

Northwest Reminder

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**A Newsletter serving the congregation and friends of
Northwest United Protestant Church**



Website

nwup.church

Pastor's E-Mail

gibbons.liv@gmail.com

Church E-Mail:

nwupchurch@nwupchurch.org

nwupchurch@outlook.com

(509) 946-3222



Wednesday

January 7th

10:00 a.m.



Dear friends,

It's resolution time again. At the top of my list for 2015 is to always submit my newsletter articles on time, but luckily for me, it is still (as I write this on New Year's Eve) 2014.

In theory, resolutions are a great idea. Who among us wouldn't benefit from a little more self-awareness, a little more discipline in one area or another, or making some goals to travel or spend more time with our loved ones or learn a new skill.

Maybe you've broken the mold and you knock out your resolutions each year. I certainly haven't. In fact, I don't think I've ever followed through on my New Year's resolutions — not even the easy ones. I stumbled upon an old list from New Year's Eve 2010 this year, and it was incredibly reasonable: Floss more, send more snail mail, be nicer. Easy, right? Except that these were things I was already having trouble doing. It wasn't as if I'd just discovered oral hygiene or keeping in touch with people or being gentle with others. Those things were actually hard for me (except being nice. Why didn't I think I was nice? 2009 must have been a grumpy year).

So while writing down this list of goals was a fine start, there was no chance that I was actually going to make any changes without making a plan. In hindsight, I could have put floss in obvious places, set an alarm on my phone, and asked Elijah to help me be accountable for flossing twice a day. Maybe I could have found some pictures of gum disease to motivate me or asked my dentist for a stern lecture. But of course, I didn't make a plan, and so I didn't make any changes.

There have been some resolutions that I've made (and that you've made, I imagine), that were never going to give us the results we hoped for. Losing weight won't bring us the love of self we yearn for (though it may help in a lot of other ways). An organized closet might be *really* satisfying, but it can't give us the sort of inner peace we crave. But nonetheless, there are some resolutions that are really important, some changes that must be

made; some dreams that deserve to be realized. And for those, we all need a plan.

Though the liturgical church year began again in Advent, the new calendar (and budgetary) year is a great opportunity for this church family to set some new goals and to make plans for them. What are our resolutions? To get more involved in the broader community? To incorporate new kinds of music in worship? To revitalize our committees? To renovate? To explore new kinds of small groups? There is so much possibility, and we are lucky enough to have a community that can turn that possibility into reality. This January, spend some time thinking about goals for our church and steps we might take in order to accomplish them. We'll gather in February to start a conversation about who we are, who we're becoming, and what we can do to bring the Good News to all.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Liv



BITS & PIECES

A SPECIAL THANKS TO . . .

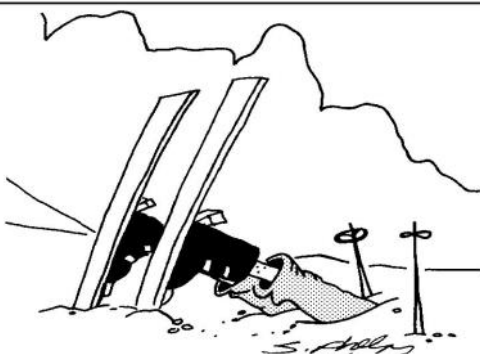
Mike Dodson and **Jim Jewett** for all their work ordering, installing and getting our new big screen to work . . . **Anna Kion** for leading our Christmas season decorating team of **Bob LeVeque**, **Anna & Jim Kion**, **Pat Cahow**, **Donna Whiteside** and her nephew **Christopher Thorson**, **Jan & Jesse Brinson-Wagner**, **Nancy & Mike Dodson**, **Kay Divine**, **Bea & Ralph Pohto** who transformed our sanctuary for the holidays . . . **Anna & Jim Kion** for hanging our Advent banners . . . **Sue Jewett** and **Doris Ayres** for their work setting up and moving our life-sized Nativity figures and our special Christmas lighting features . . . **Jan Brinson-Wagner** for joining the AV team (she really keeps things “rolling” right along) . . . and her son **Jesse Brinson-Wagner** and **Shayla Shupe** for their wonderful musical additions to the Christmas Eve service.

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES BRUNCH

The first meeting for 2015 of the Disciples Women's Ministry group will be our traditional brunch on Saturday, January 10th (the second Saturday of the month) at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor. This is our regular meeting time and all women of the church are invited to come and share in this morning of food, worship and fellowship.

