

# Northgate Baptist Church

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Greenville, SC 29609  
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# Northgate

Seek. God. First.

## Thoughts from our Pastor

Did you know that January 2, is National Motivation and Inspiration Day and January 4, is National "Can Do" Day? The beginning of a new year is a GREAT time for those kind of special recognition days. So, who chooses these special days, weeks and months recognizing this or that? You guessed it. Marketing professionals! At their core, marketers are motivators. Have you ever walked into a grocery store to purchase one item and left with twelve? That's the power of marketing.



Did you know that marketing has its roots in the Bible? Jesus is the greatest marketer in history. His campaign is captured in a nutshell in Matthew 4:23-25.

*And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. <sup>24</sup>Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. <sup>25</sup>Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan." (NKJV).*

Marketing is often taught as the four "P's": Product, Place, Price and Promotion. All four of these are found in the above passage. The product is the Gospel. The place is everywhere. The price is free. The promotion is going and telling. So, let's look at this more carefully. Jesus WENT ABOUT all Galilee, TEACHING in their synagogues, PREACHING the Gospel and healing all kinds of sickness and disease among the people. Three of the four "P's" are in verse 23 - product (Gospel), place (all Galilee) and promotion (going). We find the 4<sup>th</sup> "P," price, in verse 24 - "And He healed them." Free. No charge.

Once a product gets a foothold in a market it begins to "sell itself" and the market grows. That's what we see in verse 25 - "Great multitudes followed Him - from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan."

This passage comes at the beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry. Remember how He ended His earthly ministry? Jesus passed His Gospel strategy to His disciples:

*And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen." (Matthew 28:18-20, NKJV).*

In 2024, let's be marketers of the cure for an eternally terminal disease called sin. The product is the Gospel (its cure rate is 100%), the place is the world, the promotion is our going and teaching and the price is still free. God commanded us join Him in His mission to change the world one life at a time. Can I tell you how He changed mine?

Happy New Year!

# 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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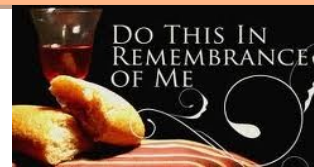
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### Deacons of the Month

Jake Andrews  
Lewis Barker  
Scott Ferguson

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change



The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper will be Sunday, January 28.

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 Kids Worship on January 28.



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!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS will start back on January 3.

Sign up or cancel by calling the church office by noon on Tuesday. Suppers are every Wednesday from 5:30-6:15pm

If you sign up and don't come or call to cancel, you will owe for the meal. You can sign-up to be on a standing list or you may sign up weekly by calling the church office by noon each Tuesday. The menu for January is January 3—Chick-fil-A; January 10—Subs; January 17—Assorted sandwiches; January 24—Hotdogs



The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2024. Wishing each one of you a blessed and Happy 2024!

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

In 2007, the critically acclaimed movie "Into The Wild" was released. The movie, which is based on a true story, tells the tale of 22 year old Chris McCannless who decided to give up life in civilization to move out into the Alaskan wilderness and live off of the land all alone in isolation. McCannless was convinced that a life alone, connected with nature would bring him the fulfillment that he had been seeking in life. Sadly, it was only a matter of months before his body was found in an abandoned bus where he had been living far out into the wilderness. Beside his body laid his journals which chronicled his time living off of the grid. During the months leading up to his death he had experienced a change in philosophy. He learned that isolating himself didn't bring him the joy that he thought it would. In fact, he came to the opposite conclusion, that people actually need to be in relationships with other people to find true happiness.

Sadly, McCannless had to pay the ultimate price to learn a lesson that we, as followers of Christ, learn from the very beginning of the Bible. In Genesis 2:18 God looks at Adam and says that "it is not good for the man to be alone" and promptly creates Eve to be with him as a companion. God understands from the very beginning that we as humans were made for a relationship with Him and with other people.

