

Northgate Baptist Church

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 108
Taylors SC

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

O
C
T
O
B
E
R

Northgate is beginning to take baby steps to open up to more services and ministries while being careful to respect one another's health through social distancing and good hygiene. Since last March, when the Covid shutdown began, Northgate has tried to be good stewards of the times. We realize we have a responsibility to provide a place to worship, fellowship and serve that is as safe as possible. While it is impossible to eliminate every possibility of virus exposure, we have earnestly tried to do our best.

One decision we made very early was to make wearing masks at Northgate voluntary. While I stand by that decision, I've also learned that making masks optional places much more importance upon social distancing. We should remain at least six feet apart from one another - especially if we make the decision not to wear a mask. As we return to more services and ministries it is more important than ever to be respectful of one another's decisions regarding the seriousness and the contagiousness of the virus. Just this week, in my little circle of friends and acquaintances, I have received news that five additional friends or friends of friends have tested positive for Covid. Sadly, two have died from the virus.

Personally, I choose to wear a mask when I am around groups of people simply as a measure of courtesy and prevention. I will gladly give up my right (not to wear a mask) for their peace of mind. Further, I do not want to be responsible for inadvertently spreading the virus to someone who can not tolerate it. However, I continue to shop in stores, worship in church and fellowship with family and friends. I am not controlled by fear (2 Timothy 1:7), but I am respectful of others and I respect their convictions concerning the virus. One thing I've learned is that it is a very minor inconvenience for me to wear a mask while at the grocery store or attending church.

One of the sad realities of this pandemic is that it has led to division in churches. Precisely at the time when our nation desperately needs a united church presenting the hope of the gospel, we are divided over the issue of our right as Americans to wear or not wear a mask. This is truly a sad reality. We are placing undo value on a temporal matter possibly at the expense of eternity. Our focus must always be on the gospel first. We seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and trust in Him to provide for our temporal needs. Upon hearing the news of the death of United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Ginsburg, my immediate thought was *not*, "Who will replace her on the court?" My immediate thought was, "She is in eternity. I hope she knew the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior."

God gave guidance long ago through the writing of the Apostle Paul:

*I am not anyone's slave. But I have become a slave to everyone, so that I can win as many people as possible. ²⁰When I am with the Jews, I live like a Jew to win Jews. They are ruled by the Law of Moses, and I am not. But I live by the Law to win them. ²¹And when I am with people who are not ruled by the Law, I forget about the Law to win them. Of course, I never really forget about the law of God. In fact, I am ruled by the law of Christ. ²²When I am with people whose faith is weak, I live as they do to win them. **I do everything I can to win everyone I possibly can.** ²³I do all this for the good news, because I want to share in its blessings. (1 Corinthians 9:19-23, CEV).*

With much love,

The Gate Post

Deacons of the Month

Wil Kirby
Steve Todd
Dean Waters

Drive-thru



October 31 from 4:00-5:30pm

Trunks will be located in the back parking lot of the church. This is family-friendly event open to all ages. If you are interested in helping, please bring candy donations to the church office or place in boxes located in the vestibule.

October is Minister Appreciation Month

Please pray for our Northgate Ministers: Barry, Barry, Jr., Dennis and Teresa Green. Let them know how much you appreciate their ministry in God's church at Northgate.

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. 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.



Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change

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

I always look forward to the fall. I love feeling the weather finally start to cool. I always look forward to the start of college football. I look forward to the start of the school year after a crazy summer of youth ministry. This year however much of this has been thrown on its head. With a summer that has looked VERY different from normal, simple things like the start of the college football season represent a small return toward normalcy. It feels familiar and comfortable. I mean after all, who doesn't like being comfortable?

While many of you are like me and desperately want things to return back to normal I can't help but be reminded that we serve a God that makes a habit of calling us to step out of our comfort zones. The Bible is full of stories of God calling people to do uncomfortable things and people responding by arguing or even running from God. Just ask Moses and Jonah!

