

# Northgate Baptist Church

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www.northgatebaptist.com

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Northgate  
Seek. God. First.

## Thoughts from our Pastor



We are only two weeks away from two of the greatest dates on the calendar: the beginning of Daylight Saving Time (Sunday, March 12) and the first day of spring (Monday, March 20)!!

I begin looking forward to these two dates every November. Who doesn't like more sunlight and warmer days? We also look forward to spring because it brings life. The death of winter is awakened by the new life of spring! Trees begin to blossom, flowers begin to bloom and that glorious pollen begins to float in the air! For those of you with allergies, spring would not be spring without pollen (be thankful in all things).

Spring means Easter. Easter will be April 9, this year. Please begin to make plans to worship with us at Northgate on Easter and bring a friend. According to several research websites, in 2021, between 30-35% of Americans said they attend worship services every week or nearly every week and an equal percentage of Americans said they never attend worship services. So, about 1/3 of Americans vote with their feet in saying that worship is valuable to them; therefore, simple math tells us that 2/3 of Americans seldom or never gather for corporate worship. Corporate worship has no intrinsic value to them. The inescapable truth is, we behave according to how we believe. If Jesus Christ and His church are important to us, we will find a way to worship Him with other believers. I saw a cartoon the other day that read: "If China can get a balloon to South Carolina, you can get to church!!" If Jesus Christ is important to us, then we will give financially to the work of the Lord through His church, serve the Lord with our time and gather regularly for corporate worship.

Spring also brings thoughts of romance. I read an article recently about hormones. Our bodies produce more melatonin in the winter and less in the spring. Melatonin has a lethargic affect on us that along with cold weather and less sunshine makes us want to sleep winter away. But spring leads our bodies to produce less melatonin and more serotonin. Serotonin along with more sunshine and warmer weather has a romantic effect upon us. Our mood is better and our energy is higher and we tend to be more receptive to new relationships. And like other aspects of God's creation, when we come out of our winter hibernation we are more likely to seek out new relationships. Isn't it interesting that God put Easter right in the middle of that season?

We want to spend time with the ones we love. Jesus Christ loves us and pursues a relationship with us. If we love Jesus, we will want to spend quality time with Him through His Word, in prayer and in worship with other believers. We want to spend time with those whom we love. Christians want to spend time with Christ and if we don't, there is something wrong with our relationship with Him.

If your relationship with Jesus Christ is not as it ought to be, make a commitment to revive your relationship with Christ this Easter season. Or begin one. I can help you with both of those decisions. **Call me. Let's talk.**

Springtime blessings,

*Barry*

# The Gate Post

### Pastoral Staff

Dr. Barry Jimmerson  
(864) 320-9076  
Pastor

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

Mr. Dennis Page  
Worship Leader

Mrs. Beth Todd  
Interim Minister of  
Preschoolers and their Families

Mrs. Tina Jimmerson  
Interim Minister of  
Children and their families

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Deacons of the Month

Josh Capps  
Will Hunt

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change



The Season of Prayer for  
North American Missions  
Board and the Annie  
Armstrong offering will be  
**March 5-12.** The SBC  
National goal for 2023 is  
\$70 Million. Northgate has set a goal of \$2,000.

A prayer guide and offering envelope will be inserted  
in your bulletin on Sunday, March 5. **Pray about  
what the Lord would have you give to missions.**



**TIME IS CHANGING  
SUNDAY, MARCH 12**

**Move clocks forward 1 hour  
on Saturday evening**



**S.T.A.N.D.**

**YOUTH** Youth Worship Night will be  
March 19 from 4:30-7:00pm.  
Worship Service There will be games, giveaways,  
live worship and much more!  
Students are encouraged to invite friends.  
Contact Barry Agnew, Jr. for further information.



Lauren Lessig is expecting a baby boy! We will have a  
drop-in baby shower for her on Sunday, March 26  
from 2-3:30pm in the fellowship hall. Lauren is  
registered at Amazon and Buy Buy Baby. Gift cards  
are welcomed.

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

I'm not sure what it is but as we get older it feels like our lives just shift into fast forward. Time just feels like it speeds up. In student ministry it's amazing seeing students who it feels like were in middle school just yesterday. Now they are graduating from college, getting married, and even having children. This is only exaggerated in the short term.

As we roll through March, spring is almost here. For the church this brings a lot of different events and activities but it also means that summer is just a few short months away! As we move into the month of June, our Boston mission team is going to be boarding a plane and heading to the Bunker Hill community to do outreach and evangelism in one of the more lost cities in the United States. Less than two weeks after coming back home our youth ministry will be hopping on buses to head to summer camp for a week at Camp Snowbird in Andrews, North Carolina. Two weeks after we get back the children are loading up on the same buses to head to children's camp. Then as soon as they get back we will be kicking off our 2023 Vacation Bible School!