DIRECTORY UPDATE TIME

It is time to update our church member directory for 2015. Beginning this coming Sunday, January 11th, a clipboard will be circulating with the information we currently have in the office concerning members' names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers. Please examine your entry closely—correct any errors, add any missing information that you feel comfortable sharing with your church family and cross out anything that needs to be removed or that you do not want included. If you will not be in church on Sunday, feel free to email your new/corrected information to the church office—nwupchurch@nwupchurch.org or nwupchurch@outlook.com—or call the office 946-3222 so corrections can be made. There will be plenty of changes this year so please help us make this new edition as accurate as possible. The new directory will be email to members in February and printed copies will be available for those without email.



PASTOR LIV BEGINS TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY THE SUGGESTION TO HIRE A YOUTH DIRECTOR.

WANTED

Youth Sponsors (2) needed to provide extra support at youth events and to lead discussions on Board Meeting Sundays.

Please contact church office
946-3222 or

nwupchurch@nwupchurch.org

—if interested.

A special and heartfelt thanks to all those who made our church a warm and welcoming Christmas home. There were those who—



- > decorated the sanctuary,
- > brought poinsettias for the sanctuary,
- > brought out the Nativity characters and freshened them up including ironing some of their garments,
- > planned the Christmas Eve service including filling bags with kitty litter for the luminaries that provided lighted paths from the world outside to our sanctuary

all to assure that our church was ready to welcome its church family from near and far to the Christmas Eve service. All of your special ministrations to the church during the holiday continues to confirm our love for each other and our strong desire to provide the gospel to those in our community. Thank you for all your kind deeds in making this happen. God Bless each and every one of you.

*Anna Kion
Worship Chair*

SPECIAL JANUARY DATES - 2015

- * New Year's Day, *January 1st*
- * Epiphany, *January 6th*
- * Elder's Meeting, *January 6th*
- * Small Group (1st meeting of 2015), *January 6th*
- * Regional Youth Council @ Northwest, *January 9th-11th*
- * DWM Brunch, *January 10th*
- * Gideons visit Northwest, *January 11th*
- * Board Meeting, *January 11th*
- * Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18th—25th*
- * Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 19th*

Upcoming Northwest Events



THE
GREAT COURSES

[LIFEGROUP
RESUMES](#)

Now that the holidays are behind us, our LifeGroup will resume meeting this coming Tuesday, January 6th. This time our discussion topic will be the New Testament and we will be watching and discussing the videos produced by *The Great Courses*. This group meets every Tuesday evening beginning at 6:15 p.m. for approximately an hour and includes a light evening meal, prayer, study and a lively discussion. Please feel free to join us if you are interested. Everyone is welcome!

[“UNDECORATING”](#)

‘Tis the Season to . . . Undecorate!—and you’re all invited to lend a hand. Yup, it’s time to take it all down again and store it safely away until next Christmas, and the more helping hands we have, the faster it will go. Please meet at Northwest this coming Wednesday morning at 10:00 and, under the direction of Anna Kion, we will soon have it all packed away, ready to start the New Year with a clean Sanctuary. Keep that New Year’s resolution to become more active in your church. See ya there!



[GIDEONS VISITING](#)

A representative from Gideons International will be visiting our worship service this coming Sunday, January 11th, to share a little bit about their ministry.

[YOUTH INVASION](#)

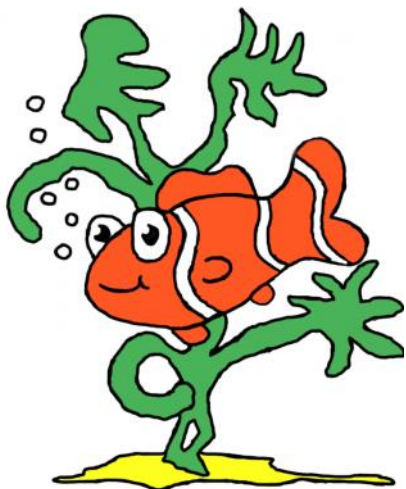


This coming weekend, January 9th through the 11th, Northwest United Protestant Church will be hosting a get together of the *Regional Youth Council*, so keep your eyes peeled for unfamiliar teen faces and please make them feel welcome.

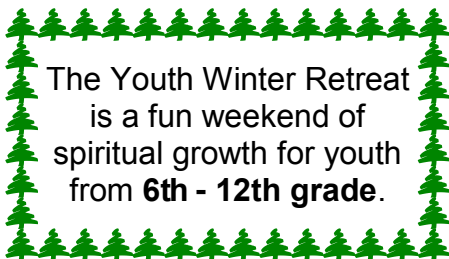
[COMMISSIONING OF THE NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS](#)

Our January 18th worship service will include the commissioning of our newly elected Elders and Deacons.

