



January 2008
Volume 3 Issue 1

Norwood Christian Grapevine

I AM THE VINE YOU ARE THE BRANCHES... JOHN 15:5



Pastor's Promptings

Wow! What A Year!

My family and I have been so blessed serving you in this, our first full year in Norwood. We have had a lot of fun and great times getting to know each of you better. You have welcomed us into your homes and into your hearts, and I want you all to know how much we appreciate you.

Looking back at 2007 I'd say we had a very productive and blessed year. Here are just a few of the highlights of Norwood Christian Church for 2007.

We welcomed the following new members to our church family: Kate Davis, Zack Calvillo, Terri Gabarron, Victoria Haggard, The Broome Family (Greg, Debbie, Kaleb and Emzy), The Newport

family (Jim, Sharon, Kaitlin, and McKenzie), and LaVaughnia Bailey. We have also had many new visitors we look forward to getting to know better in 2008.

We started 2007 with a new Wednesday night study called "The Truth Project." This excellent study on worldviews challenged and inspired us. All who attended took a hard look at our worldview and the many ways we have been taken captive by the culture. The meals before the study provided another opportunity to spend time with one another and to get to know each other better.

We followed up "The Truth Project" with a study on creation. We examined the truth about creation versus

evolution as well as the differing Christian views on creation.

We showed several Christian movies throughout the year and we will continue to do so in 2008. There is a growing Christian movie industry putting out tremendous, uplifting, family-friendly movies and we will show as many of them as we can in 2008. We encourage you to attend these movies and bring a friend with you.

We had several special events throughout the year including: Easter Sunrise Service at Ron Gabbett's, Mother's Day breakfast, Father's Day BBQ and movie night, Family Camp at Miramonte, Cowboy Breakfast after the fair and rodeo, Golf Tour-

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"I am the Vine;
You are the
branches.

If a man remains in
Me and I in him, he
will bear much
fruit;

Apart from Me you
can do nothing."

John 15:5

2008

The Year of Personal Revival

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naments, All Pro Dad Father-Child breakfasts, Mission Trip to Globe Arizona to help Arizona Reservation Ministries build a house on the Apache Reservation, Apple Cider Day at Joyce Hodges, and a very special Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, just to name a few.

The fun and fellowship will continue in 2008! We have designated 2008 as "The Year of Personal Revival." We have many studies and activities planned for 2008 to help us build a stronger relationship with the Lord and with His family here at Norwood Christian Church.

We have nearly 30 people who have committed to read through the entire Bible in 2008. The "Through the Bible in a Year" calendars are in so be sure to pick one up this Sunday. On Sunday, January 6th we launch our 12-week bible study called "Seeking

Him." This study will help us achieve personal revival in our Christian life.

Beginning Sunday, January 13th at 6 p.m. we will begin our new Sunday Evening Family Fellowship service. This is a time for the entire church family, young and old, single or married, to fellowship together in a more relaxed, interactive environment. We are going to start things off with the Mayberry Bible Study. We're going to watch some episodes of the classic TV series The Andy Griffith Show and discuss the biblical principles that can be learned from the show that we can apply to our lives.

In January we will also be launching our Koinonia Supper Groups. Koinonia (pronounced "coin no nee' ah") is Greek for "fellowship." The Koinonia Supper Groups will meet in homes at least once a month. These groups will consist of a few families sharing a meal together, praying with one another, and getting

to know one another better. Each group will have its own personality. Some groups may play games after the meal, some may watch videos, others will simply fellowship by talking with one another. If you have not signed up yet to be a part of a Koinonia group, be sure to do so right away by calling the church office. The groups are being assigned now and we hope to have the list out by Sunday, January 13th.

We will also have a wealth of special events like we had in 2007, so watch for details as those dates approach. The year 2008 is shaping up to be another fantastic year at Norwood Christian Church. If you are looking for a place to worship the Lord in a loving, family atmosphere, why not come visit us Sunday? You are invited to start off the New Year with us at Norwood Christian Church!

Serving Christ and His Family,
Pastor Ken

She Loves Me by Davis M. Watson

SHE LOVES ME
SHE LOVES ME NOT
SHE LOVES ME
SHE LOVES ME NOT
SHE LOVE ME
SHE LOVES ME...

As a kid I played this game while walking through a field of sunflowers. I would pluck a sunflower and imagine myself with the prettiest girl in third grade and how devastated I was when I came to the last petal and found out, SHE LOVES ME NOT! How could this be? The feeling didn't last very long because there were lots of sunflowers in the field.

Many times this is our attitude toward love. If it doesn't work out there are many more "sunflowers" in the field. As we grow older, instead of plucking "love" petals, we make our love

conditional. "I will love you if you love me." "I will love you if you do this for me." "I will love you if you buy this for me."

