this group of people is my next family outside of my home. They are the warmest, most understanding, and above all, loving group of individuals who love to sing together in fellowship and friendship. They've supported me through the biggest life changes any person can go through-starting and growing a family while growing my own faith. Not to mention the relationship I have grown with Janet Golden. She's been the mother and grandmother I've needed many times, and always my biggest cheerleader and giver of "tough love" when needed. I could be here for days listing what I've learned from her.

For the year, Jill Brennan has agreed to take over. As my grandmother always said-musicians never "retire". They just take a break here and there. I'm very grateful for her support and will fill in as needed as well.

With this change, only comes the change of title from choir director to church parishioner for this year ahead. Pat and I are looking to continue growing our family in faith at Northside and know this is home.

Again, your prayers and support have meant the world to me and I'm very grateful to have been able to serve as your choir director for the last four years. What a great honor and I thank you for your love and trust!

Thanks so much!
Stephanie Riley





“SETTING OUR HEARTS ON FIRE” 365

Have you seen it? Have you wondered what it means? It's on the banners outside the church, it is on the bulletin board, it is on the doors and windows, it's in the Spirit. Look around.

The founder of the United Methodist Church, John Wesley, had a conversion experience at which time he recounts, “Did we not feel our hearts strangely warmed?” After that defining moment, he was changed and understood the power of God's Holy Spirit moving in and around him. The Disciples, on the Day of Pentecost, felt tongues of fire touch them and they were no longer the same, but empowered to go forth and teach Christ's word at risk of their own life (only one died a natural death). Countless others through history have been touched by the fire of the Holy Spirit in their heart that has changed their life, and changed the lives of others around them.

The Stewardship group has set out on a mission with the pastor seeking to awaken all of us to the power of God's Holy Spirit moving in our lives and in the life of the church. To allow the Holy Spirit to motivate and empower our lives **365 days a year**, to grow in our personal faith, to guide us in our reaching out to others to bring them to Christ, to serve our Lord in any and every way we can and to make us good stewards/caretakers of all of life and creation. As our *hearts become warmed* with God's presence, we cannot help but to respond to God's love and His gift of life. That's the essence of Stewardship- giving/responding with your whole heart to Him

It is our firm conviction that as we allow ourselves to experience the fullness of God's presence in our life, our hearts will be “*set on fire*” to serve Him with our whole life. Or, as our church membership vows say: in the “giving of our time, our talents and our gifts.” If we recognize God's love for each of us, how can we not seek to give in response to that eternal, unfettered, unconditional love our whole selves to serve Him..

How about **YOU**? Has there been that moment you felt your heart strangely warmed?

Do you love your Lord? Are you open to allowing Him to “*Set Your Heart On Fire*”, to love, give and serve Him in return?



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 **Mac Michael LaBarge**
Mary Sabo
- 3 Janice Urquhart
- 4 **Noah Savini**
- 6 Bill Fuqua
- 7 **CeCi LaBarge**
- 7 **Dylan Keen**
- 8 Glenna Smith
- 13 **Kendall Perry**
Stephanie Riley
- 16 Linda Leonard
- 18 **Carly Phillips**
- 19 Cheryl Atwood-Jones
- 21 Jamie Cabot
Rosalie DiNapoli
- 23 Sue Myland
Pete Schubnell
- 24 Dianne Frisone
- 27 Cheryl Williams
- Annabelle Napolitano**
- 29 Paul Lukens
- 31 Pamela Whitcomb



Parish Health



The American Heart Association advises patients have their blood pressure checked at least once every two years. A single reading doesn't indicate high blood pressure as there are factors of nervousness or being upset that could cause elevation. Diagnosis is generally determined after two or more elevated readings in a row. These reading are best taken in a situation of calm and serenity. Blood pressure may be lowered naturally in some instances if overweight. Add fiber to diet to help lower cholesterol and thereby reduce blood pressure. With the doctor, check supplements to be sure you are getting adequate potassium, calcium, magnesium and vitamin C. Limit salt intake and be observant of highly processed foods. Most important— learn to read food labels. You will be amazed at the concentration of salt and other additives in various foods

Moments in Stewardship

Sharing God's Bounty



The Exalted State of Servanthood

Martin Luther, as professor of theology in the 1,500's wrote, "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." Perhaps those two sentences appear at first to be contradictory. What Luther was trying to help us understand is that we, as Christians, are called to freedom from an obligation to serve, but that we are **called to the freedom to serve joyfully**.