As we count the days leading up to the summer, pray for all of the planning and preparation that goes into these ministries and events, and don't forget to pray for everything leading up to the summer. Just this month, our youth ministry is hosting a group from our summer camp who are bringing a band and a speaker to lead our March STAND Worship Night. In all of this busyness it's easy to lose sight of our need for God to move. Pray for our church. Pray for ministries and mission of Northgate. Pray and ask God if He would call you to give financially to support these summer activities. **I personally want to thank you all for all you do, have done, and continue to do to support God's ministries through His church at Northgate and I for one can't wait to see what He has in store as we continue to move into 2023!**



## A Message from Dennis Page, Worship Leader

### The Big Little Word

Several years ago, I had the privilege of attending Moody Bible Institute. Early in the semester our theology professor, Dr. Dickenson, came to the blackboard and without saying a word, drew a horizontal line near the top of the blackboard, and labeled it "GOD." He then drew a horizontal line toward the bottom and labeled it "MAN." He then drew several vertical, pointed arrows from the bottom line toward the top line. He then spoke, saying that many people spend their whole their lives trying to reach all the way up to God. He then drew some shorter vertical lines up from the bottom to midway on the board, and then some lines from the top down to the board's midpoint, saying that many people who felt like they couldn't get all the way to the GOD, still felt that they could at least reach upwards, and God would somehow meet them halfway. Then without a word Dr. Dickenson erased all the vertical lines and said, "Understand this!" He then took his chalk and drew downward pointing arrows starting at the top "GOD" line, going all the way down to MAN.

Christianity sets itself apart from all the other world's religions in that the Bible teaches there's no way a person can be good enough or religious enough to meet God's standards. There's no work we can "do", including getting baptized or even taking communion, that can get us to God. You're probably thinking, "Let me get this straight, you say God has come all the way down to man, and yet you're saying I can't get to God, I don't get it!"

Well, I've got some great news! One tiny word solves the whole dilemma. **That word is "LET."** The old hymn "Let Jesus Come Into Your Heart" states it quite well. Here's the chorus: "Just now, your doubting's give o'er; Just now reject Him no more; Just now, throw open the door; Let Jesus come into your heart." For me, it was in my 9<sup>th</sup> floor dormitory room at Clemson when I heard Him knocking and I let Him in. It changed me forever. **"Let", what a big little word!**



## Friday and Saturday

March 17 & 18

9am-9pm each day

This month, our monthly prayer emphasis will be **Friday and Saturday, March 17 & 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. both days.**

I hope you will make plans to join in the March prayer vigil. You can sign up for a spot by calling the church office 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**



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is **Saturday, April 1, 2023.** The time to be determined. Begin to invite your friends and anyone in the community. Please consider donating soft, individually wrapped candy to the donation boxes to be set up at each door. **Thank you for your supporting our preschool department!**



**Tina Jimmerson**  
*Interim Minister of Children and their families*

**Things are picking up in our children's ministry!** The children will be singing in the worship service on **Sunday, March 12.** Come and support our children.

**Kids Salt Kids Camp for grades 3-5 is scheduled for July 17-20 in Charleston.** The cost is \$199/child. **A deposit of \$50 is due March 15.** If you would like to sponsor a child, please see Brenda Whitaker in the church office.

**Preschool and Children's Sunday will be May 7.** We will be practicing for this program on Sundays at 10:30am in the kid's are followed by kid's worship.

**VBS—Lifeway's "Twist & Turns" is coming July 23-27!** Mark your calendar and be ready to serve. We want to reach 100 kids this summer!! If you have not ordered your VBS shirt, you can order online at [vbs.lifeway.com](http://vbs.lifeway.com).

**Thank you for investing in our kids!!!**



## March Joy Club

**Our March Joy Club is Monday, March 20.** Our special guest will be Dave Dupree. Dave is the worship leader at Washing Baptist Church in Greer and he speaks to senior groups.

The meal is \$8/person. Remember, if you have a reservation and do not come, you must pay for your meal.

Contact Judy Rothfuss at 864-483-0709 by **March 15** for a reservation.



**Men's 6 week Bible study begins on Sunday, March 5 at 4:00pm in the fellowship hall.** We will be studying

"The Mancode: Unlocking Life's Most Important Relationships" by Dennis Swanberg. March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 16 will be the remaining Sundays. **All men are invited.**



**Beginning Wednesday, March 1, at 6:30pm in the sanctuary, we will begin a new seven-week video series led by**

**Dr. Danny Akin, entitled, "The Bible Speaks."** The study is about the amazing doctrines of the Christian faith. Each session will be about 30 minutes in

length. We will follow each session with a time of intercessory prayer.



**We are beginning to collect for 2023 Operation Christmas Child.**

In the month of March, we are collecting ivory soap and wash cloths. There is a collection box in the Sunday School hallway. If you are unable to shop, we will do it for you. See Linda Smith for details.



**We share our sympathies** with Laverne Walls on the passing of her 96 year old sister, Mary Evelyn Herrin. Continue to pray for Laverne and her family.