

# Northgate Baptist Church

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

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# Northgate

Seek. God. First.

Sunday, December 17  
the Celebration Choir  
will present  
"Noel"  
Born is the King!



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**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

Deacons of the Month  
Josh Capps  
David McClure  
Joel Warren

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change



**NORTHGATE PACKED  
115 BOXES FOR**

Operation Christmas Child this year! Thank you to everyone for the donations throughout the year and monetary gifts to help with postage. You will make a child very happy this Christmas because you gave!

## PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday, December 13

On December 13, the Preschool and Children's departments will have their Christmas Party in the fellowship hall at 6:30pm.



The church office will be closed for Christmas on December 25 and 26. The entire staff wishes each one a blessed and joyous Christmas as we celebrate of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

NO Wednesday services or activities will be held on December 27.

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2024 for the New Year. We wish you all a wonderful 2024.



Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
will be held at 5:00pm  
Come for this special service and bring your family and friends.



# The Gate Post

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

Earlier this year the Office of the Surgeon General released an official report on the link between social media usage and mental health issues in teenagers. In the report we see that teenagers who spend at least 3 hours a day on social media face double the risk of poor mental health outcomes, including symptoms of anxiety and depression. Now you may think, "So what?" How many people actually spend that much time on social media anyway? Well, the unfortunate reality is that the data shows us that the average teenager spends more than 3 hours a day on social media. The truth is that since 2012 teen depression has skyrocketed along with the popularization of the smartphone.

Along with the rise in mental health issues comes a litany of more direct dangers. For instance, studies show that 20% of children report that they have been contacted by an online predator at some point and over 80% of child sex crimes arise from social media. So why do I mention all of this? Well, naturally as followers of Christ these facts and statistics should alarm us. It's imperative then that we are doing everything in our power to protect our children and teens from this modern, digital assault on their mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical well being.

In an effort to address this challenge head on, we are going to be holding a class on Sunday, January 7th on Internet and Social Media Safety for Kids and Teens. This will be a class for parents, grandparents, and absolutely anyone else who wants to be informed on the digital challenges the next generation is facing and even more specifically what we can do to help. This class will go over loads of information and will give plenty of resources and tools to help us as adults to better protect our children, youth, and even ourselves. If you have any questions about the class or about this topic in general I would love to speak to you. **Our desire is that we lead this next generation to be faithful followers of Christ in all aspects of life and I am prepared and excited to take on this extremely important topic here at Northgate.**

## Thoughts from our Pastor

The essence of Christmas is giving. We have the gift of abundant and eternal life because we have the gift of Easter and we have the gift of Easter because we first had the gift of Christmas – the gift of the incarnation of God!



*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1, 14, NKJV).*

We give because God gave! We have an opportunity to give to reach the ends of the earth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the ministries of Southern Baptist Missionaries of the International Mission Board by supporting them through the Week of Prayer for International Missions and through financial gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The eight day prayer guide will be in the bulletin on December 3. The national financial goal this year for the LMCO is \$200 million. Northgate's goal is \$4,000.00. Every penny received goes to support missionaries on the international mission field.

We also have a need in our immediate community that we can meet.

Summit Drive Elementary School's "Eagles Nest" (collection of new clothes for children in need) is in need of contributions. Only new items will be received. To help supply the Eagles Nest, please follow the link below to purchase items from Amazon. Have them shipped directly to Summit Drive and indicate that the gift is from Northgate.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/30K16ZYTHU9KX?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/30K16ZYTHU9KX?ref=wl_share)

Thank you for giving to meet needs to the ends of the earth as well as in our own Summit Drive Community. Let's be generous!!

Merry Christmas!



Friday and Saturday  
December 15 & 16  
9am-9pm each day

This month, our monthly prayer emphasis will be **Friday and Saturday, December 15 & 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. both days.**

I hope you will make plans to join in the December 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](mailto:admin@northgatebaptist.com)



Tina Jimmerson  
Interim Minister of Children

AWANA will not meet again until January 3, 2024

**Merry Christmas!** I would like to thank all of the volunteers that help in the children's area throughout the year. Thank you for loving these precious little ones and helping them along their faith journey.

Wednesday, December 13, at 6:30, we will have a Christmas party for preschool and children in the fellowship hall.

This month (Sundays and Wednesdays) the kids will be learning some Christmas songs to sing on Sunday, December 17. There will be NO Wednesday night activities for children on December 20 and 27.

Have a blessed Christmas!

**KIDSALT CAMP IS July 15-18, 2024**

at Charleston Southern University (grades 3-5)

The cost is \$150. A \$50 deposit is due by February 18, 2024. Contact Tina Jimmerson.

**Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is December 3—December 10, 2023. Northgate's goal is \$4,000. On December 3 a prayer guide and envelope will be in your bulletin. You may also give in memory or in honor of someone on the sheet that will be inserted in your bulletin.**

**Joy Club— December 18**



*Joyful Harps will be our December guests. NO Joy Club in January. We will return February 19. We hope you will invite others to come to Joy Club. We enjoy wonderful food, special guests, and great fellowship.*

*The meal is \$8/person. Remember, if you have a reservation and do not come, you must pay for your meal. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!*



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

**Youth Worship Night will be December 17 from 5:00-7:00pm.**

There will be games, giveaways, Worship Service live worship and much more! Students are encouraged to invite friends.



**Nick & Laurel Shaler are expecting a baby girl!** We will have a drop-in baby shower for them on **Sunday, December 10 from 2-3:30pm** in the fellowship hall. They are registered at Babylist.com. Gift cards are welcomed.



Summit Drive Elementary has announced that the Eagles Nest (collection of new clothes for children in need) is in need of contributions.

To help Eagles Nest, please follow the link below to purchase items. Have them sent directly to Summit Drive and indicate that the gift is from Northgate. Thank you for helping children in need!

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