



2011 Newsletter - Fall Edition

Together we can make a difference in our community - one family at a time.

NCM is now on FACEBOOK!!!

Facebook users, search for our page under 'Norcross Cooperative Ministry (NCM)' with our logo. **Like** our page and invite your friends to do the same! No Facebook account yet? Don't worry! You can still visit us at: www.facebook.com/norcrosscm

Currently you'll find pictures and information about our book bag/school supply drive which allowed us to distribute over 1,100 filled book bags and other recent happenings here at NCM.

Facebook will complement the variety of ways we keep you up to date on our critical needs, our upcoming events and other activities throughout the year.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SEMINARS

NCM works with local community partners to help enhance, improve and transform lives.

As part of these efforts, NCM will host **FREE** financial management seminars presented by Associated Credit Union. The seminars will be held at the NCM facility the fourth Tuesday of the month starting September 27th . The seminars are designed for ages 17 and older and attendance is "open to the community".

The topic for September 27th is "IDENTITY THEFT—WHO'S GOT YOUR NUMBER". The seminar will start at 4pm and will last about an hour.

The topic for October 25th is "YOUR CREDIT REPORT AND SCORE, How to Access, Read and Improve Your Score".

Call Leslie at 770-263-8268 to reserve your spot.

Check our website (www.norcrossco-op.org) or facebook page (www.facebook.com/norcrosscm) for future seminars and events that will be "open to the community".

Join Us: Community Thanksgiving Service

Pastor Matt Fry of Norcross Presbyterian Church will bring the message at the annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Sunday, November 20th at 7 p.m. at Christ Church Episcopal, 400 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Norcross. Pastors and music leaders from some of our supporting churches will also be participating in this ecumenical service.

Worship will include a Community Choir with participants joining together from numerous churches in the area. Another highlight of the evening will be a children's choir. An offering will be taken benefiting the Norcross Co-Op and canned goods will also be collected at the door. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, all NCM volunteers will be recognized for their efforts. Please come to worship and give thanks with us. Check our website for further details.

The printing of this newsletter is made possible through the generous donation of Trinity Press.



OUR MISSION

"Helping those in crisis by collaborating with the community to offer programs and services that transform lives through the love of Christ."

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Upcoming Events and Other News

Norcross Art-Fest: On Oct. 1 & 2, 180 artists

descend on historic Norcross. The streets and parks will come alive in what the readers of Inside Gwinnett Magazine voted as the Best Festival in 2010. Norcross Art Fest. Catch It! NCM will be there, too. Come by and say Hello at our booth.

Pumpkin Patch: October: Celebrate Fall and help the Norcross Cooperative Ministry (NCM) at the same time! Two local pumpkin patches donate a portion of their proceeds to NCM. Over the years, NCM has received thousands of dollars from these local patches. So bring your family and friends and visit the pumpkin patches at: Norcross Presbyterian Church www.norcrosspresbyterian.org and/or Peachtree Corners Christian Church www.peachtreecornerscc.org. The month of October is Pumpkin Patch time!

Mt. Carmel Methodist Fall BBQ: On October 7 & 8 the BBQ and bake sale will be held on the church grounds. A portion of the proceeds will be given to NCM. We are so grateful for this twice a year event and the generosity of Mt. Carmel Church.

City of Norcross Recycling Day: Save the environment and SAVE PEOPLE TOO! OCTOBER 15, 2011 Save the date! **Recycling day is here!** Norcross will host its annual community Clean-up Day, Shred Day, Paint Recycling Day and Electronics Recycling Day and "CAN" DO FOR HUNGER food drive. All event participants are asked to bring canned or non-perishable food items to support this years' campaign to be donated to NCM. Canned food will be collected at all events. Monetary donations are also accepted. Visit the city website at NORCROSSGA.NET for a complete list of what can and can't be recycled and for additional "CAN" DO events.

School Supply Program: NCM wishes to thank the many churches, individuals and businesses that contributed to the success of our program this year. A special thanks goes out to Perimeter Church and the employees of Infiniti of Gwinnett for their overwhelming response.

Vacation Bible School: While their parents were receiving the services they needed on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings and also Tuesday evenings, the children had FUN! They enjoyed outdoor activities like face painting and moonwalking, heard Bible stories and participated in crafts and singing. Thanks to the volunteers from seven of our supporting churches who helped us out with VBS! If this ministry is one that you would like to be involved in, please contact our office to get on the list for next year.

CareerFest 2011: A special thanks to our partners, the GA Department of Labor—Gwinnett, Norcross First UMC and to all the volunteers who helped make this event such a great success!

NCM Executive Board

Co-Presidents

Jesse Joyner, Peachtree Corners Church of Christ
Jack Lane, Perimeter Church

Vice President

Cyndy Franklin, Peachtree Corners Presbyterian

Co-Secretaries

Cathy Freeman, Christ the King Lutheran
Ellen Queen, John Wesley United Methodist

Co-Treasurers

Donna Galucki, Johns Creek United Methodist
Jim Sampson, Simpsonwood United Methodist

NCM's Stewardship Policy

Our responsibility is to be good stewards of the resources donated to NCM. To achieve that goal, we have policies and procedures in place to allow for smooth operation, fair distribution of limited resources, and the prevention of client fraud and abuse.