The truth is that when we're uncomfortable we better realize our utter dependency on God. We're reminded of the words of Paul when he tells us that "God's power is perfected in our weakness." So here's the tough truth. Sometimes we need God to call us out of our comfort zones. I feel that maybe this very uncomfortable time that many of us are going through is just the kick in the pants that we need as believers. Circumstances mean absolutely nothing for God and His omnipotence. I believe that God is poised to move. I believe that He is poised to move in our nation, in our church here at Northgate, and in our hearts as followers of Jesus. So... are you ready? It's time to step out of our comfort zone, step out on faith, and join the Lord in the work that only He can do.



A Message from Dennis Page, Worship Leader

No blood, no broken bones, not terribly sore! Pretty amazing for a guy, who just Thursday was driving a vehicle, that was struck by another car on Rutherford Rd. and completely flipped (talk about taking a car out for a spin.) My son's SUV was totaled, but I was spared. There is a connection with the incident, and this month's Gate Post article. **Read on.**

Psalms is the book in the Bible most often equated with worship. Similarly, when we think about our practical wisdom and advice. Proverbs is our go-to book. Well, today is your lucky day! I'm going to introduce you to a secret, fun plan that will help you get a handle on both Psalms and Proverbs. Follow it, and it will change your life. It did mine.

Here's my plan: Read one Psalm per day, consecutively for 30 days each month based the date. e.g.: Jan 1st = Psalm 1, Feb. 12th = Psalm 42 (30+ 12), April 10th Psalm 100 (90+10), and so on. On months with 31 days, the 31st is a free day (only 30 Psalms per month, no more, no less). On May 30th you will have read all 150 Psalms. On June 1st begin with Proverbs 1. On July 1st repeat the process and you will read through Psalms and Proverbs twice a year.

Now for the practical application. On Thursday, October 1st we will be reading **Psalm 91**. That Psalm has always been special to me, but even more so, in light of my accident. Here's how it begins:

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the almighty. **2** I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." **3** For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. **4** He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge --- and that's just the beginning! You'll definitely want to hang out in Psalm 91.

The Psalms are life changers, and I urge you to spend time in them. I promise, you'll be blessed. BTW, although I've made Psalm 91 my own Psalm, I'm willing to share. **In Him Who first loved us, Dennis**



Friday and Saturday

October 16-17

9am-9pm each day

This month, our monthly prayer emphasis will be Friday and Saturday, October 16-17 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. both days.

We would all agree that there is great power in prayer. **James 5:16** - "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." Jesus stated that not only is there power in prayer, but when we pray with one another, He is there too. **Matthew 18:19-20** - "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

When we set aside thirty minutes of time in our prayer closets on that Friday and/or Saturday in October for prayer for the Lord's church, not only do we have the privilege of coming before the King of Glory in personal and private prayer, but we also have the blessing of gathering together via the telephone and praying for one another. We have the great honor of coming together with the Lord in worship and fellowship. That is such a sweet, sweet time with the Lord and with one another. **I hope you will make plans to join in October's prayer emphasis.**

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 Carter Ann Nix on the passing of her son, Freddie Jenkins; Joan Taylor on the passing of her aunt, Edith Sumner. Remember these families in prayer.



Women's Missionary Union will meet on Tuesday, October 27 at 10am in the fellowship hall. All women are invited to join us. Social distancing will be observed. See Anne Danciu for more information.

Janie Chapman offering received is \$ 860.



TIME IS CHANGING

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday,

November 1. Be sure to turn your clocks back 1 hour before retiring on October 31.



Congratulations to:

Congratulations to Jonathan and Ashleigh Brooks on the birth of their son, Nash, on September 8. Nash weighed 8.4 lbs. Michael and Shannon Brooks are the proud grandparents.



Women's Bible Study is each Wednesday in the Fidelis classroom at 6:30pm. We will be "Digging Deeper" into Pastor Barry's Sunday sermon. All ladies are welcome and social distancing will be observed. For further information, contact Tina Jimmerson.

Leadership Council Meeting - Tuesday, October 6 @ 6:30pm in the fellowship hall

Church Conference - Wednesday, October 14 @ 6:30pm in the fellowship hall