Join us for the Youth Winter Retreat!



Mark your calendars for
February 20-22, 2015
@ Camp Koinonia in
Cle Elum, Washington!



The theme for the weekend will be:

"Finding Purpose: The Adventure of Learning Who We Are in Christ!"

Romans 12:1-2

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (NRSV)"

Cost: \$110 per camper

(Adult Sponsors/Chaperones will need to pay as well)

A completed registration form and all fees must be received before Friday, February 1st, 2015 for all participants.

(The Region is asking that all congregations send one adult sponsor for each 1 to 6 campers. More information about the requirements for adult sponsors can be found on the registration form. Please contact the Regional Office with any questions:

asaladino@disciplesnw.org, 253-893-7202. or Youth Ministry Coordinator, Stephen Gumber: slumber@disciplesnw.org.)

More information and application forms can be found at:

<http://www.disciplesnw.org/ministry/join-us-youth-winter-retreat>

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Super Bowl Sunday (February 1st) is just around the corner so it's time to be thinking about donations for the Silent Auction. Our resurrected Youth Group will be handling things this year so be sure to offer your support in any way possible and plan to come to the Chili Feed following service Sunday morning!

ELDER'S MEETINGS TIME CHANGE

The New Year and the election of new Elders heralds a change. Their meetings will be happening a little earlier in the day—specifically at 3:30 p.m. the Tuesday before every Board Meeting (which meets the 2nd Sunday of every month). If you have a concern you would like to have addressed, please contact one of the current Elders—Mike Dodson, Connie Eckard, Sue Jewett, Jan Hansens, Joyce Willis, or Shirley Wolf—so they can present it at their next meeting.

ONE VOICE EVENT

The goal of “One Voice” is to glorify God, our Father, through a time of extended worship incorporating music, scripture and prayer. We corporately seek God's face, to better know His grace, beauty and power through the Body of Believers in the Tri-Cities, unified by the Holy Spirit, as we worship Jesus Christ with One Voice.

Mark your calendar:

January 16, 2015 @ 7:00-11:00PM

(Refreshments will be provided!)

Location:

Richland Adventist Church

1807 McMurray Ave Richland, WA 99354

As we kick off the year 2015, feel free to invite family and friends to a powerful evening of worship incorporating music, scripture, prayer, foot-washing and communion.

Four worship teams from various churches will each lead a portion of the evening as the evening will follow the A.C.T.S (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication). As we come together - looking beyond denominational differences - to worship Christ, may we be amazed by how God blesses our time together.

"I am in them and You are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that You sent me and that You love them as much as You love me." John 17:23 (NLT)

2014 was a Very Good Year!



READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Our Christmas Eve candlelight service was beautiful and well attended!

JohnPaul Dudley and SunnyBunny were featured in the Tri-City Herald.

Welcome!
2015!

Courtesy Jan Hansens

SunnyBunny and his best friend and owner, JohnPaul Dudley, are ready for the holidays. SunnyBunny was found while JohnPaul and his father hiked Badger Mountain almost two years ago.



The Grooms are having a lovely time in Texas, and we can't wait to have them back!

WITNESS OF THE SAINTS

Sunday, December 7:

Worship: 51
 Christian Education: 5
 Nursery: 4

In Finance:

General Fund	\$	3,413.00
DWM Christmas Family		100.00
Building Fund		80.00
Christmas		68.00
NA Rent		50.00
TOPS Rent		50.00
Food Bank		10.00
Total	\$	3,771.00

Christmas Dinner December 7:

Fellowship: 72
 Hospitality Fund: \$ 114.00
 Women's Shelter: \$ 126.00

Sunday, December 14

Worship: 44
 Christian Education: 4
 Nursery: 4

In Finance:

General Fund	\$	823.56
Christmas Offering		175.00
DWM Christmas Family		65.00
Building Fund		10.00
Food Bank		8.00
Total	\$	1,081.56

Sunday, December 21:

Worship: 52
 Christian Education: 3
 Nursery: 4

In Finance:

General Fund	\$	1,307.70
Food Bank		77.00
NA Rent (Free Spirit)		50.00
Christmas		40.00
Total	\$	1,474.70

Christmas Eve Service December 24:

Worship: 75
 Nursery: 0
 Loose Offering: \$ 65.25

Sunday, December 28:

Worship: 34
 Christian Education: 2
 Nursery: 4

In Finance:

General Fund	\$	3,202.00
Youth Fund		1,000.00
Christmas Offering		2.00
Total	\$	4,204.00

