



# THE LAMPLIGHTER

Volume 62, Issue 2

February 2012

## FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES: SHARING GOD WITH THE WORLD

Theme verse:

*Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37*

February 5, 2012

Holy Communion

"Stage One: Finding Windows and Doors"

John 2:1-11

February 12, 2012

"Stage Two: Opening Windows and Doors"

Luke 14:1-6

February 19, 2012

"Stage Three: Leading Others to Windows and Doors"

Luke 4:14-21

February 26, 2012

"Stage Four: Removing the Barriers to Launch"

Matthew 25:14-21

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Special points of interest:

- Adirondack Camp
- Griffin Hockey Game
- Silver Seniors Lunch



The Pastor's Pen

1-10-2012

There is something good happening throughout the United Methodist Church today. We are witness to a new thing, another "Great Awakening", possibly! After a long nap, of sorts, the Church is rediscovering its evangelistic foundation. Some Annual Conferences around the country are beginning to see a slowing, and in some cases a reversal, of the decline in attendance and membership.

Churches are getting involved in their communities, no longer staying in the wings. Christians are ending the practice of shaking heads in disgust when looking at the homeless, the addict, or the criminal; instead they are reaching out to help. They are rebuilding playgrounds, working in food pantries and homeless shelters. And, I believe most important of all, they are praying for their neighbors and sharing the Gospel. What an impact this has on the world outside the Church, as people witness these selfless demonstrations of love and helpful acts of service. If we Christians learn nothing else from this it is that we now understand that the world is still hungry for what Christ has to offer!

Imagine Jesus traveling from village to village and proclaiming the gospel with the accompanying acts of healing, helping, mercy and forgiveness. That's what Christians are beginning to recapture. And, we may not realize this, but that is exactly what the Northlawn Vision Statement calls us to do: **Connecting through God's power, learning through love and service to live like Jesus Christ.**

There's a whole world outside the windows and doors of the Church. Christians are set apart for the purpose of seeing the needs of the community through those windows. We are also called to provide a pleasant view inside the Church through those very same windows. And then, we are called to walk through the doors, in mission and ministry, as we follow Christ's example and take the Gospel to the world. Jesus said in Matthew 9:37, "*The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.*"

Some of you have asked me; "What does Northlawn need to do to grow?" My answer has been simple; Northlawn needs to become an even more outwardly focused church, intentionally going to the people outside our windows and doors. **Connecting** to people and **learning** through **loving** and **serving** the world, and then we will be living like Jesus Christ!

SEE YA IN CHURCH! *Jim*

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**WANTED:**

**If you have any extra gift bags , the Yarn with a Purpose group needs them. These are used to put the Prayer Shawls in and deliver them. You may bring them to the church any time. Thank you for making this ministry possible!**



### Coffee Time

Feb. 5: Cheryl Selkirk  
 Feb. 12: Women of Northlawn  
 Feb. 19: Bill & Doris Black  
 Feb. 26: Wanda Skutt



Feb. 5: Lyle & Hilda Russell  
 Feb. 12: Bill & Doris Black  
 Feb. 19: Joan Velting  
 Feb. 26: \_\_\_\_\_



### FEBRUARY:

1 Ken Peterson  
 6 Carmen Bazan  
 6 Jessica Miller  
 11 Sarah Griswold  
 11 Gary Hoye  
 14 Ashleigh Alcumbrack  
 14 Floy Boelens  
 16 Ann Koning  
 17 Paul Eslinger  
 18 Doris Black  
 20 Rev. Lloyd VanLente  
 21 Sarah Diebold  
 21 Jody Hamilton  
 21 Cheryl Selkirk  
 22 Robert Bazan  
 22 Adam Claybaugh  
 22 Clare Loveless  
 23 Don J. Hamilton  
 24 Robert Bazan  
 24 Aaron Claybaugh  
 24 Joe Guinn  
 24 Joe Wesorick  
 27 Ashton Bartley



We are in need of volunteers for ushers, any amount of participation is welcome. You do not have to commit to a month of service, but please sign up at Connection Corner, or see Tom Thompson.

### LITURGIST

February 5: Jan Jager  
 February 12: Cheryl Selkirk  
 February 19: Ed Cavanaugh  
 February 26: Don Chandler



Feb. 5: Pastor Jim  
 Feb. 12: Barb Jeltema  
 Feb. 19: Ed Cavanaugh  
 Feb. 26: Teri Chandler



### ONE MORE JANUARY NOTE: 5th Sunday Brunch

Please mark your calendar and join us after Worship on Sunday, January 29 for a get acquainted breakfast. You can sign up to help at the Connection Corner.

