



Norwalk Christian News

Norwalk Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) November 1, 2014



Norwalk Christian Church Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, Nov. 2nd, Worship 9:30am

Please join us for the NCC Annual Congregational Meeting. The meeting will be held following a combined worship service at 9:30 a.m. There is no Sunday School this Sunday and a pot luck meal will follow the Congregational Meeting. At the meeting the congregation will vote on the proposed budget for 2015 and vote on officers. The nominations are:

Chair	Paul Bunce
Vice-chair	Lance Randolph
Treasurer	Kate Raun
Board Sec.	Cathie Elkin
Recording Sec.	Doug Reed
At-Large Board Reps	Sarah Schuller, Nicole Butler, Nick Wood
Trustee	Doug Suckow, Chris Murillo
Youth Rep	Matthew Jameson



NCC Thanksgiving

Hungry for turkey but don't want to fix the whole traditional Thanksgiving meal for just a couple of you? The Norwalk Christian Church will host a traditional Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27th at noon. Reservations are required so please sign up by Sunday, November 16th on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office at 981-0176. If you know of someone outside of our church family who needs a family to join for the day, please invite them to join us.

Pastor Travis' Thoughts:

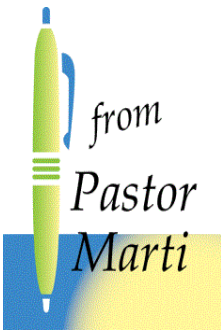
Beautiful People,

This Sunday, November 2nd, is our Annual Congregational Meeting. This is our time to celebrate all we have accomplished this past year in our congregational life, as well as do the business of the church. We will approve our budget for next year and approve our 2015 Church Board and new Trustees. It doesn't seem like much, but it is a significant time for our congregation. For the last month or more, our Stewardship and Finance Team has been meeting with our various church committees to prepare budget numbers for next year. Our Board has searched for new leaders from among you. Sunday will be our time to affirm all the work they have done, and set the course for our next year of life together. Congregational governance is central to who we are as Disciples. We make our own decisions on how we will live together, how we will lead one another and how we will use our resources to further God's ministry in Norwalk. No one does this for us--we do it for ourselves. We, together, are the church. We do the ministry. We lead the worship. We compile the budgets. We give of our money. We chose our leaders. And, as such, we have obligations to one another. We must be active in supporting and praying for the leaders we have chosen. We must do our part to fund the budget we have approved. And if we have concerns, we must not give into gossip and hearsay. We must go directly to the leaders we have chosen and address those concerns.

One of the things we will introduce at the meeting will be a document called "Ethical Guidelines for Congregational Conduct". Over the last year, our board has been working on this document, with the Upper Midwest Region as a resource, in hopes that it will one day become a covenant for our life together. We will not vote on these guidelines at this meeting, but will begin the process of introducing it for congregational study. The sharing of this document in no way suggests that there is conflict or improper behavior. In fact, the opposite is true! We are discussing this now because our congregational life is healthy, and we want to ensure that it always remains this way. We are prayerful that this will be a growing experience for our church, as we become more intentional in how we live together.

After our congregational meeting, we will eat together, and our church knows how to do potluck well. What a better way to end our time this Sunday than in a meal!

We are so blessed to share life with you! This congregation is so life-giving, a place of safety and a home for so many people. Norwalk needs this church. I am thankful for all God is doing in our life together, and I look forward to what God has in store for us next.



Beautiful People,

As we concluded our sermon series 'We Are Disciples', I am convinced more than ever that that this is our time. This is the time to love, and care, and share in life with those around us. Life goes by so quickly. And everyone deserves love and joy and happiness in their life. We will never know the full story of all those around us; our

neighbors, our friends, our co-workers, even our family members. But we can freely show them love. We can invite them to special gathers and Sunday worship. We can smile and say 'Hello'. We can continue to be a beacon of light and love in their life, being there whenever they need a listening ear or a pat on the back.

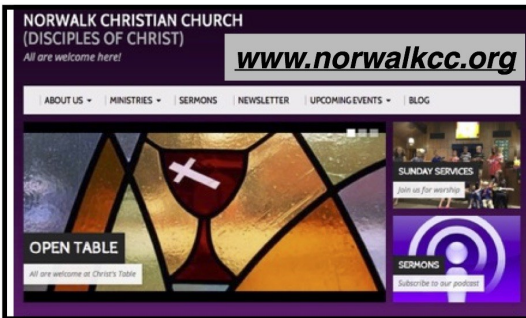
People need love. People need belonging and community. People need acceptance and confidence in who they are. They need a safe place where they can join and share in life. I can't think of a better place for people in our community to come than this church. We are a perfect group of imperfect people, imperfect people who love and care and share in life together. I am proud to be a part of this church and I am proud to raise my children in this safe place. Thank you for loving me, for loving my family, and for sharing in life with us. You bless us.

Come Home

2014 Thanksgiving Offering
www.disciplesmissionfund.org

Received in most congregations on November 9 and 16.