CRITICAL NEEDS

NCM is experiencing a critical shortage in our food pantry. Due to the recent high demands, our pantry shelves are nearly empty.

Critical Food Items include:

- Canned Meat
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Rice
- Saltine Crackers

Other critical needs include:

- Diapers—Sizes 4 through 6
- Queen & King blankets & linens
- Car and Booster Seats
- Strollers
- Toiletries

Thank you for helping to meet these needs!

NCM Statistics: Jan-Jun

Between January and June, NCM served record numbers of people (neighbors) through our many programs.

During this time, NCM served:

4,716 Families
- 1,043 First Time Families

14,858 Individuals

- 7,241 Adults
- 7,264 Children
- 353 Seniors

In addition, NCM:

Distributed 15,547 bags of food & 43,708 pieces of clothing
Provided \$337,882 in financial aid for rent, utility and lodging
Benefited from 11,919 volunteer hours

CHRISTMAS 2011

Each year, NCM helps to make sure that the children in Norcross have a bright Christmas. Through our program, families come to NCM during regular intake hours to register their children to receive toys. This year we expect to receive requests from over **800** families (more than 2,000 children) and we need your help!

NCM is currently collecting **new, unwrapped toys** for children ages 0-17. We are also collecting gift cards for our teenagers. We invite you to sponsor a toy drive at your church, place of business, social/civic organization or in your neighborhood. It's fun and is a great way to get more people involved!

You can also make monetary donations which can be used to help our "Santa Helpers" shop for toys/gifts.

Listed below are a few suggestions for age appropriate gifts:



INFANTS (0-2 Years)		MIDDLE SCHOOL (11-13 Years)	
• Crib Toys	• Fisher Price Toys	• Board Games	• Skate Boards
PRE-SCHOOL (3-5 Years)		• Books	• Sports Balls
• Board Games	• Dolls	• Bikes	• Walkmans
• Books	• Educational Games	• Gift Cards	
• Building Blocks	• Tea Sets	HIGH SCHOOL (14-18 Years)	
• Cars & Trucks		• Backpacks	• Duffle Bags
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (6-10 Years)		• Bath/Body Sets	• Gift Cards
• Action Figures	• Easy Bake Ovens	• Board Games	• Sports Balls
• Bikes	• Educational Games	• Books	• Walkmans
• Board Games	• Floam	• Calculators	• Watches
• Books	• Handheld Games	• Cologne Sets	
• Card Games (Fish)	• Legos/Lincoln Logs	GIFT CARDS	
• Craft Sets	• Remote Control Cars	We suggest gift cards (maximum of \$20 each) from stores like Target, Best Buy, Wal-Mart, Gap, etc.	

Help us help our children have a Merry Christmas!

To find more information about our Christmas program and how you may help, or to download a complete listing of toy suggestions for children of all ages, visit our website at www.norcrossco-op.org.

How Can You Join our "Power of One" Movement?

Yes, I want to support the mission of NCM by donating:

\$_____ **Annually** \$_____ **Monthly**
 \$_____ **One-Time Financial Donation**

Visit us Online @ www.norcrossco-op.org
 Click on the **Donate Now** button for details

Mail a check – make checks payable to
 'Norcross Cooperative Ministry' or 'NCM'

Even better, come by and visit our facility and make
 your donation in person! We are happy to show you
 how your donations are hard at work for our local
 community!

DONATE RESOURCES: NCM gratefully accepts:

- **Food:** Non-perishable food items
- **Clothing:** New or gently used
- **Financial:** Credit Card payments (via our web site) or check made payable to NCM
- **Common Stock:** Contact Dan Kinney, Financial Advisor of the Kinney Group at 770-449-9079
- **Matching Funds:** Check with your company's Human Resources Department for details
- **Other:** New/gently used toys, linens, small kitchen items, baby items, toiletries, school supplies, new/unwrapped Christmas gifts, and recycled shopping bags.

Donation Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Tuesday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
 Saturday 10:00 am - Noon



By working together, with one unwavering purpose and one bond of unity, we can not only meet the demands of immediate crises, but we can provide programs that will transform the lives of the families we serve for many years to come. Through the **POWER OF ONE**, we believe that greater things are yet to come for our community. Please join us!

OUR MISSION:

Helping those in crisis by collaborating with the community to offer programs and services that transform lives through the love of Christ.

One smile to encourage the hopeless. One prayer to lift a burden.
 One willing heart to volunteer. One business to donate resources.
 One woman living in one neighborhood to hold a coat drive.
 One committed church to answer God's call to serve.
 One body of compassionate individuals to care for our community – one family at a time.

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