



Norwalk Christian News

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



Norwalk Christian Church was my first "Call" out of seminary and as such you all will have a special place in my heart. Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement during my time here at NCC. The Going Away celebration last Sunday was so nice and we enjoyed visiting with you. Thank you for your well wishes, cards, gifts and prayers for Patrick and I. I am especially grateful for Pastor Dayna's support and guidance during my time here and the encouragement Diana shared.

As we move forward we give thanks for the ministries and the people of this congregation. We wish you all blessings on your journey and will continue to hold you all in prayer.

Peace,

Pastor Kara

Christmas Week Schedule

Christmas Services - Dec. 24th

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.

Family Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve 7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Communion Services

Sunday, December 25th, 10:00 a.m.

Combined Worship Service - No Sunday School



CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DEC. 17

Barkley Christmas 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 18

Casual Worship 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

Gathering 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 20

Coffee - White Elephant 10:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 24

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.

Family Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve 7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Communion Services

SUNDAY, DEC. 25

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.

Combined Worship Service

No Sunday School

MONDAY, DEC. 26

NCC Offices Closed

TUESDAY, DEC. 27

Coffee Time 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 1

Combined Worship 10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School

MONDAY, JAN 2

NCC Offices Closed

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

3	Janet Riordan
3	Kara Gesaman
4	Marilyn Boarts
4	Jeff Walker
4	Nicole Butler
5	Doug Juhl
6	Gerry Rinard
6	Tim Tingwald
8	Katelyn LeFleur
9	Dorothy Hildreth
10	Patty Combs
11	Virgel Myer
11	Abby Lampe
16	Spencer Foltz
17	Tom Anderson
20	Chris Murillo
22	Brian Murillo
23	Jan Walker
23	Anthony ClarkWilt
24	Levi Webb
25	Arnie Becker
25	Emma Burnett
25	Tom and Sally Reavely
26	Anne Burnett
27	Roger Ballard
27	Mike Pritchard
27	Mary Lou Enos
28	Greg Mitchell
28	Emmett Apana-Stipe
28	Shirley Richardson
28	Kevin LeFleur
29	Rosalea Johnson



From Dayna...

The end of the year came too fast. It seems like Pastor Kara just announced her departure and now she is gone. Kara and Patrick celebrated her last night with over thirty CYF and Chi Rho youth and their sponsors. It was heart warming to see all the youth come together to wish Kara well and hug her goodbye. She will be missed.

Thanks to Kara and devoted youth sponsors our youth program is experiencing a surge of energy and excitement. We want to do all we can to sustain this momentum and demonstrate our commitment to our youth and their well-being. That is why this time of transition is critical and time sensitive. At the same time, we don't want to be so quick to push ahead that we diminish the impact of Kara's ministry with us.

On Wednesday evening, the Board approved a proposal for a transitional position. We know what the next steps are for the next few months. However, out of respect for Kara, and in honor of her time with us, we are going to wait to present the plan until the January 1, 2012 newsletter. At that time we hope to answer all of your questions.

In the meantime, I pray that you might discover Christ anew this Christmas. I give thanks for the way you make Christ known to me. I am encouraged as we share this journey of faith together.

Merry Christmas (and a Happy New Year!)



Come Home for Christmas 2011



Silent Auction

When Betty Becker and I dreamed up this idea I would have been overjoyed if we would have raised \$600.00. Now that the auction is over and we raised \$1007.00 I can say dreams do come true and then some!! Thank you to everyone that made and donated such beautiful craft items and to everyone that so generously bid on everything. The money raised has been deposited and will assist a needy family. Thank you everyone. Mary Johnson and Betty Becker

A Christmas Reflection to Ponder...

"No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God -- for them there will be no Christmas. Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone. That someone is God, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Without poverty of spirit there can be no abundance of God."

The Archbishop Oscar Romero

Coffee Fellowship

We are in need of people to sign-up for coffee fellowship time starting in January after both services. Baking is not necessary – store bought items are fine. Please contact the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you are interested in helping.

Overwhelming Generosity

What a truly amazing church family! Come Home for Christmas was a great evening of fun and fellowship thanks to all that participated in making it happen. The Silent Auction raised over a \$1000 that went into the church's net fund. This is a fund that is used to help those in our congregation during a time of need. We also offer thanks for the tremendous response to our Angel Tree. There were over 90 angels this year. Thank you for taking an angel and being angels to those people in need this holiday season...

