

# NATIONAL X PRESS

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOV/DEC 2006 | VOLUME 3

## Sundays in Advent

**Sermon Series Title**  
Dr. Gareth Icenogle

**December 3**  
Sermon Title

**December 10**  
Sermon Title

**December 17**  
Sermon Title

**Christmas Eve at National**  
Worship at 11 a.m.  
Sermon Title  
Rev. Eunice McGarrahan  
Family Service at 5 p.m.

Communion Services at  
8 and 10 p.m.  
Sermon Title  
Dr. Gareth Icenogle

## Vespers at Advent

**"Waiting"**  
Contemplative Candlelight Service  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

**December 6**  
Homily Title  
Celebrant

**December 13**  
Homily Title  
Celebrant

**December 20**  
Homily Title  
Celebrant

THE SIXTY-SIXTH  
ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT

## Christmas Concert

*O Gladsome Light*

A Service of Lessons and Carols  
**Sunday, December 17, at 5 p.m.**

With NPC's Chancel Choir, the  
National Choristers Children's Choir,  
and NPC Youth Choir

## NPC's Strategic Plan Nears Completion

### *A Personal Commitment to Jesus Christ at Its Core*

By John Gregg

After working for more than a year, NPC's Strategic Planning Committee is delivering its recommended plan to Session this month. Once adopted, our church committees and staff will work on identifying specific ways to implement the plan "for a future filled with hope."

The committee retained the NPC statement of purpose: "Called to a ministry of grace, passionate about Christ's mission in the world." They will propose a new statement identifying our vision of what NPC will become: "A vibrant church community that builds followers of Jesus Christ and disciples others locally and globally."

Since February the committee has sought the ideas, concerns, and feedback of church officers, staff, volunteers, and others. This extensive process of fact gathering, brainstorming, and prayer led the committee to identify four strategic themes for the next ten years:

- Build a healing and reconciling church
- Cultivate and grow committed disciples of Jesus Christ
- Prepare healthy leaders in Christ
- Engage younger generations

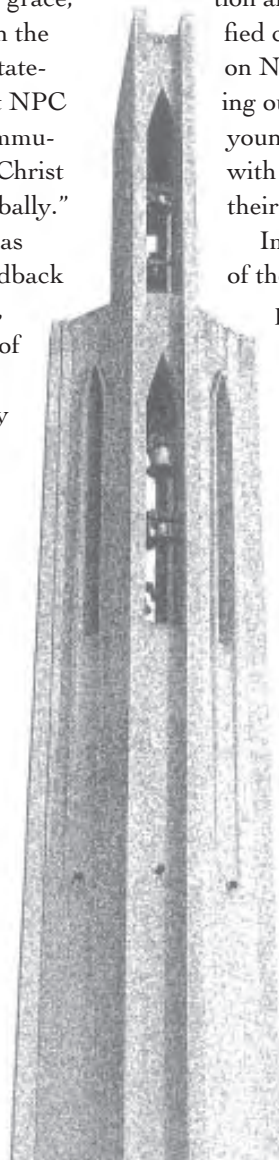
"We think the congregation will see familiar concepts in this plan," said chairman Rick Hawthorne. "We've been hearing a lot about discipleship and commitment to ministry and mission service from the pulpit in recent months. Our goal is to focus the congregation on what a personal commitment to Jesus Christ means in our lives."

The themes were derived after the committee assessed NPC's current strengths and identified strategic challenges for the long-term future of the church. The plan and themes were not designed to identify specifically every activity and ministry within the church. Rather the strategic plan is a tool for focusing the church on areas that require increased attention and effort in order to meet the identified challenges. Thus, these themes build on NPC's rich history while addressing our challenges, including whether younger generations will stay involved with Protestant mainline churches as their parents and grandparents have.

Importantly, not all the specific steps of the plan's implementation have been proposed by the committee, as that largely will be directed by church leaders. "We want to embrace the strategy of the plan before enumerating every initiative," says Hawthorne. The committee also has developed strategic objectives and performance measures so the plan can be monitored and evaluated over time.

NPC member Paul Arveson, who advises groups on strategic planning and has served as the committee's facilitator, takes a pragmatic view, "A good strategic plan is an educated guess as to the best way to achieve NPC's desired results."

