

# The North Shore **BEACON**

*Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Serving the World*



**We're saying farewell (and eating, also) to the Gunderson's Sunday, December 4th**

**Come, bring a dish to share (dessert provided) and join in the fellowship as we say only an "earth" farewell to Pastor Tim, Lynn and the family as they move to Paw Paw, MI, in January. The meal will follow the Morning Worship Service at 10**

**White tissue paper, red ribbon, raspberries, fancy dishes, notes, cooking, and lots of prayer**

beautiful melodies, encouraging words, laughter, perhaps a few tears, sighs of satisfaction, oohs of appreciation, quick moving feet, hands serving others, hearts changing.....

All these phrases apply to the Women's Advent Luncheon and those participating. Are you one?

*"Overflow with Hope"*

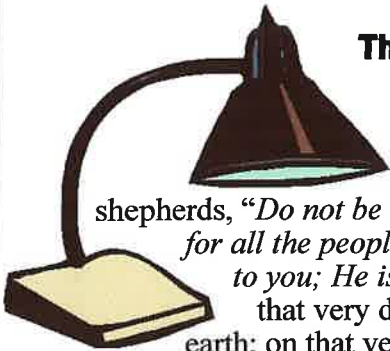


**CHRISTMAS**

**CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR**

**You are invited to the 6:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**Christmas Day Worship 10 a.m.  
Coffee and donuts at the Welcome Center beginning at 9:30**



### The Pastor's Lamp

## Good news of great joy



It was a great day when the angels announced to the shepherds, *"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2:10) It was great news that very day God Himself had taken on flesh and come to earth; on that very day the Messiah – the Christ – had arrived. All the promises of God to His people. And it was not just good news for all people, including us. We of course know the whole story, that Jesus was born, lived a perfect life, died for our sins on the cross, rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and is coming again. This is indeed good news, a cause for rejoicing. It changes everything.

It's ironic that the time of year we celebrate Jesus' birth is a very difficult time for many people. It is not a time of joy but of sorrow and disappointment. It brings up emotions and longings people don't even know are there. I remember a Circuit Judge friend of mine who strongly disliked his job during the Christmas season. All the unhappiness and disappointment spilled over into 'domestic abuse' and all the anger and ugliness that go with it. It was a time that the buried secrets of families would spill out in violent and destructive ways. It was not a happy time of year in his realm, but very sad.

I think our national media doesn't help us with all the temptations upon our desire for joy and happiness, and makes that, then we will be happy. The motivation behind this, is to sell things to us. We live in a brazenly consumer society. Drink the right beer, drive the right car, have the right house. We must be very careful what promises we believe.

*"...be very careful what promises we believe"*

manipulative advertising. It plays on our promises that if we buy this and have it, as I have often told my children, is to have where consumption is one of our gods. The device and life will be good. But we must be very careful what promises we believe.

*"... generally all misery goes back to idolatry"*

As a follower of Jesus who accepts what the Bible teaches, I know that generally all misery goes back to idolatry. Whenever our loyalties are misaligned, whenever our priorities are jaded, all of our pleasure and joy will eventually crumble. Our cultural vision of the 'Christmas Season' full of happiness and joy – all apart from God – just doesn't work. All these gifts which are supposed to bring us happiness don't. They are nice in and of themselves, but they cannot carry the weight of 'joy' and 'peace'. Only God can do that, and He does it through the gift of His son Jesus. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

So what can we do? As the followers of Jesus we are to be like Him. In John 20:21 Jesus says to His disciples, and to us, *"Peace be with you! As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you."* Jesus sends us into the world to be messengers of peace and joy to the world. We can't fix everything, but we know Who can and will. We're not the Messiah, but we can be 'life-givers' through whom Jesus helps people. Let's not worry about what we're going to get this Christmas, let's work on what we can give. After all, it's more blessed to give than to receive.

*"we can be life-givers"*

**TIME** *its* for *Gift*ing

**Pastor Tim**

# North Shore BEACON

## ADULTS

### The Artistic Touch

November saw the church sanctuary "warmed" with new paint and arrangements. Now it is decorated for Christmas and how we thank all those willing workers for the transformation.

