NSCC HONORS OUR GRADUATES

This morning during the Gathering For Worship at 10:15 NSCC will honor our 2015 graduates. We have a special video message from Pastor Jake which will be followed by the presentation of gifts and prayer. Our graduates include Caleb Craig, Brandon Cramner, Christian Kremer, Autumn Pierce, Josh Rader, Tammy Parasida and Kyle Davidson. Representing the Congregational Care and Fellowship Department today are Irene Divers and Pastor Bob. We thank Shannon Hartman for collecting the data and producing the slides and our Tech Team for always making things happen and for backing us up!

Christ in Youth/MOVE Report



This past week, eight NSCCers spent Sunday evening through Thursday evening at Cedarville University in Cedarville, OH at CIY/MOVE. Move is a 5-day high school event held all over the country designed to amplify the call of Christ on students' lives to become kingdom workers. The theme of the week was taken from the Book of Daniel and was titled You Are Here! You might want to ask one of the CIYers just how life-changing it was. Our group was comprised of Emily Bilowich, Kaitlyn Bell, Julia Pemrich, Niki Simpson,

Nick Bartley, Timothy Petsinger, Travis Reed and Pastor Jake!

Mexico Missions Trip/Casas Por Cristo



This morning at 4:45, a group of nine NSCCers headed to Pittsburgh International Airport to board a plane for San Antonio, TX. (NSCC transporters were George Rader, Gary Saeler and Andy Bilowich – thanks men.) From San

Antonio the plan is to drive a rental van to Del Rio, TX where they will meet up with Jon and Bonna Ray and Scott and Jonna DeWitt and family. They plan to cross the border to Acuna, Mexico this evening to begin building a house for a poor family through the ministry of Casas Por Cristo. Casas por Cristo relies on the labor and resources of full time <u>staff missionaries</u>, a board of **over 100 pastors** and community leaders from <u>Juárez</u> and <u>Acuña México</u>, <u>San Raimundo</u>, <u>Guatemala</u> and the <u>Dominican Republic</u> and nearly **7,000 annual volunteers** from across North America. Through these cross-cultural partnerships, volunteer teams are presented with an amazing opportunity to build a home for a family in need. **In just one week** teams transform an otherwise empty lot into a safe and secure home - complete with cement foundation, electricity, windows and doors. As a result of this experience, each family receives a tangible symbol of the faithfulness and unconditional love of Jesus Christ. As volunteers gain perspective on the extreme poverty that exists in our world, so do these families better understand God's plan for their lives and His deep desire to take care of their needs. Our group is comprised of Tyler Bell, Emily Bilowich, Alishia, Michelle and Lyeric Cousins, Zach Ferguson, Alex Herrin, Bridget Pierce, and Pastor Jake. Please pray for them daily!

NSCC Light of Life Community Outreach Our Christian Drop-In Center

The NSCC Light of Life Community Outreach, is located at the Legacy Ministry House at 232 West North Street, and is open daily from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The coffee pot is always on and lunch is served following morning devotions at 11:30 a.m. Do drop in!



Sun 21st	Mon22nd	Tue 23rd	Wed 24th	Thur 25th	Fri 26th	Sat 27th
9:00 Sunday School	7:00 Freedom	6:30 Softball Game	LOLCO	11-2 LOLCO	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED	Beth Moore Conferance
10:15 The Gathering		7:00 Bible Study at Klutinoty's				

SERVING TODAY

<u>Chapel Hour</u>

Communion Preparation: Joan Cole
Greeter: Andy Lasichak
Nursery: Kathy Twerdok
Sunday School 9:00
Nursery: Joan Cole &Kathy Twerdok
The Gathering 10:15
Communion Preparation: Denise Kerr
Greeter: Deb Souzer
Nursery: Joan Cole & Shelly Pratt
Children's Church:
During 10:15 Gathering
Room 303-305
Ages: 4yrs - 2nd Grade

