



# Norwalk Christian News

Norwalk Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) November 15, 2011

For the past 2 years I had the privilege of serving as your Associate Pastor. My gifts have grown in a variety of ways, some of which I couldn't imagine as I came out of seminary.

My time here at Norwalk Christian Church has been a blessing. I have appreciated getting to know you, serving alongside you, and taking part in a variety of ministries in the church. It is because of how my gifts have grown, that I have accepted a call to be the Interim Pastor of the Center Pointe & Urbana Christian Churches beginning in the new year. I will continue to serve here at Norwalk through advent and will finish my ministry here at the end of the year.

This opportunity will give me the chance to continue to grow and experience congregational ministry in a multitude of ways and to explore my call to this new part of ministry. It will not be easy to say goodbye. I cherish the time I've had at NCC and the support I have had to grow into this role of "Pastor". Thank you for sharing your lives with me in ministry together.

Peace,

Pastor Kara Courtney

## Community Thanksgiving Service

The Community Thanksgiving Service is 6:00pm next Sunday, Nov. 20th at Fellowship Community Church.

## CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, NOV. 17

Prayer Shawl 1:00 p.m.  
Dave Ramsey Class 6:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, NOV. 19

Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m.  
Pageant Practice 9:30 a.m.  
Craft Decorating 9:00 a.m.

### SUNDAY, NOV. 20

Casual Worship 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Community Thanksgiving 6:00 p.m.

### TUESDAY, NOV. 22

Coffee Time 10:00 a.m.  
Craft Decorating 11:00 a.m.  
Choir 7:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 23

Yoga 6:00 p.m.

### THURSDAY, NOV. 24

NCC Offices Closed  
Thanksgiving Dinner 1:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY, NOV. 25

NCC Offices Closed

### SUNDAY, NOV. 27

Casual Worship 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Gathering 5:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, NOV. 29

Coffee Time 10:00 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30

Chi Rho 6:00 p.m.  
CYF 6:00 p.m.  
Yoga 6:00 p.m.  
Choir 7:00 p.m.

### THURSDAY, DEC. 1

Jennie McAfee 7:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, DEC. 3

Pageant Practice 10:00 a.m.  
30 & 1 6:00 p.m.

## **December Birthdays & Anniversaries**

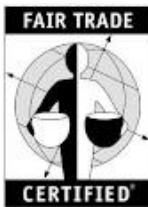
4 Hannah Jameson  
6 Duncan Burnett  
10 Paul & Chris Bright  
10 Tom Wood  
11 Frank Thomas  
12 Zane Turner  
14 Caroline Bishop  
16 Charlene Thomas  
17 Chris Baack  
17 Katie Garrison  
19 Joe Hill  
19 Amy Lester  
19 Dewey McKee  
20 Devin Webb  
20 Rob Boyd  
23 Kathy Raymond  
23 Ada Zinke  
24 Tom Reavely  
26 Dayna Kinkade  
26 Becky Darnell  
26 Kim Ward  
28 Mary Coon  
28 Warren & Virgil Myer  
29 Eric Johnson  
30 Donna Ballard  
31 Alexis Minson  
31 Marcia VanDike

## *From Dayna...*

Are you tired of giving gifts to people who don't need anything? Why not give the gift of life to someone in need? Alternative gift giving is a powerful way to remember that this season really is about hope, peace, love and joy; not just for us but for all.

If you like giving chocolate or coffee as a gift you might consider a gift basket from [equalexchange.coop](http://equalexchange.coop) where you can buy fair trade products. In recent weeks we have been made painfully aware that in the Ivory Coast, where most of the cocoa beans in the world are grown, children are trafficked across borders to work as slaves on the plantations. Virtually every company we associate with chocolate is complicit in this practice as are we when we purchase these products.

One thing we can do to support workers around the world is purchase products that are certified "Fair Trade." Although the system is not perfect, this symbol gives some assurance that the rights of producers and workers are not violated. You can Google "Fair Trade" to learn more and find links to all kinds of websites. When you give a Fair Trade product you also have an opportunity to educate one more person about the conditions and rights of workers whose goods we regularly consume. Stores like Costco are starting to sell more Fair Trade products, just look for one of these symbols:



In addition to food items you can also purchase hand-crafted products that directly benefit those who made them. You can visit Fair World Gallery at 116 Fifth Street, Historic Valley Junction, West Des Moines to see a few items. They can also be purchased at [thehungersite.org](http://thehungersite.org).

