

THE LAMPLIGHTER

Volume 61, Issue 4

April 2011



Maundy Thursday; April 21 at 6:30 pm we will gather together to observe a traditional Tenebrae Service. Tenebrae is Latin for shadows. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. This service will include Holy Communion, open to everyone.

Good Friday; April 22 at 7:00 pm we will gather to observe a solemn service for Good Friday. This service will focus on the readings for Good Friday from the Revised Common Lectionary and will also include the Reproaches along with portions of the Passion Narrative juxtaposed to the Nativity and the Cross.

EASTER SUNDAY: April 24 we begin with a Sunrise Worship Celebration at 7:30 am followed by breakfast at 7:50 am and our Traditional Worship Celebration at 9 am. At 10:15 am the Sunday School hour will include some exciting craft activities for the kids, and at 11:15 am the Contemporary Worship Celebration will take place.

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Special points of interest:

- Free Cookies
- You've Got Talent
- Silver Seniors
- Summer Camp Info



The Pastor's Pen

3-10-2011

Who makes a way? Who makes a path through the waters? Who brings us out or transports us to safety? Who protects us from the burning fire? You know, this passage from Isaiah 43 takes on a whole new meaning when you just add three simple punctuation marks, does it not?

About a month ago, at the 11:15 am worship, I shared a story from a book my wife gave me for Christmas. The book was written by Fritz Kling and I believe the story bears repeating as we enter the Lenten season.

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:16-19 NRSV

Two distinct eastbound rivers converge to form the fabled Amazon River, which then flows nearly one thousand miles until it reaches the Atlantic Ocean at Belem.

Like oil and water, the Amazon's two tributaries do not blend or mix upon meeting, but create instead a seam of sorts. They appear from the air to be side-by-side runners of black and caramel carpet.

The southern tributary, Rio Negro ("black water"), is the largest black water river in the world. It is tannic – the color of very dark tea or even wine – because upstream it cuts through forests of leaf shedding trees. Rio Negro's water is dense and heavy, virtually free of mineral content and home to sparse fish life because it is so acidic. Though dark, it is also crystal clear.

The northern tributary, Rio Solimões ("white water"), is caramel colored and wavy, full of churning vegetation and silt from mountains in western South America. It has plentiful fish life. Faster moving than Rio

Negro, Rio Solimões swirls, churns, and rushes toward the Atlantic.

At the meeting of the waters, not only is the seam dramatically visible from above, but it is also three-dimensional – almost as if an underwater wall or baffle rises from the riverbed to the surface of the water. A Brazilian missionary friend described diving into the river and swimming under water from one seam to the other. She exhilarated in bursting through the underwater wall into the other stream.

For ten miles, as the newly formed Amazon courses east, the two rivers run completely distinct and separate in their shared channel. The seam visibly exists for that whole distance until, finally, the waters blend.

As God now carries us through the process of blending our lives with Christ's let's remember one thing. We're different from God, and different from each other. It is God who patiently waits for each of us to blend with the life and example of Christ. It is God whose prevenient care looks after us when we stray. It's God's love that has made a way for each of us to find forgiveness. And when this Life/Lenten season is complete, it is God who has prepared us to live forever.

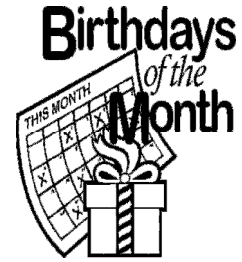
DEADLINE FOR THE MAY 2011 LAMPLIGHTER IS **APRIL 10**. ALL ARTICLES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS DATE! YOU MAY EMAIL THEM TO: catsdesk@northlawnumc.org

WORSHIP LEADER

- 3 Ann Koning
- 10 Art Wright
- 17 Ed Cavanaugh
- 24 Judy VanLente

APRIL USHERS:

- Tom Thompson (head usher)
- Warren Buschert II
- Phil VanHammen



CHILDREN'S SERMON

- 3 Pastor Jim
- 10 Kelli Hamilton
- 17 Rev. Thurlan Meredith
- 24 Sharon Sumner



- 1 Adam Roberts
- 3 Greg Cleveland
- 4 Colleen Waite
- 8 Leslie Martin-Good
- 10 Mike Diebold
- 10 James Young
- 11 Eric Erkitz
- 11 Darva Oberhofer
- 12 Bob Haile
- 12 Chris Longstreth
- 12 Charlie Yen
- 14 Liam Bull
- 15 Lyle Brockway
- 16 Pat Schloop
- 17 Ed Cavanaugh
- 17 Doug Johnson
- 17 Daniel Waite
- 19 Bob Hamilton
- 20 Irma Schamel
- 21 Craig Allen
- 22 Ginny Gerlach
- 23 Draven Bartley
- 23 Tracey Salzemnieks
- 23 Kristina Weidenfeller
- 28 Sharon Longstreth
- 28 Norm Merrow
- 29 Adelaide Erkitz
- 30 Cherie Roberts

