

North Street News

March 2, 2014

Sunday, March 2

8:00 Chapel Hour
9:00 Sunday School
10:15 Gathering for Worship

Monday, March 3

10:00 Women's Bible Study - Room 102
4:30 Worship Rehearsal
7:00 Freedom - Legacy Ministry House

Tuesday, March 4

7:00 Bible Study at Klutinoty's - 1060 Whitestown Rd

Wednesday, March 5

6:00 Children's Ministry
6:30 Youth Group - Legacy Ministry House

Thursday, March 6

6:30 Young Adult Group - Legacy Ministry House

Friday, March 7

Saturday, March 8
6:45a.m. Reverse The Curse

The true greatness of any church is not how many it seats but how many it sends!

Vol. 7 Issue 57

TODAY AT NSCC

We Welcome Dr. Roy Yarbrough



NSCC is blessed to have Dr. Roy Yarbrough of California University as a guest to our pulpit! Dr. Yarbrough will preach a message entitled Your Choice: Gate One or Gate Two from Matthew 7:13,14. You are invited to enjoy fellowship and a pizza lunch following the 10:15 Gathering for Worship.

Dr. Yarbrough is a professor of Sport Management at Cal U and is also recognized nationally as the "guru of mascotology" serving as a Sr. Judge for the national mascot competition during the Capital One Bowl. IN addition, he is also retired from the U.S. Coast Guard as a lieutenant commander, serving his country for 26 years in the active and reserve programs.

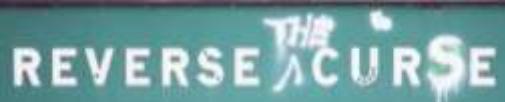
"The greatest use of my life is to spend it on things and people who will outlast me. It is better to begin each day thinking victory, and not defeat; to awake to grace, not shame."

Roy Yarbrough

North Street Christian Church is a non-denominational Bible church dedicated to the promotion of the Good News of Jesus Christ. We strive to deliver a positive biblical message and we work to be a Godly influence in our community. The Great Commission, to go and make disciples, and the Great Promise of the return of Christ keep us vertically focused. The Great Commandment to love God and love people keeps us horizontally focused.

MEN'S EVENT

Saturday, March 8
REVERSE THE CURSE



The Crown of Brothers, a Men's Ministry in Saxonburg, Pa. is hosting the fourth Reverse the Curse one-day conference for men. The conference will be held on Saturday March 8 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and the cost for NSCC men is only \$25.00 per man. This year's speakers are former Clemson Tigers Coach, Tommy Bowden; Pastor Steve Chiles of Oklahoma City and Robert Amaya from the movie Courageous. Sign up this weekend at NSCC. See Dennis Muir, Eric Eury or Pastor Bob for more information or if you need financial help with registration costs. A continental breakfast and full catered lunch are included with the registration costs. Come and spend the day with a bunch of your Christian brothers! Check it out at reversethecurse.org or call 724-352-2888

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Sr Fellowship of NSCC had the first gathering for 2014 on Wednesday, February 26. Barb Carson treated nearly 25 guests to the 17th Annual Healthy Heart Luncheon. The meal of course was delicious. Pastor Bob shared some TIPS FOR A SPIRITUALLY HEALTHLY HEART.

The tips were :

1. Start with the milk of the Word, grow to the meat of the Word.
2. Let the fruit of the Spirit be evident in your everyday life.
3. Avoid the "nuts and fruitcakes" who make a living by getting people to "charge" their next blessing from God.
4. Follow God's prescription as directed.
5. Keep the communication lines open.
6. See the Great Physician for a Heart Check-up.
7. Keep your Appointments - Daily in the Word and prayer. Weekly in fellowship. NO ONE WILL MISS THAT FINAL APPOINTMENT! Are you ready?