Thanks Nancy Mullins, Dick Hanson, the Elevate Youth Group, Donna Thurson and others. \*

Our love and sympathy go to Lois Herson on the Homegoing of her husband Donald October 27th. Please turn to Page 5 to read Don's own story. \*



It's difficult to get a clear photo of the LITTLE STEEPLE PEOPLE - They're always on the move when they're singing



## DISCOVERY CLUB®

All kids age 5 thru 11 are welcome Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 8. The group follows the Menominee School calendar and weather - if there's "NO SCHOOL - NO CLUB."

Allisen Shawver is the new Coordinator (more in coming issues) and extra pairs of loving hands are always welcome. Talk with Nancy Mullins for more information. \*

## DISCOVERY CLUB®

\* Sunday mornings at 9 - Adult Bible Fellowship in the room behind the sanctuary (Mt. Carmel). "Highlights of the Book of Romans." Leader: Pastor Tim Gunderson

\*Prayer Time after Sunday worship. Gather at the front of the sanctuary to pray for North Shore and specific needs of our church family.

\* Monday evening at 7, resuming in January. Prayer Group at Casale's, 519 47th Ave., Menominee, to pray for the needs of the youth group and more.

\* Wednesday nights 6:30 Adult Bible Study of the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy - "Preparing for the Promise Land" with Pastor Tim; 7:30 Prayer Time. No session December 28th

## MEN

\* The 10:30 Thursday mornings Menominee County Men's Bible Study. Bring your Bible and a copy of "The Daily Bread" (available in the church foyer. Contact Harold Towle for more information.

\* Saturday morning, 7:30 Dec. 10th Men's Prayer Breakfast

## WOMEN

\* MOPS (Mothers of PreSchoolers) and MOPS Next (Mothers of school aged) meets Tuesday, December 13th from 8:45 to 11. MOPPETS ( kids, too)

## CHILDREN

\* Sunday School for all ages 9 am.

\* Nursery for ages 0-3 during Worship

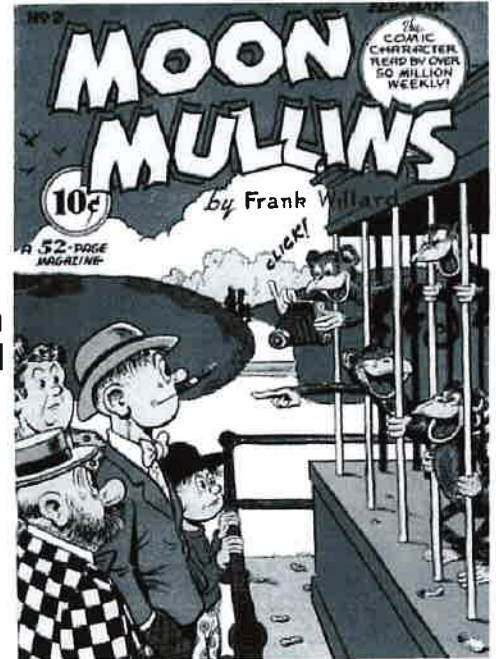
\* Children's Worship for ages 3-8 (dismissal during Worship Service)





## Which Mullins do you recognize? Perhaps all?

The chairman of North Shore's Deacon Board and Pastoral Search Committee member gave the **Beacon** editor the name of **Jerry Moon Mullins**. There's a story there.



Jerry and his wife Nancy started attending North Shore in early 2004 and quickly became known for their ready smiles and "I can help with that!" attitude and once again there was a new accent heard in the building. Jerry says he was raised in the small town of Etna Green, Indiana and worked on a chicken farm to earn his way through Purdue University...no, not Perdue chickens. He received an AAS degree in Aviation Electronics and a BS degree in Industrial Management.

These interests and education opened Texas doors with Texas Instruments, then on to aviation at Vought Corporation building A-7 Navy aircraft. That led to working for General Dynamics building F-16 fighter jets. Jerry was in management with GD for sixteen years then left to take the general manager position for a helicopter customizing company. He was soon promoted to President and CEO. When Enstrom Helicopter offered Jerry the position of President and Chief Executive Officer he and Nancy left Texas and headed for the wide open spaces of Menominee.

