

**A Publication of  
Northwest Presbyterian  
Church**

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As God's servants in a broken world, we seek to live Christ's grace and truth so that lives in Dublin and beyond may be transformed by His love.

We're on the Web

[www.npc-dublin.org](http://www.npc-dublin.org)

### *May be Transformed By His Love*



*Studio 23 presented "Once Upon A Time" April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. More than 200 people attended and there was a very effective presentation of the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

# The Northwest Press

April, 2007

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## Pastor's Pen

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, Pastor James and I will finish our sermon series on the Gospel of John. And you thought it would never happen! We will then begin a 5-week series of messages that explains and applies NPC's new Vision Statement. Our prayer is that God will use those messages to unite us around His purposes for His church.

As preachers, we want to reach out to our listeners. During the months of July and August, we plan to preach ten messages under the heading, "You Asked For It!" As the title suggests, we're looking for ideas from you. Is there a subject that you feel we've neglected in the past? Is there a passage of Scripture that you don't understand but feel is important?

Please email either James or me ([jkessler@npc-dublin.org](mailto:jkessler@npc-dublin.org) or [ddorst@npc-dublin.org](mailto:ddorst@npc-dublin.org)) and we will preach the "Top Ten" entries. Given your input, we're confident that at least one person will be listening carefully to what we have to say!

Sincerely,  
*Pastor Dave*

## *As God's Servants in a Broken World*



*Isaac Wagaba, Founder and Director of Canaan Children's Home in Uganda, Africa, preached at NPC April 15<sup>th</sup>.*

## Small Groups Ministry

Big plans are in store for the small group ministry at NPC.

The concept of regularly gathering groups of believers in homes is not only biblical, it is foundational to the fellowship of NPC. Since our church's beginning, we have encouraged members to join small groups where friendship, support, and in-depth Bible study nurtures our members.

"In keeping with our vision [to live Christ's grace and truth so that lives in Dublin and beyond may be transformed by His love] we hope to make small group ministry more service- and mercy-oriented," said Paul Ver-

tucci, Worship and Arts Director and coordinator of the Small Group Ministry. "Already we have some small groups working at the Plain City Food Bank, serving weekend meals for the Salvation Army, and helping with International Friendships, Inc., a group that reaches out to international students at OSU."

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
6:30 pm.

Please bring a dessert.

The meeting will include a town meeting format in which the congregation can ask questions and provide input.

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## We Seek To Live Christ's Grace and Truth

(Continued from page 1)

The Intentional Church, by Randy Pope, is a leader guide that compares educating the flock without asking it to serve, to feeding one's body without requiring it to exercise. "We learn things, then we move out to the community in service and realize we need to know much more," explains Paul, "which gives us appetites for more knowledge."

NPC leaders appreciate that this idea to move small groups into the community is a new one, and not without challenges. "We recognize that mercy ministry - caring for our flock as well as meeting needs in our community - will only happen effectively if it goes through small groups," says John Hinckley, elder in charge of the Small Group Ministry.

More rigorous training of small group leaders is already in place. Once a month, they meet for VHS (Vision Huddle Skill), a time of teaching and encouragement. This summer, a 12-week course called TurboGroup will train people to lead a small group (see Sunday school class listing, p. 3.)

Finally, church leaders will make mission opportunities readily available to small groups. "We don't expect groups to re-invent the wheel," Paul noted. "We know that to make missions viable, we need to have a structure in place that groups can easily participate in."

If you are interested in joining or leading a small group, please contact Paul Vertucci at 799-2300 x102 or John Hinckley at 879-5461.

### Deacon Update

At the April meeting the Deacon Council discussed church finances, mercy opportunities and responses, and facility management. A detailed diaconate report will be given at the May 20<sup>th</sup> Congregational meeting.

A Spring Clean-Up Day will be held Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. Please bring your wheel barrows, shovels, rakes, brooms, and tool boxes, and



enjoy a morning of fellowship while we beautify our church grounds. Contact Deacon Glenn Dillion at [gdillion@verizon.net](mailto:gdillion@verizon.net) with questions and suggestions.

The next Deacon meeting is Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Date	Sermon Title	In the Pulpit
May 6	"What Is Truth?" John 18:28-19: 15	James Kessler
May 13	"It Is Finished" John 19:16-42	Dave Dorst
May 20	"Do You Love Me?" John 21:1-25	Dave Dorst
May 27	OUR VISION STATEMENT "As God's Servants..." II Corinthians 4:1-18	Dave Dorst

### Session Update

- The first quarter budget surplus of \$25,000 was allocated - \$12,500 to missions, \$5,000 to reduction of mortgage, and \$7,500 to program expansion.

- Great progress in the Shepherd-ing ministry was reported. With the help of volunteer shepherding partners, most church members and families have been contacted.

- The Children's Ministry Director Search Committee, led by Elder Jack Fennema, recommended that Elizabeth Deakin be hired as Children's Ministry Director.

- Elders decided to offer an Inquirer's Class during the Sunday school hour with various elders teaching.

- Dr. Dave Dorst was encouraged to explore the addition of Peacemaker's Ministry material into worship and small group study this fall.

The next Session meeting is Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

## So that Lives in Dublin and Beyond

### A Word from the Pulpit Search Committee

- The new NPC website will soon be unveiled. Following the official announcement in church, the Pulpit Search Committee (PSC) would appreciate your feedback after you visit [www.npc-dublin.org](http://www.npc-dublin.org).

- The PSC continues to review resumes, as well as hold candid discussions with PCA sources regarding specific referrals.

- An email blast will be sent to potential candidates around the country. The PSC will follow up the emails with personal phone calls to gauge candidate interest and identify additional qualifications.

Please pray for the Pulpit Search Committee members and their families as they work to identify the man God has already chosen to be lead NPC as Senior Pastor.

You are cordially invited to join the women of Northwest Presbyterian Church for an afternoon

Ladies International Tea & Silent Auction



Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
2:00pm-4:00pm

RSVP 614-799-2300  
Proceeds will benefit  
Canaan Children's Home

### Summer Sunday School Offerings

Summer is a great time to bring a friend to Sunday school. Classes will meet June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

Course:

TurboGroup - Small Group Leaders Training

Leaders:

Paul Vertucci and John Hinckley  
For those interested in or currently leading a small group, this course teaches the ins and outs of small group leadership, including how to lead Bible study and prayer, address common issues and challenges, and engage your small group in service. Discussion format will simulate an actual small group.

Course:

Biblical Leadership and Discipleship

Leaders:

Dave Dorst, James Kessler, and Dave Strausbaugh

For those men (and their wives) considering the office of deacon or elder at NPC, this course focuses on biblical leadership and discipleship the first quarter, and - in preparation for the officer examination - the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Book of Church Order the second quarter.

Course:

Lessons in Proverbs

Leaders:

Various Elders

For those interested in applying God's wisdom to everyday life, this course explores the book of Proverbs. Practical topics such as advice, money, anger, friendship, words, and work will be covered.

### Parent's Night Out

Stillwater youth will be available to babysit your children on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 10:30. Donations will help fund summer trips.

### News From Stillwater

Beginning Maundy Thursday of Holy Week, fourteen students participated in the a 30 Hour Famine, raising over \$1000 for World Vision. During the fast, students:



- "TP'd" or Totally Prayed For families in our church.

- Studied the Passion of Christ to understand better different aspects of Jesus' death.

- Wrote letters of encouragement to NPC-supported missionaries.

- Made a video presentation documenting the 30-hour fast experience.



Money raised will support impoverished nations and help spread the Word of God around the world.