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2018 Game On! VBS was awesome and very successful. Game On! began on Sunday, July 8-Thursday, July 12 from 5:45-8:30 p.m. Our enrollment goal was 210. Our enrollment was 253 with 174 participants and 79 workers. The average attendance was 183. This was the largest VBS in at least a decade. Approximately 70 percent of those attending VBS were guests. The missions offering for Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes totaled \$524.37. At this point, one child has accepted Jesus as his Savior. Four children expressed interest in accepting Jesus as their Savior. Other children wanted to know more about becoming a Christian. The parents of these children have received a letter telling them about their child (children's) interest in knowing more about Jesus. We will be following up with these

children on an individual basis. Many thanks to every person involved in making VBS a huge success. Special thanks go out to our awesome director, Teresa Brazell, and assistant directors, Beth Humphries and Jamie Brazell.

So many people gave of their time, talents, and energy. Approximately 50 people from preschoolers to senior adults took down decorations and cleaned the church in record time. The deacons were the Clean-up Team and they did a great job. It was an awesome site to see all ages of persons working together for the common goal of reaching people for Jesus through VBS. Our workers did an incredible job! The kitchen staff did an awesome job feeding us. I saw members of our church work tirelessly simply cleaning up and emptying trash. Every day several children helped with the logistics of getting things ready for the day. Thanks for your prayers, planning, hard work, energy, enthusiasm, and excitement. You prayed, invited, decorated the church beautifully, taught crafts, missions, music, recreation, and Bible study, prepared and served meals, greeted, served as security personnel, took hundreds of pictures, worked the video and sound, coordinated and directed, and most of all shared of yourselves and your faith. The kids came, had fun, and learned that God wants them to be a part of His team. Contacts are being made by phone or email and visits are being made with persons interested in knowing more about our church and about Jesus. All participants and workers received a thank you card. Evaluations are being made of VBS and we are gearing up for 2019 VBS In the Wild!



August 19-26

Pastoral Staff

Dr. Barry Jimmerson (864) 320-9076

**Pastor** 

Mr. Baxter McGuirt (864) 906-1906

Minister of Students

and Education

Mrs. Ruth Harrison

Minister of Children

and Families

Mr. Matthew Ellenburg

Supply Worship Leader

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Deacons of the Month

**Don Durham** 

**David McClure** 

Steve Todd



The fiscal year of Northgate Baptist Church coincides with the calendar year, beginning in January and ending in December. Northgate's ministry calendar begins September 1 and ends August 31. As we approach the end of a ministry year and the beginning of a new one, this a good time for prayerful reflection and to plan on ways we can bring glory to Jesus Christ through His church.

In August 2017, Northgate Baptist Church looked to the future in and by faith. As a church, we voted to renovate the buildings and facilities of the church, while also desiring a renovation of our hearts. In short, we voted to prepare for renovation of facility and revival of our hearts. The renovation of the facilities was estimated to cost \$1.3 million.

Since that time, we have developed plans for the renovation of the facilities. With the help of the South Carolina Baptist Foundation, we completed a capital fund raising emphasis that we called **Seek. God. First.** We chose that name because we believed it captured our heart's desire. Since the completion of the **Seek. God. First.** emphasis in March 2018, we have received commitments of nearly \$800,000.00 toward the \$1.3 million need. About \$300,000 has already been received and almost \$40,000 has been spent on renovation. To date, phase I (exterior restoration and repair) of the renovation plan is nearing completion. Phase II (interior renovations) are scheduled to start this fall as soon as the necessary building permits are obtained. It is exciting to see the physical renovation of God's church!!

While we celebrate the physical renovation of the church property and facilities, we remember that a physical renovation of the church is only part of our goal. Our chief goal is spiritual revival! Such revival is impossible without faith: "Without faith, it is impossible to please Him" (Hebrews 11:6). Faith is being manifested through returning to God the finances that He has already graciously given to us.

A simultaneous godly phenomenon has occurred since we celebrated the completion of the **Seek**. **God**. **First**. emphasis at the Commerce Club in Greenville on March 18, 2018. Once we began making our commitment offerings to fulfill the financial needs for the **Seek**. **God**. **First**. emphasis (which are over and above our tithes and regular offerings) our necessary budget giving has remained strong and healthy. As Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). While we are realizing needed renovation to the facilities of Northgate Baptist Church, we continue to need revival.

To achieve spiritual revival, we must walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). We must trust God. We must Seek. God. First. We must seek Him FIRST. To that end, we must pray. Near the end of every August, we set aside eight days of prayer to reflect upon what God has done in the current year and to look forward by faith to a new ministry year. The Week of Prayer for Northgate in 2018 is August 19-26. Please be intentionally vigorous in setting aside time daily to pray for God's church at Northgate; especially during this week of focused prayer. Prayer guides will be available to help us to pray strategically and daily that week.