The Strategic Planning Committee appreciates all the good ideas and guidance that many have provided. If you wish to learn more about the details of the plan, please contact Rick Hawthorne, rickbety@starpower.net.



# NPC's Outreach in the Aftermath of Katrina

By Charlie Glendinning

Last year when Hurricane Katrina brought devastation to the Gulf States, NPC Outreach ministry formed a committee to look at how best to serve that region. The committee decided to concentrate on Mississippi, since it also suffered catastrophic damage but was often forgotten due to the overwhelming attention focused on New Orleans. They committed to work through local churches, who knew first-hand the needs of their people and could best provide material and spiritual care for their community.

Barry Wynkoop and Rob Turner traveled separately to the Gulf, not only to get their hands dirty, but to see how our church might become more involved in serving these people directly. Others worked here in Washington, sponsoring events and volunteering in service organizations. Many more gave sacrificially to bring the care and hope of Jesus Christ to people who lost so much. The committee is particularly grateful to the Rev. Andy Wells of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi, and George Bates, Disaster Recovery Coordinator for the Presbytery of Mississippi, for helping us identify churches along the Mississippi Coast engaged in vital ministry.

The first financial assistance was sent from NPC immediately after Katrina hit in September 2005. To the National Capital Presbytery Work Team, our church gave \$10,000 to aid in setting up camps for volunteers in Gautier, MS, and in cleaning homes. A second donation of \$25,000 was sent to Covenant Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Mississippi, which helped spearhead efforts to provide trailers full of tarps, blankets, chain saws, generators, and other necessities.

In December 2005, NPC acknowledged the tremendous work of World Vision with a donation of \$25,000 to their Revitalization Campaign. During extended work tours in Mississippi, Barry Wynkoop had come to understand the storm's impact on five churches in Mississippi: Diamondhead Presbyterian, First Presbyterian in Ocean Springs, First Presbyterian in Pascagoula, Gautier Presbyterian, and Westminster Presbyterian in Gulfport. On Barry's recommendation, NPC donated \$10,000 to each of these five churches.

After drawing ideas from Rob Turner's report on his spring trip to the Gulf, the Disaster Response Team voted to divide the remaining \$55,093 among World Vision, Handsboro Presbyterian Church, and Gautier Presbyterian Church. World Vision, whose tireless and creative help in the Gulf area has been unsurpassed, received \$15,093. We sent \$10,000 to Handsboro Presbyterian in Gulfport, which houses George Bates and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance office, whose work has been so helpful to us and so vital to the community.

The final \$30,000 was sent to Gautier Presbyterian Church, the only PC(USA) congregation in Mississippi whose facility requires complete rebuilding. Led by the Rev. Chris Bullock, this small but active congregation has exerted a powerful influence on its surrounding community and has experienced growth and renewal by reaching out to those in need. Gautier was one of the first churches to host a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance work camp, and they have continued to be a staging point for church teams from across the country.

All told, our congregation contributed \$171,093. The NPC Disaster Response team is excited about the relationships born out of this disaster, and we look forward to ways in which we can be of even more assistance as the long rebuilding process unfolds. Stay tuned.

Caption here



# The Sights and Sounds of the Pipe Organ

## *Unlocking the Mysteries of King of Instruments!*

Have you always wanted to see the 6,000 pipes of the John Jay Hopkins Memorial Pipe Organ here at NPC? Well now is your chance! Just imagine...hidden behind the "screen" on the front wall of the sanctuary are five divisions of the pipe organ with thousands of individual pipes, filling a very large space – three stories high. The pipes that you can see in the balcony represent only a small portion of the entire Aeolian-Skinner, 106-rank pipe organ.



On November 5 at 3 p.m. NPC associate organist, Mary Mozelle, will perform "The Sights and Sounds of the Pipe Organ" with Yvonne Caruthers as narrator. There will also be additional commentary by NPC organ curator, Michael Hart of Di-Gennaro-Hart Organ Company.

Mary has traveled to churches across the country to perform this unique program. Her presentation of "Sights and Sounds" for the Smithsonian Institution's Resident Associate Program in May 2003 received rave reviews. After hearing a performance of "The Sights and Sounds of the Pipe Organ," J. Reilly Lewis, Music Director of the Cathedral Choral Society and the Bach Consort, wrote, "Mary's engaging personality and infectious enthusiasm is winning souls of all ages for this glorious music and for the mighty pipe organ which brings it all to resplendent life."