The 2014 Sr Fellowship Schedule is as follows:

- April 16 - Easter Luncheon
- June 25 - Summer Get Together
- August 13 - Picnic
- October 15 - Cook's Forest and Foxburg Inn
- December 10 - THANKCHRIST Banquet

Community Outreach Day
Saturday March 15 at 2:30



On Saturday March 15, NSCC will host a Community Day at Legacy Ministry House. Some of our happy, outreach-minded friends are committed to telling everyone and reaching more and more people with the love of Jesus Christ! Legacy will open at 2:30, inviting any and all who will come to come and share in some fellowship and conversation. The movie, Unconditional will be showing. Popcorn and drinks will be served. Free Bibles and other Christian literature will be available. Come and enjoy some time sharing life and the love of the Lord! The Community Meal will follow at 5:00 in the Church Dining Room.

Unconditional is the story of Samantha Crawford who lives a wonderfully blessed life, until her husband is murdered. She is plunged into deep despair and loses her faith! She re-gains a glimmer of hope through a reconnection with a childhood friend. And then that newfound hope is put to the test as she is pulled back into her husband's murder case!

Wednesday Night KIDS News

FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT – March 23

If you have kids 4 yrs. – 6th grade, come and join in on some family fellowship and great Bible teaching on Wednesday nights from 6:00 – 7:30. We will meet March 5, 12, 19 and April 2, 9, 16 and 23. A FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT is planned for Sunday March 23 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm at Meridian Lanes. The kids are to wear tennis shoes as bowling shoes may not be available in smaller sizes. Families should bring a snack to share. The cost is \$20.00 per family. Sign up on Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights. See Alishia Cousins for further information.

Wednesday Night Youth

Throughout history we have 7 major events that tell our story. By gaining an understanding for these 7 events we can get a foundation for Christianity. We have been spending the year doing just that at our youth program. We have gained an understanding of what happened at the creation of the world and how man corrupted what God made. We have just begun learning about the great catastrophe in the flood that nearly destroyed all of mankind. As we study Noah and the ark that he built we will get a very clear look of the cross of Jesus Christ. God's redemptive plan and how he makes an escape before destruction comes. If you are or know anyone in high school send them to North Street on Wednesday nights. We need a foundation.

NEEDED

Curt and Pam Weichey have been made aware of a very needy family. Family of 3 is in need of items to furnish apartment in Butler. Bedroom furniture for parents and 4 year old son - double bed with mattress & box springs and single bed with mattress & box springs. Sheets, blankets, pillows, etc. (anything bedroom related) Living room stands, chairs, and lamps. Dishes, silverware, cooking utensils, cups, glasses, pots, pans, kitchen towels, coffee pot, toaster, etc. (anything kitchen related). Toys for 4 year old boy. Please call Curt Weichey 724-355-7124 (please leave a message if no answer)



A Word from Barnabas in Thailand

Dear Brother Bob,
We held evangelists meeting in Chiangmai for January. For the month February group 1, Insorn leading group is meeting at Akha village and group 2, David's leading group is meeting at Na On Lisu village. We will be meeting in Chiangmai again in March. We have some new converts in the villages.

Thank you for your support and prayers.
May God bless you. Barnabas



The "sacred" thread on wrist is cut off

Barnabas prays for a new convert



Becky Crawford will be turning 90 years old on March 9 let's send her a card to celebrate!
233 Homewood Dr Butler, PA 16001

Y.A.G Thursday Nights

Thursday night YAG has been growing in all kinds of ways. We have been growing in numbers, as there are around 30 young adults that join us on Thursday nights. More importantly there is spiritual growth taking place on Thursday night. We are digging deep into God's word. We study hard, breaking the passages of Scripture down so that we can understand them and comprehend them. We will shortly be starting a series from James Macdonald. If you know anyone that is 18-29 send them to YAG on Thursday nights where we can grow together and better understand who Jesus Christ is.

SON OF GOD

MOVIE RELEASE DATE IS FEBRUARY 28!