This is why, as the church, it is important to take fellowship seriously. We take it seriously because we were made for it. Coming up on Saturday, February 3rd, we are going to be having our first annual preschool parents night out from 5:00-7:00pm. This will be a time for parents to drop off their preschoolers, go out to eat together, and just enjoy a time of Biblical fellowship together. In a world where people feel more and more isolated and lonely every day, it's more important than ever that we are intentional about loving each other through strong Biblical relationships. **Thank you to everyone at Northgate that continues to build intentional relationship for the sake of the gospel!**



## A Message from Dennis Page, Worship Leader

Getting beyond the cradle "Joy to the World Gatepost" Joy Psalm 98 and 148

Since Christmas can still be seen in our rear-view mirrors, I'd like to tell you some interesting facts about one of our favorite Christmas carols, "Joy to the World". Since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century "Joy to the World" has been the most published Christmas carol in North America. It may come as a surprise that it wasn't written as a Christmas song.

The lyrics to "Joy to the World" were written during the early 1700's by English minister, and hymnist Isaac Watts. During that period the British, and Scottish hymnwriters, were writing hymns that paraphrased various Psalms. The writers, however, disassociated Jesus as being closely connected to the Psalms. However, as Watts studied the Psalms, he saw evidence of Jesus everywhere.

In 1719, Watts published a unique hymnal, one in which he translated, interpreted and paraphrased the Old Testament Psalms through the eyes of the New Testament faith. This was quite a departure from the prevailing church traditions and was considered near heretical by many. He entitled his hymnal "The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament. In doing so, it is said that he invented the English hymn.

Isaac Watts' great song, "Joy to the World" is his paraphrase of Psalm 98. As you read the verses below, do so as the author intended, giving glory and honor to Jesus, the Reigning Savior and King. Joy to the World is not a mere Christmas song, it is a song that shares the awesome truths we should carry in our hearts every day of the year.

*Joy to the world the Lord has come, let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing!*

*Joy to the earth the Savior reigns, let men their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy!*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground. He comes to make His blessings flow, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love!*

Dennis Page



Friday and Saturday

January 19 & 20

9am-9pm each day

This month, our monthly prayer emphasis will be **Friday and Saturday, January 20 & 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. both days.**

I hope you will make plans to join in the January 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

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Caring for Caregiver:  
A Dementia Education Series  
led by Dr. Katharine Few  
2-5pm in the fellowship hall



Tina Jimmerson  
Interim Minister of Children

**AWANA** Every Wednesday from 6:15 – 7:30pm for ages 2 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We will start back on 1/3/24 and have our end of the year celebration 4/26/24. Come join the fun.

**Family Sunday School Hour is 1/21/2024** – Families of preschoolers and children will meet in the Fellowship Hall with their kids at 9:30 to study the Bible lesson together.

**Thank you for investing in the Children's Ministries at Northgate Baptist Church.**

**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.

Leadership Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30pm  
Church Conference will be held on Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30pm

## Joy Club



**Joy Club will not meet in January but will return February 19.**

Meals are \$8/person. Remember, if you have a reservation and no not come, you must pay for your meal. Sign up in your Sunday School class or call the church office by. We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

## Internet and Social Media Safety and Discipleship

Join us on Sunday, January 7th from 4-5pm for a class on **Internet and Social Media Safety and Discipleship**. We will learn how we can respond to online challenges facing children and teens in today's world. RSVP with Barry Agnew Jr. if you are able to attend.

## In Support of Israel and our neighbors at Congregation Beth Israel

In light of the attacks perpetrated upon Israel on October 7, we sent a letter of support to Rabbi Sharon Cohen and the Beth Israel congregation assuring them that we stand firmly with Israel, with them and all forms of antisemitism. In a thank you card, Rabbi Cohen expressed their appreciation for our continued prayers and support. Please continue to pray for Israel and our Jewish friends.

**We share our sympathies** with Tina Jimmerson on the passing of her father, Ken Miller (widow, Jackie); Dennis Page and family on the passing of his sister-in-law, Roz Page. Please keep these families in your prayers.

**Thank You notes have been received from:**

**Joan Hall and Family**