

# Northgate Baptist Church

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

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Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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## 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

**Brandy Ager**  
Children's Coordinator

# Northgate

Seek. God. First.

As many of you know, on June 15, I announced my retirement from full time gospel ministry effective July 31, 2025. Tina and I did not come to this conclusion without fasting and much prayer; but we know without a doubt that this is God's call on our lives.



It has been the blessing of our lives to have had the privilege to serve the Lord as a full time pastor and pastor's wife for thirty years. And here at Northgate for the last eighteen of those years. The greatest blessing in life for anyone is to be called to salvation – to be born again by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Especially at a time when the world is racing toward its culmination. To be called of God to be a pastor for such a time as this is such an incredible blessing. There simply are no words to adequately describe that honor.

As I stated, my effective date of retirement is July 31, but I have unused vacation days which I will take in July; therefore, my last Sunday at Northgate will be July 13, 2025. I will be your pastor and will be happy to minister to you as I am able July 14-31 as my schedule allows and more importantly upon your request. I will not be your pastor after July 31, 2025. Should you desire my pastoral services in the future, please be respectful of the Lord, His church at Northgate, her interim pastor and her next pastor. Please direct your calls to the church office. I will serve under your next pastor's authority and only at his request. Tina and I are praying now for your next pastor. Please pray for him and for his family. He will need many things, but none more important than your prayers.

As I prepare to exit full time ministry, Northgate is entering an exciting time of revitalization. Revitalization requires much patience, but more importantly a renewal of personal devotion to the Lord Jesus, His church and especially an intimate and deep relationship with the Lord. Now is the time to fall in love with the reading and study of the Word of God, fervent prayer, fasting, simplicity, solitude, service, generosity, evangelism and joyful worship. In short, now is the time to make a renewed effort to abide in Christ. Remember these words of Jesus in **John 15:5** - "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." John 15:1-11 is about discipleship and ultimately discipleship solves every problem in the church.

Tina and I love you more than words can express. We are so thankful that we have had the opportunity to serve the Lord through His church at Northgate these past eighteen years. Thank you for the way you have loved us and our family. We have many wonderful memories of our time at Northgate and we are excited and encouraged about her future.

We look forward to our remaining time with you.

Sincerely yours in Jesus Christ,

## The Gate Post

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Deacons of the Month

Barry Agnew, Sr.

Steve Todd

Joel Warren

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change



*The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper will be Sunday, July 13.*

*There will be no Kids Worship on July 13.*

*A Retirement Celebration for Pastor Barry and Tina will follow in the fellowship hall.*

**RETIREMENT RECEPTION** Northgate wants to express our deepest appreciation to Dr. Barry Jimmerson and his wife, Tina, for 18 years of service to our Lord here at Northgate as Pastor. Pastor Barry's last Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, July 13th. Following the service that morning, we will have a reception in the fellowship hall honoring their years of ministry and faithful service. Pastor Barry will be available for emergencies through July 31.

A love offering will be received through Sunday, July 27th. We are also encouraging gifts of appreciation to Tina for her years of service as our Minister to Children. Please plan to join us Sunday, July 13 as we wish them God's best in his retirement.



**MATTHEW WINTERS, ASSISTANT PASTOR AND  
WORSHIP LEADER**

What next? I think this is the question of many of us right now. Pastor Barry has shepherded this church for 18 years, and he has announced his retirement. What does a church do in a time like this? After serving three other churches during a time of pastoral transition, I can tell of some things people do that cause more harm than good. We need to choose to do the right things during this time of transition.

Let's talk about the wrong things for a minute. Panic would be a foolish thing to do right now. "Let's hurry up and do \_\_\_\_" is often a response in panic mode. Some let emotions run rampant during a time like this. Those emotions often include fear, anger, sadness, frustration, resentment, and the list goes on. Others jump in with their opinions. Those opinions range from reflections on the past, trying to relive the past, suggesting we do what some other church did, or just venting. I have never seen any of these things contribute positively in a time like this or ever for that matter.

Now let's talk about what we should do. The first thing is to pray. We are good at asking God for things. The default response right now is to ask God for another pastor and send him quickly. Instead, we should ask God what He wants for His church. Then we should stop and listen. Once God has made it clear, we should obey.

The next thing we should do is love. When Jesus was asked about the Great Commandment, He made it simple - Love God, Love People! We need to worship together and fellowship together. Love and unity will strengthen the bond God wants for His church. The enemy loves a divided people. I recommend we make the devil mad and love each other more than ever.

My final recommendation in this article would be for us to say the right things during this time of transition. Spewing out negativity is easy. It takes no effort. Let's speak encouraging words. Let's speak words of faith, rooted in God's promises. Let's brag on God's faithfulness over nearly 75 years of ministry. Let's brag on the God who saved our wretched souls from an eternity in hell, cancelled our sin debt, and made us His children.

This season of transition can be horrible or it can be beneficial. I've seen God do miracles during these seasons. Will we stand in the way through bad attitudes and disobedience, or will we choose to be conduits through which God's love flows? God has a plan, and He is not caught by surprise. He has a purpose, and He wants to accomplish that through obedient vessels like you and me. This is an opportunity for God's glory to shine. Let's not miss it!

**Leadership Council will meet in the fellowship hall on Tuesday, July 8 at 6:30pm  
Church Conference will be held in the sanctuary on Wednesday, August 6 at 6:30pm**



Dear Parents and Families,

We hope you're enjoying a wonderful summer so far! We wanted to let you know that Kids Worship will be taking a break during the summer. During this time, our team will be prayerfully preparing and planning for an exciting re-launch coming in mid-August!

As we step into this season of preparation, we would love for you to pray with us – for fresh vision, energy, and creativity as we gear up to pour into your amazing kids in new and meaningful ways.

Also, if you feel called to be a part of what God is doing through Kids Worship, we'd love to have you on the team! Whether you love teaching, leading kids in praise, recreation, or simply being a friendly face, there's a place for you.

If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, please reach out to Brandy Ager – we'd be thrilled to get you connected.

We're so excited for what's ahead and can't wait to welcome your children back in August for a fresh season of worship, fun, and faith-building!

With joy and anticipation, Brandy Ager



**REVITALIZATION MEETING**

**Tuesday, July 1 at 6:30pm**

**in the fellowship hall.**

**All church member are invited and encouraged to attend.**



**Anna Jean Shaler**

406 Sugar Mill Rd., Greer, SC 29650

**Anna Jean will be baptized on July 6.**

**PICKLEBALL AT  
NORTHGATE!**



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

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



**BASKETBALL**

The gym is open every  
**OPEN GYM** Tuesday evening for  
basketball from 7-9pm for men ages 13  
and up.



**We share our sympathies** with  
the family of Nancy Stephens on her  
passing. Keep Nancy's family in your  
prayers.



**Wednesday Nights in the summer**

July 2 **NO services or activities**

July 9 **Hotdog and Game night**

July 16 **Movie Night**

July 23 **Greenville Drive Game**

July 30 **Community Outreach Night**

**These activities are for everyone. More information will be communicated as it becomes available.**