

North Cross Spirit

... telling the news of North Cross Church

July 5th, 2010

...coming up in Worship...

New Sermon Series:
Detective Stories

This Week:
A Biography of Satan

Genesis 3:1-7
& Revelation 20:1-3

Landscape Master Plan

“For the Beauty of the Earth...hill and vale, and tree and flower...”

I love this old hymn and it often comes to mind when I think about the potential for the grounds and landscape of North Cross. Few properties within city limits and few churches have what we have: generous space surrounding our church building, established trees and wooded areas, adjacent park land, and a new trail along one side. Other previous improvements made by the “Pave the Way” project have provided better access to our front entrance and convenient parking for those who have special needs. Soon the cross tower will be restored, and along with our geothermal project, North Cross is truly on an exciting and inspiring new path. For all of this, we have reason to be truly grateful. The challenge and opportunity is this: how do we best care for this unique and valuable land?

For several years many of our members have had great interest in enhancing and improving the outside appearance of these grounds. Over the past two years, a group including Ron Berry, Judy and Bill Chastain, Brenda Coots, Don McCandless, Don Rose, Bette Walden, Carl and Nancy West, and Larry Wickham have met from time to time to think about how we might best realize the dream of truly beautiful grounds. It was determined that a Master Plan for current and future needs was the best approach. The Trustees agreed.

Based on those meetings, additional input and discussion, each of us will soon have the opportunity to view a proposed new Master Plan professionally developed by the landscape architecture firm, Patti Banks Associates. Some of the highlights include a new front entry from the trail and an updated sign; replacement of trees which have died; areas which will feature beautiful native and other plantings requiring minimal maintenance; a front courtyard which will become a new gathering place and a focal point along with the cross tower, among other features.

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Join adults in Sunday study: 9:45 a.m.

You're invited to share in study and fellowship with these classes this Sunday:

Wesleyan Class: Room 215

Lesson: “Glory to Christ” Teri Jan Overton

Good News: Room 206

Lesson: “Making Disciples” Bryce Strong

Friendship: Room 202

Lesson: “Glory to Christ”

Inquirer's: Fellowship Hall

Lesson: “Book Review: No Complaint Relationship” Susie Watson

FaithWorks: Room 207

Lesson: “8 Life Enriching Habits for United Methodist” Becky Batchelor

Pathfinders: Room 200

Lesson: “Methodist Beliefs: We Believe in Life Everlasting” Ken Williams

Contemporary Conversations: Lounge

Lesson: “Book Review: ‘Fake Work’” Terry Ward

Transformed by Christ's love to make disciples and serve others.

Landscape Master Plan

(continued from Page 1)

Please study the drawings when they are available in the Narthex. Your review and your comments will be vital as we move toward a final plan for the Trustees' approval. While this is a long-term Master Plan, this is an important first step toward the ultimate goal of a more beautiful North Cross. Thank you for your thoughtful and prayerful consideration.

We also owe sincere thanks to Pastor Neal, Keith Jackson (Chair of the Trustees), Trustees, Patsy Schmutz and Tom Schmutz for their leadership and good work as well as all those on the committee. We are also grateful to Steve Rhoades and his associates at Patti Banks, which is providing much of their design work pro bono. If you have questions, please give me a call: 816-694-3328.

Sandra Aust

Chair, Landscape Committee

New sermon series and Bible Study to begin

Pastor Neal will be starting a new sermon series entitled, *Detective Stories*. In conjunction with this, a Tuesday morning Bible Study will also be offered. The basis of both the sermon series and the Bible Study will be a new book by Ellsworth Kalas, who is the author of *Parables from the Back Side* and many other great studies.

The sermon series will start on Sunday, July 11th. Starting on Tuesday, July 13th, we'll get together at 10 a.m. for a Bible Study on the "*Detective Story*."

Please call the church office at 452.2939 to sign up. If you want a copy of the book, we will place an order for you. A book is *not* required for the study. Cost will be approximately \$14.00 for the book.



Roger Entertains Shoppers



Lots to Choose From

Super Sale 2010

**Total of Sales
(pending expenses)**

\$12,635.38!!

A SUPER "Thank You!" to all who volunteered in any capacity to make the 2010 Super Sale a success. Thank you also to those who made donations to the sale, and those who offered up their prayers for a successful sale.