Of course there are also numerous organizations that you can donate to in honor of a loved one. We often promote the following as worthy organizations.

- [Heifer.org](http://Heifer.org)
- [Weekofcompassion.org](http://Weekofcompassion.org)
- [Churchworldservice.org](http://Churchworldservice.org)

In this season when we so causally use words like "stuffed" and "want" and "indulgence" may we not lose sight of those who hunger, need, and are deprived of the very staples necessary for life. May Christ's coming mean something, not just in church, but in our consumption as well.

# Christmas Pageant

Yes you read this correctly! The Christmas Pageant is coming! We are practicing music during our Sunday School. We hope to utilize this time as much as possible – so do your best to be at Sunday School



as much as possible the next few months. This year we are doing a program called “The Tale of the Drowsy Shepherd.” We will have class and individual speaking parts, which will also be assigned soon. Practice dates are listed below – **Mark your calendars!** This is a great **opportunity for parents to do some Christmas shopping.** Practices will be fun filled times. The Pageant will be at 3pm on Sunday December 11, 2011 in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited! If you have any questions contact Pastor Kara or your Sunday School Teacher.

## Practice Dates & Times:

Saturday November 19 from 9:30am-11:00am

Saturday December 3 from 10am – 1:30pm (lunch provided)

Saturday December 10 from 9:30am-11:30am (dress rehearsal)

## Angels Among Us...

Do you have an angel you can share with the church this advent season? This Advent we will ponder angels. Our worship committee is interested in incorporating free-standing angels into the décor around the tree in the sanctuary. If you have an angel to share please bring it to the church and use tape to put your name on the bottom.

## 30 & 1

The 30 & 1 group will meet for dinner at Cal's in Norwalk, Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 5:30 pm and later go back to the church for games. For dinner, please sign for reservations on the bulletin board. Everyone is invited to join us for dinner or later at the church.

# CYF Assembly

CYF Assembly is here! This year it will be Friday, November 18 at 7:00pm - November 20 at 11:00am, at the conference center. The church will pay \$35 of your registration fee, making your cost \$30 for lodging, food, and a great weekend at camp. Registration is available online at <http://www.uppermidwestcc.org/> or email Pastor Kara at [RevKara@gmail.com](mailto:RevKara@gmail.com) and then turn in your \$30 to the office by Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> (checks payable to Norwalk Christian Church: CYF assembly in the memo). Scholarships are available for the full amount by contacting Pastor Kara. You should bring all the stuff you typically bring to camp (clothes, shoes, warm sleeping bag, towels, toiletries, etc). ALSO: Bring a Halloween Costume, an UGLY Christmas Sweater, and a toy to donate to Toys for Tots! Don't miss out on a great weekend at camp!

## Come Home For Christmas

Mark your calendars for December 7<sup>th</sup> and come and share food and fun with our Church Family. We will be having a silent auction in conjunction with our other festivities. Proceeds from the silent auction will go to help families in need of assistance over the holidays. At present we have the following: an afghan made by Barb Desenberg; a basket made by Betty Becker; stained glass by Pastor Dayna; wooden pens by Don Zinke; quilt by Mary Johnson. Items are out - bids will be allowed through the end of November. Winning bids will be announced at the Come Home for Christmas celebration. We need volunteers to assist with recreation, carols, crafts, food preparation, etc. If you have a desire to help or donate items, sign-ups are in the Fellowship Hall.

## Coffee Time - White Elephant

We will be doing a White Elephant gift giving Tuesday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, during coffee time. Bring an item from home to exchange as a gift.

# Adult Recess - Pumpkin Patch

A great time was had by KIDS of all ages!



# Stewardship...Beyond Writing a Check

During the months of Nov. and Dec. we will be encouraging stewardship and giving to the church via several different venues. Any of these ideas are excellent opportunities to teach your children about giving and the work of the church.

## A Gift Multiplied

If you were given \$5 or \$10, how might you use that money to multiply it for the church? You could use it to buy the materials needed for a baking or handiwork project. Then you could sell that project. Come Home for Christmas will be one opportunity to sell your creation. You can also post a notice of what you have to sell on the Talent wall in Fellowship Hall. A donor has agreed to provide up to \$20 to fund your project with the expectation of being repaid. Just write up a little proposal (nothing fancy) and call the church office to get your seed money.

