

NORTHWEST NEWS

NORTHWEST COVENANT CHURCH
MOUNT PROSPECT, ILLINOIS
MAY 2012

Special Events in



Friday/Sat April 27-28
Central Conf Annual Mtg

Sunday, April 29
"Old Testament Fast
Forward" Concert
Last Day for MF Food Drive



Wednesday, May 2
MOPS

Saturday, May 5
Work Day
Northwesterners to FMSC

Wednesday, May 9
Women's Bible Study

Friday, May 11
Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, May 12
"Believe, Love, Serve"
at Covenant Harbor

Wednesday, May 16
MOPS

Sunday, May 20
Confirmation
One Worship Service
at 10 am

Monday, May 21
"Empowering People,
Inspiring Change"

Sunday, May 27
Summer Schedule Begins
9 am Traditional Worship
11 am Contemporary

Look for details inside!

Thank You, Tim Anderson!

During the month of May we have some special Sundays. May 13th is Mother's Day; May 20th is Confirmation Sunday, and May 27th is Pentecost.

May 20th will also be Tim Anderson's last official Sunday with us. Tim has accepted the worship leader position at DeerGrove Covenant Church, in Palatine. He begins there on June 1st. This is a great opportunity for Tim and I am excited for him and for DeerGrove.

Tim is planning on going to North Park Seminary this fall. The position at DeerGrove is part time which will fit in with his seminary schedule.

I want to thank Tim for his diligent years of service at Northwest. He has served in a couple different roles, primarily as the youth director. His flexibility and willingness to adapt when needed have been a true blessing to our church. Tim was instrumental in getting our second worship service up and going. Many people didn't know all the behind the scenes work that Tim did with the initial start of the praise team. His gifts in this area were quickly realized and he took on an increasingly vital part of the band. After Bill Orris wrapped up his ministry here in the fall of 2010, Tim led the praise team and directed the worship in the second service.

At the same time Tim led the Junior and Senior high youth groups. A highlight for many was the mission trip to Ecuador that Tim organized and led in the summer of 2011

Tim started at Northwest helping out as a youth sponsor when Jeff Swenson was the youth director (2006-2008). Tim took over the youth ministry position on a part time basis in 2008 while still attending North Park University. He started full time after he had completed university.

I hope and pray that you will have opportunity to show your appreciation to Tim in the next couple weeks. His last official Sunday will be Confirmation Sunday. What a great way to celebrate with our Confirmands. Our theme for Confirmation Sunday will be "Guard What Has Been Entrusted to You." Tim has entrusted to our young people the truths of Scripture. He has faithfully taught them the Scriptures, and modeled for them a life dedicated to Jesus Christ. He has lived grace and mercy before them, and shared his passion and commitment to Jesus Christ not only in his words, but also in his actions.

Many, many people have helped Tim with the youth ministry and music ministry here at the church but none have been more supportive than Allison Asimakoupoulos. She was so supportive of Tim that she even changed her last name to Anderson (they were married last July). They have been part of the life of Northwest and have deeply touched many people. They will be missed, but never forgotten.

Tim, on behalf of a grateful congregation I want to say thank you and may God richly bless you in all you do.

—Pastor Paul

Northwest Covenant Church, as disciples of Jesus Christ,
seeks to be an authentic Christian community
where lost people are found and hurting people are helped.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sundays

Traditional Worship 8:30 am
 Praise Time & Sunday School 9:40 am
Last Day for SS 5/13
 Contemporary Worship Communion 5/6 11:00 am
 Prayer Meeting 5/6 6:00 pm
 Alpha 4/29, 5/6 6:00 pm

Mondays

Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 pm
 Al-Anon 8:00 pm
 Men's Study 7:30 pm