GREETERS

- 3 Bob & Barb Morton
Lyle & Hilda Russell
- 10 Bob & Jody Hamilton
- 17 Jamie & Ryan Griswold
Nancy Young
- 24 Bill & Doris Black

COFFEE TIME

- 3 Sharon Applegarth
Jane Lachniet
- 10 Sharon Sumner
Judy VanLente
- 17 Doris Black
- 24 NONE

CAN YOU HELP?

We always need volunteers to fill the various positions on Sunday mornings. If you would like to volunteer, please sign-up at "clipboard central".

The Northlawn Vision:

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

Core Principles:

God 1s... *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)

God³ ... *God creates, Jesus loves, the Spirit guides all of us.* (Matt. 28:19)

NECM NEEDS: FRUIT & FRUIT JUICE

For the month of April our focus will be on fruit and fruit juices; so when you go shopping please pick up some extra and bring them to Northlawn.

Thank you,
The Northlawn Mission Committee.

Thank You's

Thanks to all of you that supported our efforts to replace the water heater in the basement. Thank you also to Craig Allen for installing the water heater.

We will continue of Friday night Fundraising Dinner, our next project is to replace the ramp and railing on the south side of the building.

Again, thank you all for your support! See you at dinner!!

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and meals that Dave and I received after my knee surgeries. I am slowing recovering and hope to be better than "normal" as soon as possible!

I would also like to thank all of the volunteers that have been working in the office! You guys are AWESOME!

Cathy & Dave Renkema

UPDATE ON OUR CLATTER OFFERING

The previous Clatter Offering of \$129.27 was given to the Women's Crisis Center along with the following items donated by the Church:

31 Bath towels	30 Wash clothes
10 Hand towels	21 pairs of Slippers
131 Undies	16 Shampoo & Conditioner
16 Bars of soap	10 Toothpaste
13 Toothbrushes	6 Mouth wash
6 Deodorant	6 Lip Balm
13 Body Lotions	Many , Many personal care items

Thanks to all of you who helped make this mission possible!

February Clatter Offering of \$153.35 went to St. Johns Home for Youth Bibles and Dance Shoes. March Clatter is for Health Intervention Services.



HUNGER WALK

Put on your walking shoes or just have a seat....the 34th annual Hunger Walk is coming up on Saturday, May 7th. Northlawn is hosting the 1sy (annual) Hunger Rock, if you cannot walk in the Hunger Walk just come and rock away hunger. The monies are distributed to 17 local programs along with 5 international agencies. More information to come in the bulletins. Any question call Sue Cleveland at 363-4562.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We continually knit and crochet prayer shawls. We pray as we knit at home. We meet every Thursday and knit and crochet together.

The shawls are in a Prayer Shawl Cabinet in room #105. If you know someone who would enjoy the comfort of a Northlawn Prayer Shawl because they are physically, emotionally, or mentally in distress, please come and get one and take it to them. If you do take a prayer shawl, please WRITE IN THE NOTEBOOK in the cabinet so we can keep track of who gets one. Thank you!

Our group of 8-12 ladies is very diligent in their ministry to keep people comfortable when life is difficult for them. We always welcome more knitters and crocheters!! COME JOIN US:YARN WITH A PURPOSE.



FREE COOKIES!!!

I thought that would get your attention! It's time once again for the Northeast Community Churches Blood Drive. Please sign up to donate blood on Monday, April 11th, between 2-7pm, at Faith Lutheran Church on Fuller/3 Mile.

Blood donation is a simple four-step process: registration and medical history, mini-physical, donation, and refreshments (FREE COOKIES!!!). The actual blood donation typically takes less than 12 minutes. The entire process, from the time you arrive to the time you leave, takes about an hour. Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome.

Please contact Northlawn newcomer Marcy Crites for appointments and information. 616-204-1910 or Marcy@MyMcGrawShow.com.



