March 23, 2025

find your destiny in Christ

Pastor

Dr. Bill Blanchard

Worship Leader

Mr. Thomas Matthews

Ministers

Every Member

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Children's 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!

Remember in Prayer

Betty Belcher, Tallahassee, FL

Carolyn Bergquist, Carrollton Club

Dale Braswell

Evelyn Cantrell, Presbyterian Home, Quitman

Sammy Long

Chris Johnson (Marc McLain's Sister)

Out-of-town Senior Adults: Sharon Morgan Bob Scheuring

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

TODAY

Diana Ruzich

March 30

Rick and Roni Williams

CUSTODIAL MINISTRY

March 16 - 22

Bill and Lara Blanchard

March 23 - 29

Michael Columna

BUILDING FUND \$214,340

MESSAGE NOTES

PHYSICAL HEALING "The Causes of Physical Illness"

Three important disclaimers:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- I. Some are sick because of personal sin.
- II. Sickness can also be caused by Satan.
- III. The most pervasive reason for sickness is due to the cumulative effect of sin upon our world:
 - A. The effects of aging
 - B. Cause-and-effect

Even though we are just beginning to look at this controversial subject, my preliminary advice with respect to divine healing is as follows:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

UPCOMING DATES

Palm Sunday

April 13
The Lord's Supper

Easter Sunday, April 20

9:30 a.m.
Church-Wide Breakfast Fellowship
(in lieu of Sunday School)

10:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday
Baptismal Celebration Service

Contact Information

Church Location:

3740 Inner Perimeter Rd. • Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Church Website: www.NorthwayCC.com

Phone: 229.293.0999

CHARACTER OVER TALENT

In our church, will we value character over talent? Answer: We must! I know it is a great temptation—particularly in the area of music—for physical appearance and talent to blind us, but we must keep our eyes wide open spiritually, and here's why:

- 1. The Holy Spirit consistently shows up and works through character more than talent. In terms of the long haul, the "hip" factor and vocal range will not grow a church properly.
- 2. A character deficiency affects the entire team/group/ church. A selfish ego, a negative attitude, a prima donna mindset, the undermining or disregard of leadership, juvenile behavior, relational divides, snarky comments, and/or blatant immorality will infect the entire team/church and creates a demoralized and unhealthy culture. Like a cancer, it can spread from one member to another.
- 3. We run the very high risk that a character deficiency will hurt the witness of our church. For instance, if we have someone on stage who is seen by a first-time guest who happens to be their co-worker, and that person is widely dismissed at work for his/her lack of character, we have a witness problem. Or if the person's Instagram postings, tweets, or Facebook reveal a character that undermines the persona on stage, we have a witness problem that affects the reputation of the entire church.

Character, however, can be a tricky thing to identify and define because we often tend to think of it solely in terms of sexual immorality. While that is certainly a dynamic, it is even more prevalent in terms of ego, narcissism, insubordination, negativity, gossip, and relational immaturity.

So, yes, gifts and talents are important factors, but not as important as character. And what are we looking for in terms of character? That's easy. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, along with humility and a servant's heart. I'll take those over looks and talent any day, and so will God!

Devotedly your pastor,

Bill Blanchard