**The Outside Workers Had
Great Weather!**



We're Waiting for Shoppers



The

Coming This Week...

Thursday, July 8th

6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi

Friday, July 9th

Saturday, July 10th

6:30 p.m. All Church Game Night

Sunday, July 11th

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
12:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

Monday, July 12th

11:00 a.m. Tai Chi
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
7:00 p.m. Job Club

Tuesday, July 13th

9:00 a.m. TOPS
10:00 a.m. Paint for Fun
10:30 a.m. OP Bridge
6:00 p.m. Early Childhood Board
6:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge
7:00 p.m. Wood Carvers
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Board

Wednesday, July 14th

8:00 a.m. Golf
11:00 a.m. Grandparent Support
11:30 a.m. Symphony Guild Board

Thursday, July 15th

6:00 a.m. Tai Chi
9:00 a.m. UMW Sewing/Quilting
10:00 a.m. Mommy & Me
11:30 a.m. Tai Chi
6:00 p.m. DAR Board
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts



Kitchen Crew Served a Super Spaghetti Dinner!

Annual Conference Report

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So what do we want North Cross to become? What do we want people to do? And where do we want people to go? It was said that U-turns are permitted. We don't always have to go in the same direction. *But God must be a factor in everything we do.* Like a plane's wings, if there's no give, it leads to a crash.

We need to take an inventory of what we already do and see how it fits together in making more disciples for Christ.

Jaccy Stehle

Lay Member to Annual Conference

Wesleyan Women

The Wesleyan Women's Group of the United Methodist Women will not meet during the month of August. Our next meeting will be September 9th at 1:30 pm. in the church Lounge. All are welcome.

"Voices of KC" will be Coming to North Cross

Don't miss the "Voices of KC" in the month of July during the 11 a.m. worship service. We will feature your favorite singers of Kansas City while the 4 One Praise Band takes a well-deserved vacation.

Each week we will feature a professional singer that you have seen at Starlight, American Heartland Theater, New Theater or Quality Hill Playhouse.

The music will be uplifting and will be an inspiration to your Sunday worship experience. We are blessed to have such talent right here in Kansas City and look forward to sharing it with you.

A North Cross Community Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, July 21st from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Please make an appointment on-line at www.savealifenow.org, or call the church office at 452.2939.

Annual Conference Report

As Neal has reported, it has been a hectic past three weeks. Between taking the girls to summer school, doctor appointments, Autumn's ballet rehearsals and performances, Allison's birthday party, VBS, and taking Autumn to Camp Wilderness, I wasn't exactly excited to go to Annual Conference this year. That was just another 4½ days that I could be doing something else or just resting. But after listening to several messages, I kept hearing two things:

- Where do we want to go as a church?
- Be intentional!

One afternoon I attended a workshop lead by Matt Miofsky from The Gathering Church in St. Louis. The class was called "Beyond Sunday School & Small Groups." The description of the class was this: Relevant worship and small groups have been the growth strategies for the church for decades. But not everyone needs or wants to be in a small group right away. We need to move beyond a "one size fits all" small group ministry. Here are some points to think about.

Discipleship: a journey from one thing towards something else.

- What do you want people to become?
- What do you want people to do?
- Where do you want people to go?

The result is clarity. From clarity we can develop a process. We can then be connected to the community, committed to our vision and continue in growth. His point was to "Be intentional about discipleship."

According to Michael Slaughter, Ginghamburg, OH, "People are looking for meaning, not meetings." Sometimes our churches have too many committees, instead of going outside the doors to reach out to others to find out where they are in life and how we can minister to them. His point was that we should be building disciples, not a church. There again: "Be intentional about making disciples. Not a bigger church."

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Person to person:

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- **Hospitalized:** Leroy Schindler, NKC
- The next Game Night at North Cross will be held this coming Saturday, July 10th, at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring your family and your favorite game and join in the fun. Please bring a snack or a two-liter soda to share. Hope to see you there!
- July - August issues of *The Upper Room* devotional booklets are available for \$1 per issue. They are located on the wall rack beside the church office. This is the 75th Anniversary Year of *The Upper Room*.

Publication Deadline: Wednesday at noon
Spirit Editor: Mary Alice Morrissey

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Send email to mamorrissey@northcrossumc.org

Visit our website at www.northcrossumc.org

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