## A Service Provided

Maybe you are not crafty. Perhaps you could provide a service for someone and donate your "payment" to the church. Seed money is also available if needed to provide a service. Here are some suggestions:

Cleaning	Preparing a Meal
Computer Assistance	Providing Transportation
Babysitting	Household Repair
Shoveling	Pet Sitting
Christmas Decorating	Tutoring
Quilt Repair	Tax Preparation
Landscaping	Boat or Motorcycle Ride
Running errands	Scrapbooking
Photography	Gardening/Canning
Your Big Idea!	

Once you decide what service you would like to provide, post it on the wall in Fellowship Hall, along with your contact information.

## Items needed for Come Home for Christmas

The Fellowship Hall will be transformed into a Gingerbread House for the evening of Come Home for Christmas. Items for decorating are needed so if you have any decorations that would go with that theme, like large candy canes, gingerbread men or candy decorations, please let us know. We are also in need of the following items for crafts:

- Felt - (different colors, 10 x 12 sheets) White Glitter-10, Green-5, Gray-5, White- 5, Red-5, Black-2, Gold-5, Yellow-3, Pink-2
- Construction Paper - Red
- White Paper (lunch or gift bags) - 75 count
- Glue dots
- White Glue (several bottles)
- Tinsel Garland (various colors - used is fine) - 100 Feet
- Small pompoms (1 cm - 500 count)
- Google Eyes (1 cm) - 50 count)
- Card Stock - (8 x 8 square) Green-30 sheets

## Jennie McAfee Christmas Party

You are invited to join Jennie McAfee at Myrna Barkley's house on Thursday, December 1st at 7:00. They will be celebrating the holiday season with a \$10 grab bag exchange. All are welcome.

## Alternative Giving With Heifer

If you are interested in alternative giving this year for Christmas, Heifer International is a great way to give a life changing gift. There are Heifer catalogs in the Fellowship Hall for anyone that is interested.



## NCC Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is only a few days away. There is still time if you'd like to join us at the church for Thanksgiving dinner. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office by this Sunday, November 20. It's time to buy groceries and we want to be sure we buy enough.

## Desserts Needed for Thanksgiving Dinner

Desserts are needed for the Thanksgiving Day Dinner that will be held at the church. If you are interested in making a dessert, please contact Evonne Babbitt or Ann McCarter.

## Angel Tree

Angel Tree time is here again. Our church works through the Norwalk school system to identify families with financial needs during the holidays. By taking an angel, you adopt a family or a child to buy gifts for. The suggested gift allotment per child is \$25-\$30 and for a family is whatever amount you choose to spend.

The angels are numbered and there is a sign up sheet to write your name and the angel code. Gifts will need to be wrapped with a large tag placed securely on the gift with the angel's code on it. **The gifts need to be brought to the church to be distributed by 10am Dec.11th.**



## Come Home for Christmas Craft Decorating

Do you like doing making crafts? Join us this Saturday, November 19 at 9:00am or Tuesday, November 22 at 11:00am as we make craft decorations for Come Home for Christmas. The crafts are simple and fun - appropriate for all age and skill levels.

# *Holiday Poinsettias*

*Poinsettias will be purchased from Bedwell Garden's.  
6" pot with 1 plant for **\$9.50**, and  
8" pot with 3 plants for **\$17.00**.*

Please fill in the order form below and return it to the  
church office with the amount due made payable  
to the Norwalk Christian Church.

**We MUST have these orders by December 4th.**



I am purchasing \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia for **\$9.50** each = \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

Red \_\_\_\_\_

I am purchasing \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia for **\$17.00** each = \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

Red \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia home after Christmas

\_\_\_\_\_ My poinsettia can be given to a home-bound member

\_\_\_\_\_

(Your Name)

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Published bi-monthly by the  
**Norwalk Christian Church**  
Disciples of Christ

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Minister: Rev. Dayna Kinkade

Associate Minister: Rev. Kara Courtney

Ministry Assistant: Diana Sullivan

## OFFICE HOURS

Minister ~ Tuesday - Friday 9 AM-5 PM

Associate Minister ~ Monday - Thursday 9 AM-5 PM

Ministry Assistant ~ Monday - Friday 9 AM-3 PM

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Informal worship 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

*Coffee Fellowship follows each service.*

[www.Norwalkcc.org](http://www.Norwalkcc.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Disciples of Christ -  
Sharing the Journey*