Tuesdays

Community Bible Study 7-8:30 pm

Wednesdays

MOPS 5/2, 5/16 9:30 am
 Confirmation 6:30 pm
 Women's Study 5/9, 5/23 7:00 pm

Thursdays

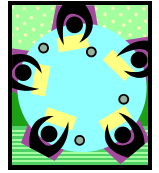
Men's Breakfast at Eros 6:00 am
 Missionary Sew 9:30 am
 Handbells 6:15 pm
 Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm

Business Meetings

Council 5/21 7:00 pm
 Diaconate 5/19 8:00 am
 Finance Board 5/8 6:30 pm
 Mission Board 5/1 7:00 pm
 MOPS SC 5/9 9:30 am
 O&E Board 5/29 7:30 pm



Council Corner



Our church and our denomination follow congregational decision-making, meaning it is important to hear your opinions and consider all points of view before any decisions are made on the direction for our church. I hope each of you will participate in our Northwest Chats and the upcoming PULSE survey. Whether you have attended Northwest Covenant for a long time or are relatively new, we want to hear from you!

By the time you are reading the newsletter, we will almost be at the end of our Sunday school year. I want to thank you for participating in our worship, CE programs, and events, and for volunteering your time and talents to our church. Get ready for our summer worship and activities.

The General Fund balance has turned negative at the end of March, not completely uncommon. We have challenged our church with a larger budget in 2012. Council is thankful for your faithful giving, and we hope you can help us meet this year's contributions budget.

	March	Annual	
	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% to Budget</u>
Contributions	\$121,130	\$607,812	20%
Expenses	\$144,682	\$607,812	24%

General Fund Deficit (\$1,403)

—Curt Anderson, Council Chair

Women Ministries Fall Fellowship Retreat

EXTREME MAKEOVER: You Edition

September 14-16, 2012 or September 21-23, 2012

Registration begins June 1, 2012 for this annual event which is held at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI. Scholarships are available. For more information check out the lounge bulletin board or go to www.wmcc2gether.com.

Start now to prepare your heart for speaker Pastor Janine Davis and for uplifting worship led by Kristy Wenberg!

Sunday School

Our last day of regular Sunday School classes at 9:40 will be **May 13**. Classes will resume in September.

Praise Time – Last two weeks before the summer break!

Join us on **May 6 and 13** to celebrate your May birthday.

Love's Journey

Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in this event and for sharing your gifts and talent with those that attended. We welcomed almost 150 guests to experience the journey of love that Christ made for us before his ultimate sacrifice.

Worship Service Time Changes in May

Sunday, May 20 - Confirmation Sunday — One Worship Service at **10:00 am**.
Sunday, May 27 - Summer schedule begins with Traditional Worship at **9 am** and Contemporary Worship at **11 am**

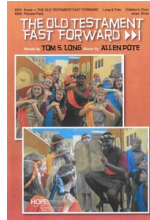
Men's Fellowship Neighborhood Food Drive Continues through April 29

Please remember to drop off food items to church no later than Sunday, April 29.



The Old Testament Fast Forward a musical presented by the Chapel Choir and friends Sunday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for this amusing 45-minute "attempt" to present the entire Old Testament history in ten minutes. Encounter the lessons and eternal truths found within the stories of Adam & Eve, Noah, Moses, David and many more!



Reminder for Northwesterners Saturday, May 5

5 pm—Light supper at Jason's Deli
1530 McConnor Pkwy, Schaumburg

6:45 pm—"Feed My Starving Children"
1072 National Parkway, Schaumburg

Cost: Everyone will be responsible for their own meal at Jason's Deli. Donations are greatly appreciated at the "Feed My Starving Children" site.

All volunteers must wear closed-toed shoes. Otherwise, please come in clean, comfortable clothes.

Questions, contact one of the following:
Steve & Bobbi Jackson 847-991-6243, Pat & Karen Farmer 847-803-8369, Kirk & Kim Johnson 847-255-9694, Russ & Donna Sticken 847-729-3505.



