



CrossWord

THE NEWSLETTER OF NORCROSS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2007

Norcross, Georgia

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Matt's Musings

I'm not telling you anything new when I point out that February is the shortest month of the year. Even in Leap Years. And I'm not telling you anything new when I point out that it is one of the coldest months of the year. Even in Leap Years. You don't need to be reminded of those things.

And these are things you probably don't need to be reminded of either, but February tradi-

tionally holds a couple of my favorite things at Norcross Presbyterian Church. The first is the "No Talent Show" and Potluck Dinner. If you've been to one of these, you've seen things that you have tried in vain to get out of your memory. Perhaps you've even spent tax deductible money on psycho-therapy trying to get those memories out. But, all kidding aside, when I come home from The Gong Show, or The Love Boat, I come home with my sides hurting from all the laughing. This year will surely include some funny moments, and perhaps some good serious ones too. So, mark your calendar for the 10th of February, and plan to join us.

Another of my favorite gatherings of the year at NPC that is traditionally (but not always) in February is Ash Wednesday. I enjoy how we gather around our tables as we normally do on Wednesday nights for dinner, and then have a worship service, communion, and the imposition of ashes. There is something that deeply connects with my personal life at that service, in part because it is over a dinner table where we get to focus on each other instead of all the seats facing one direction.

We start Ash Wednesday service at 6.30, and shortly into it we break for dinner (which this year will be prepared by the Helmstetters, read yummy food from Copelands!). I hope you will join us as we mark the beginning of lent and start the journey towards Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and ultimately to Easter.

Until these events, both great but dramatically different from each other,

I hope that we can all,

Be Well,

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)

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Valentine's Day Pot Luck Supper And “Gong Show” and “Disco Mania”

By somewhat popular request we are having a reprise of last year's Supper and *Gong Show* with ten *all new acts!* If you have an act contact Ken Birmingham. For the meal this year we'll be having a Pot Luck Supper — bring a dish for more people than you are bringing with you (invite friends and neighbors to come and see NPC talent at its finest).

Date and Time: Saturday February 10, 2007 at 6:00 PM

Schedule: Dining at 6:30 with music by the Carla Johnstone Trio
Gong Show at 7:30 or so until ??? More music.

Returning from last year: Bill Brown as the MC, and “the judges”

The *Gong Show* aired in the late seventies, so dress in polyester, wear big hair (men: body waves), and come to disco!

Pictures from Last Year:



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NPC Men's Group

By
Tim Rado

As we begin 2007, our hope for the NPC Men's Group is to build on the solid foundation we laid in 2006. Our membership is growing and we are continually looking for ways to serve in the church (VBS, Annual Fish Fry, Annual BBQ, The Pumpkin Patch and various work days); the Norcross community (Norcross Cooperative Ministries, Habitat for Humanity); the greater Atlanta community (Clifton Men's Shelter, Hosea Feed the Hungry Program) and hopefully the World community in the future!

We also would like to focus on increasing our small accountability groups as I believe this will be the glue that holds the Men's Group together. We currently have 2-3 groups that meet at various times for bible study, prayer and fellowship and would love to get every man involved in one of these groups to help in their spiritual growth!

The third component of the Men's Group is fellowship and by far the most popular get together we have is our Texas Hold Em championship. We crowned four different champions in 2006 - George "Player" Tatro, "Poker" Chip Plyler, Matt "Crazy Eights" Fry, and Walter "Corky" Cochran. At our November meeting, we voted to expand to six championships in 2007. We held the first championship of 2007 on Friday, January 26th at the home of Doug Fuller and have crowned yet another champion in German Correa. Second place went to Marc Karasek and third place to George Tatro. We have also instituted the "Pink Bunny" award or as Pastor Fry likes to refer to it as the "Rado Rabbit" for reasons that we will not disclose here since I am writing the column. This is awarded to the first man at each championship to lose all their chips (**which should never happen when you have a queen high flush!!!**) and our first recipient for 2007 is Jack Crymes. Try to look at this as an honor Jack (Yeah, right)! Just for the record, 10% of all the proceeds we take in goes to the general fund of the church and the remaining 90% goes into the Men's Group budget to be used for other worthwhile projects. Our main commitment is to fund Vacation Bible School during the summer which in the past has always relied on donations. To this end, we have committed \$1,000.00/year to help enhance this vital community ministry. Our next championship will be on Friday, March 23rd at the home of German Correa with Larry Fluehr taking care of the dinner menu! It is truly a shame that German will have to relinquish the championship belt at his own home or will he be our first repeat champion? Come join us on the 23rd and I promise you a fantastic evening of food, fun, and fellowship!