### CONNECTION CORNER:

Help is needed every week, in the Connection. If you would like to help make Northlawn "Newcomer Friendly" stop by and sign up to help! This month we have help from: February 5: Alan & Michele Claybaugh

February 12: \_\_\_\_\_  
 February 19: \_\_\_\_\_  
 February 26: \_\_\_\_\_

## **A Note from your Praise and Worship Team:**

We want to say thank you to everyone for your patience and encouragement over these last few months as we worked to create a celebration of worship and praise to our God. Our God is big enough to take any humble attempt at worship and make it wonderful. With that belief we introduced, and tried, some changes that we hoped would help enhance the worship experience and create the most comfortable and welcoming place where everyone would be able to express their praise and worship.

We have been encouraged by the response of the congregation to some of the changes. For instance, when Toni played a rocked out version of "Angels We Have Heard on High", on Christmas day, we could feel Toni's offering of worship to God as she played. It was evident by your applause after her performance that you too had been a part of a worship offering. The same can be said for the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir performances. Because music is a way for to connect with God, music has the power to help us feel united and uplifted.

If every Christian had the same taste in music and worship style, planning the music and the worship celebration would be very easy. Since we are not all the same, our goal is to help everyone make a personal connection to God at some point in every service, every week, by offering a wide variety in the type of music we share.

We will always strive to plan the best worship celebration possible. If you would like to give a word of encouragement, offer a comment, or offer your service to help us achieve this goal, please let one of the Praise and Worship team members know.

Thank you again,

Jan Jager, Sharon Longstreth, Sharon Sumner, Jerry Lachniet, Teri Chandler, Toni Gould, and Jeanne Hoye  
\*\*\*\*\*

### **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **What kind of skill set do you bring?**

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph. 2:10.* You may think that you don't have any skills or that there is someone who can do a better job than you. Well, so did Moses, Jonah, and many others. You have the perfect set of skills required to accomplish what God wants you to do? He has given you spiritual gifts your experiences training, natural talents, and placed you here! Do you have a submissive heart to accept the "good works" that God has "prepared beforehand"? If God has something He wants to accomplish and He calls you, He will provide what you need to complete the task. God wants us to join Him in the work He does, the good work He has gotten ready for us to do. The one thing He requires of us is that we "be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2). Have you found a place in God's service where you can be used of Him? Let's "do good" and "be rich in good works" (1 Tim. 6:18).

"Think not that you are limited—Because of what you cannot do, But think instead of all you have—The talents God has given you." —D. De Haan

**Volunteers Needed:** Greeter Coordinator & Greeters—Connection Corner Coordinator & Volunteers—Blood Drive Coordinator—Choir—Bell Choir—Praise Band—Children's Sermon—Liturgist—Ushers—Funeral Lunch Help—Landscape Team—Home visits to newcomers, missing members or shut ins—Food and clothing bank volunteers—Outreach to the community—And more... stop by the Connection Corner for ideas.



**Save the Date!**  
**Northlawn Bowling Party**  
**Sunday, Feb. 5**  
**1pm to 4pm**  
**Northfield Lanes**

**Open to everyone!**  
(Small Groups, this would be a  
great time for a "reunion")  
**Sign up at the Connection Corner**

### Griffins Hockey Outing:

Everyone is invited to join Northlawn for this evening of fun!!

Friday, February 24, 2012 @ 7 pm

Tickets Cost \$14.00 per person

It is \$1.00 hot dog.

Please turn in your envelope to the church office.

All MONEY is due by February 6, 2012.

Questions? Call the church office at 361-8503

Please note: We must have 15 people attending to get the group rate. If we do not get 15 registered, your money will be returned.

DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH 2012 LAMPLIGHTER IS FEBRUARY 10. ALL ARTICLES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS DATE! YOU MAY EMAIL THEM TO: [catsdesk@northlawnumc.org](mailto:catsdesk@northlawnumc.org)




Now is the time to clean out your closet!! The church circuit that Joe Beavens was assigned to have a Free Store that supply gently used clothes to those in need. He has asked if we could do a clothing drive here at Northlawn for them. We will be collecting gently used clothing in any size, **especially** infant/children through adult to help with this ministry.

### The Northlawn Vision:

Connecting through God's power, *learning* through love and *service* to live like Jesus Christ.