Support your church on the Internet!



Check out our Website for blog articles, audio and text of weekly sermons and upcoming events!



Like your church on Facebook and invite your friends to do the same!

Veteran's Day

On November 9th we will recognize those members of our congregation that are currently serving or those who previously served in the 5 branches of our armed services for us and our country. If you have any questions please contact Worship Committee Chair, Betty Becker.

Jennie McAfee Circle

The next Jennie McAfee Circle Meeting will be held at 2:00 pm, Thursday, November 6th in the Fellowship Hall. The program will feature Tim Diebel discussing sustainable farming and the book *The Third Plate* by Dan Barber. All are welcome! For more information please contact Sandra Jennings at 515-619-9174.

Welcome Newest Members



Chris, Brenda and Makenna Ludlow
Joined October 5, 2014



Janine Schochenmaier
Joined October 12, 2014



October was a fun month for CYF and CHI RHO. We volunteered time and energy at the Craft Fair to raise money for the various ministries of our church. Matt shaved his head in a fundraising effort to update the Youth Room. We learned how to play GAGA Ball, so when the two new GAGA Ball Pits are finished at the camp ground in Newton, we will be prepared! J We learned about Unity Day, a national anti-bullying campaign. Thirty-three of us made our way through a 20-acre corn maze in the dark with flashlights. And we had a great All-Church Costume Party.

This upcoming month we will work together to create a new ministry of the church. Stay tuned to see what this new ministry will encompass and who it will bless.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

SATURDAY, November 1

30&1 Group 6:00 pm

SUNDAY, November 2

Combined Worship 9:30 am

Annual Meeting 10:30 am

MONDAY, November 3

Senior Exercise 10 am

TUESDAY, November 4

Coffee Time 10:00 am

JYF 3:45 pm

WEDNESDAY, November 5

Youth Group 6:00 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Chalice Bells 8:00 pm

THURSDAY, November 6

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

Jennie McAfee Circle 2:00 pm

SUNDAY, November 9

Casual Worship 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Traditional Service 10:30 am

MONDAY, November 10

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

TUESDAY, November 11

Coffee Time 10:00 am

Dinky Disciples 3:15 pm

Stewardship & Finance 4:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, November 12

Youth Group 6:00 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Chalice Bells 8:00 pm

THURSDAY, November 13

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

Education Meeting 5:30 pm

SATURDAY, November 15

Men's Breakfast 8:00 am

SUNDAY, November 16

Casual Worship 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Traditional Service 10:30 am

MONDAY, November 17

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

Board Meeting 5:30 pm

TUESDAY, November 18

Coffee Time 10:00 am

JYF 3:45 pm

WEDNESDAY, November 19

Youth Group 6:00 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Chalice Bells 8:00 pm

THURSDAY, November 20

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

Prayer Shawl Group 1:00 pm

SUNDAY, November 23

Casual Worship 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Traditional Service 10:30 am

MONDAY, November 24

Senior Exercise 10:00 am

TUESDAY, November 25

Coffee Time 10:00 am

WEDNESDAY, November 26

Youth Group 6:00 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Chalice Bells 8:00 pm

THURSDAY, November 27

Thanksgiving Day Meal 12:00 pm

Office Closed

Friday, November 28

Office Closed

Sunday, November, 30

Advent Begins

Casual Worship 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am

Traditional Worship 10:30 am



11/1	Linda Vandell	11/16	Mitchell Phipps
11/2	Jessica Phipps	11/20	Susan Leverman
11/3	Katie Randolph	11/21	Kelley Davis
11/5	Doug Reed	11/21	Rachel Feikema
11/5	Doug Suckow	11/23	Linda Bourne
11/7	Kate Raun	11/24	Roger Miller
11/8	Larry & Daylene Ellis	11/25	Andrew ClarkWilt
11/10	Vera Flinn	11/26	Dan Baker
11/10	Meredith Hendrickson	11/26	Ron & Peg Johnston
11/11	Cathie Elkin	11/27	Mary Jo Fox
11/12	Jeff & Jan Walker	11/27	Darcey Landuyt
11/13	Grace Wood	11/29	John Riordan
11/13	David & Helen Baker		

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Remember to set your clocks back one hour this weekend!

Snow Birds

If you have a temporary change of address for the winter and would still like to receive mailings from NCC, please send us your winter address.

Holiday Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be purchased from Bedwell Gardens. Two sizes available: 6" pot with 1 plant or an 8" pot with 3 plants.



Pricing and order forms will be available November 23.

Watch for more information in the November 23 bulletin and the weekly email updates.

Sing in the Community Thanksgiving Choir

This year's Community Thanksgiving Service is at 6 p.m. Nov. 23 at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Norwalk. The Ministerial Association has requested that a combined choir present two anthems. Kim Ward and Jenny Schaff will direct the choir this year. The first anthem will be "All Praise the God of Harvest" and "It All Belongs to You." A practice for the combined choir will be at 8 p.m. Nov. 19 at St. John's Catholic Church. There will be a short fellowship time following this short practice. For more information, contact Kim at kward@norwalk.k12.ia.us.



