



March 31, 2019

Volume 16, Number 13

Good morning, Northside Family! Welcome to worship this morning!

This week, we had some friends in our church family that had unusually challenging surgeries. **Edith Swaim** had successful surgery to repair a mitral valve and is doing better than she has in some time. **Caleb Lambert** generously donated a kidney to his lifelong friend Justin Powell (see the family news bulletin board for an article that appeared in last Sunday's *Saline Courier*). And **Shelly Thompson** had a benign spinal tumor removed. All three are home, recovering, and doing great!

Shelly's words following her release are so inspiring: *"It's benign! But it was the kind of tumor that turns malignant the longer it's in there. The surgeon said, and I quote, 'It's close to a miracle it hasn't turned malignant as long as it's been in there (probably ten years) and even still a miracle that it did not destroy the entire nerve.' I'm so blessed and happy...God's not done with me yet! I've got some noise to make for His Kingdom! Tell the world! I know I'm going to!"*

Isn't that awesome, a testimony to God's goodness and Shelly's faith?

This morning, we continue Mark's good news story of Jesus with a shift in emphasis from the Kingdom of God (Mark 4.1-34) to the miracles of Jesus (Mark 4.35-8.26, with the exception of 6.17-29 and 7.1-23). The God who moved in the ministry of Jesus 2,000+ years ago still moves today! Keep praying and keep believing God not only can, but will!

Last Sunday, **Trina Williams** asked for our prayerful support and encouragement. In a message to the church family, Trina shared her heart: *"Dear family, I am asking for your prayers this morning. My guilt has been overwhelming me with a few mistakes I have made. My guilt has gotten me to the point of believing Satan's lies that I am unloved, alone, shameful, pitiful. I messed up and have been beating myself up daily, sinking deeper in despair. Where do I belong in this world? Why me? Why can't I ask for help? Satan got me believing I can do this all by myself, that I don't need help, that everything will be fine if I just stay to myself. I lost my footing in life. I lost myself in guilt, shame and feeling unloved. When I allowed myself to believe this, I made more mistakes.*

But I am blessed with such a beautiful group of friends here at Northside. I am blessed with such a beautiful family. I am blessed with Christ. I am blessed. I am not alone.

My prayer is that I can forgive myself. Not sure how to do that, but I want to learn how because I am forgiven, a child of God, a price was paid for me. Please pray that I can be back in His Word daily, talk to God minute-by-minute, hour-by-hour, and start believing again that I am not alone. This is my crossroad and I believe in Christ."

Let's all commit to pray for Trina every day and encourage her with the love of the Lord.

Finally, last Sunday in the children's sermon notes, I asked the kiddos if they have ever planted a seed (s) in the ground and if so, what did they plant? Look at what all our green thumb children have planted: acorns, basil, cabbage, carrots, corn, cucumbers, flowers, ivy, okra, peppers, radish, rose, tomatoes, and watermelon.

I Love You all, Jim

Shepherd's Note

It's so easy to become distracted from our purpose in today's world. In this age of instant information and constant communication, do we find that a beep, buzz, gong, or tune from a smartphone gets our immediate attention while someone directly in front of us gets put on hold? This message is not to condemn technology, or our use of it, but simply to serve as a reminder that we need to be on our guard to keep it from distracting us from our purpose. In Ephesians 2:10, Paul wrote, "*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*" That is the task God has given us and we do it because of the love we have been shown.

Since God created us for good works, each of us needs to ask ourselves what talents God has given us and determine how best to use those talents in His kingdom. That might be by participating in one of the organized ministries at Northside such as the Food Pantry or Corin Read Christian Camp. It might be by teaching a Bible class or assisting with Youth or JOY group functions. It might be by visiting the sick or preparing food for those in need or performing maintenance on the building. The point is not to enumerate the things that could be done but to emphasize that each of us is created for good works and God has given us all talents that can be used in His service. God has also blessed us with the technology we enjoy today. In most good works, technology can be used as a tool or can become a distraction to doing the necessary things. As we live our lives in a constantly changing and complex world, let us use technology as a tool and not let it become a distraction.

