

Spring 2010



WINGS

Women IN Gods Service

Connections

LADIES RETREAT 2010 SWEET LIFE CAFE'

Become A Prayer Warrior

by: *Gina Thomas and Ann Underwood*

WINGS Email and Phone Prayer Chain Moderators

When we are asked to pray for one another we should consider it not only an obligation but an honor as well. When you ask someone to pray for you, it says to them, "I trust you with the things weighing most on my heart and believe God will hear if you petition Him on my behalf." The prayer chain currently has more than 110 members who pray for you and your families daily, but we are always looking for new recruits. Take up your shield, brandish your sword and join us on the front line in the battle that belongs to our Lord!

It's easy to sign up. Simply send your full name and email address to: wingsprayerministry@earthlink.net. You will then receive a Welcome Letter letting you know you've been added to the roster and will begin receiving prayer requests immediately.

If you do not have an email account, we also have a telephone prayer chain. Please contact Ann Underwood (210-281-5303) for more information.

May God continue to bless those who continue to need our unceasing prayer.

We all love going out for a warm cup of coffee or tea with friend. Most of us long to extend those short visits and take time to slow down and really enjoy time together. At our retreat, we will savor time with God and friends, experience meaningful Bible studies, flavor-filled activities and scrumptiously delicious fun! We will begin our evening on Friday at 7 PM with a praise service and games. Check-in begins after 5 PM. No meal will be served Friday evening. We will wrap up on Sunday before lunch. Registration forms available in the main foyers on the tables and WINGS table.

Accommodations are based on four people per room. Rooms are standard hotel style rooms with two queen beds. Scholarships are available. Any donations toward scholarships is welcomed and appreciated. For this or other registration questions, contact Alaina Weynand at aweynand@sbcglobal.net or (210)509-9971. Registration is non-refundable after April 4th. Make checks payable to NorthWest Church of Christ. Drop in the black box outside the church office.

Where Women Savor Time With God

April 16-18 - MO Ranch; Hunt, TX

Cost: \$90 - 2 nights 4 meals

\$35 Saturday only (no overnight) lunch and dinner

\$30 deposit due by March 14th to secure your spot

Balance due by April 4th

*"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things."
Psalm 107:8-9 (NIV)*



Spotlight on an Elder's Wife: Gina Thomas

Meet Gina Thomas, wife of Scott Thomas, one of our more recent elders. Gina was born in West Palm Beach, Florida and spent most of her early childhood in Miami, Florida. She moved to the mountains of North Carolina when she was twelve where she claims is one of the most beautiful places in the country.

Gina and Scott married at the Baltimore Church of Christ in May of 1987. Their relationship began as a friendship. Gina was a concessionist and Scott was an usher at a movie theater in Asheville, North Carolina. "It was not love at first sight, in fact we became friends because he wanted to date my best friend," she said. "We began dating after about a year and I believe the fact that we started out as good friends gave our marriage a strong foundation, as well as the fact that we share our faith in God, of course."

Gina and Scott have one child, Bryan, who will be 21 in December. He is a Computer Science major at UTSA and also works as a store manager at Sea World. They are very proud of him!

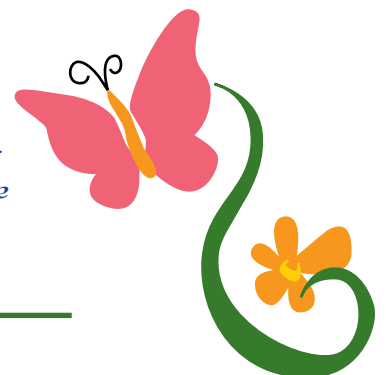
Gina and Scott have lived all over the map. Scott recently retired from the Army so they have lived in many places, including Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Riley, Kansas and Fort Benning, Georgia. They lived in San Antonio once before in the early nineties and worshipped at MacArthur Park. They have resided here now since 2001. Gina and Bryan have not had to move since then because Scott has had two unaccompanied overseas assignments. He spent a year in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia when Bryan was in the eighth grade and a year in Seoul, South Korea when Bryan was a high school junior.