### Core Principles:

God Is...: *everything begins with and is in God's care, including all of us. (Genesis 1:1)*

Walk  His way... *live like Jesus Christ, love and serve the world. (Matt. 25:40)*

God<sup>3</sup> ...*God creates, Jesus loves, the Spirit guides all of us. (Matt. 28:19)*

### January Blood Drive

41	People signed in
30	Units of blood donated
1	First time donor
90	Lives potentially saved!

## NECM COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY

Boxed potatoes, stuffing, hamburger helper, tuna helper, any beans (canned or dried), rice.



## NECM MONTHLY NEEDS

NECM always needs grocery bags. They may be paper or plastic

- |               |                                         |                      |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Meat        | • Vegetables                            | • Diapers            |
| • Potatoes    | • Dry milk                              | • Toothpaste/brushes |
| • Stuffing    | • Macaroni & cheese                     | • Soap               |
| • Pasta       | • Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo)   | • Shampoo            |
| • Pasta sauce | • Canned spaghetti (like spaghetti o's) | • Deodorant          |
| • Cereal      |                                         |                      |

## Reshape Your World: A Bishop's Day Event on March 10, 2012 @ Cornerstone UMC

The keynote Speaker will be Shannon Trilli from UMCOR. Shannon is a young adult who joined the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in January 2008 as an executive for Project Implementation and Evaluation for the Health Unit. Her primary program areas have included the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund, the Malaria Control Program, and most recently, developing and directing UMCOR's strategy as part of the denomination's \$75 million "Imagine No Malaria" campaign. The INM campaign includes partners such as the United Nations Foundation and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

**2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS:** Workshops will be focused on domestic and international mission, local church outreach, health and welfare ministries, hospitality ministries, children, youth, young adult ministries and many other topics of interest to local churches.

**LUNCH:** The GR District Conference will take place during the lunch break. Also during the lunch break there will be a Panel Discussion with young adults who are active in domestic and/or international outreach and mission.

**CLOSING WORSHIP:** DS Laurie Haller will lead our closing worship celebration which will include an opportunity for individuals and churches to respond to God's call to ministry and mission. Cost is \$17 per person and online registration will begin soon. Questions? Please call or email the GR District office at 616.459.4503 or [grdistrict@wmcumc.org](mailto:grdistrict@wmcumc.org).

### Attention Committee Leaders

It is your responsibility to put your meetings and events on the master calendar. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Jim.

## Silver Senior Luncheon February 1, 2012 at 12:00 pm Sack Lunch & a Movie!

Please come and join us for Chicken or Ham Salad on a croissant, jello, chips, pickle, cookie, soft drinks & POPCORN!! Invite a friend and come and join us!!  
We will meet at the church.

## Thank You Northlawn

I wish to thank the wonderful, caring family that brought me a basket. This year has been really difficult. Have no money to buy gifts, and I certainly won't receive any. I am alone-no, my Lord is with me. Again, please thank the family for me. Bless you all. Renee Bercel

*Thank you for the Meijer gift card. That was very thoughtful. I hope you had a joyous holiday season. Chalonda*

*Thank you for all your prayers for my son Mike. He is still on antibiotics and his arm is still swollen & red, but he feels better. Floy Boelens*

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## Donation project for the YWCA's Domestic Crisis Shelter

There are thoughts and images of Valentine's Day all around. Advertisements encourage men to provide a declaration of their love, in the form of chocolate kisses, candy hearts, and expensive flowers. But, there are those who will not be anyone's Valentine this year. They are the women running from an abusive partner. Please consider joining the Women Of Northlawn (WON) Circle in their February project. Perhaps we can show true love, Christ's love, to some of the women and children who are in this crisis situation.

People fleeing domestic violence all too often must leave their homes with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Thanks to generous community support, the Domestic Crisis Center of the YWCA is able to provide many of the things they need, and also help ease the uncomfortable situation of living in a place that is not one's own home. Below is a "Wish List" of some of those items that helps the YWCA provide a nurturing, safe place for the hundreds of women and children that need temporary shelter each year.

### Women's Needs:

- Pajamas/robes
- Slippers
- Sweat suits (sizes L, XL, XXL)
- Underwear/bras/pantyhose (only new; all sizes including plus)
- Personal care items (only new; deodorant, razors, shaving cream, baby oil, shampoo/conditioner, hair spray, toothpaste, toothbrushes, Vaseline, African American hair products, hairbrushes/combs, hair ties)
- Hats, gloves and scarves
- Planners/calendars
- Spiral-bound journals
- Books and assorted reading material

### Children's Needs:

- Car Seats (*toddler*)
- Diapers and wipes
- Backpacks
- Coloring/activity books and crayons
- Winter coats
- Hats, gloves, and scarves
- Pajamas
- Slippers
- Socks and underwear

A collection box will be placed in the back of the church for your donations. The WON Circle members will be meeting on February 13, and making the delivery during Valentine's Day week. That means we need your donations brought to church by Sunday, February 12.

