



Northway Community Church

December 21, 2025

find your destiny in Christ

Pastor

Dr. Bill Blanchard

Worship Leader

Mr. Thomas Matthews

Ministers

Every Member

Remember in Prayer

Betty Belcher, Tallahassee, FL

Edward Blanchard

Dale Braswell

Sammy Long

Out-of-town Senior Adults:

Sharon Morgan

Bob Scheuring

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

10:30 a.m. Children's Church

FAMILY WORSHIP -
(Last Sunday of Month)

Welcome
to
Northway
Community Church

This is the Lord's place, and all who are seeking Him are welcome! We strive to make a relationship with God as intelligent as science, as appealing as art, as vital as a good day's work, as intimate as a healthy home, as inspiring as genuine love, and as redeeming as God's grace!

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

TODAY

Terrie and Tori Dinkins

December 28, 2025

Debra Adams and Lara Blanchard

January 4, 2026

Diana Ruzich

CUSTODIAL MINISTRY

December 14 - 20

Mark and Jackie Heffelfinger

December 21 - 27

Dianna Deeley and James Ruzich

December 28 - January 3

Michelle Hines and Lisa Nail

**BUILDING
FUND
\$217,840**

MESSAGE NOTES

"Are You Ready for Christmas?"

Luke 2:21-38

- I. Simeon's ANTICIPATION of Christ
 - Five Marks in Simeon's Life
 - A. Just/Righteous
 - B. Devout
 - C. Empowered by the Holy Spirit
 - D. Spiritually discerning
 - E. Satisfied
- II. Simeon's PROCLAMATION of Christ
 - A. The Christ of Deliverance
 - B. The Christ of Delight
 - C. The Christ of Destiny
 - D. The Christ of Derision
 - E. The Christ of Division



Children's Cookie Bake
December 21st 6 pm to 7:30 pm
533 Shirley Place, home of Sammy and Sue Long

TONIGHT 6 PM

Immediately following the cookie bake, everyone is encouraged to join us at 7:30 pm for a Churchwide Christmas Caroling - Meet at the Long's



JOIN US FOR
CHRISTMAS CAROLING
Dec 21st 7:30 - 9 pm,
533 Shirley Place
Sammy and Sue's home





Holiday Schedule

Sunday morning worship ONLY on December 28
[No Sunday School on December 28]

No church newsletter during the last week of 2025

Giving is an Act of Worship

Northway Community Church believes giving to your local church should be a planned and willful act of worship. Normally, we do not take up an offering as part of our worship services. Instead, we have an offering box located on the desk near the front door. Gifts to Northway (a non-profit corporation) qualify as tax deductible gifts. If you would like credit for your gift in your name and receive a contribution statement at year end, simply fill out and use our contribution envelopes as a means of depositing your gift into our offering box. Gifts to Northway are an act of worship between you and the Lord. As such, only a few from our accounting department know the giving records of our families. We do not want knowledge of contributions to impact or sway our staff's effectiveness in ministering to the body.

Michael Walker, Dame, Walker, Hardeman & Co., LLC, Certified Public Accountants

GOD'S FANTASTIC CHRISTMAS PLAN

Before I begin a great Christmas devotional thought, let me thank the scores of people who literally make "things" (ministries) work here at Northway. Really, you are all indispensable serving so faithfully for the Lord, and most of it is behind the scenes, and yet your respective schedules may be very, very pushed. We don't thank you and recognize you enough, I know, but you are so crucial in how we are able to function as a local church. Again, many thanks!!!

Now, for a great Christmas devotional thought.

Suppose that today we decided to stage an event through one individual that was designed to affect the world forevermore. Would we choose to start with a baby? Probably not, because millions of babies are born each year and precious few affect their own country, much less the world. So [#1], we would probably pick a young man or woman who had demonstrated great natural abilities, and who had influential parents and a great education. Moreover [#2], he would need to have good contacts if he were to reach any position of authority and influence. Finally [#3], we would never select one from a minority ethnicity.

Once we had chosen our candidate, we would need to decide what position he should hold. In the first century, he would surely have been a military leader because power was respected in the Roman Empire. Today he would probably be a politician. He would need to be coached very carefully to ensure that he never said anything too controversial that might be used against him later. We certainly wouldn't allow him to work as a carpenter, because there he wouldn't rub shoulders with the intelligent, the sophisticated, and the affluent.

If we had been present 2,000+ years ago to counsel our Heavenly Father about His plan to save the world, we would have told Him that He was doing it all improperly. And yet the best minds on this earth couldn't conceive of a plan that would alter history more than what God accomplished through the humble birth of Baby Jesus. Through this Babe of Bethlehem, God changed the course of human history forever. Even the Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, Jews, and Communists all count time backwards and forwards from the birth of Jesus Christ. Try as they might, not one ruler has been able to obliterate the season that celebrates His birth.

Against this backdrop, it is my joy to wish you a Merry Christmas as we honor the birthday of our Savior and King!

Devotedly your pastor,

Bill Blanchard