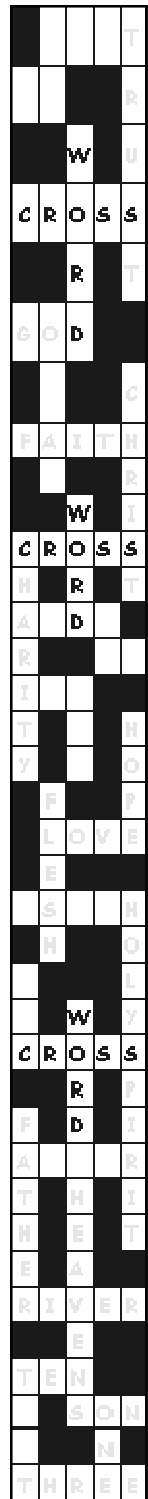




# CrossWord

THE NEWSLETTER OF NORCROSS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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**JULY 2006**

**Norcross, Georgia**

## Matt's Musings

### Random Summer Thoughts

As most of you hopefully know by now, our beloved director of music ministries, Jeremy Wirths, is starting a new call and his last Sunday with us will be the 16<sup>th</sup> of July. On that day, we will have a worship service that is based on the exciting things that we experienced at this year's Montreat Music and Worship conference, along with Jeremy. You will find a wonderful service, something to remember. Afterwards, we will have a reception to honor Jeremy, and you are

all invited to stay after worship and join us for cake. I hope you will plan to attend that Sunday. Our computer people tell me that it is best to keep keyboards dry, so I won't go on here anymore about that, lest I ruin mine.

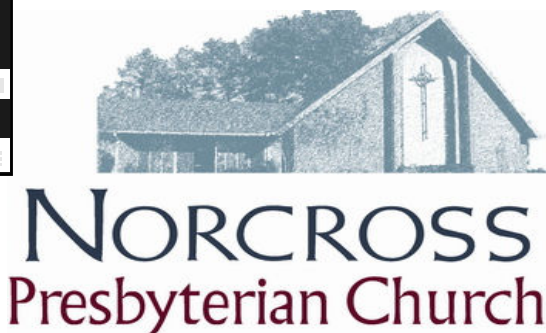
Random thought-change alert. Starting at the end of July, I am beginning a four part sermon series entitled Four Things that Annoy me about God. If that doesn't make you interested enough to come out in the summer, I don't know what will. So, join us on the 30<sup>th</sup>, and then in August on the 6<sup>th</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>. Perhaps you have one or two as well. If you let me know what they are, maybe I can include them in upcoming sermons.

Random thought-change alert. They may shoot me for saying this, but if you do summer well, you may not be in worship every single Sunday! I'm not offering a 12-week free "hall pass", but if you're not sitting in the NPC sanctuary every Sunday morning, it may be because you're out there doing something for your faith. Like resting on a vacation or enjoying the beauty of summertime. There are many ways to draw close to God. One of the ways is when you make a commitment and stick to it. That's not so easy to do in the summer. But, there are more ways to be faithful than through perfect attendance. You can contribute financially, for instance. Set up your bank account so that you can contribute electronically, (for steps on how, check out the March Newsletter.) It's actually easy. Your bank *wants* it to be easy, because the electronic stuff saves them oodles of paperwork. Or, if you're an old fashioned kind of person, you could mail a check in. I've heard rumors that the Post Office remains in business during the summer months, though I'm sorry to report that the cost of postage is not tax-deductible.

Imagine returning to worship at NPC after missing some this summer. Instead of feeling guilty or embarrassed, you feel good about the part you've been playing here, about the discipleship you've practiced, about your fidelity to the Savior whose steadfast love never wavers, in season or out. But don't stay away so long that you find someone sitting in your seat...now that's a problem.

As I am always,

Yours in Christ,



I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus.  
- I Corinthians 1:4 (NRSV).

**Lionheart Theatre Company**  
**Presents**

*Alice in Wonderland*

**Book by Lewis Carroll**  
**Script by Kathryn and Barry Miller**  
**Directed by Tanya Carroll and Allie Carroll**

**Welcome to Wonderland where everything is curiouser and curiouser! This innovative script brings Lewis Carroll's beloved classic to life. All your favorite characters are here: Alice, White Rabbit, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter and of course, the Queen of Hearts!**

A great hour of entertainment for all ages. Special group rates for Summer camp programs.

Tickets- \$10 Adults, \$5 for Kids 5 and under

**Performance Dates:**

Thursday, July 13 at 11:00am and 2:00pm  
Friday, July 14 at 11:00am, 2pm and 7pm  
Saturday, July 15 at 11:00am, 2pm and 7pm

*Performances will be held at Norcross Presbyterian Church*  
*3324 Medlock Bridge Rd, Norcross, GA 30092*

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# **NPC Men's Group**

**By  
Tim Rado**

The NPC men's group is becoming more than I imagined when it all started. We are growing and setting our sights on new ways to serve God, our community, and our church. Several of us participated in one way or another at Vacation Bible School this year and the men's group voted unanimously to make a donation to the VBS mission project of providing school supplies for those less fortunate in the Norcross area. We will also be voting at our next meeting on whether or not to make VBS our major ongoing mission project in the future since there is no funding for VBS and it only takes place due to the generosity of the volunteers who provide the funding to make it all happen. I hope and pray that next year we will have even more men participate. It is a long and exhausting week but I promise you that the love, fun and spiritual growth you will experience will make it all worthwhile!