Join me in reflection, much prayer, and great faithful expectation as we embrace the future of Northgate Baptist Church. Let us continue to **Seek. God. First.** in everything we do!

Blessings in Jesus,



The Gate Post



# Wonderful Wednesday August 8

Picnic in the fellowship hall @ 5:30pm. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE and there is no charge for supper. Everyone is invited. Reservations are required by calling the church office by noon on Tuesday, August 7. At 6:30pm Kids (age 2-completed Grade 6) join us for Water Night and have fun sliding down the slippery slope on the grassy hill beside the church. Please wear a swimsuit and bring a towel.

# Children's Mission Action Project Wednesday, August 29

Children (completed K-5 to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) will meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. for supper. We will then go to Dollar Tree on Wade Hampton Boulevard for the children to shop for the contents of Operation Christmas Child boxes. Each child will be accompanied by an adult and will shop. The contents purchased will be paid for with a portion of the VBS offering given for this purpose. After shopping we will return to the church for ice cream sundaes. Registration and completion of a permission form is required for this event. Please contact the church office or Ruth to register. Deadline to register is Tuesday, August 28.



### Good News Club Workers Meeting Wednesday, August 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Hope Classroom

All Good News Club workers for both Summit Drive and Stone Academy please plan to attend.
Information will be shared and forms completed for Good News Club 2018-19. Good News Club begins on Monday, September 10, at Summit Drive and on Tuesday, September 11, at Stone Academy. Please be in prayer for all of the workers and children who will be attending.



Dare2Share Live - On October 13th, Northgate will be a host satellite site for Dare2Share Live. Teens and adult leaders from the region will come to Northgate that afternoon to worship together; receive prayer and evangelism

training broadcast from Denver, CO; and go out into our community making door to door visits and looking for opportunities to share the gospel with anyone who doesn't know Jesus. We need your prayers! Lift up this event and all the people who will be impacted in your daily devotional time, or set a reminder on your phone to stop and pray with us at 10:13 (am or pm) each day! You can find more information about Dare2Share Live at their website: dare2sharelive.org.



Northgate will host Released Time for League Academy again this year, beginning September 12. Released Time is a program where students are released from school for an

hour to eat lunch and have a Bible lesson at the church. Without volunteers, this ministry wouldn't happen! If you're interested in volunteering this year, and are available on Wednesdays from 11am - 2pm, please speak with Baxter McGuirt or Will Kirby. Please begin to pray for this ministry in the upcoming school year, that God would move in the hearts of these students!



On Friday, August 17th, you are invited to come see a Greenville Drive baseball game with Northgate! We're also inviting all our guests who attended VBS to come along! Tickets are

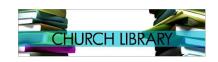
complementary but you will need a reservation, so please *RSVP* to the church office no later than noon on Friday, August 10th. The game begins at 7pm; buses will depart from the church at 6:20pm.



August 19 at <u>5:30pm</u> in the Bryan Whitmire classroom. Come join us for prayer.



The Joy Club will take a break through September. Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 15. Be looking for information toward the end of the summer.



We open on Sunday at 9:00am and at 5:00pm on Wednesday.

During the summer the library will host "God's Book Club" for children and youth ages 8-14. The 2 children that read the most books will receive a prize on August 29th. So parents bring your kids into the library to check out some books.

Contact Kathy Todd at 864-907-6058 if you have any book requests.



Please pray for our children, principals, administrators, teachers and all of those involved in our schools and the lives of our children.



We share our sympathies with the family and many friends of James Jeter, long time member of Northgate.

#### **GROW** in August

6 Team G

13 Team R

27

20 Team O





Women's Missionary Union will meet on Tuesday, August 28 at 10am in the fellowship hall. All ladies are invited. Contact Anne Danciu at 864-884-4885 if you would like further information.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A Cup for Each Family Member:

Juan asked God to provide five

cups, one for each of his family members. When Juan opened his shoebox gift, the Colombian boy was amazed that it included a set of five cups. He gives thanks to the Lord for meeting this need. Thank you Northgate family for giving!



#### Candy Garren

15 Rochester Road Travelers Rest, SC 29690 864-430-0833

Emily Leopard
74 Rochester Road
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
864-991-7427

#### FACILITIES USE INFORMATION

It has been brought to our attention that certain parts of the church are being used without reserving the area prior to use. If you wish to use any of the church's facilities (gym, fellowship hall, SS room, kitchen, etc.) please contact the church office and reserve the facility in advance. All use of facilities must be on the calendar to avoid confusion and conflict. **Thank you for helping us to solve this problem!** 

Week of Prayer for Northgate—August 19-26
Sunday School Workers and Leaders Meeting—August 19 @ 6:15pm