Betty Smith giving Rick Elkin pointers.



Nov. 1st - 30&1 Group

The 30 & 1 Group will meet Saturday, November 1st, 6:00 p.m. at the church. There will be snacks and games. All are welcome.

Nov. 2nd - Annual Congregational Meeting

Combined worship service at 9:30 am with a Congregational Meeting and Potluck Meal to follow. At this meeting, we will approve the 2015 budget as well as elect our 2015 congregational leaders.

Nov. 27th - Thanksgiving Day Meal

A traditional Thanksgiving Day meal will be served at noon. See page one of the newsletter for details.

Nov. 28th - Office is Closed

Dec. 3rd -Coming Home For Christmas:

Wednesday, December 3rd, at 6:00 pm, will be our Annual Coming Home For Christmas event. Soup will be served, cookies will be decorated, crafts will be made, and carols will be sung. Plan on joining us, and invite a friend!

If you would like to help with part of this event, there is a sign up sheet at the new sign up booth in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your interest!

Nov. 15th - Men's Breakfast

All men, young and old, are invited to join us for breakfast, Saturday, November 15, at 8:00 am. Food is provided.



Do You Need a Lift?

Kim Ward

David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their fellow Levites as musicians to make a joyful sound with musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.” (1 Chronicles 15:16)

Music has always been a part of my life and I hope it always will be. As we enter the month of Thanksgiving I am grateful everyday that the Lord gave me the gift of song.

In my high school curriculum- I teach teenagers to turn to music in times of stress, anger, and fear of the unknown. To use music to express feelings that can not be expressed in words. I think when we become adults with crazy schedules and need to care for many- we forget to turn music as a comfort and solace.

Certain songs invoke particular memories. From childhood, and especially through my teen years, music helped and blessed me through hard times and good times.

If we were to try and explain music to an alien from another planet we would probably fail miserably, for music is not meant to be explained, but rather experienced. It affects us in our heart and soul.

- There are times that music can express what we feel when words fail us.
- Music is poetry put to rhythm. It is rhyme put to a steady beat. It is a power that moves and stirs the soul. It is a gift from God.
- Music can be therapeutic. It can lift us when we are down, and bring catharsis to our wounded spirit.
- Music can enable us to lift our voices to God in praise and worship.
- Music is one of God’s greatest gifts.

Those who suffer affliction are wounded souls. Those who suffer chronic or continual affliction badly need a salve for their souls. Music can be a perfect salve for the sorrowful soul.

Lift your soul with music. Let it carry your praises and appreciation to God even in your times of sorrow.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we live in a world of sorrow and craziness. Thank you for music that lifts our soul and quiets our mind. Amen.



DINKY DISCIPLES and JYF are learning all about the Parable of the Sower on their Tuesday afternoon events. This past month both groups learned about seeds and how God's love is a seed in them. Planted with love in those around them, they can make a difference in someone's life.

On Sunday mornings, our PRE-K, DINKY DISCIPLES and JYF, are all enjoying their new curriculum. Each Sunday immediately following our 8:30am service, the children run down to the music room, where they are learning new songs for our Children's Christmas Program (debuting Dec. 14th). Once they've practiced their music with Ms. Jenny, they go to their classrooms where they have a morning snack, a lesson, and a craft or activity.



Children playing 'The Sit Still' with Pastor Travis during the Children's Sermon on Oct. 26th. (picture above)

baby shower



There will be a Baby Shower on Sunday November 16th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the church to help stock the changing table of Oliver Stanley. Oliver is due on Thanksgiving Day, could be snowing by then. Mom and dad had the great idea to reuse his big sister and brother's baby items, but the best laid plans, they were born where it was warm. Oliver will be in need of a warmer wardrobe!!! So think long sleeves, long pants, sweaters, blankets, hats, booties, socks, and you can't have too many bibs or burp cloths. Think outside the box, such as taking in dinner after the baby is born or offering to baby sit.

Marti says they will be using cloth diapers and she has already purchased the new ones she needed. She is also planning to nurse Oliver. If you have questions about a gift, ask Marti. There will be food and fellowship, no games, just a fun time. See you there.

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Published monthly by the
Norwalk Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

701 Main St., Norwalk, IA 50211
(515) 981-0176

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue of
Norwalk Christian News is the 20th of the month.

All articles must be submitted in writing.

E-mail: norwalkccI@gmail.com

Ministers: Rev Travis & Rev Marti Stanley
Administrative Assistant: Chris Riter

OFFICE HOURS

Administrative Assistant: Mon - Fri 9 AM - Noon
Pastors: Mon-Thursday 8:30 AM - Noon
And by appointment

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Coffee Fellowship follows each service.

MISSION STATEMENT

*Disciples of Christ -
Sharing the Journey*