Please put the following dates on your calendar:

1. Men's group breakfast and golf outing: Saturday, July 22nd at The Collins Hill Golf Club. Please call me if you are interested in a fun day of fellowship and golf or if you just want to help us find our golf balls in the woods, water, etc.
2. Third quarter Texas Hold Em championship: Friday, August 11th at the home of German Correa.
3. Men's group BBQ: Friday and Saturday, October 20-21
4. Fourth quarter Texas Hold Em championship: Friday, November 10th at the home of Glen Helmstetter.

We are also still in the process of forming small accountability groups of 4-5 men that meet 2-3 times a month for bible study, accountability and spiritual growth. If you are interested in this or any other aspect of the NPC men's group, please contact me at (770) 339-8499 (home), (678) 414-3378 (cell) or email me at [timrado@charter.net](mailto:timrado@charter.net). Thanks to all those that are part of the group now and I look forward to our continuing growth in the future.

In His service,  
Tim Rado

# Christian Education and Development

## By Linda Smith

### VBS 2006 — Adventure of the Treasure Seekers

What a wonderful week we had exploring God's Promises. It is always so amazing to see what VBS volunteers can do with a few basic supplies.

About 40 children became Treasure Seekers at VBS this year. We had fun interactive activities that combined the world of archaeology with the discovery of treasures in the Bible. Each day the children took part in a treasure hunt to acquire that day's treasure to remind them of the Bible story and God's promise. By the end of the week they had a full treasure box to take home! The children also participated in a mission project (school supplies for Norcross Co-op), sang great songs, created memorable crafts and made new friends.

Special thanks go to all the volunteers who made this year's VBS such a success:

Directors — Paula Smith and Linda Smith

Publicity and Video — Jason Bernardo (also Professor Whoo's puppeteer)

Dr. Ziggurat The Big Dig Assembly Leader — Marc Karasek

Rhythm Rock Music Leaders — Laura Lankford and Melissa Fry

Canteen Cabana Snack Leaders — Marc & Duck Ae Karasek, Mitchell Bernardo

Treasure Track Recreation Leaders — Laura Harris and Daniel Karasek

Art-i-facts Lab Craft Leaders — Mundy Rado and Diane Lewis

Mission Tel Mission Leader — Bill Brown

Bible Storyteller at Promise Point — Jill Swenson, who used the acting talents of:

Bob Peterson, Melissa Plyler, Lea Heil, Jessica Lankford, George Tatro, Matt Fry, Tim Rado, Tanya Carroll, Daniel Karasek, Ken Birmingham, Jason Bernardo, Mike Carroll, and Bill Brown

Preschool Class Leaders — Kerrie Bernardo and Allie Carroll

Suppers at The Digger's Diner — Sandy & Chip Plyler

Lead Decorators — Amanda Helmstetter and Kelly Bartlett

Adventure Guides — Tim & Becca Rado, Pam, David, Jonathan & Kelly Bartlett, Kathy Smith, Matt Fry

Plus many thanks to all the people who dropped by to help wherever they were needed, and to the people who made donations of money and supplies. Thank you for your generosity and time.

The continuing success of NPC's VBS programs, as documented by Jason Bernardo's videos, make the whole church look forward to VBS every summer.

CE Committee

# **Presbyterian Women**

**By**  
**Carol MacGregor**

Summer Opportunities for women in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta are offered. Details are posted on the Presbyterian Women bulletin board in the church hallway.

At Columbia Seminary, a Bible study course entitled “In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis” is offered July 31-August 4 (weekdays), and August 4-5 and 25-26 (weekends). The Genesis study is the one suggested for Presbyterian Women to use in circle study this coming year.

Presbyterian Workshops for women which cover a variety of topics are coming in August. The first is Saturday, August 12, from 8:30 am—1:00 pm at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church. The second will be on Thursday evening, August 17 at a place to be announced.

Let's have representation at these from Norcross Presbyterian! Contact Carol MacGregor, 770-840-9250, for more information or to sign up to go to the August workshops with her.

**BEST WISHES TO OUR  
JULY  
BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS**



- 1 Leonia Langley
- 2 Audrey Bernardo
- 8 Jessie Brown
- 9 Stan Moses
- 12 Jason Bernardo
- 12 Carol MacGregor
- 16 Bob Norman
- 20 Nora Correa
- 24 German Correa
- 25 Heather Reilley
- 30 Heather Peterson
- 31 Claude Murphy