Finally, a question we might ask ourselves: if we discover that we are without our smartphone do we become uneasy or even panicky? That might be a sign that we are becoming more dependent on technology than on God. May that never be true of us as God's children. Sometimes we just need to set it all aside and be still.

Hispanic Happenings with Fernando

Since a few weeks ago, every Wednesday and Thursday, our sister **Marissa Solis** started a new ministry inviting the sisters who are available in the mornings to gather at her house for Bible studies. During last Wednesday's Bible study, one of our regular visitors was there and we had the opportunity to share the Gospel message with her. After she understood what Jesus did at the cross, she wanted to be baptized at that moment. We came to the building and our new sister, **Gloria Valenciano**, was born again through faith, being baptized into Christ. She lives in Benton and her prayer is that her husband will one day come to Christ as she did. She is a mother to four grown sons and her granddaughter **Claudia** comes to church with her.

The month of April will be a special month for in the Hispanic congregation. **Mark** and **Martha Littlejohn** from Rogers, Arkansas will be with us during this month. We are planning to have four small groups meeting in homes. Our prayer is that during April, Mark and Martha will help me with visitation and Bible studies with visitors and church friends. We have been praying and planning this since last year and hope this will be an effort that edifies the church and brings others to Christ.

Conner's Contemplations

The theme of Corin Read Camp this year is centered around "*Who am I?*" and the main idea behind this theme is our identity. It is such a huge struggle for so many people (adults and teenagers alike) to find their identity. I do not mean like a driver's license but rather where we find our value. The teens on Wednesdays have been studying a bit about this in preparation for the summer of identity. Last Wednesday we studied about *Vital Signs*. We talked about what vital signs mean for our physical health. Then we tied those vitals to our spiritual health. We talked about how there are signs in our spiritual life, just like with our bodies, that indicate how "healthy" we are spiritually.

Sometimes we don't ever check our spiritual vitals, even when we are spiritually sick. Going back to our physical bodies—when someone is sick in the hospital the doctors and nurses will continually check vitals to make sure he or she is stable. They check signs such as heart rate, pulse, respiration rate, brain activity, etc. These indications help determine if the patient is getting better, worse, or staying the same. Our spiritual vitals operate the same way in our spiritual lives. When we observe our spiritual vitals, they can tell us a lot about our spiritual health. We can see vitals such as prayer, time spent in the Bible, relationships with others, thankfulness, forgiveness, and even mental stress. All of these can help us determine our spiritual health.

I encourage all of us to pay attention to all these signs when we feel distraught in our spiritual lives. Maybe we need to spend more time in prayer or in God's Word to strengthen our health. Maybe we should be more forgiving and thankful for what we have. Keeping track of how often, or how strong we are in some of these areas, can help us discover our true spiritual health. After all, we as Christians should want to be continually improving our spiritual health so that we can grow closer to God and one another.

I pray that we all can improve our spiritual health just like we try to improve our physical health! May we take time this week to reflect on our spiritual vitals and discover something new that can help us grow closer to God!

Upcoming Events

TODAY: Wedding Shower honoring **Clay Williams & Erica Smith** 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Young Adult & Others classroom (back of the old auditorium). They are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond and Walmart.

TODAY: Deadline to pay \$60.00 for the Ladies Retreat. You can give your money to **Trish Jones** or the office.

MONDAY: Pickleball 6:30 p.m. in the Outreach Building for anyone 18 years of age and older. If you have any questions, please call **Ken Covington** at 501-213-7186

WEDNESDAY: Bible class 10:30-11:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY: GriefShare class 6:30-8:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: Financial Peace University

SATURDAY: Ladies Day at Village Church of Christ in Hot Springs Village. For more information please see the postcard posted on the bulletin board next to the kitchen in the multipurpose area.

SATURDAY: Teacher Appreciation Dinner 6:00 in the outreach building for those who made a reservation.

April 7: Wedding shower honoring **Nick Rice & Madison Sipes** 1:30-3:00 p.m. in the Young Adult & Others classroom (back of the old auditorium). This will be a gift card/money shower.

