



November 11, 2018

Volume 15, Number 45

Good morning, Northside Family. Welcome to “Deer Widow Sunday.” With the opening of modern gun deer season, many dads, sons, and grandpas (and a few moms, daughters, maybe even a grandma or two) have flooded the deer camps and woods throughout Arkansas.

For those of us left behind, welcome! Today promises to be another day of blessing as we are privileged to worship the Creator of the universe, the Christ of our salvation, the Comforter of our souls.

This morning, I’m preaching on the fascinating story of a heroic, courageous woman of faith in Scripture – Esther. I trust that God will use her story to inspire courage and faith in all of us.

Last Sunday morning, **Jessica Hurst** came before us courageously seeking our prayers. Jessica asked us to pray specifically that God will quiet her heart and conquer her fears. Please continue to remember Jessica as you pray daily.

We are three weeks away from the *Marriage Matters Conference* with **Jerry & Lynn Jones**. You can go to marriagematters.ws for a complete overview of what to expect December 2-5. To date, Jerry and Lynn have conducted over 450 conferences in 43 states and 6 foreign countries. They were here at Northside back in 2009 and the seminar benefited many. Their material has been updated since then and you will undoubtedly be blessed by their sessions.

“Who has the perfect marriage? On our best days some of us can say, ‘We do!’ Then there are those other days when we scarcely believe we know what even a good marriage looks like. And, it can be far easier to advise others on how to have a good marriage than actually to have one. We are tempted to believe the subtle lie suggesting that the very best marriages are those in which passion remains in the driver’s seat 24/7.

“Humans who have not the gift of continence can be deterred from seeking marriage as a solution because they do not find themselves ‘in love,’ and, thanks to us, the idea of marrying with any other motive seems to them low and cynical. Yes, they think that. They regard the intention of loyalty to a partnership for mutual help, for the preservation of chastity, and for the transmission of life, as something lower than a storm of emotion” (C.S. Lewis).

So, three weeks from today, we all have an opportunity to give our marriages a “tune-up.” The Conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 2. Our Bible classes will be gender-specific that morning: the ladies will gather in the Worship Center and be led in a class called “*Women of God*” by Lynn; the men will gather in the Outreach Building and learn about “*Men of God*” from Jerry.

Sunday afternoon, two sessions will be held at 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., with a finger-food fellowship at 5:00 p.m., before the final two sessions of the day at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Monday through Wednesday’s sessions will meet at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and conclude by 8:30 p.m.

Not married? Not to worry! The Conference will offer much that will be useful in all interpersonal relationships. While the schedule is rigorous, it is not unmanageable. To assist you, our teens will be providing childcare during the sessions (please sign-up in advance for childcare on the bulletin board near the church office).

I Love You all, Jim

Billy's Thoughts

This Thursday is our November JOY Group Potluck luncheon. We usually meet the third Thursday of the month during the school year. If you are 55+ and available at 11:30 a.m., I hope you'll come and have some great food and fellowship. **Martha Davis** and **Ruthie Burgess** will decorate. The theme is Thanksgiving. I love pumpkin pie, so I'm hoping for something along that line, just sayin' :).

Actually, opportunities to fellowship with other Christians have been encouraged since the founding of the church. In Acts 2, the very first Christians often met together for food and "*koinonia*" (fellowship). This past Wednesday's Worship Center class studied 1 Peter 4:9 which not only extols the virtue of hospitality, but commands followers of Jesus to "*offer hospitality to each another without grumbling.*" Perhaps God has a much greater purpose than us merely filling our stomachs together.

As a child, at my home congregation, for better or worse, at potluck meals children were permitted to fill their plates ahead of the adults. I still remember the disappointment, after choosing carefully from among the delicious food choices, the disappointment of too many tastes mingling together because I selfishly had piled my one plate high with my dessert choices on top of the healthier casseroles and veggies underneath, since the desserts were the last items at the end of the serving table. Somehow I missed the other part of the fellowship/hospitality principle from 1 Peter 4:10-11 which is: "*use whatever gift you have received to serve others.*" In truth, real fellowship costs us to sacrifice our selfish natures. And even harder to do this happily.

So, because I am no longer a child, I'm looking forward to Thursday, whether or not there is something delicious made of pumpkin.

Hispanic Happenings with Fernando

Next weekend is our Annual Hispanic Gospel Campaign. A time to invite the community, friends, and relatives to come to hear the message of salvation. Our brother **Hector Chagoya** from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico is our invited speaker. We are planning to start on Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m., and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and end with a fellowship after worship service.

