



NORTHEAST NEWS

December 13, 2009

Northeast Church of Christ ♦ 15537 E. 9 Mile Rd. ♦ Eastpointe, MI 48021
586-777-5470 ♦ Website: www.necofchrist.org

ESPECIALLY FOR OUR GUESTS ...

- ▶ Please pick up an information packet from our welcome table in the lobby. We also have a small gift for our first-time guests.
- ▶ We are grateful for your presence today. Please fill out an attendance card (please indicate both your first and last names) so we can have a record of your presence.
- ▶ About halfway through the service, the children ages 4 years old through the 3rd grade will be dismissed for their own class downstairs. For those under 4 years old, there are classes on the main level throughout the entire service. We encourage the use of our attended nursery class for those who need it.
- ▶ If you have any questions concerning our services or the church or the Bible, we encourage you to speak to one of our elders or our minister.

POTLUCK TODAY

Everyone is invited to stay after services **this morning** for a potluck meal.



PURPOSE SUNDAY



*Give unto
the Lord*

Today has been designated as Purpose Sunday at Northeast. You will have the opportunity to purpose what you will contribute to the works of this congregation in 2010. If you want to receive a statement of your giving for the year, you need to use contribution envelopes and fill out a purpose card.

FOOD BASKETS

We plan to distribute food baskets during the upcoming holiday season. **Turkeys and cash donations** can be given to Paul Wooldridge or Paul Klemczak. The baskets will be given out next Sunday so if you want to help you need to see them today.





Arless Wilson remains at Father Murray Nursing Center for rehab and physical therapy. The address is 8444 Engleman, Center Line 48015.

SYMPATHY



Our prayers are with the family of **Heidi & Jesse Gorczyca**, friends of Colleen Kaganac, who died in a house fire last weekend.

PLACING MEMBERSHIP

Francine Cutright
2142 Beaufait
Grosse Pointe Woods 48236
586-713-8176

Donna McCann
15638 Evergreen
Eastpointe 48021
586-362-8352

BIBLE BOWL



We are looking for all young people, **grades 3 and up**, who are interested in participating in Bible Bowl this year. If you want to be part of the team, please see Vicki as soon as possible.

ELDER CHAIRMAN

The chairman of the elders for this quarter is **David Walker**.

COOKIE EXCHANGE



Ladies, get out your favorite cookie recipe and get ready to bake! We will have a cookie exchange **this Tuesday** at 7 p.m. here at the building. There is a sign-up list in the hallway. It is important that you sign up if you plan to participate so we will know how many cookies to make. Bring a 1/2 dozen cookies for each person signed up, plus an extra 1/2 dozen for a cookie taste off. Snacks will also be served during the evening. If you have any questions you can see Carla Murray or Sara Nelson.

ATTENTION TEENS!

Winterfest will be **Feb. 18-21** in Gatlinburg, TN. If you plan to go, a



\$20 deposit needs to be given to Bill Nocita soon. Sign up in the hall as soon as you can, today if possible, if you want to be part of this fantastic and uplifting occasion.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for us and rose from the dead, making salvation available as a gift (John 3:16; Romans 6:23). In order to benefit from this great sacrificial love, one must receive God's grace through faith in Christ and obedience to him (Romans 5:1-2; Hebrews 5:9). To become a Christian, the Bible teaches that we must put our trust in Christ (John 8:24), turn away from a life of sin (Luke 13:3), confess Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16). If you would like to further study this question of "What must I do to be saved?" please see our minister or one of our elders.

Why Do We Purpose Our Giving?

IT'S AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO BE REGULAR IN OUR GIVING.

Purposing and then using the envelope system is a constant reminder and encouragement for us to give consistently and regularly. Giving systematically as we prosper (rather than whimsically) is the spirit of good stewardship. In order to meet needs for God's people, Paul told the Corinthians to take a collection each Sunday (1 Cor. 16:1-2).

IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHECK OUR LIBERALITY.

Jesus taught extensively about being good stewards of our money (read Luke 16 as an example). Paul wrote that generous sowing means generous reaping (2 Cor. 9:6). Sometimes it's easy to not consciously think about how much we are giving, and we fail to give as we have prospered. As good stewards, each should plan his giving "in keeping with his income" (1 Cor. 16:2) – and that means we should consider our income and examine our hearts, and then give cheerfully, "not reluctantly or under compulsion" (2 Cor. 9:7). Paul also says that "each" Christian should do this. Others cannot obey for you, and others cannot give for you. Each Christian should learn to give out of love, because our God is a giving God.

IT'S SCRIPTURAL. Paul asked the Corinthians to complete what they had purposed to give the previous year (2 Cor. 8:9). In other words, they planned their giving in advance. We commit to other expenditures, and there is nothing wrong with pledging our giving to the church in the same way. 2 Cor. 9:7 says that each should give what he has purposed in his heart to give.

IT'S THE BEST WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH.

The local church should receive our full support, for it is the tangible presence of the body of Christ in a specific community, and the focal point of God's redemptive goals. When you invest in a local church, you support that which will have a multiplying effect upon many needs for years to come, not to mention eternity. If "home base" is not kept strong, our own faith and ministry suffers. Scripture gives accounts of Christians supporting God's work through local churches (1 Cor. 16:1f, 2 Cor. 8, Acts 11:30, etc.). This is an orderly and prudent way for shepherds to carry on good works and plan for the spiritual growth of the flock.

