



The Nor'kirk Presbyterian is the 2004 recipient of the Katharine Hawes Award for Effective Youth Ministry, given by Union Seminary in Richmond, Virginia

Staff Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, April 18th was Staff Appreciation Sunday. The Personnel Ministry recognized our eight paid staff members during the service and the congregation honored them at a cake and punch reception that followed the 10:45 service. If you were not able to attend, here is what you missed from Patti O'Connell, member of the Personnel committee:

"Today we honor our eight paid staff members of the Nor'kirk: The Rev. Dr. Bill Parr, Pastor; Nancy Pratt, Christian Education Director; Mimi Forsythe, Secretary; Nancy Harper, Office Assistant; Lane Paschal, Music Director; Susan Terry, Accompanist; Antonio and Nicki Negrete, Sextons; and Denise Thomas, Nursery Attendant.

Working for The Nor'kirk is not like any other company that we may have worked for. Here is what would be in a job description for any of these positions. You will be one of 8 paid staff members. You will work directly with 12 committees consisting of one committee chair (our Elders), one committee of ten people (our Deacons) and one committee of three people (our Trustees.) Those 12 committees will have committee members that range in numbers from 2 or more. But some will just be names of people because they are not able to get to the meetings. They do mean well. And did I tell you that these committee chairs and members are all unpaid, volunteers with other paid jobs? You must be flexible because just as you figure out the personalities of these committee members, they change every three years and are replaced by new committee members.

You will also have 300 shareholders that are very active and visible. You will have a CEO who is invisible. But know that He has your back!

The buildings in which you will work are somewhat old. One is thirty years old and the other is over fifty years old. But the committee members will do their best to keep it an updated, safe and nice working environment for you with the latest technology and equipment such as a copier or piano.

Your office will be like no other you've had before. The shareholders mean well, but they will come in and use your stapler, move your papers, and possibly take your pens. You may find on Monday that they've moved your vacuum cleaner, broken the copier, or rearranged the toys. They don't do it intentionally.

Your hours won't be typical, either. Some of you will be part time and some of you will be full time. You may have evening commitments as part of your job. Your calendar will be determined by the Church calendar so you may have

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May Lectionary

May 2 – 5th Sunday Celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord – Communion

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148;
Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

May 9 – 6th Sunday Celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord

Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10,
21:22-22:5; John 14:23-29

May 16 – 7th Sunday Celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord – Childrens Service

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97;
Revelation 22:12-14; John 17:20-26

May 23 – Pentecost Sunday – Confirmation Sunday

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104;
Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17

May 30 – Trinity Sunday – Memorial Day Weekend

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8;
Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Celebrating Our Children

On May 16 we are celebrating the children at the Kirk. Among the planned events centered around The Lord's Prayer is a performance by the ARKK children's choir. We will be performing 2 songs. If you have a child in the ARKK, please come to church that Sunday so your child can show off some of what he or she does during Sunday School each week.



A certain widow expected to inherit all her late husband's wealth. Instead, she learned from the lawyer that her husband had left her \$5. Everything else went to his secretary. Naturally the widow was furious. She drove to the tombstone establishment and ordered that the inscription on her husband's monument be changed.

"I'm sorry," said the man doing the chiseling, "you told me to inscribe 'Rest in Peace' on the stone and that is done; I can't change it now. You'll have to buy a new stone."

The widow thought for a moment then said, "No, no new stone. Just add something after 'Rest in Peace.' Chisel in 'Till We Meet Again.'"

Another story. Mr. Smith had died. The funeral was over, and after a few weeks, the family had gathered in the attorney's office for the reading of the will. The lawyer went through all the preliminaries and then got down to what they were waiting to hear: What had been left to whom. He read, "To my loving wife, I leave the house and all its possessions. To my son, I leave the stocks and bonds. To my daughter, I bequeath the sum of \$100,000 with which to raise and educate her two beautiful children. And finally, to my good-for-nothing brother, Harry, who always said I would never remember him in my will, 'Hello, Harry.'"

The kind of peace that the scriptures talk about is not just an "absence of conflict" kind of peace. The *shalom* of the Bible means more. It is not the kind that the world finds in drugs and alcohol and sex and an endless list of things that do not really satisfy. No, the kind of peace that scripture talks about (and over 400 times, as a matter of fact) carries with it the connotation of unity, completeness, rest, and ease.

In Philippians, Paul writes, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (4:6-7). That is a pretty good three-step formula. If we would have inner peace, don't be anxious (even though that might be our natural tendency); bring everything to the Lord (not just the things we might think the Lord would be interested in); and bring our problems in the right spirit — a spirit of thankfulness.

Peace be with you.
Bill

Preschool News

Wow, it has already been a fun spring. Our ponies arrived during western week and though it was a windy day, the cowboy hats remained on little heads for photos. Bingo and Oreo were previously carousel ponies and now continue to give children rides. Our preschoolers had fun making their stick horses for their pretend rodeos.

Spring also means it is time to observe caterpillars...cocoon...and soon butterflies. After a prayer of thanks we plan to release our butterflies on Thursday, April 22.

Of course May is always exciting with a Tea for Mothers, Floats for Fathers and our Graduation ceremony for 4 and 5 year olds. Come see our fun displayed on bulletin boards and peek into the 1st and 2nd rooms in the C.E. wing, hooray for new carpet. Thank you to Jim Davis and Mister Ralph's Floor Covering for great carpet and installation. We anticipate little & bigger people sitting upon it comfortably.

Please share our preschool phone # 972-395-3707 or my e-mail: dianeh@thenorkirk.org with your neighbors so their children can be a part of our Nor'kirk family. - Diane Haist

Who's your Barnabas?

