



CrossWord

THE NEWSLETTER OF NORCROSS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2008

Norcross, Georgia

Matt's Musings

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After we have put all our bunny and egg-related decorations away until next spring, Easter season continues. Technically, Easter Sunday is the First Sunday of Easter. The following Sunday, March 30th this year, is the Second Sunday of Easter. This continues into the Seventh Sunday of Easter (this year 4 May). The following week is Pentecost, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit (11 May this year).

All of that is to point out that Easter is not one simple Sunday when we put on our best suit and tie, or our new Easter dresses. Easter season continues for 7 weeks to remind us that, as Christians, we worship every Sunday as a celebration of the resurrection. It is the reason why we worship on Sunday instead of Saturday, the original day of Sabbath. Saturday is the 7th day of the week (that's why it is the last one to the right on your calendar), and as such, is the traditional day of rest for our Jewish friends. The first disciples began to gather also on Sunday mornings, the first day of the week, to celebrate the fact that Jesus had risen from the dead. So we gather on Sunday mornings as part of the history of the disciples who gathered to celebrate the resurrection.

The other big thing this Easter for us is our new communion table. I love this picture with the Cross and the Lilies behind the table set for communion.

Ours is a new life in Christ. The old life of slavery to sin is dead. The new resurrected life of hope rules in our hearts and in our world.

I am hoping that the prolonged time of Easter will remind us, this day and every day, of the celebration of the resurrection, and the new life of hope.

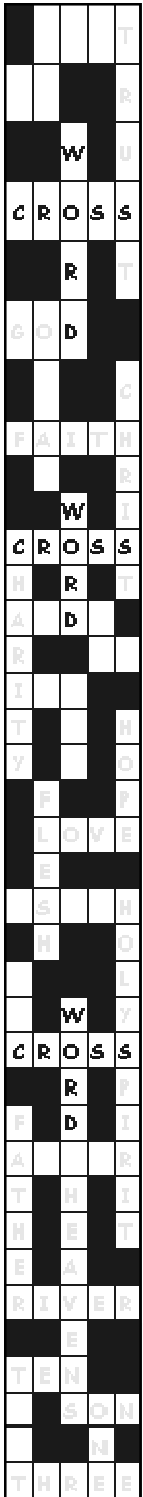
As I am always,
Yours in Christ,

Matt



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)



Norcross Cooperative Ministry is celebrating twenty years of service to the community. Norcross Presbyterian Church has been a member church in the co-op almost from the opening day; providing volunteers, financial support and donations of food, clothing, school supplies and household items. We congratulate NCM on their twenty year anniversary and look forward to another twenty years of cooperation.

NCM Celebrates 20th Anniversary

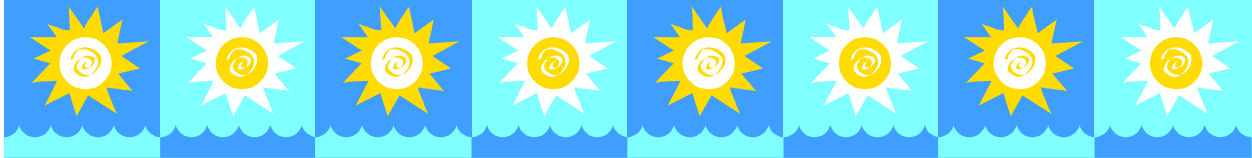
Mark Your Calendar for Party May 4th

Can you believe it's been twenty years since Norcross Cooperative Ministry first opened its doors at the little house next to Norcross First Baptist Church? A simple idea that a few pastors had: to pool their resources to serve the needy of the area. Oh, how that need and NCM's response has grown! And God works in the lives of those who serve Him and the clients we serve.

From just a handful of people serving a handful of people, to hundreds of volunteers, twenty-one churches, numerous businesses and civic organizations, and individual contributors transforming the lives of thousands of clients each year at our beautiful facility, the Greg Ellis Center.

Won't you come and be a part of this wonderful celebration? Mark your calendar for **Sunday, May 4th from 3-5 pm at the co-op.** And, if you'd like to bring a gift, may we suggest you use 20 as your guide? For instance, you could bring 20 cans of food, or 20 items of clothing, or cash in increments of \$20 (remember we can use cash to either buy food or for clients' financial assistance or other needs at the co-op). Whether you bring a gift or not, please come celebrate this important milestone with us!

We'll be conducting tours for those new to NCM and show you ways you can be a part of this ministry of helping those in crisis by collaborating with the community to offer programs and services that transform lives through the love of Christ.



It's VBS Time!

VBS is fast approaching and I wanted to let everyone know about the week we chose to have it and about an initial kick-off meeting.

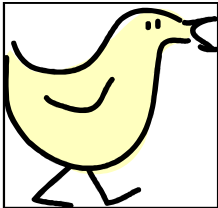
The week of VBS will be Sunday, June 1st – Thursday, June 5th.

We will have a meeting for everyone who wants to volunteer on Sunday, April 20th right after church. So, if you are interested in helping out with VBS this summer, please plan on attending the meeting on April 20th!

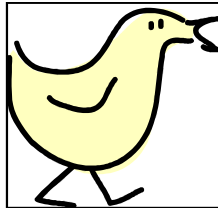
If you have any questions regarding VBS, please let me know.