A BIG Thank You

Speaking of angels - not sure if you noticed a certain angel hard at work all over our church the past few weeks, but we would like to thank Arnie Becker for replacing the lights in the entire church. Arnie has donated his time and labor in making our church more energy efficient. He took advantage of a MidAmerican rebate, to give us better lighting and save money. Thank You Arnie!!

BTW - There are 4 foot Fluorescent lamps and ballasts available here at the church for anybody who wants them.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Thanks to all the youth and children who participated in the Christmas Pageant – The Tale of the Drowsy Shepherd. They did a wonderful job. We also want to thank all of the helpers who made it possible – by helping at practices, teaching kids lines, baking cookies for the reception, and encouraging them. It was a bright moment during the season to watch. If you missed it and would like to watch the program we hope to have it available soon via YouTube (through invitation only). Congratulations to all our kids! Great Job!

Come Home for Christmas 2011



During the Holidays...

It is nice to remember in prayer and with cards those who have difficulty going to church for health reasons. This Christmas please remember:

Val Johnson

Vera Flinn

Clara Wilson

Donna Carter

Delores VanDike

Don Wetzel

Hazel Foltz

Shirley Liles

Warren and Virgie Myer

Jack Allen

Lloyd Pace

Twyla Taylor

Arly Pace

Ilene Phipps

*If you need addresses please contact the church office.

Meals On Wheels Drivers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels for the Friday town route. We are also looking for people who are willing to learn the route as on call drivers. If you are interested in learning more about this wonderful ministry, please contact the church office.

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.



COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

We had good food, lots of fellowship and even more fun, I guess that makes it a success. Following are a few people that I would like to personally thank.

Betty Becker--Co-chair: It was a privilege to work with you. It was a lot of work but we also had a lot of fun. Thank you for everything.

Dawn Mundil--Crafts: What a gift you have. The kids and a few adults had a great time making the crafts you came up with. Thank you for sharing you ideas and abilities with everyone thank you to everyone that assisted with crafts.

Charlene Wheeler--Baker of Gingerbread: Thank you for your willingness to bake all of these little boys, not an easy job.

Diana Sullivan--Recreation: Your mind works in strange ways and for that we are all grateful. You can make a game out of anything. Thank you for organizing this area and thank you to all the people that helped in this area also.

Jennie McAfee Circle and Dayna--Cookie Decorators: Thank you for overseeing and assisting the kids with their cookie masterpieces.

Arnie Becker--Handyman: Your help was greatly appreciated. You never once asked why we wanted something done, you just did it. Two crazy ladies say thank you.

A very special thank you to everyone that donated food items and to everyone that helped in the kitchen, serving and with cleanup. This event would not and could not happen without the assistance and donations from so many people.

Thank you. Mary Johnson

Come Home for Christmas 2011

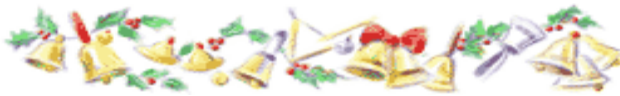


Volleyball

It is time for NCC volleyball. Anyone interested in playing on a semi-competitive power volleyball league is asked to contact the church office as soon as possible. The league will begin on Monday January 9th and end Monday, Feb. 27th. Play is always Monday evenings after 6:00 PM. All games are at West Des Moines Christian Church on Civic Mills Parkway. Team members will be asked to chip in a few dollars toward the \$40 fee. Norwalk had a two teams last year and it was a lot of fun! Join us!

We Will Be Back...

30&1 and Jennie McAfee Circle will be taking a break in January. Watch for more information about upcoming events.



Youth Meals

We are in need of folks to sign up to prepare and serve simple youth meals. There are dates available starting at the beginning of the year. Typically we begin the evening with dinner at 6pm, and expect approx. 25 youth & adults. If you're able to serve a meal on Wednesday evenings please contact the church office or signup in the Fellowship Hall.

Coffee Time - White Elephant

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

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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

MISSION STATEMENT

*Disciples of Christ -
Sharing the Journey*