Next Sunday I will have the opportunity to speak a short message at the Community Thanksgiving Service at the Benton High School Auditorium. My message will be based on "Giving Thanks for God's Revelation." The Community Thanksgiving Service will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Conner's Contemplations

Saturday the teens went hiking at Lake Catherine. It's a really neat trail that goes up and over some mountains (more like large hills) and each trail ends back at a beautiful waterfall. After all the rain we had it was something else to see! I have been going to this trail with my parents and our friends for years; ever since I was in the youth group I can remember hiking this trail.

The main trail splits at the beginning into three trails and a couple of smaller ones. All these trails cross or connect at one point or another. One trail in particular leads you straight to the waterfall, but unless you want to return on a harder trail or turn around and go back, that trail is not often traveled (at least in that particular direction). If you take this straight shot trail you can reach the waterfall in a few short minutes. However, that trail points you to the harder side of the rest of the trails and those make you climb nearly vertical. The longest trail sees you go up over one hill, back down to a valley, then over the next, and finally results in you coming out at the top of the water fall, and you even have to cross the waterfall to get back to the parking area. It is a lot more work, but the view is amazing!!

I think life is like that sometimes. We see the short trail and want the instant gratification but don't always want to put in the work. That applies to our faith walk too. We sometimes just want God to make us better and do things better and we pray about it. Yet, we don't take action to encourage the change we need. Those hills can be long and hard, but can be made much harder by trying to shortcut the journey we are on. Sometimes the struggles we have can make us better. The actions we take can push us in the right direction or the easy direction. I hope we can all see where our choices will point us, and may we make the right decisions in our lives! God helps us make the decisions and changes in our lives, but we have notice opportunities that he gives us! In Christian love, Conner

December 2-5
This is a 13-session seminar that focuses on incorporating God into real-life issues of marriage and family. We will have a combined adult Bible class on Sunday morning.

Upcoming Events

TODAY: Potluck coordinated by **Alessandra Barnes, Barbara Salley & Martha Davis** after morning worship honoring **Nelda Burrow & Jeff Davis**. There will be a basket for you to put your cards in for Nelda & Jeff.

TONIGHT: LIFE Groups

TUESDAY: Pickleball for Adults Only

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

WEDNESDAY: GriefShare Support Group 6:30-8:00

THURSDAY: JOY group potluck luncheon 11:30 for everyone 55 years of age and older.

November 18: Wedding Shower at 2:00 in the main building (in the Young Adults & Others classroom) honoring **Allison Farmer & Jurgen Debooserie**. They are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Dillard's

November 20: Combined Bible classes in the worship center at 6:30.

November 21: We will NOT meet.

November 22-23: Thanksgiving—Office Closed. In case of an emergency you can call and leave a message. The phone will be monitored.

Please make the following changes in your phone directory: **Gary & Marilyn Black** no longer have a landline. **Phil Stinnett** has a new cell phone number. It is 501-574-2619. If you have made a change in either your phone number or address, please write the change on the back of your attendance card.

The meal prepared by **Janie Elliott** for the Hospice House in Bryant last Tuesday was pork chops, mashed potatoes/gravy, green bean casserole and biscuits. Janie also prepared the dessert.

Coming Soon—Northside Birthday and Anniversary List. Beginning in January, we want to provide a list each month with birthdays and anniversaries for those who like to send cards or wishes. Please list these dates for your family on the back of your attendance card so we can update our records! If you do not want your special day included on the list, please note that on the back of your card.

Love Notes and Heartstrings

"See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." Hebrews 12:15

We are in the "season of gratefulness". At my Bible study this week, we learned about complaining and all I could think of is how we should always live in the season of gratefulness and not just during November and December. Author Jerry Bridges says "Complaining about the weather seems to be a favorite American pastime. Sadly, we Christians often get caught up in this ungodly habit in our society. But when we complain about the weather, we are actually complaining against God, who sent us our weather. We are, in fact, sinning against God."

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. Complaining denies that God's grace is entirely sufficient! I have never thought my complaining would hurt God so much! I encourage you to live every day with gratefulness! And if you hear me complaining, encourage me to be grateful for all God does for me and I will do the same! I am most grateful for you all!
Trish

Mark Your Calendars

December 6: Senior Citizen/Retirees' Christmas Luncheon at 11:30 in the outreach building.

