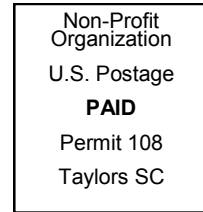


Northgate Baptist Church

633 Summit Drive
Greenville, SC 29609
www.northgatebaptist.com



Return Service Requested

Northgate

Seek. God. First.

Thoughts from our Pastor

Pastoral Staff

Dr. Barry Jimmerson
(864) 320-9076
Pastor

Rev. Barry Agnew, Jr.
Minister of Students
and Education

Mrs. Teresa Green
Interim Minister of
Preschoolers and their Families

Mr. Dennis Page
Worship Leader

I read a story recently about a son that had a conversation with his father. The son asked, "Dad, if three frogs were sitting on a limb out over a pond and one of them decided to jump, how many frogs would be left on the limb?" The father answered, "Two." The son said, "No, Dad, that's not the right answer." The father answered again and said, "Oh, I get it, if one frog jumps, then the other two will follow, so the answer is zero." The son responded, "No, Dad, that's not the correct answer either." The father said, "Well, I give up. How many frogs would be left on the limb?" The son answered, "Three!" The father said, "That's not possible, you said one of them jumped off the limb." The son said, "No I didn't; I said one of the frogs **decided to jump, I didn't say it jumped.**"

That humorous story sounds a little like New Year's resolutions. At the beginning of a new year, we often make great and ambitious resolutions only to find out months later that we are like those frogs – still sitting on the limb! Resolutions are like plans: They are valuable only if we follow through with action. I've made many resolutions only to look, see that it's June, and realize I never followed through on my decision, commitment or resolution – still sitting on that limb!

Let's allow **God** to establish our resolutions, and then let's act on them. I read through the Old Testament book of Nehemiah in December. There are many great lessons to be learned from Nehemiah. In chapter two, the people decided to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem, and they followed their decision with action:

So they said, "Let us rise up and build. Then they set their hands to this good work." (Nehemiah 2:18)

And when adversity and conflict came, they stayed the course:

Those who built on the wall, and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves so that with one hand they worked at construction, and with the other held a weapon. (Nehemiah 4:17)

There is much to learn from the Book of Nehemiah. Don't just plan, act!! And when trouble and distraction come, stay the course!!

Many people make lofty resolutions in January like reading through the Bible only to drop out when they encounter the difficult books of the Law. Read the Bible. Read it from Genesis to Revelation. Adopt a daily reading goal and stay the course. You will be glad you did.

—continued on page 2

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Deacons of the Month

Will Kirby
Steve Todd
Dean Waters

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change

Let's Pray!

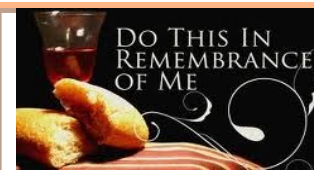
Church-wide prayer will be held on **Sunday, January 12 at 8:30am** in the fellowship hall. Coffee and breakfast snacks will be provided following our prayer time. Come join us for this special time of prayer.



The seasons are changing. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, please check our website at www.northgatebaptist.com watch WYFF-4 or Fox 21 for information about services and activities.



The staff would like to thank you for your many and generous expressions of kindness and love this Christmas season. It is our joy to serve the Lord with you. Have a wonderful New Year! We love you all!



The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper will be Sunday, January 26.

A fellowship meal will follow. The church provides the meat for our meal. Please bring side dishes that would feed your family with some to share. And don't forget about the dessert!

There will be no Children's Church on January 26.



2020 Calendars will be ready soon and will be available in the foyer. Watch upcoming bulletins to see when they are available.

The Gate Post

—continued from page 1

Don't just decide to make healthy choices in the New Year. Just do it!!! Get off the limb and take a leap of faith in the New Year.

- Read through the Old Testament or the New Testament.
- Read through the entire Bible!
- Move from giving some of your finances to giving the Lord's tithe.
- Move from fast food to healthy food.
- Move from a sedentary lifestyle to an active lifestyle.
- Move from a spectator in the church to a servant for the Lord through His church.

Get off that limb and jump into evangelism, discipleship, ministry, fellowship and worship for the Lord.