Go to <http://www.SonOfGodMovie.com> for



BASKETBALL NEWS

Sr. High

St. Fidelia
61

NSCC
44

Record: Sr. High 7W/5L

Thanks to all players who played for NSCC. Thanks to all the families who supported us. Playing for His Glory! From the coaches

North Street Christian Church

220 W. North St Butler, PA 16001

724-282-7700

www.northstreetchristianchurch.org

SERVING TODAY

Chapel Hour at 8:00

Communion
Preparation & Greeter
Diana Bowman
Nursery:
Kathy Twerdok

Sunday School at 9:00

Nursery:
Kathy Twerdok & Joan Cole

The Gathering at 10:15

Communion
Preparation & Greeter
Melody Williams
Nursery:
Joan Cole & Emily Bilowich

Children's Church:

During The Gathering
at 10:15
Room 303-305
Ages 4yrs - 2nd Grade

Offering Report

February 23, 2014

General \$ 3,783.38

Designated \$ 1,194.00

Total \$ 4,977.38

Building Fund Total

\$ 216,784.40

Shut In

Peggy McClimans
4114 Karla Dr
Butler, PA 16001

First Quarter 2014

North Street Christian Church

Missions Update

THIS ISSUE:

New Directions/Walls
OCInternational/Mitchells
Casas Por Cristo/DeWitts

A Note From NSCC Missions Department

The NSCC Missions Department has begun a quarterly Missions Update to familiarize our congregation, friends, and supporters with the work of the missions we support locally, stateside, and internationally. This issue highlights three of these missions, with others to follow in future editions. Enjoy reading, and please pray for all of our missions and missionaries. Thank you for your support.



NEW DIRECTIONS MINISTRY

Dave & Brigette Walls - Mars Hill, NC

New Directions Ministry works with troubled teenage boys that come to them either by court referral or contact from a parent. The teens stay at the farm from Sunday evening through Friday afternoon. There, they are schooled and have regular chores to complete. Brigette handles the counseling sessions and Dave works with the teens during the day. The goal of the ministry is to include the teens' entire family in the process of recovery and transformation. To learn more, visit their website at: www.newdirectionfarm.com.

The Lord has a way of orchestrating our lives to serve His purposes for His kingdom. If you were to ask Dave and I 20 years ago, "Will you be living on a high mountain in the middle of nowhere, living with and schooling teenagers?" we would have laughed. Although active "church goers" all of our lives, we did not come into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ until 1989 (me) and 1993 (Dave). Although we regularly prayed "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done" the reality was it was more about our own earthly kingdom and wanted God to answer our pleas for our kingdom's success. A few years before our salvations our kingdom came crumbling down in most every way imaginable. The book of Jonah says "Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs." (Jonah 2:8) This many years later we can say, "Blessed are those whom the Lord has allowed the bottom to fall out...for then, perhaps, they will look up and know that only He is God." We now can say, "But with a song of thanksgiving I will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the Lord." (Jonah 2:9) Jonah was vomited onto dry land...we were shot up to a high mountain. It was while in the darkness of that great "fish" experience the Lord prepared Dave and me for the work on New Direction Farm. Soon after our salvations, we found ourselves in the midst of a very dark spiritual battle which took our two sons (we also have a daughter) into the throes of evil.

(Continued on p.2)

It seemed overnight our oldest son, who at that time was 15, began using drugs, running with a rebellious crowd, exchanging athletics and studies for rebellion. Dave was a stock broker; I was a substitute teacher completing my master's in counseling. We did what most Americans do: we took our son to counseling. At that time we had wonderful benefits and plenty of money to spend toward help. The more we tried to stop him, the angrier he became...eventually becoming a drug dealer. At this point looking back I now understand that God uses the centrifugal force of such crisis in our lives to press in on our own hearts. We had strongholds of pride, shame and fear. Once our family was exposed as being "flawed" it became as much about us as it was about him. Just as in the life of Joseph "what Satan means for evil, God will use for good," we can say, with confidence, that these dark years became a time of freedom for us. The Lord has a way of taking us right into the eye of the storm so we can see our great need to depend on Him for walking us out. Once on the other side we realize how very much has been burned off from the fiery furnace.

