

Northgate Baptist Church

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

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Thoughts from our Pastor

April showers bring May flowers and Mayflowers bring Pilgrims!! I think only one Mayflower brought Pilgrims, but many April showers have brought abundant May flowers! Who doesn't love May? As the days grow longer and sunshine is more abundant, May is a reminder that we go through seasons in life. Some seasons are sunny and warm and some are cold and damp. God has a purpose for every season and we are always part of God's plan. The difference is while some of us are living in January others are enjoying June! That's why it is always important for us to be biblical with our words and actions. That's why we need to remember that regardless of the season of life, Christians never have to worry.

It is important that we are careful to remember that we are stewards of the Gospel of Jesus and God's will is for us to allow Him to produce fruit of the Spirit through us. **Remember the fruit of the Spirit? Galatians 5:22-23 – "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."** The problem we have is that fruit of the Spirit is not natural human behavior. No, our default is the fruit of the flesh. Paul wrote about that fruit too in Galatians 5:19-21.

We can't even hope to be used by God to produce fruit of the Spirit until and unless we are part of the Kingdom of God. Until we first surrender our lives to Jesus Christ. Until then, we can only produce the fruit of the flesh. That is not to say that unbelievers can't be good moral people, it is simply that we cannot hope to be complete and have the assurance of eternal life in Heaven and be in the will of God until we are born again through a faith relationship with Jesus Christ. Ultimately, it is not morality that gets a soul to Heaven, it is the blood of Christ. Jesus said it best. **John 3:7 – "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'" John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."**

Our greatest opportunity of the year to win souls for Christ is Vacation Bible School. This year, Northgate's VBS is June 8-12 from 6:00 until 8:30. We do it because it is worth it. Not only does VBS bring souls to Christ, it brings us together.

Just as April showers bring May flowers, May prayers bring June disciples! Please pray for Northgate and her community. **Join our children in memorizing this year's VBS verse: Psalm 34:3 – "Oh, magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt His name together."** Discover the bigness of God in the smallest of things! Things like love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Things like a kind word to everyone we meet.

The key point of day five of this year's VBS is: "I don't have to worry because God keeps His promises!" Let's embrace that wonderful truth!

Blessings in Christ,

Barry

The Gate Post

Pastoral Staff

Dr. Barry Jimmerson
(864) 320-9076
Pastor

Rev. Matthew Winters
Assistant Pastor and
Worship Leader

Mrs. Beth Todd
Minister of Preschoolers
and their Families

Mrs. Tina Jimmerson
Minister of Children

M A Y

Deacons of the Month

Gene Grant
Mike Shaw
Dean Waters



The church office will be closed on
Monday, May 26 in observance of
Memorial Day.

Worship and Prayer Service will be held
Sunday, May 4 from 5:00-6:00pm in the
sanctuary. Come join us for this
special service.



The Ordinance of the
Lord's Supper will be
Sunday, May 4.

There will be no Kids Worship on May 4.

Worship and Prayer service Sunday, May 4
in the sanctuary from 5:00-6:00pm.



We share our sympathies with
Will Kirby on the passing of his
brother, Carroll. Pray for Will and his
family.



"MAGNIFIED" VBS AT NORTHGATE WILL BE JUNE 8-12, 2025
from 6:00-8:30pm



MATTHEW WINTERS, ASSISTANT PASTOR AND WORSHIP LEADER

We are definitely in a day when Christianity is a spectator sport. The saying has been for years that 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work. This version of Christianity isn't the kind to which Jesus called His disciples, and it's not the kind to which He calls you and me.

In Luke 5, Jesus encounters a group of fishermen, among whom is Simon Peter. You know, the guy who was always sticking his foot in his mouth, the guy who denied Jesus three times before His crucifixion, yet the same guy who was restored and mightily used in the book of Acts to preach and see thousands saved.

After they spent all night fishing, doing what professional fishermen do yet seeing no results, Jesus issues Simon Peter a challenge - "Launch out into the deep!" I want to highlight five significant things about launching out into the deep.

First, it demands we change our method. We get comfortable doing the same old thing. I get it! We are creatures of habit. Doing the same old things and expecting different results is insanity. The culture is changing, the gospel isn't, but we need to meet people where they are while still remaining true to the truth of Scripture. It's doable!

Second, it requires us getting help. When the fishermen changed their method at Jesus' command, they caught so many fish that the net broke. They needed help. When what we are doing isn't working, we must put our pride aside and get the help we need.

Third, launching out will take us deeper in our experience of Jesus. In other words, we grow. If salvation hasn't changed us, we aren't saved. Simon Peter recognized his sin in this early encounter with Jesus and was continually changed.

Fourth, launching out calls us to reach as many as possible with the gospel. God will give us the power!

Finally, launching out calls us to a life of surrender. Many professing Christians simply want to repeat a prayer and have fire insurance. Jesus' call to discipleship is for us to deny ourselves, take up the cross daily, and follow Him. Anything less dishonors God!

Northgate, God is calling us to launch out. Hanging out by the shore won't cut it. No church grows by hanging out in the comfort zone. Let's go where the fish are and watch God honor His Word!

PICKLEBALL AT NORTHGATE!



Sundays 4:00-6:00pm Northgate and Friends

Thursdays 5:30-7:30pm Community Pickleball—Open Gym—Northgate members welcome

Saturdays Pickleball Saturday Clinics will end on May 17.

Visit www.upstatepickleballclinics.com to register



WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Supper is served at 5:15pm. You must call the church office to sign up by Monday at noon to be added or to cancel for that week. \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

May menus:

May 7—Italian baked chicken, creamed corn, broccoli casserole, peach cobbler, rolls and tea.

May 14—Hotdogs, slaw, chips, strawberry shortcake and tea.

May 21—Chicken salad, macaroni salad, slaw, baked apples, rolls and tea

May 21—LAST WEDNESDAY SUPPER
UNTIL FALL



VBS

June 8-12 from

6:00-8:30pm—Please pray for VBS!

AWANA



The year end

celebration will Wednesday, May 7th at
6:30pm in the sanctuary.



On Sunday, May 11 we honor our mothers. Again this year, Northgate will make a donation to Shepherd's Gate in honor of all of our mothers.

NO kids worship on May 11.

May 19 Joy Club



Joy Club will meet Monday, May 19 at 10:45am in the fellowship hall. Our special guest will be Jerry Steppe. The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, May 13. Call the church office to sign up if you are not on the standing list.

This will be our last Joy Club until August.

A Heartfelt message from our Children's Minister

It has been my great joy to serve as your Children's Minister for the last five years. I have enjoyed getting to know these wonderful, bright and talented kids and their families. I have learned so much from them. I hope I have been faithful in sharing the love of God and His forgiveness with them. I will continue to pray for their salvation and spiritual growth. My last day serving in this position will be May 31, 2025.



We are collecting items for 2024 Operation Christmas Child. In the month of May we are collecting school supplies. There is a collection box in the Sunday School hallway. You may also

donate to help pay the postage for the boxes. Pick up a box or two in the vestibule or at the bottom of the stairs near the elevator.



Church Family Picnic

Wednesday,
May 28 @ 5:00pm

Family Hamburger Supper
at Holmes Park

EVERYONE IS INVITED

The cost is \$8 for adults and
\$3 for children under age 12.

Make reservations by signing up in your Sunday School class or by calling the church office no later than 5pm on Wednesday, May 21. NO services or activities at the church on May 28.