April 7: "Spring Fling" Fellowship immediately after LIFE groups. See message below for more info.

April 11: Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meeting 11:00-12:00. **Melissa Baxley** is the facilitator.

April 12-13: Ladies Retreat at CrossHeirs Retreat Center in Humphrey. See the article below in "Love Notes and Heartstrings" for more information.

April 27: Annual Fundraiser Yard Sale. All proceeds will benefit our youth group activities/camp scholarships. We will let you know when you can bring items to donate. Please do not bring any items until we let you know. We can not store them. If you need a scholarship, you must work the yard sale.

April 29-May 2: Gospel campaign for Main Street Church of Christ in Stuttgart. They are needing door knockers. Please call the office no later than April 1 if you can help with their campaign.

Please notice above that Pickleball will now be on Monday nights at 6:30 instead of Tuesday nights.

"Spring Fling: Fellowship on April 7 in the outreach building immediately after LIFE groups. Please bring finger foods/desserts to share.

Love Notes and Heartstrings

Today, March 31, is the last day to sign up and pay for the Ladies Retreat! It's going to be great! The sign up sheet and forms are on the ladies table. You can pay me or the office. Checks should be made to Northside. The date is April 12-13. We will eat Friday night at 6:30 and leave Saturday around 3 pm. The retreat is at Cross-Heirs Retreat Center in Humphrey.

I said in last weeks bulletin that I was going to begin talking more about the Heartfelt Ministry. The best example of the love and friendships that are being formed was when **Trina Williams** came forward for prayer and her Heartfelt group surrounded her with so much support! That's the kind of love I hope that we can share with one another! Love, Trish

May Events

May 5: Senior Sunday— More information will follow

May 12: Mother's Day

May 12: Singing at Mt. Carmel 3:00-4:00

May 16: Benton High School Graduation

May 17: Bauxite High School Graduation

May 19: Wedding Shower honoring **Nick Quinn & Natalie Hampel** 2:00-4:00 in the outreach building. They are registered at Amazon, Bed, Bath & Beyond & Dillard's

May 20: Bryant High School Graduation

May 25: Clay Williams & Erica Smith will be united in marriage. More information later.

Prayer List: Linda Ball is wearing a heart monitor for 2 weeks and she is unable to drive for 3 weeks. She will see her cardiologist later in April to get the results. **Ronnie Hastings**, Todd's dad, will be scheduled for triple bypass surgery soon. **Jim Hobbs**, Tommy's brother, is now at Amberwood Health & Rehab. **Grady Howell**, Layton's brother, was treated at Saline Memorial Hospital last week after having a heart attack. **Anne Johnson** received a good report about her heart. Everything is good! **Caleb Lambert** donated a kidney to his long time friend, **Justin Powell**, last week. **Lance Lieblong**, Marilyn Wilson's nephew, is home and having outpatient rehab after having a stroke recently. **Micah Sexson**, Grisham & Teresa Phillips' son-in-law, received good results from his recent lung CT scan. **Joyce Smith** is recovering from successful outpatient surgery to repair a torn rotator cuff. **Edith Swaim** is now at home after having successful surgery to repair a heart valve. **Shelly Thompson** is now at home after having successful surgery to remove a tumor on her spine. **Rickey Treat** will receive an implanted heart defibrillator at the Heart Hospital on April 12. **Edna Weger**, sister of Betty Davis, David & James Mayberry, is undergoing radiation treatment for cancer. **Angela Wilson**, Margaret Organ's daughter, is now at home after having successful surgery last week.