The annual Easter egg hunt is scheduled for April 17, 2011 (Palm Sunday) at 10:45 AM. All children through the fifth grade are invited to participate. This includes your children, your grandchildren, nieces or nephews, or even your neighbor kids! A sign up sheet will be available starting March 12th until April 10th in clipboard central to sign up your child. Please include the age or grade in school of the child as we try to provide age appropriate candy for the younger children. Any questions, please contact either Robin Eslinger at 874-2338 or at rob-in.eslinger@kentcountymi.gov or Barb Shuck at 363-4405.

North End Community Ministry

Request the pleasure of your company at its

2011 Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Doors open at 5:30 pm

Dinner is served at 6:30 pm

Speaker to be Charles Honey
of the Grand Rapids Press

Special Music provided by Max Colley
Former Northview High School Band Director

At Sunshine Community Church
3300 East Beltline NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

All proceeds
go to serve
our community

Please RSVP to NECM
by phone (616) 454-1097
or email at NECM77@aol.com

WELCOME AND CONNECTION CORNER

There is a new area in the Narthex (area behind the Sanctuary) to welcome newcomers and to help all of us **connect**. Tentative plans are for the "Corner" to provide welcome gifts for newcomers, house sign-up clipboards, accept donations of food for NECOM, collect clothing for Joe Beavin's church up north, answer questions, and have information about activities and volunteer opportunities. We are looking for volunteers to help organize and staff this area so sign up by emailing Northlawnumc@gmail.com, calling church office, using your Connection Card on Sunday morning, or signing up at Clipboard central.

On a related note, in our ongoing effort to make Northlawn a welcoming and attractive place for everyone and take care of God's house like we do our own, a team will be working to clean, de-clutter, organize and rearrange the main floor entrance, Narthex, and other main floor areas of the church. If you would like to help or if you have strong feelings about placement or removal of any of the items in these areas, please let one of the "Porch" members know (Tammy Diebold, Christine Wright, Sharon Sumner, Sharon Applegarth, Ed Cavanaugh, Alan Claybaugh, and Sue Cleveland) or email northlawnumc@gmail.com.

YOU'VE GOT TALENT!

We know it! So, step up and share it!

Northlawn UMC Annual Talent Show

Sunday, May 15, 2011

All ages welcome to participate and attend. Please make your plans now and let the Memorial Committee know what they are.

See; Sybil Hole, Leslie Good, Terri Rowe, or Sue Cleveland if you have questions or would like to share.

Stay tuned for further details!

Summer Camp is not just for kids anymore!



Christian hiking camp for adults in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains of New York.

Choice of weeks:

July 24 — 30, 2011 or
July 31— August 6, 2011

Only
\$290
per person!

Sponsored by the
West Michigan Conference of
the United Methodist Church

Questions?

Call or email Ken or Barb Jeltema
(616) 363-6480

barbjeltema@yahoo.com or
kjelt2@gmail.com



Brochures are also available at
www.westmichiganconference.org
just click Camping



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN DISTRIBUTION

UMCOR, NECM, & UM Community House	\$500 each	Used eyeglasses
Church Water Heater	\$200	Funeral Lunches
Clark Home Benevolent Fund	\$200	School supplies
Bethany Christian Services	\$200	Tissues for teachers
Vacation Bible School	\$400	Veteran's
Supper House (2 times a Year)	\$150	Clothes for Joes
50 new chairs for Fellowship Hall	\$1,211	Shoes & Clothes for In The Image
Dishes and suitcases for Bethany		Scarves & hats for schools and Bethany
Blankets & Clothes for stillborn babies		
Tabs & Box tops for UM Community House		

THE WORSHIP CELEBRATION NEEDS YOU TO BE A WORSHIP LEADER.

Openings are available every week for people to help lead the congregation in the 9 am Worship Celebration. The worship leader duties include being the "liturgist" (reading announcements, leading the opening prayer, responsive reading, and scripture reading for the day) and leading the children's sermon. **Two people CAN share these duties in one service.** If you are interested in being a liturgist and/or a children's sermon leader please sign up on the Worship Leader clipboard at Clipboard Central. If you have any further questions, please ask Sharon Longstreth or Jamie Guinn.



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 infant/children through adult to help with this ministry.



Someone will only be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9 am - 12pm.