Nancy came into Jerry's life while they both attended Purdue and they have been married for 38 years this month. Early in their marriage Nancy came to know Jesus Christ and Jerry writes, *"She was very influential on my decision to accept the Lord as my personal Savior. We grew together in our walk with the Lord through involvement with the church and Bible studies."*

The Mullins have two sons back in Texas, Clint and Matt, with a wonderful daughter-in-law Tracy and twin grandchildren. In Jerry's spare time he enjoys building and flying remote-controlled helicopters. (The North Shore men and boys and girls of Discovery Club have all been excited to see helicopters flying around the gym!) He also treasures his time on the golf course, but an even greater draw is spending time with his grandchildren.

Jerry is focused and has established goals including the *"desire to live my life so others will see I love the Lord as my Savior."* North Shore is favored by God to have Nancy and Jerry in our fellowship. We praise the Lord for His blessing! \*



### Nancy's going to "State"!

Nancy's Marinette tennis team won the Great Lakes USTA Tri-Level league title in November and head for the Wisconsin State tournament January 7-8. Way to go!!! \*



## He saved the best for last

*Don Herson, husband of long-time North Shore member Lois, died October 27th. Two weeks prior he asked his daughter Val to e-mail the following letter to everyone she could. His last weeks on earth began the best part of his life. Ed.*

"Relatives and Friends,

This is an update on the last few weeks. Just a short time ago I was diagnosed with liver cancer. After discovering that surgery was not an option I tried to have a radiation treatment called Theresphere. When I went to Milwaukee to have that done it was deemed that I was too weak to have the procedure. I then tried chemo pills. I became very sick taking those so at this time I have elected to finish out the remainder of my days enjoying the time I have left with family and friends.

"As the liver cancer grows I grow weaker by the day. I'm at peace. I have enjoyed life on this earth and I will continue the journey with the Lord as I accepted Him as my Lord and Savior just a few days ago.

"It is hard to be in this position but I have enjoyed each and every one of your friendships over the years. So many memories and so many of them bring a smile to my face.

"Do not regret that I am gone, but rejoice that I am going to a much better place. I have had such great joy with my family and with those who had a chance to visit. I appreciated the phone calls and cards so very much.

"I made my way with the Lord and I feel that I can go at any time. I hope you enjoy your lives and I hope you know that God will be holding my hand through the remainder of my journey. I will be waiting on the other side for all of you to join me, all in God's time.

"It Didn't Get Any Better Than This.

Don "



## The Beacon's Beam on Missions

### A wedding in the U.S. and b'ball in Italy

Mark and Kris Crooks and their family serve as missionaries with Converge in Italy and Mark has visited North Shore to share their ministry. But this past summer their highlight was the wedding of their daughter Anna to Ben Arndt. This young couple, once their college loans are paid, plan to follow the Lord and her parents' example by heading overseas.

Meanwhile, back in Italy Mark says,

"Four families came to church in June, just after the close of our summer basketball camp. They came to give public thanks to God for His work in their lives through the influence of the coaches and counselors at the camp! In seven years of ministry here – we have never seen such a visible response to an activity put on by our church. It makes us want to run basketball camps all year long!! **Pray for us as we seek to recontact these families, help them cultivate their spiritual interest and work to guide them to a saving relationship with Jesus!** " \*



## Are you tired? Worn out?



Jesus Christ asks, "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to Me. Get away with Me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with Me and work with Me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with Me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."



Matthew 11:28-30 The Message

### 696 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are on their way

Coordinator Sue Mortinson reports 97 shoeboxes stuffed with all sorts of goodies came from North Shore and MOPS and joined the others received during the third week of November from area churches, 4-H groups and individuals. Thank you for contributing and thank you, volunteers, for packing the cartons, welcoming the participants and manning this relay station.

The boxes went to Manistique, MI, then on to Samaritan's Purse headquarters in North Carolina and around the world. \*



*Marilyn Greenwood and Sue Mortinson figure out how to get the most boxes into the shipping carton.*

*A Stephenson area 4-H leader brings colorful boxes prepared by the group.*



**The smiles of the Mothers of Pre-Schoolers and older say it all.**

**Well, not quite:**

**Mom, if you have a child elementary age and under, come, bring friends and enjoy the December 13th 9-11 am time (bring the kids, too)**