Listeners will see the organ console with its multiple manuals, foot pedals, stops, and pistons, and a sample pipe display that demonstrates the sizes and shapes of pipes in each of the families: principals, flutes, strings and reeds. The work lights will be turned on in the pipe chambers so the audience can get a rare glimpse of the thousands of pipes located behind the screen on the

### COMING SOON

Mary Mozelle's first solo organ recording, "Exultate," a CD of organ music by Daniel E. Gawthrop, recorded at Princeton University Chapel on the 135-rank, Mander pipe organ, will be released on the MSR Classics label and available in NPC's Moehrle Bookstore this month. This is the first commercial recording of the organ works of this significant American composer, internationally recognized for his wonderful choral composition "Sing Me to Heaven."

front wall of NPC's sanctuary. At the conclusion of the program the audience will be invited to ask questions of Mary and Michael Hart.

After a brief intermission, Mary will close the program with a short recital including the Widor Toccata, an arrangement of Barber's Adagio and a new Symphony for the pipe organ, O Jerusalem by composer Daniel E. Gawthrop.

# Members in Ministry and Mission

In the coming months, NPC will feature a brief story of the seemingly small ministries of our faithful members who reach out with the love of Christ, across the world and across the street.

In 1978 NPC member Virginia Bamey gave her hospitalized mother a manicure. When the person in the next bed saw how relaxing and uplifting the experience proved, she asked if Virginia could do the same for her. Thus began a ministry that has lasted to this day.

Several years later, Virginia took her manicure ministry to the Presbyterian Home (now known as Ingleside) to give manicures to the residents in the Health Center with the permission and, indeed, the support of the staff.

Over the years, Virginia and her late husband Duane have been very involved in ministry at NPC, but every week Virginia continued to go to the Health Center to give manicures. Now a resident of the independent living section of Ingleside, Virginia can be seen every week in the Health Center ministering to the residents. "As important as the manicures are," explains Virginia, "the real ministry is being there and holding the hands of these people."

## Advent Workshop

Sunday, December 3, at 5 p.m.

Crafts, Worship, and Pizza Dinner  
Bring the whole family to begin the season of Advent in the joy of Christ!

### NATIONAL PRESS

#### DEADLINES

January/February Dec 1

March/April February 1

May/June April 1

July/August June 1

September/October August 1

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# Honoring Christian Servanthood

Wishing to honor four of our NPC family members who have served our community faithfully, Al and Jessie Brown recently presented a generous gift to our Congregational Care ministry. The gift was given in thanks to God for the service of Sterling and Beverly Newell, and Harry and Charlotte Winsheimer.

The Winsheimer's many contributions are well known throughout our church, most notably, Harry served as Associate Pastor of Congregational Care for nearly a decade, and Charlotte, very active at NPC in the Women's Association and, nationally in Presbyterian Women; perhaps less well known are the countless hours of Christian care that Sterling and Beverly have given. "It's staggering to learn how many ways in which Sterling and Beverly serve and have served," said June Traylor, Director of Care Ministries:

Since the Newells became members in 1984, Sterling has served as a trustee, chairman of the Property Committee, and is said to have extensive knowledge of the NPC campus and buildings. A retired builder, Sterling once delivered all the furniture from the Bazaar for Missions. He also made many of the figures for the Children in Worship stories. Beverly has



served as a Stephen Minister and Care Team coordinator; she also teaches the Mustard Seeds class. They model Jesus' admonition in Mark 8:35: "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

The Brown's gift will be used to further Christian caregiving at NPC by establishing the Newell-Winsheimer

2006-2008 Seminar for Stephen Ministry, a lay, caring ministry. Stephen Ministers reach out with God's love to people who are hurting – both congregation members and nonmembers alike. Each fall, for the next three years, Stephen Ministers will read and discuss books selected for their concepts and ideas related to Christian servanthood and care.

The 2006 book selection is *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering*, by Kenneth C. Haugk. Built on solid biblical foundation and brimming with God's grace, the book overflows with practical examples and suggestions for caregivers about what to say or do. It provides ideas that expand thinking about bringing Christ's loving care to hurting people when they need it most. Copies of the book will be available for sale in the church bookstore.

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