



Northwest Christian Church

A growing family journeying together to be more like Jesus

APRIL 2017

Volume 46 Issue 4

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Steve's Message | 2 |
| Easter Food Baskets | 3 |
| Intentional Church Conference | 3 |
| Christian Women's Conference | 3 |
| Youth Rummage Sale | 3 |
| Student Ministries | 4 |
| Missions | 5 |
| Church Info. | 5 |
| Calendar / Birthdays | 6 |



Good Friday

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on April 14th as we remember the crucifixion of Jesus and His sacrifice for our sins. Our Good Friday Service will be an outdoor campfire service; if weather does not cooperate we will move into the Fellowship Hall.

Easter Day

On Sunday, April 16th, we will be having our Easter Services at Northwest Christian Church. We will have one service at 10:00 a.m. with breakfast at 9:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 15th, at Oak Grove Park. Birth - 6th grade are welcome to participate. Bring your own basket and join us for fun in the park! In case of bad weather we will move the event to the church.

Opportunities to Serve

We need volunteers to collect, stuff and hide eggs. We are collecting candy and eggs, which can be placed in the Connection Center. We will fill the eggs on Thursday, April 13 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Set-up for the Egg Hunt is at Oak Grove Park at 9 a.m. on April 15th. If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please contact Michelle, (429-4278).

Easter Lilies

We will be taking orders for Easter lilies. The lilies will be used during the worship service and you may take your purchased lily home at the end of service. Order forms will be in the bulletin. Cost for the lilies will be \$12.00.

Upcoming Events:

- Fill Easter Eggs
April 13
- Good Friday Service
April 14
- Easter Egg Hunt
April 15
- Easter Breakfast
April 16
- Intentional Church Conference April 22
- Women's Christian Conference April 26



Steve Higgs, Minister

THIS IS **US**

My wife and I started watching a show this last fall called This Is Us. While I'm not necessarily recommending the show, it does tackle many important issues in our community and society. The show is written in a very interesting way, the show will examine a situation in main family's life and then will go back in time and examine how that situation came to be or what makes the characters of this show tick. Why they are the way they are!

My preaching heart was watching one night and realized that this would make a great sermon series. So, each week of the series we will examine a situation or a character in the Bible and then will go back in time and examine how it came to be. You can see the series below and you'll notice that this series is going to be about family. I believe by looking back in the history of these families we will discover the key to becoming the people and the families that God wants us to be. I can't wait.

A Series About The Family We Are And The Family We Want To Be

April 23: A Family Divided

April 30: A Spiritual

May 7: A Family Rescue

May 14: A Family Moves To Belief

May 21: A Family Impact

EASTER FOOD BASKETS

The Missions Team will be preparing Easter food baskets for the church family. The following items are needed : instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, bullion cubes, noodles, canned fruit, corn, green beans, jello, cake mix and cake icing. Please leave these items in the designated box in the old kitchen.

INTENTIONAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

This conference is a one-day event designed for anyone serving in any capacity in the local church. It's goal is to help churches be more intentional and thoughtful with their ministry. Guest speakers are Gene Appel and Caleb Kaltenbach. Gene is the senior pastor of Eastside Christian Church in Anaheim, CA. An alumni of LCU, Gene has coached church leaders from around the world on how to lead churches through healthy change. Caleb, is the lead pastor of Discovery Church in Simi Valley, CA. In his book *Messy Grace*, Caleb tells his story of being raised in the LGBT community by his parents, accepting Christ, becoming a pastor, and looking at what the Bible has to say about sexual identity. If you are interested in attending this conference on April 22, from 9-4 at First Christian Church, please contact our church office at 429.4278 for more information or register at <https://www.intentionalchurchconference.com/>

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE - ROYAL TREASURES

On April 26th, Lincoln Christian University is hosting the Christian Women's Conference. Guest Speakers are Liz Curtis Higgs & Susie Larson. Liz Curtis Higgs has one goal: to help women embrace the grace of God with joy and abandon. Her messages are biblical, encouraging, down-to-earth, and profoundly funny, helping both sisters and seekers celebrate the truth of God's love for them. Susie Larson is a radio host, author and national speaker. She hosts her own daily live talk show, *Live the Promise with Susie Larson*. For more information you can go to their website www.lincolncrhuman.edu/cwc or look on the bulletin board across from the church office.

RUMMAGE SALE

The youth ministry will hold a rummage sale at the church on May 19-20 to raise money for Now is the Time building projects. Any donations for the sale can be dropped off at Northwest between now and May 17th.





If you've been involved in a church for long, you've heard all about Jesus - things he taught, what he expects from you, and his death on a cross. But who is he really? The Gospel of Mark is a fast-paced account of Jesus' life concerned with answering this very question: who is this guy? Over the weeks leading up to Easter, we'll see that Jesus is Master, Teacher, Son of God, Compassionate Servant, Messiah, King, our Sacrifice, and our Savior. This winter/spring, youth groups will meet together on Sunday evenings from 6-7:30 to walk through the sixteen chapters of Mark's gospel and encounter Jesus on the move.