Let's allow God to do something great through us in 2020! Happy New Year, *Barry*

YOUTH MINISTRY WITH SUBSTANCE from Barry Agnew, Jr., Minister of Students and Education

Have you ever volunteered in Youth Ministry at a church? If so you probably have some stories to tell. I know I certainly do. Working with students can be fun, tiring, humorous, sad, entertaining, and everything in between. It is an emotional rollercoaster. In all the craziness though we have to ask, what's the point? When it's all said and done, what is the ultimate point of the youth ministry?

During my freshman year of college there was another student who lived across the hall from me who was planning to go on to medical school and become a surgeon. One day out of curiosity I asked why he wanted to become a surgeon. He said, "well my dad is a surgeon and he makes pretty good money." I didn't really know what to say but all I could think was, "really, that's it?" I figured that surely he had some passion to help people and possibly even save lives, but no, at the end of the day he just thought it would be a decent living. So guess what ended up happening to this young man? A few years after graduating college I learned that he didn't in fact become a surgeon. Right before starting medical school he backed out. Evidently, he just didn't want to put in the work to get through medical school to go into a vocation that he ultimately didn't care that much about.

At its core, youth ministry is no different than adult ministry. The purpose of youth ministry is to make faithful disciples of students. So we have to ask what is the purpose of our youth ministry here at Northgate. Much like the young man in the story above a youth ministry with no purpose will be a youth ministry with no fruit. Like many churches we have lots of activities at Northgate. Many of these activities promise a great time filled with plenty of laughter and memory making. Yet at its core we still have to ask if we are making disciples. So I ask you to pray for our students, pray for our student ministry, pray for our parents, and pray for me. Pray that we would make faithful disciples in our youth ministry. **Pray that we would be a youth ministry with substance.**

A New Year, and a New Song

"Oh, sing to the Lord, a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous work among all the peoples!" Psalm 96:1-3

Singing a new song is referenced a number of places in scripture (check out Psalm 33, 40, 96, 98, 144, 149, and Isaiah 42). Throughout these scriptures, the psalmist is keenly aware of God's faithfulness, his power, majesty and deliverance. Singing a new song has everything to do with giving credit to God's worth, resulting in praise, and ultimately declaring God's glory among the nations.

"Another Year is Dawning" is hymn traditionally sung this time of year. Although it borrows its melody from the hymn "The Church's One Foundation", it challenges us with an appropriate New Years' resolution. Here's the 3rd verse:

"Another year of service, of witness for Thy love, Another year of training, for holier work above
Another year is dawning, dear Father let it be, On earth or else in heaven, another year for Thee"

I pray as we begin this New Year, that God's new song would be mine, and would be yours.

In Him Who first loved us, Dennis Page, Worship Leader



Joy Club in January

January 20 @ 10:45

Joy Club will be held Monday, January 20 at 10:45 am. Our guest will be Amy Ammons Garza, Professional Storyteller. Amy is the sister of David Ammons. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 15 by calling Judy Rothfuss at 864-483-0709. **All are invited for this time of great food and fellowship together.**

We open on Sunday @ 9am and at 5:30pm on Wednesday. We need volunteers to assist in the library on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please contact *News* Kathy Todd at 864-907-6058. Please come by the library and check out some wonderful books. If you do not find what you are looking for, please let Kathy Todd know.



2019-20 LEADERSHIP BOOKLETS



The annual Leadership Booklets are ready and available in the vestibule and throughout the church. Please be sure to pick one up. This annual booklet has all of the Northgate Leadership, Clusters, Committees and much more information to be of assistance to you when needed.



We share our sympathies with Nancy Taylor on the passing of her husband, Bobby and to Almena Simon, Bobby's sister. Remember these families in your prayers.



Women's Missionary Union will meet on Tuesday, January 28 at 10am in the fellowship hall. All women are invited to join us. See Anne Danciu for more information

Northgate's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal is \$2,000. Praise God we have received \$4,259 to date. Thank you for faithfully giving!

MONEY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Friday & Saturday, January 24-25

We will have a Money Management Workshop on Friday, January 24 from 6-8pm, and Saturday, January 25 from 8am-12pm. Breakfast snacks will be provided on Saturday morning. The workshop is free but you MUST register by calling the church at 864-242-3805 or see Tina Jimmerson or Beth Todd.



Thank you to ALL volunteers this past year. Northgate is blessed with so many of you giving of your time with all of the various ministries. May God bless you as you minister in His church and the community. We appreciate each one of you!



Abby Brown

GROW will not be held on Monday evenings in January. We will resume February 3, 2020.



Leadership Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30pm in the Hope Classroom
Church Conference will be on Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30pm