Continue to remember: Audrey Auguston, Clint Barnhart, Haylee Barnes, Blythe Bowers, Cheryl Bradford, Tyler Buck, Amy Campbell, Joe Campbell, Charles & Edna Faye Caradine, James Carlisle, James Chandler, Cash Clancy, Peggy Cobb, Doug Connors, Steve Connors, LaVada Davis, Nancy Davis, Phil Davis, Todd Donahue, Don & Patricia Flowers, Cathy Gall, Dave Garner, Mark Gober, Helen Hairston, W.K. Hannah, Shirley Harkreader, Logan Harris, Jan Hastings, Seth Henry, Jean Ann Hensley, Richard Hooton, Barbara Joiner, Glenn Kays, Rod Kirk, Piper Lacey, Reba Leonard, Kim Lindgren, Bill Loe, Wilma Lunsford, Nikki Magee, Peggy Manning, Robert Matheny, Bonnie Mayberry, James Mayberry, Carol Mayes, Dudley McClerkin, Manher & Louise Mehta, Darrell Messer, Nick Nichols, Terri Orrell, Sharon Pearson, Jewell Powell, Gary Pruitt, Fran-cille Pryor, Mike Ransom, Whitney Redmon, Dan & Suzanne Reed, Diana Richard, Dale Ridge, Bess Sanders, Richard Schultz, Margaret Scott, Barbara Slaughter, Janice Smith, Gene Speights, Patsy Steele, Letha Styles, Gary Sullivan, Fred Swaim, Jeanette Underwood, Ruth VanZandt, Angela Wilson, Billie Wilson, Syble Womack, Mark & Mary Woodville.

Shepherds

Jim Acree Terry Hastings
Carroll Davis Randy Mitchell
Tom Davis Rob Nossaman
Todd Ferguson Rick Treadway
Richard Wallace

Email address: elders@northsidecofc.info
Chairman thru March: Richard Wallace

Deacons

Carlos Bautista Michael Haltom
Gary Black Alex Hamilton
Jarred Crow Todd Hastings
Rodney Crownover Phillip Howell
Curtis Evans Charlie Manning
Julio Flores Billy McLain
Kelley Geurin Steve Smith
Chris Givens Alejo Solis
Javier Guzman Freddy Swaim

Staff

Jim Gardner
Stephanie Howell
Billy McLain
Jimmy Mitchell
Linda Pike
Conner Smith
Fernando Toledo

Records: March 24, 2019

Bible Classes	318
AM Worship	536
PM Worship	171
Wednesday	245
Weekly budget	\$13,732.00
Contribution	\$15,084.73

Service Schedule

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Bible Study-Hispanic	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship-Hispanic	11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Sunday Children's Bible Hour	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-Hispanic	7:00 p.m.

Office Information

Telephone 501-315-1128
Fax 776-1604
E-mail office@northsidecofc.info
Web www.northsidecofc.info
Address 917 North East Street
Benton, AR 72015

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.--4:00 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m.--Noon

10:00 AM Worship

Jimmy Mitchell.....Worship Leader
Faith of Our Fathers.....754
Todd Hastings.....Welcome & Family News
We Bow Down.....577
Master, the Tempest Is Raging.....189
O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink.....540
Wes Ader.....Prayer
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less.....538
Rodney Crownover.....Communion Devo & Offering
Peace, Perfect Peace.....(offering song).....PH
Jesus Loves Me!.....(children's song).....1014
Til the Storm Passes By.....546
Zach LaSage.....Psalm 107.28-31
Jim Gardner....."Good News: A Faith That Will Not Sink"
Love Lifted Me.....453
I'm Standing on the Solid Rock.....PH
Jim Acree.....Shepherds Prayer

Infant Nursery

Lisa McNeely & Melissa Runyon

Toddler Nursery

Jessica Zanca & Audrey Saunders

5:00 PM

LIFE groups

Communion

Kelley Geurin

Infant & Toddler Nursery

Charlotte Pyle

Pantry Needs:

Spaghetti, Cereal,
Toilet tissue, Dishwashing liquid

The backpack program for Caldwell, Howard Perrin schools & ALC Program is in need of individual Mac n Cheese, individual applesauce cups, pudding cups, fruit cups, pop tarts, peanut butter or cheese crackers, individual chip bags, juice boxes and Capri sun. Please put your items in the tubs just outside the children's worship room in the multipurpose area.

GOD'S HELP IS ONLY
A PRAYER AWAY.

NEED PRAYER

An Elder and his wife will be in the Elders' office after services to pray with anyone that needs prayer. Elder and his wife this week:

Rick & Keely Treadway