

Northgate Baptist Church

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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

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We are truly living in unprecedented times. No one has seen America like this before. Even during the American Civil War, there were large pockets of our nation that were untouched by the war. That is not the case today. All fifty states have been affected and negatively impacted by the coronavirus, racism, and civil unrest. Our nation is divided. Not since the Civil War have we seen our nation this divided. If one were to spend two hours watching Fox News and then two hours watching CNN, they would see two opposing worldviews – and that is from a secular point of view!

Covid-19 has had a devastating impact upon the church (not just Northgate). Early in the pandemic (March and April 2020) online worship was going well and seemed to be filling the need for our spiritual appetites. However, as the year has progressed and as we have entered the summer, attendance has steadily declined in online viewing and certainly in congregational worship (due to Covid-19 precautions and concerns). Lower church attendance, over time, erodes interest. Even when we can come together, because of social distancing and face masks, fellowship suffers. We are unable to have in person Wednesday services, Sunday School or traditional Summer Vacation Bible School because of Covid-19 concerns and precautions.

Therefore, it is more important than ever that our personal devotional life is healthy and strong. It is important that we remain disciplined to daily Bible reading and having an active prayer life. It is important that we find ways to actively share our faith. It is important that we take advantage of and support our monthly telephone prayer emphases. These monthly prayer emphases are not only beneficial in the obvious time of uninterrupted prayer, but also for purposes of fellowship. They provide an avenue for us to pray with one another on the telephone. Continuing tithes and offerings are also important. Not only do they help us to connect to the fellowship of the church, they provide a concrete means of active faith.

At a time when our nation desperately needs a strong church, the church is weakened by Covid-19. Covid-19 affected our land like a plague and weakened us at our core. Even before the Covid-19 shut-down, regular church attendance by professing American Christians was in decline. We are in desperate need for revival!

So, as I did last month, I urge you to seek personal revival:

2 Chronicles 7:14 – “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

In the New Covenant, **“My people who are called by My name,” is the church.** So, let’s humble ourselves, pray and seek God first. Let’s confess our personal, church, national and international sin to the Lord and repent from our wicked ways. And let’s expect God to hear us and forgive us and heal us. Let’s seek revival and awakening and expect that God will bring it.

Prayerfully yours,

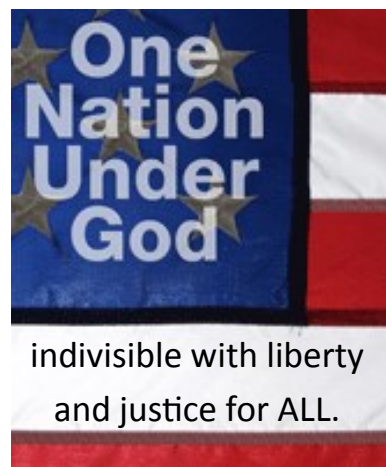
The Gate Post

We now have **ONLINE GIVING!** Just go to our website: www.northgatebaptist.com and click on the tab at the top that says “Online Giving.”

This is a very quick, secure and easy way to give your tithes and offerings during this time we are not gathering on Sunday morning. You may also mail your offering to the church or use bill pay through your bank. Thank you for your continued faithful giving during these times.



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 3 IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY.



Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change

Deacons of the Month

Will Kirby
Steve Todd
Dean Waters

A Message from Barry Agnew, Jr., Minister of Students and Education

Covid-19 is testing Christians in ways they have never been tested before. Truth is being stretched and patience is waning thin. However, the real test for many people is a test of the heart. For many church goers, losing the accountability of regular church attendance has hurt their faith. You see it's easy to ignore God when there is nobody there to see us do it. It seems that it's getting more difficult than ever to faithfully follow Jesus here in the United States.

For many of us this leaves us longing for days gone past. It leaves us reminiscing of days when more people professed to follow Jesus, a day when prayer was still in schools, and a day before the initiation of an intense moral decay in our country. Now imagine for a moment that you had never experienced those olden days. Imagine that you weren't lucky enough to grow up in a time where it was easy to be a professing Christian and most of the influences around you were positive and God fearing. You see this is the experience for today's youth. Today's teens don't have the benefit of growing up in the society that many of us did.