If you don't care to shop, a financial donation, given to any member of the WON Circle, will be put to very good use.

Thank you for ANY donation you are able to provide.

Questions, concerns, comments? Please direct them to Ruth VanValkenburg or Sue Cleveland.

## Bad Weather Policy

Worship celebrations, and week day events, at Northlawn will be canceled when Grand Rapids Public Schools are closed, or the National Weather Service issues a Blizzard Warning. In the event you are uncertain please call the church. But always remember; when in doubt, don't go out!



## The New Northlawn Directory

We are putting together a new picture directory. This will be a project within the church, no need to set up an appointment for a photographer etc. Instead, if you have a recent family, or individual picture, just bring it to church. The picture will be scanned and returned to you. If you need a picture taken, we can help. Or, you can email your picture to [info@northlawnumc.org](mailto:info@northlawnumc.org).

If you would like to help with this ministry opportunity, contact Ann Koning at 361-8667. Keep watching for more information!

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SAVE SAVE SAVE  
FOR THE METHODIST COMMUNITY HOUSE  
TABS FROM POP OR SOUP CANS

ANY CAMPBELL PRODUCT UPC LABEL



ALSO, BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION FROM GENERAL MILLS PRODUCTS

The container for these items is in the Narthex. Any questions call Ruth VanVaulkenburg

# ADIRONDACK ADVENTURE CAMP:

**CHRISTIAN HIKING CAMP  
FOR ADULTS IN THE BEAU-  
TIFUL ADIRONDACK  
MOUNTAINS OF  
NEW YORK  
(YOU THOUGHT CHURCH  
CAMP WAS JUST FOR  
KIDS, DIDN'T YOU?)**

**ONLY  
\$300**

**PER PERSON!**

**YOU CHOOSE:**

**JULY 22 - 28, 2012 OR  
JULY 29 - AUGUST 4,  
2012**

**BROCHURES AVAILABLE  
@ CHURCH**

...We stay in Ogden Lodge, which is part of Skye Farm United Methodist Camp & Retreat Center in Warrensburg, New York, just off I-87, about 5 miles west of Lake George. We sleep in bunk beds in dormitory-style rooms. Each room has its own full bathroom!

Breakfast & dinner are served in the dining room by various camper "crews". After dinner we have devotional time, followed by a campfire & some fun. Lunches are self-made (everything provided) each morning to take along in your backpack for the day's hike.

After breakfast we carpool to a trailhead, hike/climb the mountain (this is not technical-style with ropes & special gear; we will be hiking along trails, following trail markers, cairns and blazes), have lunch on the summit and then hike back down to return to the lodge for dinner. It has become camp tradition to stop for ice-cream on the way back, so much so, that the "recommended ice-cream stop for the day" is also listed on your daily hike report.

The hikes are scheduled for only 4 days of each week with Wednesday as a "free day" for resting and sightseeing. The area has lots of offer - a day trip to Burlington, VT or visiting the Olympic Sports complex in Lake Placid are just a couple of ideas, along with Lake George and its many tourist hot spots.

Campers must be adults and should be in good physical condition, able to hike and breathe at the same time.

(Sound funny but it works best!)

Hiking boots are strongly recommended  
Campers provide their own transportation to and from camp

Camp starts at 7:00pm on Sunday and ends after breakfast on Saturday

\$50 is due with your registration and the remainder by orientation (limited space - register early)

Orientation will be 3:00pm  
Sunday, May 22, 2012 at  
Northlawn United Methodist Church  
1157 Northlawn, NE  
Grand Rapids, MI

Send registration form and your \$50 deposit (check payable to West Michigan Conference Treasurer) to:

Adirondack Adventure Camp  
Ken & Barb Jeltema  
4816 Boyd Ave., NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

There are cancellation fees:  
\$10 before May 1,  
\$25 for May 1 to July 1 and  
\$50 after July 1

More questions?

Write, call or email the Jeltema\*s  
(616) 363-6480  
barbjeltema@yahoo.com or  
kjelt2@gmail.com



Dear Friends of Northlawn UMC,

Our stewardship emphasis focusing of **The Full Life**, began on January 1, 2012 and our first e-letter included the following text.