When Gina was asked about her walk with Jesus, she remembers having Jesus in her life from the age of six, when she first heard his name. Although she did not always have the opportunity to attend

church as a child, she prayed often and talked to God as a friend and never remembered fearing Him. She never felt like He was not listening. Gina always knew deep inside that He was there ready and waiting for her. She was baptized in her mid-twenties. Since baptism, the road has not always been smooth, but with God beside her she has made it. "I think that, just like my marriage, my relationship with the Savior has stayed strong because it began with a foundation of friendship," Gina said.

Gina and Scott work with young people in their twenties and thirties and often they work with families who become concerned with struggles of faith. When asked how they handle those tough situations, she said that wrestling with your faith is necessary to deepening and making your faith your own. "I worry about people who have inherited their faith like you inherit a piece of furniture or a bank account and not really made it their personal foundation. One of the reasons I put God aside in my life was because I struggled with the question we all have. Why does God let bad things happen, especially to really good people? I had gotten the idea in my head that praying and believing in God protected you from tragic events and people who might mean you harm. So needless to say, I felt very let down in my early twenties, but I didn't make the connection until later. I remember a friend of mine said to me, 'I beg your pardon, God never promised you a rose garden!' I started to see that because we have free will, God's role isn't to prevent the bad, but to help you get through the bad. I see Him in the lives of so many of our Christian friends who rely on Christ to truly be their rock, and I am inspired by them," Gina said, "They give me hope and prove to me that God is not just an omnipotent being watching us from afar, but here present right beside us walking in step with us through his Spirit, offering comfort, grace and peace."

"I believe in Christ like I believe in the sun; not because I see it, but because by it I can see everything else." -C.S. Lewis



2010 Ladies Retreat Registration Form

Sweet Life Cafe'

Where Women Savor Time With God

April 16-18 - MO Ranch; Hunt, TX

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Cell: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail address: _____

Allergies or other special needs:

If you have coordinated with people to room with, please list their names.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

Please do not feel it is necessary to arrange for roommates. One of the purposes of the annual retreat is to strengthen the bonds of the women at NorthWest. Achieving this goal is aided if you are open to welcoming a new friend in your room.

Circle one: Early to bed Night Owl

Registration Fee: \$90 - Includes two nights and four meals. \$30 **Deposit Due by March 14th** to secure your room! Saturday Only - conference and two meals (lunch & dinner) \$35

Two Options: (check one) Full Weekend Saturday Only

For additional \$25 there is a ropes course. More details to come. There will be a talent show on Saturday night so be prepared! This can be a group or individual show.

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Registration is non-refundable after April 4th. Make checks payable to NorthWest Church of Christ. Drop in the black box outside the church office.

Office Use

Date Received: _____ Amount Paid: _____ Balance Due: _____

Scholarship Needed: _____ Check # _____



WINGS – Women In Gods Service
North West Church of Christ
9681 West Loop North
San Antonio, TX 78254-5302

Ladies Bible Class

Wednesday Morning - Fellowship Hall

9:30 - 10:00 - Card Signing

10:00-11:00 - Bible Study

Free Childcare Available!

Wednesday Evening Bible Class

Deeper Look at Respect

Brenda Key Facilitator



Service Opportunities

Mystic Park

Monthly Birthday Parties

Contact: Pasty Morphew at (210)372-0240

Nursery Team Members Needed

Contact Meredith Flint at (210)251-2367 or

rae6373@yahoo.com - Urgent Need for Volunteers!

High School/Middle School Devo Hosts Needed

Contact: Deryk Pritchard at (210)688-3002 or

deryk@nwchurch.us

Children's Bible Class Teachers/Helpers Needed

Desk Check-In Needed

Contact Becky McClung at (210)688-3002 at

becky@nwchurch.us

Easter Egg Hunt - March 27th

Contact Becky McClung at (210)688-3002 at

becky@nwchurch.us or Kara Culpepper at kara_whitley@yahoo.com or 509-6797, if you'd like to help!