They were really blessed this year to get to go to camp when most other students were not able to, but they are returning to a culture that is mostly unsupportive of their faith in Jesus. So pray for our students. Love our students. Reach out to our students and their families. Many of you are in Christ today because you lived in a day and time where there were faithful followers of Jesus around you that were able to lead you to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Now it's your turn. Be that light shining in the darkness to a young person today. **Let's show the love of Christ to the next generation the same way that the generations before us showed the love of Christ to us!**



A Message from Dennis Page, Worship Leader

The Power of God's Music—"There's Something About That Name." In the early '70's, Bill and Gloria Gaither were pioneers in what we now might call Contemporary Christian music. They wrote songs that were doctrinally sound, while at the same time being wonderfully singable with beautiful melodies. These songs not only touched the singers' heart but enabled the singer to touch the heart of God.

The Gaither's authored a number of great songs, a dozen of which appear in our Baptist Hymnal. Perhaps their song you are most familiar with is "Because he Lives". But that's not the song that's most special to me. That honor goes to "There's Something About That Name."

Let me tell you a story. When our kids were very little, every night when it was the kids' bedtime, Peggy would stand by their crib, and later as they got older, would sit on the bed beside them. She would lovingly stroke them while singing "There's Something About That Name."

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, there's just something about that Name.

Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all heaven and earth proclaim.

Kings and Kingdom's will all pass away, but there's something about that Name.

Our precious children grew up knowing the Lord's love and their mother's love. But as they always do, our children grew up and then had children of their own.

Fast forward to 2012, I started having headaches, weird headaches. They would last only for a moment, but were sharp, stabbing pains that would come out of the blue, and could occur anywhere in my head. I went to doctor after doctor trying to find out what was going on, all to no avail. Then one night, as I'm lying in bed, I hear the whooshing sound of blood pulsing behind my ear. After consulting with more doctors, it was determined I had an Arteriovenous Malformation (an AVM). This is a potentially dangerous condition. The neurosurgeon elected to do arteriogram, where a probe was run up through my groin, and into the brain to make the repair. Sometime after I was released from the physician's care, I started having what are called partial complex seizures. These episodes are not seizures in the traditional sense. No one could look at me, and tell I was having one, but I certainly could. When I was having one, my world became dark and nightmarish. It was difficult to grasp reality.

So, I found myself back in the hospital, having a series of these episodes, fighting for reality. It was in the midst of one of these seizure episodes and my adult son comes over, begins stroking me, and singing those precious words:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, there's just something about that Name.

Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all heaven and earth proclaim.

Kings and Kingdom's will all pass away, but there's something about that Name.

Peace filled my heart, and soothed my body, and I began to see daylight again, and although I would require additional surgery, I knew the worst was over. Talking about this is quite emotional for me, but now, as I think about it, sweetness is no small part of that emotion. Truly, there's something about that name.



Friday and Saturday

July 17 and 18

9am-9pm each day

In Luke 18:1-8, Jesus spoke a parable to His disciples that communicates the power of persistent prayer. Please read this passage: **"Then He spoke a parable to them [His disciples], that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: 'There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'"** **"Then the Lord said, 'Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?'"** Let's be like that persistent widow. Let's pray like our lives depend upon it - because they do.

You can sign up for a spot by calling the church during business hours. As always we encourage EVERYONE to sign up and we are beyond excited about what God is already doing through the prayers of His church at Northgate!

Church Office: 864-242-3805

Email: admin@northgatebaptist.com



We share our sympathies with Marian Huskey on the passing of her sister, Joann Moore. Continue to remember Marian's family in prayer.



OPERATION
CHRISTMAS CHILD

During this time when we are not meeting for Sunday School and should not be shopping for anything but essentials, consider making a \$9 contribution for postage. When we come back together we will begin filling boxes and get them ready to ship. Thank you for your faithful giving each year to Operation Christmas Child.



Northgate's Men's Prayer Breakfast is meeting again every Tuesday morning at 7:30am. This is a special time for sharing the needs of God's people at Northgate and to pray for our nation. **All men are welcome to join us. Social distancing precautions will be followed.**

PRAY FOR OUR



Steve Todd, Chairman

Barry Agnew, Sr.

Robby Bannister

John Folk

Walt Green

Will Hunt

Wayne Jones

Will Kirby

Dean Waters