

## e-News

*OUR MISSION:  
To make His name  
glorious!*



### Weekly Update from North Shore Church

**Sunday, February 25, 2018**

**Adult Sunday School 8 AM**

**Worship Service 9 and 10:30 AM**



One of the hardest lessons in life is how to handle God saying no to what we've asked. We pray, believing, with full confidence and yet, His answer is totally opposite to what we prayed for Him to do. That can create a crushing blow to faith.

Yet, prayer isn't designed for us to command God to act on our behalf. He isn't wondering what to do, hoping we'll come up with a good suggestion. He is operating from a perspective of what's best. We operate out of what we want to happen.

When those clash, which do you want to win out? Do we really prefer to get what we want instead of what He knows is best?

So why do we pray? To position ourselves within the framework of His will. We are praying to acknowledge His understanding far exceeds ours and we want Him to take charge of our concerns. We are giving Him our burdens. We are exercising faith. We are exchanging our cares and concerns for His peace.



### **Upcoming Attractions:**

**March 30 -  
Good Friday Service  
at 7:00 p.m.**

**April 27 -  
Annual Spring  
Fling at  
Montgomery  
Community Center  
This year's theme:  
Island Holiday**

### **Let's plug into Bible Study and other opportunities:**

**Adult Sunday School –  
Sunday mornings at 8:00**

**Bible Study at Live Oak  
Assisted Living -  
Monday mornings at  
10:30**

**GriefShare -  
Monday evenings at 6:00**

**Men's Morning Bible  
Study –  
Tuesday mornings at 7:30**

**Men's Evening Bible  
Study -  
Tuesday evenings at 6:30**

When we count on what we've prayed for as the only acceptable answer, we're praying out of pride instead of humility. We are assuming our grasp of the situation is better than the One to whom we pray. In reality we only get to see a limited portion of the picture. And often that perspective is overshadowed by our desires.

So how do we pray? "God, may Your will be done on earth as it is being done in Heaven, without restrictions or opposition. We want what You want. Not our will but Your will be done." That isn't very specific to our need. It is when our need is couched in our greater desire for God's best.

Sure we can ask for desires, but they must be kept in the context of God's wisdom. *Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.* (Ps 37:4) The emphasis is on *delight* not *desires*.

If my delight is not in the Lord but in my desires, I will be a disappointed pray-er. Prayer lets me focus on the One who knows best and trust Him for the outcome. I am not to carry the responsibility for how He answers.

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Cary

#### **LAST SUNDAY'S TAKEAWAYS:**

1. A child of God cannot say he/she is without faith.
2. Our faith may be small because it has been rarely used, but size isn't the factor.
3. Because a mustard seed amount of faith can move a mountain, we have more than enough faith for whatever we face.
4. The question is not whether we have faith but whether we will exercise that faith to trust in God's goodness or not.
5. If a storm comes in the middle of a promise, it cannot change that promise.

Links to last week's notes and message are:

<http://caryfranklinsmith.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.northshorechurch.org/resources/sermons>

**Membership Class** will be Sunday, March 11 after the second service. Lunch will be provided.

**Service for Don Gunselman:** Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, Houston, Friday, February 23, at 10:30 a.m.

Check the Welcome Center each Sunday. **Copies of the TAKEAWAYS** as well as other material are there for the taking. You can also sign up for a Home Group.

If you are not participating in a **Men's or Ladies' Bible Study Group**, consider checking out one of these: The Tuesday evening ladies' group meets at 6:00, led by Liz Alston. The Wednesday morning group meets at 10:00, led by Stacey Buick. The Tuesday evening Men's group,

**Ladies' Evening Bible Study -**  
**Tuesday evenings at 6:00**

**Ladies' Morning Bible Study -**  
**Wednesday mornings at 10:00**

**Prayer and Praise –**  
**Wednesday evenings at 6:30**

**Choir Practice -**  
**Wednesday evenings at 7:30**

**Thru The Bible Study -**  
**Thursday evenings at 6:30**  
**(held off campus)**

## **Important Links**

[Prayer Needs](#)

[Church Calendar](#)

[E-Giving](#)

led by Jim Wagner, meets Tuesday evenings at 6:30 at the church. And, the Men's morning group, led by George Nanos, meets at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday.

Are you a **Friend of North Shore Church on Facebook?** Click this:

<https://www.facebook.com/northshorechurch1097/> and follow us. Much is going on and you even get to add your two cents worth. Updates are made regularly. Stay connected.

Also: Click this: <http://www.ccphototx.com/northshore> to link to **pictures of our church life** and people.

Each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. we gather for **Praise and Prayer** in the auditorium. Join us for this special time of intercession for our church and others.

FYI: **Al Gallegos** will be playing at Walden Yacht Club February 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **TURNING POINTS: IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

**John Bunyan** (1628-88)  
*Writer, Preacher, "Pilgrim"*

One morning [as] I was again at prayer and trembling under the fear that no word of God could help me, that piece of a sentence darted in upon me, "My grace is sufficient." By these words I was sustained, yet not without exceeding conflicts. Therefore, I did still pray to God that He would come in with His Scripture more fully on my heart.

One day, as I was passing into the field, fearing lest yet all was not right, suddenly this sentence fell upon my soul, "Thy righteousness is in heaven," and I saw with the eyes of my soul Jesus Christ at God's right hand; there, I say, as my righteousness. So that it was not my good frame of heart that made my righteousness better, nor yet my bad frame that made my righteousness worse; for my righteousness was Jesus Christ Himself, "the same yesterday, today and forever."

Now went I also home rejoicing.

### **Financial Report:**

January - December 2017

Contributions	\$814,299
Expenses	\$805,441
Building Fund	\$760,000
Existing Mortgage	\$618,694

**Serving Others:** There are many opportunities for members to get involved as ushers, greeters or in the welcome center. Contact Mike Roy at [936-597-7717](tel:936-597-7717) or [mroy07@aol.com](mailto:mroy07@aol.com) if you are interested.

**From our Hospitality Ministry:** Ladies! Are you available to help prepare meals for our folks who are temporarily shut-in due to surgery, illness or accident? We have several who could use some help now and others who have things coming that will need help. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office.

**Flower Ministry:** Anyone who would like to honor a particular occasion or memorial with flowers, please contact the church office on Mondays, [936-597-7000](tel:936-597-7000).

**TLC Food Pantry Ministry:** Thank you for bringing peanut butter and other food items to church (hamper in the foyer) for the Pantry. There is always a need and God is blessing many people through your generosity.

As a **courtesy** to those folks who have reported their struggles with chemical allergies to me, **please use moderation** when applying cologne or perfume before coming to church.

1. The WEBSITE will be the main source of information regarding what is going on in the life of North Shore Church, regular schedule, staff information, what we believe, recorded sermons, prayer, etc.
2. The e-NEWS will be a weekly email with basically "Upcoming Events" and "Important Links" so that you can click to go to the website to see what is announced or updated.
3. The SUNDAY CHURCH BULLETIN will be a printed piece of communication that will help visitors get connected, highlight upcoming events, and provide some blank space for sermon notes.

Please peruse over this e-News and go to the website and look around. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reply as we refine our communication to be the best it can be.

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