**\*\*Have you looked at what the Bible says about giving lately? The Bible says more about giving than Heaven, prayer or even faith! Here's just a sample of what God says about giving;**

**Faithful giving draws me closer to God: Matthew 6:21 *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."***

**Faithful giving is the key to full life: 1 Timothy 6:18-19 *"...use money to do good...be rich in good works...by doing this you will store up treasures in heaven as a good foundation for the future..."***

**Faithful giving reminds me that everything belongs to God: Deuteronomy 8:18 *"But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth."\*\****

Well, many of our supporters have returned their commitment cards the results are still coming in. While we can be optimistic about the final results, this is also a call for diligence and obedience to our commitments we have made. Always remember, this is not a commitment to Northlawn, this is a commitment to God. Stewardship is about being faithful with the gifts God has given us; look again, at the opening of this letter and what the Bible says. I encourage you to use these passages as your guide throughout the next year. Remain faithful to God, commit yourself to putting God first, and keep your commitments current. Before we know it we will be approaching the summer months, and if last summer is any indication, things really slow down around here. Please, if you are away for a vacation, or miss a Sunday for any reason, keep your tithe current, it is your acknowledgement of God's blessing.

If you were unable to make a commitment, for 2012, it's not too late. Simply tear off the bottom of this letter and return it to the church office. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Northlawn, and making possible, *Connecting through God's power, learning through love and service to live like Jesus Christ.*

.....  
(Please consider dividing your tithe with 75% to the General Fund and 25% to the Mortgage Fund)

I/we submit a Personal Covenant to regularly and cheerfully give my/our tithe:

I/we plan to give Time by; ---- \_\_\_\_\_

I/we plan to give Talents by; \_\_\_\_\_

I/we plan to give Treasure by committing; \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to General Fund per week/month And; \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Mortgage Fund per week/month for a **total** commitment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month.

As an "extra mile" we will tithe \_\_\_% of our assets to the Mortgage Fund this year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please circle week or month)

# Sweet Scripture Treat!

... a recipe hidden in your Bible!

You will need:

- a Bible
- a bowl
- a spoon
- waxed paper
- a plate
- measuring cups



In the bowl put:

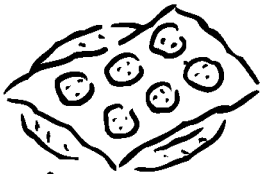
1/2 cup I Samuel 14:25  
(Hint: H \_ \_ \_ \_)

1 1/2 cups Judges 5:25  
(powdered/dried)  
(Hint: M \_ \_ \_)

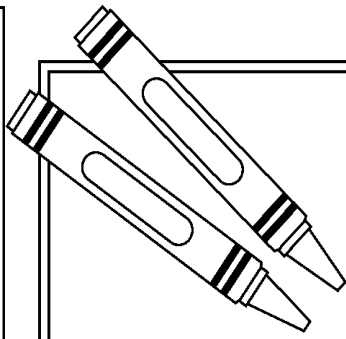
1/2 cup I Samuel 30:12  
(Hint: R \_ \_ \_ \_ \_)



Mix together and drop on waxed paper on the plate. Put in the refrigerator for a while to set.



Enjoy!



# Just for KIDS

## Matthew 6:21

“For where your \_\_\_\_\_ is, there your heart will be also.”

There is a special or valuable item in each verse below. Find the item and fit it into the boxes with the corresponding number circled. Unscramble the letters that are circled. Spell a word that fills the blank above.

Verses:

1. Zechariah 9:16
2. Esther 2:17
3. Matthew 13:45-46
4. Proverbs 25:4
5. 2 Timothy 2:20
6. Luke 21:2
7. Genesis 41:42a
8. Proverbs 3:15
9. Ezekiel 16:11
10. Exodus 35:22
11. Ezekiel 16:11

Hidden word:

\_\_\_\_\_

Hidden Word: Treasure  
1. Jewels 2. Crown 3. Pearls 4. Silver 5. Gold 6. Coins 7. Ring 8. Rubies 9. Bracelets 10. Earrings 11. Necklace