Women's Bible Study "Remarkable Women of the Bible" May 9 and 23 at 7:00 pm

Please come and join us for fun and fellowship We meet at Carol Nelson's home in Arlington Heights.



MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is looking forward to closing out our year with our last two meetings in May. **Wednesday, May 2** we will make garden markers out of old wooden spoons. Our final meeting of the year will be on **Wednesday, May 16**. We will close the year with a tea party! Summer is approaching, MOPS will be organizing summer play dates throughout June, July and August to keep us connected until next year.

MOPS exists to encourage, equip, and help women become the best moms that they can be! Women who are pregnant or have young children (birth through kindergarten) are all invited to join MOPS. Childcare is available. Our meetings are at 9:30 am on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and include breakfast, coffee and adult conversation. Your first meeting is FREE, and after that, each meeting costs only \$7 with childcare and \$5 without childcare. Bring a friend; new members and visitors are always welcome!

MOPS is also excited to participate in Mount Prospect's village-wide garage sale as our last fundraiser of the year. This year's sale is **May 18, 19th and 20th**. We are collecting donations for the sale. If you are interested in donating items to the sale, please e-mail nwcmops@gmail.com. And please plan to shop the sale and support MOPS. Our sale will be hosted just a few blocks northwest of the church at 514 N Fairview Avenue, Mount Prospect, IL 60056.

"Believe, Love, Serve"

The Visionaries and Mission Board invite you to serve at Covenant Harbor, one of our church camps, for their "Believe, Love, Serve" weekend this May. On **Saturday, May 12**, they will have a workday starting at 8:00 with breakfast, followed by various organized service projects around the camp from 9:00 to 4:00. Your 3 meals on Saturday will be provided by the camp, as well as one overnight. You can choose to come up and stay overnight on Friday night or stay over Saturday night following the workday. Children are welcome and childcare will be provided during the workday! What a wonderful opportunity for us to serve one of our Central Conference camps and to spend time together.

Call the camp office at 1 262 248 3600 or register online at: http://www.covenantharbor.org/Believe_Love_Serve

Hope to see you there!

Acts of Compassion



May Act of Compassion

The Mission Board and the Visionaries invite you to participate in Covenant Harbor's "Believe, Love, Serve" workday on Saturday, May 12. The day begins with breakfast at 8:00 am followed by various organized service projects from 9:00 to 4:00. Three meals on Saturday are provided, as well as one overnight. Childcare is available during the workday. Be part of this wonderful opportunity for us to serve one of our Central Conference camps and to spend time together. To sign up, call the camp office at 1-262-248-3600 or online at http://www.covenantharbor.org/believe_love_serve

June Act of Compassion

The June Act of Compassion will be a trip to Feed My Starving Children facility in Schaumburg. Watch for sign up in early June.



Missionary News

The Mission Board will be supporting Nick and Nikki Bruckner who will be short term missionaries to Alaska, working with Covenant Youth of Alaska. Nick is the grandson of Rollie Carlson. Nick is in his last year of seminary studies and will graduate in November. If you would like to offer your support to Nick and Nikki, please go online to www.cyak.org and follow the prompts. Nick and Nikki will be serving in Alaska from May through December.

The Delp Details

Blessings and Greetings from Quito, or Manta or Ibarra, wherever we may be at the time you are reading this. We have had a busy, BUSY month of April traveling throughout the North district of Ecuador, the Coastal district and the Kichwa (indigenous) district. As you may remember, these visits are for an investigative field study of the current local children's ministries in these areas. Our purpose in doing these is so we can find a local children's ministry that we can partner with in doing our long term vision of starting a center for at risk children (orphanage) and medical clinic. This is all in conjunction with the National Covenant Church of Ecuador and its social outreach branch, F.A.C.E.

Check out our blog <http://blogs.covchurch.org/delp/> for updates on what the church in Ibarra looks like now. If you remember, this is the church we visited with the youth team last summer from NWCC!