Thank you!

Melissa Fry



NPC Chicks



The NPCChicks will meet on Saturday, April 26th.

(Please note the date change!)

The gathering will be **hosted by Pam Fox at 6:30pm.**

Watch for more details to be announced.

All women are invited to come enjoy our camaraderie and plan future meetings and activities.

NPC Men's Group

By Tim Rado

The NPC Men's Group met again on March 28th at the home of Bill Brown. We were provided with a wonderful meal of pork roast, homemade coleslaw and baked beans, with some delicious carrot cake and cheesecake with raspberry topping for dessert. Men, if you have not been attending our meetings every other month, you have been missing out not only on some wonderful food, but also some great fellowship and a lot of fun!! As most of you know, we also support a number of programs including Vacation Bible School, Clifton Men's Shelter, World Vision (sponsorship for Kevin Balmore Rodriguez) as well as some memorial donations, and we raise money to provide this support through our Texas Hold 'Em Championships at each meeting. At our past championship, the Rado Rabbit (I am tired of fighting this name battle but will never own it), which is awarded to the first player ousted from the championship, was awarded to yet another past champion — "Poker" Chip Plyler. Third place went to German Correa, second place went to Jack Crymes, and the Championship belt finally being presented to its true and rightful owner, Tim Rado!!!

We also scheduled a **church workday** to plant the donated Easter plants, spruce up the grounds and get them ready for our annual fish fry. The day will be **Sunday, April 6th after church** so please bring some work clothes with you and help us get the property looking good! Chip Plyler is also looking into attending an upcoming Braves game for the men and their children, so be looking for an email with some possible dates. We will also be looking to schedule a golf outing this summer, so if you would be interested in this, please let me know so I can start putting this together. We did this two years ago and had a great time even though only a couple of the men (Glen and Craig) actually played good golf! We also voted to send our sponsored child (Kevin Rodriguez) an additional birthday gift. Kevin turned 6 on March 14th, and we look forward to watching him grow up and being a part of his life. Our next meeting will be held at the home of German Correa, and is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 9, 2008 with myself and Rod Lewis providing the food. Please remember that all men of the church are welcome, and I promise you will have a great time. The money we collect goes to support some great programs, so I hope you will plan to join us in May. Until then, thank you for everything you do to support our church and our community, and I look forward to the Men's Group reaching new heights this year!!

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Rado

**BEST WISHES TO OUR
APRIL
BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS**



- 3 Amanda Helmstetter
- 3 Alicia Villalobos
- 4 Tanya Carroll
- 6 Nancy Hogan
- 8 Helen Harris
- 12 Martha Correa
- 15 Kelly Bartlett
- 16 Jessica Lankford
- 16 Grace Helmstetter
- 18 Stephanie Christian
- 18 Sandra Goring
- 20 Nathan Smith
- 28 Melissa Plyler
- 29 Matt Fry
- 29 Roger Greenway

****For the latest scheduling additions and updates, view our online calendar at****

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/norcrosspres>

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 10:00 Mom's Club of Duluth	4	5
		7-9:30 District BSA Commissioners' Mtg 8:00 KYC Class	5:45 WND-Lankford 6:30 Discussion 7:30 Chancel Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	6:30 Brownies	9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	
6 9:15 SS/NPC 9:30 Praise Team 10:30 NPC Worship 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 KYC Worship 2:00 KYC Fellowship	7 <i>Spring Break — Preschool closed</i> 10:00 KYC Class 8:00 KYC Class	8 <i>Spring Break — Preschool closed</i> 8:00 KYC Class	9 <i>Spring Break — Preschool closed</i> NO WND/Discussion 8:30 KYC Worship	10 <i>Spring Break — Preschool closed</i> 7:00 Chancel Choir	11 <i>Spring Break — Preschool closed</i> 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	12
13 9:15 SS/NPC 9:30 Praise Team 10:30 NPC Worship 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 KYC Worship 1:45 NPC Ringers 2:00 KYC Fellowship 3:00 Session Mtg 6:00 Youth Group	14 10:00 KYC Class 6:30 Boy Scouts 8:00 KYC Class	15 8:00 KYC Class	16 5:45 WND-Plyler/Youth 6:30 Discussion 7:30 Chancel Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	17 6:30 Brownies	18 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	19
20 9:15 SS/NPC 9:30 Praise Team 10:30 NPC Worship 11:30 SS/KYC 12:00 VBS Mtg 1:00 KYC Worship 1:45 NPC Ringers 2:00 KYC Fellowship 6:00 Youth Group	21 10:00 KYC Class 6:30 Boy Scouts 8:00 KYC Class	22 8:00 KYC Class	23 5:45 WND-Fry 6:30 Discussion 7:30 Chancel Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	24 6:30 Brownies	25 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	26 6:30 NPCChicks (Pam Fox hosts)
27 9:15 SS/NPC 9:30 Praise Team 10:30 NPC Worship 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 KYC Worship 1:45 NPC Ringers 2:00 KYC Fellowship 6:00 Youth Group	28 10:00 KYC Class 6:30 Boy Scouts 8:00 KYC Class	29 8:00 KYC Class	30 <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 5:45 WND-Swenson/Fry 6:30 Discussion 7:30 Chancel Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	31		

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