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE

This month, Northwest will send care packages to college students and military personnel who were involved in the youth ministry here during high school and/or consider Northwest their home church. These packages will be assembled and mailed the week after Easter to ensure that they arrive in time for final exams. There are a few ways you can help:

- ♦ If you are a parent of a college student, please make sure that the NWCC office has an updated mailing address in order to send the package.
- ♦ Monetary donations will offset the cost of the food and supplies to fill the packages; if you give by check, please write "College Care" on the memo line.



CIY Move is a week-long event for high school students - those who have just completed 8th grade through those who graduate this year. The theme this summer is "And Then..." where we'll look at several stories from the life of Simon Peter and think about what kinds of "and then" moments God might have in store for us. This year we're heading back to Hope College in Holland, MI during the week of June 19-24. The total cost for the week is \$325 and includes our travel, lodging, and most meals. There is plenty of space on this trip right now, but numbers need to be finalized this month. A \$50 deposit is due by Easter Sunday - April 16th - to reserve a spot for your kids and their friends.

Jr/Sr High
events calendar:

April

2nd: Youth Groups

6th-12th grade (6:00-7:30)

9th: Youth Groups

6th-12th grade (6:00-7:30)

16th: Youth Groups

NO Youth Groups; MOVE deposit due

23rd: Youth Groups

6th-12th grade (6:00-7:30)

30th: Youth Groups

6th-12th grade (6:00-7:30)

Missions



Thank you for your response to the Hearts of Love Project. With congregation donations plus a gift from the Missions Team, we were able to send \$800.00 to Little Galilee Christian Camp for the new dining hall.

Thank you, because of your tithes and offerings we were able to help three of our young people to go on missions trips.

Thank you for supporting the New Life Pregnancy Center Change for Life campaign. ALL of the bottles were taken to be returned filled with change.

Thank you for all your support and prayers as the Missions Team strives to Honor God and serve Him in all we do.

Upcoming Events:

We are preparing three gift baskets for New Life Pregnancy Center's Annual Dinner Auction.

We will again be offering partial scholarships to our church family for the Little Galilee Christian Camp season.

THANK
YOU

It means so much to have church family there for you. We appreciated it so very much. Thank you to all who came and for the food. Also, for the love & prayers.
Joan Ludwick

Contact Us

Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
(217) 429-4278
nwcchurch@comcast.net | www.nwcchurch.org
Facebook.com/nwcdecatur

Staff

Steve Higgs, **Minister**
Scott Monette, **Youth Minister**
Robert Gerton, **Director of Worship**
Michelle Oberheim, **Children's Ministries**
Connie Honigs, **Adm. Assistant**

Monthly Financial Information

| Date | Attendance | Giving | Now is the Time | Budget |
|------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| 3/5 | 165 | \$7251.00 | \$1305.00 | \$6776.90 |
| 3/12 | 146 | \$6388.52 | \$2007.00 | \$6776.90 |
| 3/19 | 138 | \$6579.00 | \$5895.00 | \$6776.90 |
| 3/26 | 143 | \$4971.51 | \$898.00 | \$6776.90 |

Elders

Zone 1 - Jay Dexter
Steve Wiese

Zone 2 - Brent Owen
Jim Seggerman

Zone 3 - Pat Owens
Travis White

April 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Food Pantry Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-7:30pm Youth Group | 3 | 4 10am Staff Mtg 9am Food Pantry | 5 6pm Praise Team Practice | 6 9am Clothing Rm 7pm Committee Mtgs | 7 | 8 |
| 9 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-7:30pm Youth Group | 10 | 11 10am Staff Mtg 9am Food Pantry | 12 6pm Praise Team Practice | 13 9am Clothing Rm 7pm Elders' Mtg | 14 OFFICE CLOSED 7pm Good Friday Service | 15 10am Easter Egg Hunt |
| 16 EASTER 9am Breakfast 10am Worship | 17 OFFICE CLOSED | 18 10am Staff Mtg 9am Food Pantry | 19 6pm Praise Team Practice | 20 9am Clothing Rm | 21 | 22 8:30am Intentional Church Conference |
| 23 / 30 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-7:30pm Youth Group | 24 | 25 10am Staff Mtg 9am Food Pantry | 26 9am Christian Women's Conf. 6pm Praise Team Practice | 27 9am Clothing Rm | 28 | 29 |

April Birthdays!

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Lynnette Johnson | 19 Haley Behnake | 28 Larry Whitehurst |
| 4 Richard Barding | 20 Brock Martin | 29 Gloria Martin |
| 9 Kiersten Kennedy | 21 Mary Williams | 30 Ethan Monette |
| 9 Roger Owens | 22 Tori Johnson | 30 Sue Oylor |
| 11 Amber Frazier | 22 Barbara Josserand | |
| 12 Irene Jordan | 22 Jim Seggerman | |
| 17 Larry Bolyard | 25 Julie Owens | |
| 17 Brandi Eaton | 27 Gene Harrison | |
| 17 Frank Williams | 27 Judy Jenkins | |