This call to joyful servanthood is understood and often scoffed at, simply because we have confused servanthood with servitude. Servitude conveys the idea of bondage and even slavery. Servanthood, on the other hand, connotes voluntary service, joyful giving of ourselves, a willing choice to help others, and selfless commitment.

One who is involved in servitude serves unwillingly out of a sense of fear and has no hope of entering into a different state, while one involved in servanthood lives in an exalted state, a healthy and uplifting climate of helping others. Even though challenges must be overcome and problems may abound, the joy of servanthood is the overriding experience.

How do we get from a state of servitude to a state of servanthood? This transition is made when we properly understand the Word of God which clearly defines servanthood by explaining Christ's purpose in coming to Earth: ". . . *the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*" (Matthew 20:28). Jesus lived the perfect life of the servant in our places, so we no longer are constrained to try to "measure up" to what God expects. The Law never saves, never enables us, only shows us our shortcomings.

When we look at Christ, though, and how he lived his earthly life and what he has done for us, we are freed to respond with heartfelt, sincere, loving service to those he has placed around us. The acts of service we render are the same; the motivation and attitude are what make the difference. Through Christ, we are elevated to the exalted state of servanthood.

Time is a gift that is given to man.

We are to use it according to God's own plan.

To each he gives a measured amount; to each a directive to make it count.

Spend this gift wisely.

Develop life's plan to the Glory of God and to the Service of Man.



OCTOBER



Northside's October 2015 Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				7:15am AA 10am Small group session	7:15am AA	7:15am AA 9:00AM CPR Class
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7:15am AA 10:00am Service Youth Trip Mission Celebration 2:00pm Windsor Nursing Home 3:30pm AA 7pm Small group session	7:15am AA 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Sign language class	7:15am AA 10am Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 6:30pm Finance 7:00pm Ad Council	7:15am AA 8:30am Brewster Garden Club 6:30 AA	7:15am AA 10am Careabouts 7pm Choir	7:15am AA	7:15am AA
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7:15am AA 10:00am Service Red Wagon 3:30pm AA 5pm Youth Group College Care Packages	7:15am AA 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Sign language class 7pm TAIZE	7:15am AA 10am Bible Study 7pm SPRC 7pm Trustees	7:15am AA 6:30 AA	7:15am AA 7pm Choir	7:15am AA November Spirit Deadline	7:15am AA 8sm Family Fall Event @ Davis Farmland
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
7:15am AA 10:00am Service 3:30pm AA	7:15am AA 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Sign language class 7pm Small group session	7:15am AA 10am Bible Study 10am Pleasant Bay 5pm Community Dinner	7:15am AA 6:30 AA 7pm Disciple 1	7:15am AA 7pm Choir 7pm Crossroads	7:15am AA 9:00am Miracle Kitchen	7:15am AA
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween
7:15am AA 10:00am Service 11am Youth Group Geocaching 3:30pm AA	7:15am AA 5pm Champ Homes 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Sign language class	7:15am AA 9:30am Stewardship 10am Bible Study 2:15pm Eagle Pond 7:00pm Outreach	7:15am AA 6:30 AA 7pm Disciple 1 7pm Ladies Book Club	7:15am AA 7:30am Men's Breakfast 7pm Choir	7:15am AA	7:15am AA



Where did Halloween come from?

Ancient Origins of Halloween. Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1.

It's true that the ancient Celts of Ireland and Britain celebrated a minor festival on Oct. 31 — as they did on the last day of most other months of the year. However, Halloween falls on the last day of October because the Feast of All Saints or "All Hallows" falls on Nov. 1.

Womens Book Club

The next meeting for the book club is Wednesday October 28th @ the home of Bo Durst. The book is **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman. Please RSVP to Bo at 508-385-2294

There will not be a meeting of the Book Club in November. We will resume again in December with **Bittersweet** by Colleen McCullough.

Any other questions please contact Donna Raymond at 508-362-8912



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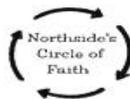


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*Connect to God... Grow with God...
Care for Others... Connect Others to God*