NECM NEEDS FOR EVERY MONTH

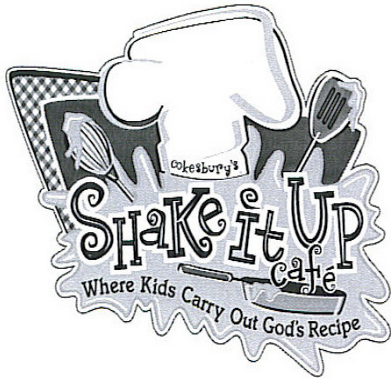


- Meat
- Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Cereal
- Vegetables
- Dry milk
- Macaroni & cheese
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo)
- Canned spaghetti (like spaghetti o's)
- Diapers
- Toothpaste/brushes
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant

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

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>EVERY Sunday: 9:00 am Worship Celebration</p> <p>10:15 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:15 am Worship</p>		<p>EVERY TUESDAY: 10 am Ladies Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm Bible Study</p> <p>7 pm ZUMBA</p>	<p>EVERY WEDNESDAY 6 pm Bell Choir</p> <p>7 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>EVERY THURSDAY 7 pm Praise Team</p>	1	2 <p>9:30 am Decotec</p>
3	4	5	6 <p>12 pm Silver Seniors</p>	7 <p>6 pm SPCR Meeting</p> <p>7 pm Porch Team</p>	8	9 <p>6 pm Decotec Dinner</p>
10 <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	11 <p>6:30 pm Talitha Koum</p> <p>7 pm Decotec</p>	12 <p>7 pm Living Room Meeting</p> <p>7 pm Office meeting</p>	13	14 <p>6 pm Mission Meeting</p> <p>7 pm Decotec Set-Up</p>	15 <p>4 pm Decotec Using Building</p>	16 <p>Decotec Using Building</p>
17 <p>10:45 am Easter Egg Hunt</p>	18	19 <p>11 am Assemble Newsletter</p>	20 <p>6 pm Finance Team Task Force</p>	21 <p>6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service</p>	22 <p>7 pm Good Friday Service</p>	23 <p>9:30 am Decotec</p>
24 <p>7:30 am Sunrise service</p> <p>7:50 am Breakfast</p>	25	26	27	28	29	30



NUMC Vacation Bible School 2011

JUNE 27-30, 2011 6p-9p

New month and new time.

Sign up sheets will be available soon!

We Need YOU! Mark your calendars and consider volunteering to help "Shake It Up"!

Please call Sharon Longstreth

616-974-8995

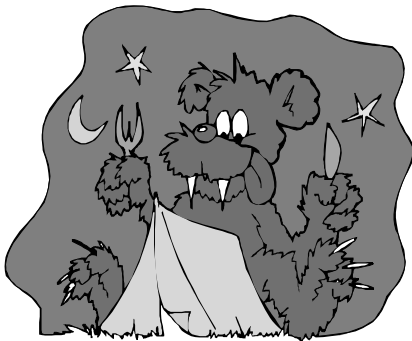
cslongstreth@yahoo.com

Summer Camp Info Is Here!!

How to go to summer camp!

1. Pick up the 2011 brochure at the information stand!
2. Browse the whole brochure – there's sure to be a camp that fits you!
3. Send your \$75 registration fee to the conference 3 1/2. Northlawn has faithfully been paying to send kids to camp for years. With this years budget predictions there will be a change but don't let that make you skip camp! There are fun plans "in the works" to fund our camping budget! Camperships, of some sort, will be available!
4. Wait patiently for your week of camp then go have fun!

Contact Barb Jeltema (363-6480) if you have any questions about camping



FRIDAY NIGHT FUNDRAISER DINNER

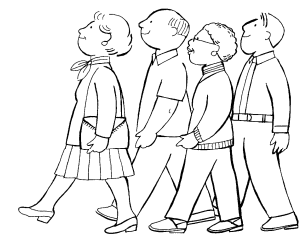
6:00 PM - APRIL 29

This months dinner will be ham, potatoes and a vegetable. Our project will be to replace the handicap ramp and railing at the south entrance to the building. If you have any questions, Call Art Wright @ 691-7548.





SILVER SENIOR'S LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, AT NOON
Please come and join the fun and food! Bring a friend!



Calling All Seniors!



Northlawn United Methodist Church
1157 Northlawn St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

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

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We're on the web!
www.northlawnumc.org

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PRAYER CORNER

Please remember the following people in your prayers this month:

Rhea Glazier
Elsie Montie
Fran Hunt
Bob & Emmie Clawson
Don VanValkenburg
Joan Velting
Cathy Renkema

Connecting, Learning, Loving, Serving

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