



**NORTHWEST** Christian Church  
A Growing Family Journeying Together To Be More Like Jesus

JULY 2018

Volume 47 Issue 7

# PARTY in the PARK

Saturday, July 21st 1-4pm

# Taste of

# Northwest

Sunday, July 22nd, after service



**Steve Higgs, Minister**

I am concerned about moral outrage. Now don't get me wrong, I believe that God has placed inside of us a sense of right and wrong. I believe that God has given us His Son who taught us right and wrong. I believe that God has sent His Holy Spirit to convict us of right and wrong. I believe in morality.

So, on one hand, maybe I shouldn't be worried about moral outrage. Maybe this is a natural outpouring of the work of God. Maybe its fine.

It's just that, people are so angry. I get it, there are things to be angry about. There are things that need to be fixed yesterday. People are suffering. However, the outrage part of moral outrage is real. Tone has become so sarcastic, mean, and condescending.

I'll tell you my concern. My concern is that an inflated sense of self morality is an enemy of the gospel. Paul wrote in the book of Romans that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." The Greek word for all can literally be translated all, everyone, you, and me. I am a sinner. You are a sinner. We are all sinners that Jesus came to save.

So, **what if my moral outrage is DESENSITIZING ME** to the gospel?

**What if moral outrage is LYING TO ME** and telling me that I'm holier than I am?

**What if moral outrage is SEPARATING ME** from my neighbor and making us enemies because I perceive that I am more holy, right, and good then they are?

**What if moral outrage is FILLING ME WITH PRIDE** about the political positions that I hold?

**What if moral outrage is FILLING MY HEART WITH ANGER** about the political positions they hold?

I am concerned.

Paul wrote I Timothy 1:15, "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners----of whom I am the worst." Really, Paul, the worst? Have you seen your resume? You wrote a huge chunk of the New Testament. You planted churches. You shaped our vision and understanding of the gospel and grace. The worst?

Paul wrote those words in AD 64 to a young pastor named Timothy. You know what else happened in AD 64? The Great Fire of Rome. A fire many believe that Nero started so that he could launch a world-wide persecution and attack on Christians. He burned his city, nearly to the ground, to kill Christians. That year was the year Paul wrote, "I am the worst of all sinners."

I think we can assume that Paul had many opinions on the subject of Nero, the Roman government, and the culture he lived in but those opinions were filtered through the prism of God's grace. Paul really believed that He was the worst of all sinners. He also believed that he had received the grace, patience, and salvation of Jesus.

**I wonder what that did to his MESSAGE?**

**I wonder what that did to his MORAL OUTRAGE?**

**I wonder what that did to his TONE?**

Christianity has always helped serve as the conscience of a community. I think its good for us to express our morality, thoughts, ideas, and solutions. My sense of morality is defined by my faith and I feel compelled to articulate my beliefs. You probably do as well.

However, **if that message is not filtered through GRACE...**

**If that message doesn't start with, I AM THE WORST OF ALL SINNERS AND CHRIST HAS FORGIVEN ME...**

**If my heart hasn't been overwhelmed by the GRACE AND LOVE OF MY SAVIOR...**

No one will hear a life changing message, they will only hear an angry heart. I'm not sure an angry heart has ever changed anything. Grace, now that changes everything. Let us be a people that leads with grace!

# Information for you

## **Party in the Park / Saturday, July 21 / 1 - 4pm**

Our outreach event at Oak Grove Park will be fun for the whole family. We will enjoy popcorn, sno cones, and cotton candy. We will play yard games, have family relays and use the inflatable obstacle course. **Volunteers are needed** for running games, watching over the inflatable, making cotton candy, praying for needs and more. Each shift is only 1 hour. Let us know if you are interested in helping by calling the church, marking your connect card or filling out the insert in the bulletin. **Donations are needed.** Check out the bulletin board outside the church offices. Take a donation slip and return your item back to the office by Sunday, July 15, 2018.

## **Taste of Northwest / Sunday, July 22 / 11:30am - 1:30pm**

Every summer we set aside a Sunday afternoon to enjoy a taste of Northwest - the family atmosphere and food offerings are second to none! This year's Taste theme is *Favorite Times*: bring a dish to share that represents either your favorite time of day, favorite time year or favorite time of life (memory). We will vote to choose a winner in each category. We're also bringing back a few of our favorites for the kids, like a bounce house and Sally the Clown! Examples: Favorite time of day - breakfast, bacon and eggs; lunch, BLT's; dinner, lasagna. Favorite time of year - Fall, pumpkin soup; Winter, chili; Summer, Potato salad. Favorite time of life or memory - my Grandmother's bread pudding; my favorite birthday cake my mom would bake; when my children were little and we'd eat a lot of macaroni and cheese, etc.

## **Win-A-Couple Ice Cream Party / Friday, July 27 / 2:00 PM / New Fellowship Hall**

Join the Win-A-Couple Sunday School class in their annual ice cream party. To find out more information you can contact Ron or Carol Spaulding or Jerald or Dorothy Greenlee.