# February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship every Sunday: 9:45 am  Sunday School: 11 am			1 12 noon Silver Seniors 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir	2 6 pm Pastor Parish Relations Committee 6:30 pm AV Team 7 pm Yarn with a Purpose	3	4 10 am Sunday school Meeting
5 1 to 5 pm Northlawn Bowling Party	6 6 pm Praise & Worship Team	7 10 am Women's Bible Study	8 6 pm Bell Choir  7 pm Chancel Choir	9 6 pm Board of Trustees 7 pm Yarn with a Purpose	10	11 12 -5 pm Forbes gathering in Fellowship Hall
12	13 6:30 pm Women of Northlawn	14 10 am Women's Bible Study 6 pm Finance Team	15 6 pm Bell Choir  7 pm Chancel Choir	16 6:30 pm AV Team 7 pm Yarn with a Purpose	17	18
19	20 7 pm Admin. Team	21 10 am Women's Bible Study	22 <b>Ash Wed.</b> 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir	23 6:30 pm AV Team 7 pm Yarn with a Purpose	24 7 pm Griffins Hockey Game	25
26	27	28 10 am Women's Bible Study	29 7 pm Chancel Choir	<u>Sunday Worship Schedule:</u> 9:45 am   Worship Celebration 11:00 am   Sunday School for all ages		



Northlawn United Methodist Church  
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Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Phone: (616) 361-8503  
Fax: (616) 361-2878

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[www.northlawnumc.org](http://www.northlawnumc.org)

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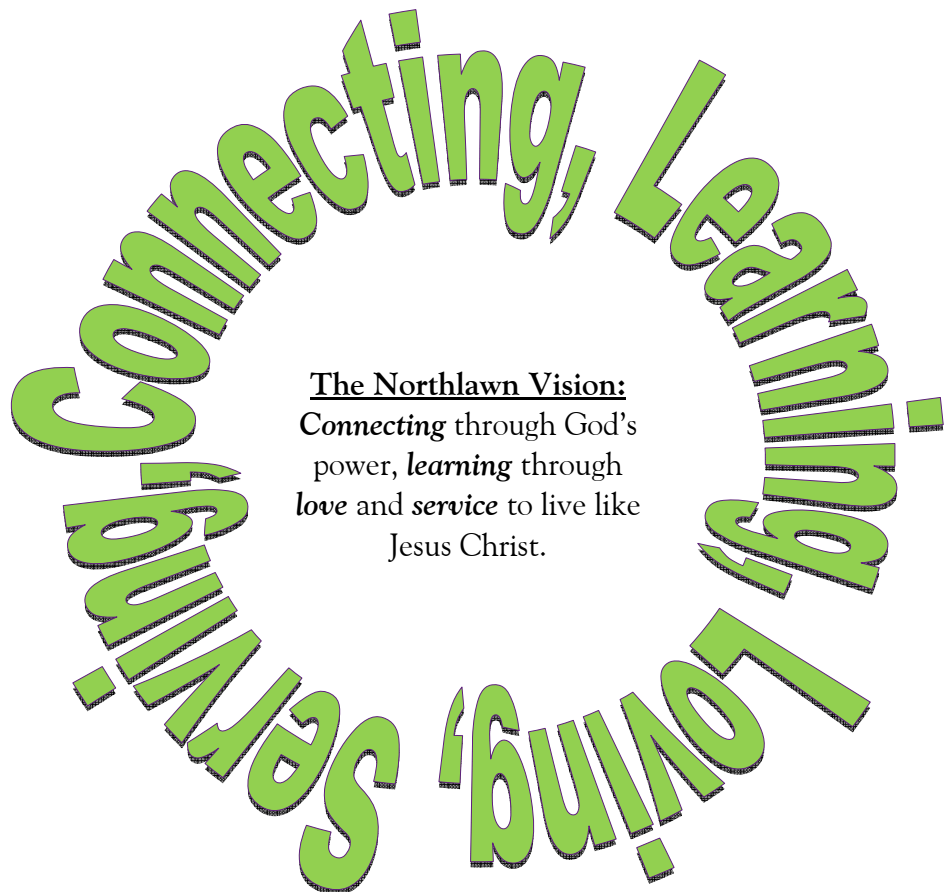
Label Here



### Prayer Corner

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

- Rhea Glazier
- Elsie Montie
- Fran Hunt
- Dorothy Spaulding
- Dylan Gilmore
- Sally Wilkinson
- Bob & Barb Morton
- Toni Gould
- Neil & Doris DeBoer
- Bob & Linda Meinke
- Kelli Hamilton
- Tammy Erkfitz
- Rev. Vance Dimmick
- Rev. Stan Finkbeiner



**The Northlawn Vision:**  
*Connecting* through God's  
power, *learning* through  
*love* and *service* to live like  
Jesus Christ.