All year long, our college students have received notes of encouragement and occasionally surprises in the mail from their anonymous Barnabas family. Now it's time for the students to find out who was responsible for all of those nice gestures at the Barnabas Reveal reception hosted by the Deacons on May 23rd in Price Hall following the 10:45 service. All current participants of the Barnabas program are encouraged to attend or if you are considering participating in this program next year and want more information, you are also encouraged to attend.

In the meantime, Barnabas students, please be sure to send a note of thanks to your Barnabas family to show them that you appreciate their efforts. You may do so by contacting the church office or the Deacon Moderator, Tiffany Wylie.

If you have questions, want more information, wish to send a note of thanks to your Barnabas family, please call or text Tiffany Wylie at 972-529-8083 or send an email to Tiffany.wylie@tylertech.com or contact her on Face Book.

Cowboy Stew for 400

Boy Scout Troop 114, chartered by The Nor'kirk, hosted the evening meal for the Austin Street Centre in April. The troop purchased, prepared, delivered and served the hearty meal. Their continued efforts to "do a good turn" and support the Local Missions of The Nor'kirk are greatly appreciated. Their assistance touched the lives of 375 people in need.

Unfortunately, the number of people spending the night at the homeless shelter has been growing. We are hoping the head count may level off with the arrival of summer, but the numbers indicate a consistent need.

The congregation's efforts in preparing 200+ peanut butter and jelly sandwiches each month established the foundation of the evening meal. Your donations of hard boiled eggs and bananas help round out the evening meal. The Starbucks at Old Denton and Hebron continues to donate "sweet treats" for dessert. Together, a nourishing meal is provided.

Over the course of the year, we are feeding about 5,000 people. Your continued support is needed and truly appreciated! And when another group—like Boy Scout Troop 114—"steps up" to prepare and deliver the evening meal, our Local Missions budget is stretched a bit farther.

Deposits Build in Our Bank

Last month, we hosted a Blood Drive dedicated to David Miller. In preparation for his anticipated lung transplant, The Nor'kirk collected blood to offset his surgical needs. It is very unusual to be able to "plan ahead" and we appreciate every one that supported this effort.

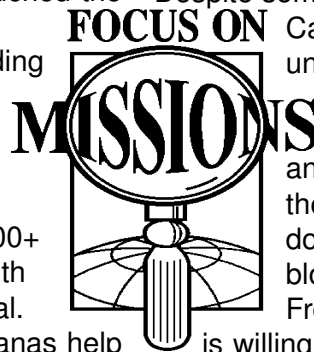
Despite some technical difficulties with Carter Blood Care's machinery, we were able to collect 30 units of blood. This collection could benefit at least 90 people in need. Thank you!

Despite the rain, the technical difficulties and the "squeamishness" of a blood donation, the Nor'kirk continues to give. In talking with donors, I learned that many don't enjoy giving blood, "but believe it is a good thing to do."

From our 16 year olds on upwards, the Nor'kirk is willing to roll up their sleeves. We had first time givers and we had donors whose donations measure in the gallons.

Walter Haltom came prepared with a magazine to read through his "double red donation."

Giving blood is becoming a routine at The Nor'kirk and that steadiness is truly appreciated.



All in the Family

New member, Becky Herget, wanted to be back in the South and closer to her brother, Scott Hilburn, his wife Dora, and her nieces Katie and Andie (all Nor'kirk members). So last August, after living in Miami, Florida for 24 years, she moved with her son, Steven, to Carrollton. Steven, is a freshman at Hebron High School and on the JV Soccer team. Her other son, Matthew, is attending the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

After living in one place for 24 years, a move across the country could make you feel far from home, however, Becky grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana, so this area feels like home to her. They have settled in The Homestead Community right next to The Nor'kirk and Becky is an accountant for Union Standard Insurance in Las Colinas.

After visiting The Nor'kirk regularly, Becky and Steven joined last January. They felt very welcomed by Bill Parr with his genuine and caring guidance and were attracted to the fun, family atmosphere. After getting to know some of the other Nor'kirk members through Sunday School, they quickly felt part of The Nor'kirk family. "I believe that people and things come into your life for a reason and we are really enjoying all the new friends we have made through The Nor'kirk. Thanks to everyone for making us feel so welcome," said Becky.

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We invite you to worship with us
each Sunday Morning at
8:30 and 10:45 for Worship and
9:30 for Sunday School.
Pastor: Dr. Bill Parr
Church Office :972-492-1578

www.norkirkpresbyterian.org

Church Officers

Elders:

Building & Grounds - John O'Connell
Clerk - Scott Cherry
Coordinating/Personnel - Teresa Alexander
Fellowship - Jack Martin
Finance & Stewardship - Pam McNutt
Ministry with Adults - John Bara
Ministry with Children - Anne Thomas
Ministry with Youth - David Miller
Missions, Local - Peg Kinkade
Missions, World - Paul Barnett
Outreach & Evangelism - Kristina Robertson
Worship & Music - Neal Harper

Deacons:

Tiffany Wylie, Shari Sobek,
Dora Hillburn, Walter Haltom, John Reas,
Mike Reeves, Angi Parr, Ruth Doocy,
and David Clinesmith
Derek Sobek - Youth Deacon

Trustees:

Bob Brown, Craig Courson,
Joel Maust

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atypical weekends.

Your pay will be determined by the shareholders who know that you're doing this job for the love of the job, the love of the Church and not to get rich.

But know that you will be so appreciated by all the shareholders and committee members for your dedication, your understanding, and for taking care of God's House so that we have a place to worship."



Special thanks to Shari Sobek for making this delicious cake!