~ SEND A CARD ~

Thomas Bell 530 Federal Street Butler, PA 16001

Offering Report June 14, 2015

General \$ 4,359.00

Designated \$ 679.00

Total \$ 5,038.00

Building Fund \$ 240,333.89

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE
RECENTLY CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS, OR
PHONE NUMBER WE MIGHT BE MISSING
YOU IN OUR RECORDS. PLEASE SEND
YOUR UPDATES TO THE OFFICE.
shannon@northstreetchristianchurch.org
or call 724-282-7700

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs 9:30-4:00
Closed
Fridays - Sundays

~Deadline for Newsletter Articles: Due by Wednesday at 12

Today's Quote: "When we die we leave behind us all we have, and take with us all we are."

A Word From Pastor Bob - 12 Marks of Mediocrity in a Church



Tom Ranier of LifeWay Resources recently posted this article. I shared it with our leaders earlier this week and thought it worth sharing with our news sheet readers:

I suspect this post may offend someone, but that's not my goal. I want churches to strive for excellence simply because our calling is to do what we do for God's glory. I fear, though, that many congregations settle for mediocrity. As a church consultant, I've learned that these signs are often an indicator that the church overall does not strive for excellence:

1. **No plans for evaluation**. When I ask church leaders about their strategy for evaluating the worship service, the sermons, the programs, etc., they often have no intentional evaluations. Seldom does a church move far beyond mediocrity when no assessment occurs.

- 2. **Tolerance of mistakes**. Granted, no church is perfect. On the other hand, churches that repeatedly have mistakes in the bulletin, misspelled words in PowerPoint presentations and confusion in worship services are sending wrong signals.
- 3. **Poor maintenance of the church grounds**. It's easy for regular attenders to inadvertently miss the out-of-control bushes, the dying flowers and the broken asphalt—but guests may not miss the same stuff. What they see when they enter the lot says something about the church's commitment to excellence.
- 4. **Poor upkeep of the building**. Maintenance is a never-ending chore, but tasks like removing clutter, painting walls and replacing light bulbs are not that difficult. To ignore these jobs is to settle for less than the best.
- 5. **No records of attendance, growth, etc.** I understand churches that don't want numbers-consciousness to trump their God-centeredness, but my concern is the church that pays no attention to numbers. Seldom have I seen those churches strive to improve in many areas.
- 6. **No clear discipleship strategy**. Few churches have a defined strategy to lead new believers toward growth and maturity. The church without a plan will wind up with stagnant, non-growing believers (often even among leaders)—and that's mediocrity.
- 7. **Toleration of sin**. The congregation that permits blatant sin to continue without steps toward redemptive discipline fosters a church that looks like the world. To ignore sin in the camp is to settle for less than God's best.
- 8. **No class for membership**. Potential members should understand what membership means before they make a commitment to the congregation. Churches without a membership class are essentially inviting members to join with no expectations. Little zeal toward the church—mediocrity, that is—is often the result.
- 9. **Lack of vision.** Church vision statements are common—but so are the leaders and laypersons who don't know their church's vision. Churches that are not driven by a compelling, oft-stated vision are frequently stuck in the mediocrity of yesterdays.
- 10. **Little attention to the nations**. I admit my biased interest in reaching the world, but I am only reporting what I have seen: Churches that do not have a global passion tend to be inwardly focused and self-protective. They seldom push themselves beyond the comfort of their norm.
- 11. **No new workers in place**. When all the church workers are the same ones who have worked for years (even when they're excellent workers), something is amiss. The church may have seen no growth, or they may have no plan in place to move new members into ministry. Eventually, a lack of new workers will lead to tired workers who cannot give their best in every area of service.
- 12. **Lack of "healthy chaos."** The healthiest churches I know are continually evaluating and stretching themselves while deeply holding to the Word and the truth of the gospel. A bit of chaos is the norm. Stagnation, on the other hand, is mediocrity lived out.

 Our Goal:

 A MEDIOCRE CHURCH?

So what grade would you give NSCC?