In closing, I would just like to praise and thank God for leading us this far and hope that all the men of the church will join us as we take this ministry to greater heights. If you would like more info, please call me at 770-339-8499 or email me at timrado@charter.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Rado

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Presbyterian Women

By
Carol MacGregor

Conference for the Caring Community

Theme: Strengthening Our Commitment to Serve

All women are invited to attend this year's conference on Saturday, February 17. It is hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta.

Presbyterian Women of Greater Atlanta Presbytery has gathered together speakers and workshop leaders aimed to raise awareness and promote an understanding of hunger, its causes, and what opportunities there are to respond in local communities.

Brochures with conference information are posted on the Presbyterian Women bulletin board. If you'd like more information, please contact Carol MacGregor.

This conference is open to all women.

Norcross' Lionheart Theatre Company Presents

Barrymore's Ghost

a one man play

By Jason Miller

Starring J. Michael Carroll

Directed by Debbie McLaughlin

**February 14,16,17 at 7:30pm
February 18 at 2pm**

*Norcross Community and Cultural Arts Center
10 Britt Road
Old Town Norcross*

*Tickets \$15 for adults
\$12 for seniors and students*

February 14th Special:

**Celebrate Barrymore's birthday & Valentine's Day
Tickets \$10 with a same-night receipt from dinner at
any Norcross restaurant**

For reservations visit www.lionhearttheatre.org
or call 770-806-0935

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BEST WISHES TO OUR
FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS



- 2 Tyler Smith
- 9 Katie Steele
- 9 Mike Carroll
- 11 Florence Cochran
- 11 Bobby Akines
- 15 Lyn Ferriaolo
- 17 Jim Valentine
- 18 Dave Lankford
- 18 Sue Lithopoulos
- 19 Kayla Fry
- 19 Alan Lankford
- 20 Sarah Akines
- 21 Rob Fuller

February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 Mom's Club of Duluth	2 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	3
4 9:15 SS/NPC 9:45 Discovery class 10:30 Worship NPC 11:30 SS/KYC 12:00 New member reception 1:00 Worship KYC 2:00 KYC Fellowship 3:30 Bell Choir 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Group	5 6:30 Boy Scouts	6 7-9:30 BSA District Meeting	7 5:45 Wed. Night dinner — Lankford 6:30 Bible Study 7:30 Adult Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	8	9 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	10 <i>Gong Show and Potluck Supper, 6pm</i>
11 9:15 SS/NPC 10:30 Worship NPC 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 Worship KYC 2:00 KYC Fellowship 3:30 Bell Choir 4:00 C & E Meeting 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Group	12 6:30 Boy Scouts	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 5:45 Wed. Night dinner— Fry 6:30 Bible Study 7:30 Adult Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	15	16 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	17
18 9:15 SS/NPC 10:30 Worship NPC 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 Worship KYC 2:00 KYC Fellowship 3:00 Session Mtg. 3:30 Bell Choir 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Group	19 <i>President's Day (No School, Office closed)</i>	20	21 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 5:45 Wed. Night dinner— Helmstetter 6:30 Bible Study 7:30 Adult Choir 8:30 KYC Worship	22	23 9:00 KYC Prayer Meeting	24
25 9:15 SS/NPC 10:30 Worship NPC 11:30 SS/KYC 1:00 Worship KYC 2:00 KYC Fellowship 3:30 Bell Choir 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Group	26 6:30 Boy Scouts	27	28 5:45 Wed. Night dinner— Plyler/Youth 6:30 Bible Study 7:30 Adult Choir 8:30 KYC Worship			