Kim's HIV/AIDS workshops in Tena went well. It was a good learning experience for her, as she seemed to learn as she was teaching. Hopefully there will be other opportunities for teaching in our final few months in Ecuador.

Please continue to pray for us in May as we have another busy schedule of visits. If you would like to pray by week, here is where we will be...

April 30-May 4 (Central district, where we live doing visits as well as meetings with our country coordinators Dave and Wendy Mark)

May 7-11 (Week in Quito for a little bit of recoup time and to celebrate our 10th anniversary the 11th!)

May 14-19 (South Coastal district)

May 23-27th (Santo Domingo)

Week of May 28th we will be going for our visa renewals. Please pray that we can receive these so that we can stay until November like we have been planning.

Thank you all so much for your love, encouragement and support. We definitely missed you all during the Lenten season and Easter. Know that you are thought of often and missed!

Bendiciones (Blessings)!

Joel, Kim and Simeon

Stay connected with the Delp's:

We will keep supplying these updates in the church newsletter, but you can also check up on us at our blogs at: <http://joelkim.blogspot.com> and <http://blogs.covchurch.org/delp/> Feel free to shoot us an email if you would like at joel-kim.delp@covchurch.org or maybe even give us a ring at our U.S. phone number: 773-505-8783. Also if you want to send a note, our address is: **Casilla 17-11-6068/Quito, Ecuador, SOUTH AMERICA**

Speaking Veritas

“All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sand pile at school. From “All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten” by Robert Fulghum

There is something very pure and sweet and honest and loving about preschoolers. Barbara Hawkinson, a pioneer of preschool education in the 1960’s, once said that in her opinion, the three, four, and five-year-olds she taught day after day, year after year, were, as a group, far more sensible than adults. Life for young children is very straightforward. Moms and Dads talk, and preschoolers soak up their words of guidance and take them to heart . . . for a few years, anyway! And what do we try to teach our young children? We teach them to be polite, to be kind, and to be nice. We teach them to share. We teach them to say “please,” and “thank you.”

When children go to Kindergarten, they are ready for so much more! “Put things back where you found them.” “Clean up your mess.” “Say you are sorry when you hurt someone.” “Play fair.” “Hold hands when you cross the street.” “Stay together.”

In the process of becoming adults and in the process of being adults life becomes more complicated. We forget. Most of the time we remember, but sometimes we just don’t. Words can roll off our tongues before we think or catch ourselves. Or, we hold our tongue for fear of offending or insulting, when, in fact, speaking the truth would lead to growth.

The Veritas experience calls for us to create a behavioral covenant. A behavioral covenant is a list of guidelines for talking to each other, especially when we are discussing difficult or highly charged subjects. It’s a reminder of the basic, but ever so important, things we learned in childhood. It returns us to our roots, making us more purely children of God once again.

Our behavioral covenant is called The Communication Covenant. It is where we are starting on our vitality pathway. It will be our baseline—the first step we take to become a healthy missional church. It will sharpen our skills in the areas of group discussion, problem solving, and decision making. One pastor friend of mine whose church has already experienced Veritas put it this way: A church can “use the covenant as a way of saying, ‘Yes, let’s talk about this, but here’s HOW we’re going to talk to each other.’ It’s like having a third party in the room to rely on to help keep the train on the tracks.”

In March, we voted to accept The Communication Covenant. The words and concepts contained in the covenant are not new. It’s what we knew all along. But by embracing those concepts anew, we will embrace a new approach to our discussions as a congregation. We will be entering into a new covenant of care for each other. We will be able to say what we feel to be true, even if we have held back in the past for fear of offending.

Speaking the truth in a Christ-honoring way. . .speaking Veritas! It’s a great way to start our journey.