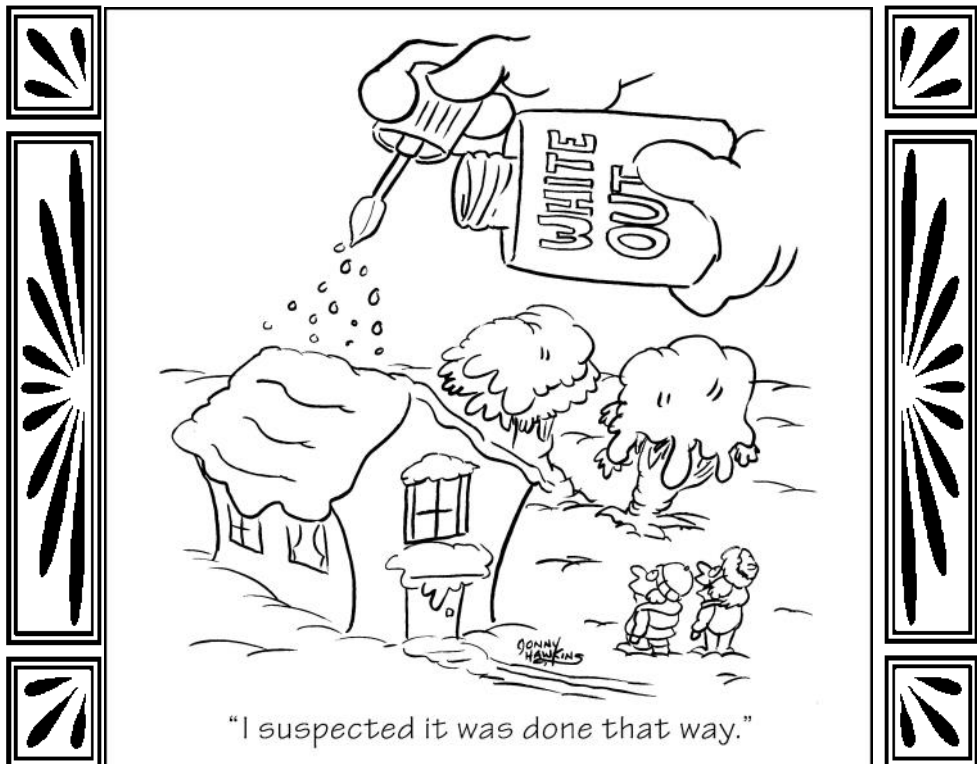


Serving Sundays

	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
Elder	M. Dodson	S. Jewett	C. Eckard	J. Willis
Worship Leader	B. Butherus	B. Nundahl	A. Kion	O. Adams
Deacons Bold names are Team Leaders	Team 1- D. Eckard S. Wolf K. Humphry A. Schmidt S. Mouzo-Prado	Team 2- A. Kion O. Adams B. Butherus B. LeVeque I. Souriyavongsa	Team 3- N. Dodson J. Jewett K. Divine J. & J. Brinson-Wagner	Team 4- D. Whiteside C. Humphrys J. Willis B. Nundahl P. Cahow
Sound	R. Pohto	R. Pohto	H. Galpin	H. Galpin
Counters	J. Hansens B. Jenson	A. Willis J. Jakes	J. Kion J. Willis	D. Whiteside S. Jewett
Greeter	M. & N. Dodson	D. Gratton	B. Pohto	D. Whiteside
Nursery	J. Jakes	D. Ayres	M. Munro	B. Pohto
Sunday School	J. Willis S. Hall-Mullen	J. Hansens J. Kion	J. Kion S. Jewett	S. Hall-Mullen S. O'Hara
Hospitality	O. Adams B. Nundahl A. Kion	R. Gifford E. Laughery D. Barott	K. Humphrys O'Hara's F. & C. White	B. Pohto D. Whiteside J. Willis

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

1-Sommak Souriyavongsa	17-Betty King
6-JohnPaul Dudley	20-Mary Hendricks
12-Jesse Brinson-Wagner	21- Symeuang Souriyavongsa
13-Mike Hendricks	
14-Scott Becker	29-Holly Cahow Espinosa



Northwest United Protestant Church

Phone: (509) 946-3222

Pastor Liv e-mail: gibbons.liv@gmail.com

Church office e-mail: nwupchurch@nwupchurch.org

nwupchurch@outlook.com

Website: nwup.church

Staff:

Liv Gibbons Pastor
 Joyce Willis Secretary
 Darla Shupe Choir Director/Pianist
 Leanne Groom Moderator
 Bob LeVeque Custodian
 April Willis Nursery

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