December 7: Northside's Congregational Christmas Party. More info later

December 8: Ladies Christmas Brunch and Gift Exchange 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

December 9: Singing at Mt. Carmel 3:00-4:00

December 13: Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group 11:00. The facilitator is **Melissa Baxley**.

December 20: JOY group potluck luncheon 11:30 for everyone 55 years of age and older.

Ladies, mark your calendar now – **Ladies Christmas Brunch and Gift Exchange** will be Saturday, December 8th, from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. In the home of **Jill Sloan**, 3112 Dapple Gray Road, Benton. If you plan to attend, please let Jill know what breakfast dish you will be bringing and plan to bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10 or more. Feel free to text Jill with questions 501-551-6839!

We have been invited to attend the celebration of **Malcolm (Nick) Nichols** 93rd birthday on Saturday, November 24, 1:00-3:00 in the outreach building.

We have been given the opportunity to "adopt-a-room" to decorate at the Hospice House for Christmas. If you are interested, please either contact **Janie Elliott** or call the office.

Prayer: Linda Acree will have surgery Wednesday at Baptist Hospital. **Phil Davis** will have a total knee replacement surgery on his right knee on December 11 at Baptist Hospital. **Don Flowers** is now at home. **Helen Hairston**, Sherri Poe's mother, is now in rehab room 123 at Saline Memorial. **Stephanie Howell** will get the results of her nerve study test on November 19. **Bonnie Mayberry** is in room 113 at Amberwood Health & Rehab. **Nick Nichols** has returned to Mt. Carmel. **M.D. Williams**, Mandy Gardner's dad, is now in rehab room 308 at Baptist Rehab.

Continue to remember: Patrick & Blythe Bowers, Karyl Burress, Nelda Burrow, Amy Campbell, Joe Campbell, Charles & Edna Faye Caradine, Freddy Charo, Ashley & Cash Clancy, Peggy Cobb, Doug Connors, Henry & Linda Cook, Mary Davenport, Jeff Davis, Todd Donahue, Bill Donnor, James Downs, Patricia Flowers, Wade Garrett, Mark Gober, Jan Hastings, Shirley Harkreader, Alice Harris, Logan Harris, Seth Henry, Richard Hooton, Glenn Kays, Rod Kirk, Mike Knappier, Reba Leonard, Bill Loe, Jacob Lowe, Wilma Lunsford, Grant Mainord, Robert Matheny, James Mayberry, Carole Mayes, Dudley McClerkin, Manher & Louise Mehta, Darrell Messer, Jeremiah Nutter, Carl Otwell, Sharon Pearson, Wayne Perry, Grisham Phillips, Jewell Powell, David Rachel, Mike Ransom, Walter Rhodes, Diana Richard, Dale Ridge, Bess Sanders, Margaret Scott, Patsy Steele, Harold Stuart, Letha Styles, Fred & Edith Swaim, Jeannette Underwood, Paul Upperman, Richard Wallace, Ron Wallace, Brandon Webb, Doug Willis, 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 December: Rob Nossaman

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: November 4, 2018

Bible Classes	359
AM Worship	532
PM Worship	194
Wednesday	228
Weekly budget	\$13,034.19
Contribution	\$20,842.24

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
God Moves in a Mysterious Way.....26
Todd Ferguson.....Welcome & Family News
I Will Call upon the Lord.....63
Beautiful Things.....PH
Build My Life.....PH
Carson Sloan.....Prayer
Calvary.....PH
Norman Hurst.....Communion Devo & Offering
Be Still, My Soul.....(offering song).....689
Jesus Love Me.....(children's song).....1014
God of Grace and God of Glory.....846
Jeremy Clay.....Proverbs 25.25-31
Jim Gardner....."Esther: A Cinderella Story"
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.....589
May the Presence of the Lord.....PH
Rob Nossaman.....Shepherds Prayer

Infant Nursery

Rachel Garner & Bernadette Rockwell

Toddler Nursery

Jarred & Jennifer Crow

5:00 Worship

Communion

Kelley Geurin

Infant & Toddler Nursery

Sarah Gober

Pantry Needs:

Jelly, Stuffing Mix, Cranberry Sauce
Canned Yams, Canned Fruit
Dishwashing Liquid, Laundry Detergent

The backpack program for Caldwell, Howard Perrin schools & ALC Program is starting up again. We need individual Mac n Cheese, individual applesauce cups, pudding cups, fruit cups, pop tarts, peanut butter, 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.



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:

Terry & Jan Hastings