The Lord had been impressing upon me the need to surrender Josh as Abraham did Isaac. I couldn't do it because in my mind, to do so would be to be indifferent to my son's plight. I was blessed to be a member of a women's prayer group. They did not know about this pressure to surrender Josh. But God knew and knew exactly what I needed. Several hours after prayer one of the ladies returned to my home and gave me a bag saying, "The Lord told me to bring this to you." It was a print of Jesus holding a lamb. What a gift from God Who knew I needed a tangible picture of the hands I would be surrendering Josh to. I got on my knees and surrendered Josh. That night I told Dave what I had done and the two of us got on our knees and begged the Lord to bring Josh to the end of himself. Several weeks later Josh was, once again, suspended from school, and he and I got into an argument which became a fist fight. I had never hit my children. I guess at this point I was so angry at watching him destroy his life that I took him back off the altar I had tied him to and decided to take things back into my own hands. He went on a rampage breaking glass in our home and fled out the back door into the woods behind our home. It was the sight of blood on his hands the Holy Spirit used to awaken him to how out of control his life was. He came back in and told me that Dave and I were right, his life was out of control, and he was ready to receive help.

This began the first of many experiences over the next couple of years regarding adolescent care. We took him to the New Life Clinic in Atlanta, preapproved by our insurance company. Once we got there we were told we needed to come back to Asheville and have some psychiatric tests run. We told them we had waited for two years for our son to reach this point and truly felt it was important for him to now be able to take this step. At this point we were told in order for him to stay we would need

to pay \$8,000 for a week's stay. This is exactly what we had in our savings account. We paid, he stayed, and then we had to pick him up in a week. Like many parents we were hoping for this to be the magic bullet, but it wasn't. There was no change. The reason we chose this clinic was because it was Christian and we thought the word of God would be used as part of treatment. Not only was Christ never mentioned, the Bible was never opened. Once we returned home we pulled him out of school and took turns holding him hostage praying for the Lord to lead us into the next step. A young man knocked at our back door whom I was not happy to see, as he was the very one who had first introduced Josh into drugs. He had heard about Josh being away and said he wanted to talk with us. He was a Christian now, owned his own masonry business, and asked if he could have Josh work with him and disciple him, in order to make amends for how he had negatively influenced Josh in the past. Josh began working with him, began turning toward the Lord, returned to school the next year and graduated receiving the "turn around award" and entered the Coast Guard.

Then our youngest son, age 14, went into the darkness even deeper and darker than Josh. At one point he was arrested which placed him on probation, and meant we had to meet monthly with a court counselor. We began meeting many desperate parents with sons who were making foolish decisions...many of these single mothers trying to keep food on the table, but missing work due to having to tend to their son's appointments. This son, as well, had to be committed to psychiatric treatment upon threatening to kill us and then himself. Never do I read an account in the newspaper regarding such situations in homes that I don't realize but for the grace of God we were plucked out of this darkness. When a parent commits a child to psychiatric commitment they have to relinquish their rights as parents for the period of time their child is there. And the parent is the prime suspect of the child's problem. These commitments of our sons fell into the realms of "this was not supposed to happen...I was a stay at home mom...we were actively involved in our children's activities...we took them to church regularly"...The devil is no respecter of persons. His goal is to "steal, kill and destroy". But in the midst of this Jesus has come "that we may have life and have it abundantly". We were turning our sons over to perfect strangers. We had no clue as to what would be going on behind those locked doors. It was when we committed this second son that I had a long, very angry talk with God. "I don't understand why. It was bad enough for one but two? This isn't happening to anyone else we know. Why us?" At that point in a still small voice I heard "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me

(Continued on p.3)

with all your heart. I will be found by you and will bring you back from captivity.” (Jeremiah 29:11) God would bring good out of this. We just needed to trust.