<p>Town Hall Meeting Friday, May 11 Supper at 6:00 pm with discussion to follow</p> <p>Please sign up on the church bulletin board as soon as possible. Topic for the evening will be determined and communicated soon.</p>	<p>The Communication Covenant</p> <p>Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold grace as our highest value Speak and listen in love Respond with respect, thoughtfulness, and sensitivity Seek to communicate honestly, clearly, and completely Accept disagreement, conflict, and evaluation as normal and natural Believe the best about each other
<p>The Veritas conversation continues with Peter Sjoblom on May 21 at 6:30 pm. The topic will be “Empowering People, Inspiring Change.” Sign up on the church bulletin board.</p>	<p>PULSE questionnaire Available online until May 5</p>

**NORTHWEST COVENANT
CHURCH**

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Office Hours: 9:00 am- 4:00 pm M-F
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www.northwestcovenant.com
and
511 W. Rand Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Our Mission Statement

**Northwest Covenant Church,
as disciples of Jesus Christ,
seeks to be an authentic
Christian community
where lost people are found
and hurting people are helped.**

**SonRise National Park
Vacation Bible School
June 11-15, 6:15 - 8:35 pm**

At SonRise National Park VBS, kids will join us on an exciting truth trek to find the true power of Jesus' promises. SonRise National Park is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences that kids see, hear and touch! We'll help kids (ages 4 through 6th grade) learn to depend on Jesus as their all-powerful guide and Savior!



Informational invitations will be sent out soon. If you would like us to send an invitation to someone who has not been to VBS before, please forward the mailing information to Daun Geissler. We will also have informational fliers available to give to friends.

Watch for more information about this exciting ministry event! Contact Daun or Stefanie Geissler with any questions or if you want to be a member of the team.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our Sympathy

—to the family of Chris Peters, father of Josh and father-in-law of Britta (Johnson) Peters, who passed away March 26.
—to the family of Eva Miller, David's mother, who passed away April 4.



Congratulations

—to Skippy and Kirsten Crawford on the birth of their daughter Emma Kathryn on April 10. Proud grandparents are Trent and Kathy Martin.



Attention Graduates and Parents!!!



We would like to recognize all Junior High, Senior High, and College/Advanced Degree graduates in the June issue of the newsletter. Will you please contact the church office, put a note in the Newsletter mailbox, or email Mary Nellis at mknellis@earthlink.net with name of graduate, school, degree, honors, future plans, etc.
Due date: May 20

All Church Work Day

Saturday, May 5 from 8 am to 1 pm

There are plenty of jobs for everyone, inside and out. Please sign the sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board.



PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. Paul Thompson, Pastor
Elizabeth McColl, Interim Associate Pastor

CHURCH STAFF:

Daun Geissler, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Beth Petersen, Administrative Assistant
Tim Anderson, Youth Director
June Entwisle Miller, Choir Director
Karen Lindquist, Organist
Jennifer Swanson Hillbo, Director of Children's Choirs
Janet Eckhardt, Choir Accompanist
April and Jason Hoke, Buildings and Grounds

CHURCH COUNCIL:

Curt Anderson, Chair
Darrick Robbins, Vice-Chair
Sarah Saisi, Secretary
Bill Brimm, Finance
Kristin Paulsen, Missions
Kirk Johnson, Education
Maurie Beto, Diaconate
Amy Vogelgesang, Outreach & Evangelism
Peter Johnson, Worship

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Mary Nellis

Northwest Covenant Church
300 N. Elmhurst Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

NORTHWEST NEWS

Save These Dates!!!

Spring is in the air which means that Summer fun can't be far away. Save the following dates and start thinking of friends and neighbors to invite:



Ice Cream Socials (Wednesdays)

June 20th

July 25th

August 15th



Movie Nights (Saturdays)

June 16th

June 23rd

July 14th

Watch for an August date



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the May issue is **Sunday, May 20**, mailing on **Wednesday, May 30**. Please leave your news items in the church office in the mailbox marked Newsletter or email Mary Nellis at mknellis@earthlink.com