If we base our love relationships on conditions, they will fail. There will be times that you really don't love that person and times you just can't meet their conditional demands. Your love for that person should never be based upon conditions.

You say, "That's pretty radical!"

Well, I serve a pretty radical God. A God so radical that He created this world and everything in it. A God so radical that He made man to tend it and rule over it. A God so radical that He gave man free will to obey or not to obey His Word. A God so radical that He still loves me even though I do not obey. A God so radical that while I was still disobedient, "He gave His one and only Son, that

whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. A God so radical that allowed His Son to die on a cross for my disobedience. A God so radical that He lives in every believer's heart. A God so radical that He wants a love relationship with you and me.

Now, that's really radical!

Do you know this radical God? Have you experienced His radical love? A love that will never fail, a love that is never conditional, a love that will never leave you.

Are you down to your last "love" petal?

GOD LOVES YOU!

Do you want to learn more about God's radical love for you?

Come worship with us this Sunday.

By Davis M. Watson

New Year's Eve Party - Monday, December 31st

Come usher in the New Year with us at our annual New Year's Eve Party! The fun begins at 7 p.m. and will keep going until midnight. We'll have a fun time with movies, games, food, and a lot of great fellowship. Bring your favorite party food and game and help us say good bye to 2007 and hello to 2008!

Sunday Morning Bible Study - "Seeking Him"

As part of our year of personal revival, we will begin 2008 with a new Sunday Morning Bible Study. The study, called "Seeking Him," is a 12-week group Bible study on experiencing the joy of personal revival. If you haven't already signed up and received your workbook then sign up today. See Pastor Ken for more information.

Ministry Sign-Up Sunday

On Sunday, January 6th we will be having our annual Ministry Sign-Up Luncheon right after church. In addition to the usual great food, we will have information about all the ministries available at NCC. You will be able to sign up to participate in the ministries of your choice. Be sure to sign up this Sunday to bring a dish for the pot-blessing.



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10 AM ~ Bible Study
11 AM ~ Worship Service

I AM THE VINE YOU ARE THE BRANCHES... JOHN 15:5

new year's resolutions...

1. Spend more time with family
2. Lose weight
3. Start going to church
4. Exercise more



Have you made New Year's resolutions? We can help you keep them. No, we can't help you lose weight or exercise more, but we can help you get the most out of your family life and your spiritual life. Why not start the year off right by attending Norwood Christian Church this Sunday?

Bible Study begins at 10:00 a.m. followed by Worship Service at 11:00 a.m., and beginning January 13th Sunday Evening Family Fellowship service at 6:00 p.m.

Make 2008 the year you keep the important resolutions.

January 2008

Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross, was reminded one day of a vicious deed that someone had done to her years before. But she acted as if she had never heard of the incident. "Don't you remember it?" her friend asked. "No," came Barton's reply. "I distinctly remember forgetting it."

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:21

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	31 New Years Party 7 pm 	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3 Praise Team 7:30 pm <i>Heather Lawrence</i>	4	5
6 Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Ministry Sign-up Luncheon 12:15 pm	7	8 Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm <i>Rebecca Williams</i>	9	10 Praise Team 7:30 pm	11	12
13 Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Evening Svc. 6 pm <i>Robert Lawrence</i>	14 Elders & Board Mtg. 7pm	15 Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm	16	17 Praise Team 7:30 pm	18	19
20 Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Evening Svc. 6 pm <i>Dori Calvillo</i>	21	22 Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm <i>Rhonda Oliver</i>	23 <i>Lee Barrett</i>	24 Praise Team 7:30 pm	25 <i>Chris Oliver</i>	26
27 Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Evening Svc. 6 pm	28	29 Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm <i>Emzy Broome</i>	30	31 Praise Team 7:30 pm		



SUNDAY SERVANTS

12/30/07

Communion Prep: Dean Boehler
Greeters: Dean & Stacy Boehler
Communion Servers: Davis & Mary Watson
Meditation: Dean Boehler
Nursery: (open)

01/06/08

Communion Prep: Ernie & Zack Calvillo
Greeters: Ernie & Zack Calvillo
Communion Servers: Ted & Fay Earley
Meditation: Ernie Calvillo
Nursery: (open)

01/13/08

Communion Prep: Ted & Fay Earley
Greeters: Sharon Pike
Communion Servers: Howard & Betty Greager
Meditation: Davis Watson
Nursery: (open)

01/20/08

Communion Prep: Chris & Heather Lawrence
Greeters: Grizz & Vickee Parker
Communion Servers: Dick & Kathy Nelson
Meditation: Ken Lawrence
Nursery: Heather Lawrence

01/27/08

Communion Prep: Grizz & Vickee Parker
Greeters: Dick & Kathy Nelson
Communion Servers: Sharon Pike & Mary Watson
Meditation: Davis Watson
Nursery: Chris Lawrence