Soon after this we began being honest about what was happening in our home in our Sunday School class. Before we knew it many parents began approaching us to share they, too, were having such difficulties. We realized there is such a fear of judgment we hesitate to share such shameful information. Sadly, however, the body of Christ should be the safest place to come forth to share that we may, with one another, approach the throne of grace. So we began a “parents in prayer” group which met each Sunday afternoon for anyone who wanted to come and pray for their family. Each week people would show up and we would all pray. During this time the Lord placed upon Dave’s heart that we were to “go and find a place set apart for teens”. We didn’t know what that meant other than we knew it would mean property and care. Before we knew it we had a group who were interested in being a part of this, which became our board. We filed for non profit status, which normally takes up to a year, and received it in six weeks. Dave and I planned that we would set up the trust for “this place set apart” and hire people to do the work.. We had no plans that we would be those people. Man makes his plans, but the Lord orders his steps. The Lord awakened Dave up one night and made it clear that we were to be those people. And not only that, but Dave was to quit his job at Smith Barney, and we were step out on faith. When Dave told me this I said he was crazy. God would never tell us such a thing. After all, He expected us to be responsible individuals. But the Lord made it clear we were to take this step. So in January of 1996 we stepped out on faith, opened the doors of New Direction Ministries. We were interviewed on Christian radio that first week and

received calls from all over the country from distraught parents who thought this place set apart was already opened. Having completed my masters in Counseling the year before, I began meeting with families, often up to 40 appointments a week, while Dave began searching for land for “the place set apart”. The Lord impressed upon us that at no time would anyone ever be turned away due to inability to pay. The majority of people could pay nothing. We still had a mortgage on our home, were paying rent for office space, had a daughter in college and a son still at home...and every month we had just enough money supplied by the Lord.

The rest of the story is...now this many years later we live on 400 acres in the mountains. We have had over 300 teenagers living with us, being schooled and counseled, always with Christ-centered counseling. The lessons learned in the darkness were necessary for what the Lord has called us into. Our children are all thriving adults. Our youngest son was restored on the mountain, worked with us a number of years, and is now executive chef at the Billy Graham Training Center at the Cove. Our daughter is a social worker in Oregon. Our oldest son a real estate developer. None of us will ever forget the goodness of the Lord during our time of despair. And with the comfort which we have known through Him, we are now able to comfort others. God is good and His sovereign plan is so much more colorful and exciting than our small self kingdom plans. To God be the glory.

New Directions shares a praise for Nick, 14, who has been able to overcome his past through a new faith in Christ. He will be able to live back home full time and attend public high school next year. They seek prayer for Thomas, a father of one of the boys, dealing with spiritual issues and in need of salvation.



OC INTERNATIONAL Russ & Cathy Mitchell Family

OC International Missions works with existing missions in helping them with mission planting and other areas of administration to allow the missionaries to do what they are called to do: reach the world for Christ. To learn more, visit their website at: www.onechallenge.org.

Cathy grew up in Kansas and is the oldest of three girls. While attending Emporia State University, she became involved in InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Through InterVarsity she came to know Christ as her Savior. After college she worked with Youth for Christ in Emporia Kansas. Before leaving Youth for Christ she went on a short term missions trip to Mexico which prepared her for her work with New Horizons Youth Ministries in the Dominican Republic. Little did she know this is where she would meet her husband-to-be.

Russ grew up in Butler Pennsylvania in a church going family. When he was about 10, a message about the Second Coming of Christ, stirred Russ' heart. He remembers thinking, “Wow, if this is true, I want to tell others.” Russ attended Penn State University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. There he became involved in Campus Crusade for Christ. The summer between his Freshman and Sophomore year, God spoke to his heart. Russ realized that making disciples was infinitely more valuable than designing machines, so he transferred to Johnson Bible College in Knoxville TN to complete his studies and

(Continued on p.4)

prepare for missions. After completing his studies at Johnson Bible College, Russ received a Master’s degree from Wheaton College in Intercultural Studies. In 1985 Russ started working for New Horizon Ministries in the Dominican Republic, where he would meet his wife-to-be.