## **Oak Grove Partnership, Food and School Supplies**

Our church has had a partnership with Oak Grove School for 9 years. We have helped them by purchasing school supplies and playground equipment. We have volunteered in and out of the building and have adopted teachers. We have also blessed families with holiday food baskets and Christmas gifts. We also send home backpacks each week filled with nonperishable food items for students that have little or no access to food. We are ready to stock up the shelves with school supplies and back snack items starting in the month of July. A donation of \$166.00 will fill one backpack for the whole school year! Items needed:

### **SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST**

Crayons, 24 count	Dry erase markers
#2 pencils	Scissors – regular
Pink erasers	& blunt tipped
1 inch 3 ring binder	Headphones
glue sticks	Markers
glue bottles	Folders
crayon boxes –	Colored pencils
assorted colors	Loose leaf paper
Kleenex	Notebooks –wide rule
zip lock bags –	& college rule
assorted sizes	Pens – red, blue,
hand sanitizer	black
Clorox wipes	Highlighters

### **BACKPACK SNACK ITEMS**

Juice Boxes	Chips
Nesquick/Yoohoo	Cookies
Water	Fruit Snacks
Pudding Cups	Peanut Butter/
Jello Cups	Cheese Crackers
Fruit Cups	Raisins
Applesauce	Granola Bars
Macaroni & Cheese	Fruit Bars
Cereal	Bottle Drink Mixes
Pop Tarts	Rice Krispy Treats



Have you ever wondered why life sometimes seems so unfair? Don't we serve a God of justice? Why does God let things get so far out of balance? Join us this summer as we explore a number of things about God that seem unfair: His blessings, His generosity, His forgiveness, His will, His justice, His suffering, and His sacrifice. We'll ask whether God ever promised us a fair life and whether we even really want it to be. Summer youth groups will meet from 6-8 pm on the Lower Level on Sundays; students who have finished 5th through 12th grade are invited to join us!



On Sunday, Aug. 5th we're going to move youth groups to Fairview Pool for an NWCC Pool Party! We'll join the rest of the church for some swimming, volleyball, food, and fellowship. It's totally free for the whole night. Just meet at the pool at Fairview Park from 6 - 9 pm.

## STUDENT LOCK IN

School starts again next month...so why not have one last all-night summer party? The fun starts at 9:00 pm on Friday, August 24th and goes all night long! We'll wrap things up at 7:00 am on Saturday with some breakfast. Come ready to stay up all night playing, eating food, drinking caffeine, and hanging out. We'll have cards and board games, worship together, flashlight tag, capture the flag, and all sorts of other surprises. If you finished 8th-12th grade this past year, join us and bring your friends!

Events calendar:

## July

**1st: Youth Groups (6-8 pm)**

*Middle & High School*

**8th: Youth Groups (6-8 pm)**

*Middle & High School*

**15th: Youth Groups (6-8 pm)**

*Middle & High School*

**22nd: Youth Groups (6-8 pm)**

*Middle & High School*

**29th: Youth Groups (6-8 pm)**

*Middle & High school*

**August 5th: Fairview Pool Party**

*All-Church event from 6-9 pm*

# Missions



## WHO IS PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS

Pioneer Bible Translators exists to disciple the Bibleless, mobilizing God's people to provide enduring access to God's word in every language. The work is not finished until there are networks of churches using Scripture to grow mature Christians and the Bible is translated in every language on earth.

Northwest Christian Church supports two of Pioneer Bible Translators many workers. They are Rondal Smith and Shonna Ingram. Many of you may remember Shonna from when her husband, Andy, was on staff here at NWCC. In a recent newsletter she shared news of her family. Andy and Shonna celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Genna is entering high school this fall. Garrett will be heading off to Liberty University to study Criminal Justice-Strategic Intelligence/Homeland Security. Gavin will be finishing up his Certificate in Office Administration from the local community college and Grayson will be studying Interior Architecture at Oklahoma Christian.

Thank you for your tithes and offerings that provide support to these two Kingdom workers.

## 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

146Date	Attendance	Giving	Now is the Time	Budget
6/3	122	\$4235.92	\$1394.00	\$7052.50
6/10	138	\$7247.25	\$640.00	\$7052.50
6/17	136	\$5477.66	\$1205.00	\$7052.50
6/24	146	\$4469.72	\$755.00	\$7052.50

## Elders

Jim Seggerman  
**Zone 1** - Jay Dexter  
Steve Wiese  
**Zone 2** - Brent Owen  
James Zelhart  
**Zone 3** - Pat Owens  
Travis White



# JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-8pm Youth Group	2	3 9am Food Pantry 10am Staff Mtg	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 7pm Committee Mtgs	6	7
8 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-8pm Youth Group	9	10 9am Food Pantry 10am Staff Mtg	11 6pm Praise Team Practice	12 7pm Elders' Mtg	13	14
15 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-8pm Youth Group	16	17 9am Food Pantry 10am Staff Mtg	18 6pm Praise Team Practice	19	20	21 1pm Party in the Park
22 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30am Taste of NWCC 6-8pm Youth Group	23	24 9am Food Pantry 10am Staff Mtg	25 6pm Praise Team Practice	26	27	28
29 Family 5th Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6-8pm Youth Group	30	31				

## July Birthdays

02 ..... Lori Leihser	09 ..... Teresa Seggerman	26 ..... Sam Higgs
02 ..... Sandra Wright	13 ..... Lillie Sherred	31 ..... Rachel Ash
06 ..... Jason Frazier	15 ..... Reagan Gerton	
06 ..... Molly Weber	16 ..... Samantha Mattingly	
07 ..... Megan Bailey	19 ..... Tina Jordan	
08 ..... Mike Oyler	20 ..... Emerson Oberheim	
09 ..... Peggy Allen	23 ..... Collette Phillips	
09 ..... Dudley Brown	25 ..... Ron Spaulding	