In 1987 Russ and Cathy were married in the Dominican Republic and worked with New Horizons Ministries until 1990. In 1990 they moved to Indiana and there God started to move them towards Church Ministry. The Easter of 1991, while they were visiting Russ’ parents they met Pastor Bob. Pastor Bob extended an invitation to them to minister at North Street after they finished their studies. At the same time they were checking out mission organizations. After investigating several mission organizations they decided OC International was the best fit for them. Since they had committed to North Street, they decided to go with OC International in approximately three years. During that time, their daughter Abby was born, 1994.

In 1997 they started their ministry with OC International in Romania. While serving in Romania, their three sons were born. James was born in Germany and Jon and David were born in Butler at the same hospital as Russ and Abby.

The Mitchells served in Romania from 1997 – 2012. They moved from Romania to Upland, Indiana where their daughter is attending Taylor University and Russ is teaching some classes at the college. They are still a part of OC International and are awaiting the funds so they can head to the Philippines, Lord willing.

The Mitchells send praise that they have all the funding needed to move to the Philippines. However, they ask you to continue in prayer for the additional \$3000 monthly support they need to secure by April in order to depart for the Philippines this summer.



CASAS POR CRISTO

Scott & Jonna DeWitt Family

Casas Por Cristo works with local pastors in poverty-stricken areas to find families in need of a home. Volunteer teams are used to build the basic structure for the family. The building is a small stucco structure with windows and door. A lot of the families are living in cardboard shacks, so a structure with stucco walls, windows, and door is a great blessing. Casas used to do most of their work in the Juárez, Mexico area over the border from El Paso, TX, but have recently expanded their ministry to Acuña, Mexico, as well as Guatemala. To learn more, visit their website at: www.casasporcristo.org.

Scott grew up in Indiana and was involved in a church where his grandparents were founding members. He came to know Christ as his Savior in the fifth grade. When he first started Johnson Bible College it was more because he knew he needed to get an education than a calling. After being there the Lord worked on his heart and called him into the ministry. As you may know, Jonna is the daughter of Jon and Bonna Ray. She grew up in the Butler area. When she decided to head to college, she attended Slippery Rock University. At the same time she was at Slippery Rock, Jon and Bonna had returned to college and were attending Johnson Bible College. Jonna decided to join them. There she met Scott, and they were married.

While Scott was serving as a Youth minister in Illinois, he connected with Casas por Cristo to take the youth down to build homes in Juarez. For several years he did this, and began to fall in love with the ministry, how it worked, and what it did for the people. He realized it wasn’t just the building of homes, but the relationship between local pastors and the people of the community. 2005 was the first time Jonna made the trip to build a home. It was during that trip that God began to open a door for the DeWitts to come and serve at Casas por Cristo. After they returned to Illinois, they continued to stay in touch with the Executive Director. With a lot of prayer and God’s timing, the DeWitts knew this was where they needed to serve Him. In 2006, they sold their home and moved to El Paso, Texas to start their ministry with Casas por Cristo. They are currently in transition, as they will soon be relocating to Del Rio, Texas to carry out the work of Casas in Acuña, Mexico.

Scott and Jonna have been married for 21 years and have two children, Madison, 14, 11/23/99 and Mason, 11, 2/3/2003. Madison loves all the things teenage girls love, and enjoys playing basketball and flute in the band. Mason loves all sports, and recently started to play soccer. He is also getting ready for the fifth grade basketball team. Both children are first degree black belts. Jonna loves scrap booking and reading. As a family they enjoy spending time together and seeing family and friends.

The DeWitts ask that you pray for both the ministry-oriented and personal details associated with their relocation to Del Rio, TX. More specifically, for a smooth sale of their house, especially appraisal at asking price and availability for closing dates; for wise decisions with finances; and for Jonna’s work situation – resolution of some issues at current workplace, that these issues would not hinder finding a new job in Del Rio, and for Jonna’s strength in Lord when under spiritual attack. They also request prayer as they reach out to new churches with prospective building teams.