

THE VISION

A Monthly Publication of
Northside Baptist Church
3021 E 71st Street
Indianapolis, IN 46220
www.NorthsideIndy.org

September 2025

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ENGAGING
IN WORSHIP

GROWING
IN GROUPS

SERVING
IN MINISTRY

LIVING IN LIGHT OF HIS RETURN

1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

Living in Light of His Return

by Jeremy Couture, Senior Pastor

It's 5:00 o'clock and you have guests coming tomorrow. How does that change things at your house? Maybe it means you want to tidy up a bit? Maybe you're going to put together a tasty meal or a delicious dessert? You probably want to be home to receive them, so you'll have to adjust your schedule to meet them.

Things change when someone important is coming to town. That is one of the main reasons Paul wrote his letters to the church at Thessalonica. He had founded the fellowship during the Macedonian Vision leg of his second missionary journey but was forced to leave much more quickly than he wanted. Desperate to hear an update, Paul sent his associate, Timothy, to visit the newly formed congregation and bring any news that he could. In response to that news, he sent two letters, just a few months apart, to encourage the new believers in their Christian walk.

One of the major themes of both letters is the return of Jesus Christ and the end times. The Thessalonians were curious and confused about this event. Paul urged them to continue to live as they had been transformed by the Gospel. A key verse in Paul's first letter is 1 Thessalonians 3:13: "So that He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints." Paul picks up on this theme in his second letter by "requesting" that they "not be quickly shaken" by fake news about Christ's return (2 Thessalonians 2:1-2).

The title of our new sermon series in 1 & 2 Thessalonians will be "Living in Light of His Return." We will follow this series from September to December. I hope it's a help and an encouragement as we live in expectation of Christ's return together.

Seventeen Years of Covenant Foods

by Jan Shives

Many of us may not realize the grave disparities that exist in our own communities. People are facing hunger in every county in Indiana. These people could even be your neighbors or kids in your children's classes at school. The latest statistics show that 1 in 7 people and 1 in 5 children face hunger in Indiana. This number has markedly increased since the pandemic and its aftermath. Hunger is a major problem in every area of our Hoosier state!

We at Northside are able to reach many facing hunger in the 12 zip codes surrounding our church. This is largely thanks to the commitment of our volunteers who join each Tuesday from 4 to 6 PM to serve our guests.

Areas of service include picking up food from generous and faithful businesses who have helped provide food for our guests over the years. We have volunteers who pick up food each week who arrange food by category on tables for ease selection by our guests. There are volunteers who bag food and volunteers who prepare bagged food from our ordered food supply as well as restocking and organizing the shelves. Currently, we have 2 volunteers who translate for our Spanish-speaking guests! Counselors talk with our guests on each visit about problems or issues they are facing, present Christ to them, and pray with them. Our greeters are at the receiving table to welcome each guest and to obtain needed information when they arrive. Over this past year we have served 531 guests representing a total of 944 family members. At times we serve out-of-area guests on a one-time basis out of our extra donated food supply.

Covenant Foods has served 11,264 guests since 2015. In the past 2 years, we have added tracking of family members and have served a total of 2,673 household members. We have had 19 guests receive Christ as Savior since 2022.

In addition to food needs, many of our guests have faced a dire shortage of affordable housing this past year. Evictions and homelessness are on the rise with little renter protections in place for low income families, as well as a severe housing shortage. We serve guests with a wide variety of issues including the unemployed, low income, workers families dealing with disabilities and or young children, senior citizens and single adult caregivers to name a few. The percentage of these populations is rising each year in the areas we serve.

Over the years we have built relationships with our guests to support their needs. One guest sums up her experience like this: "I'd like to say thank you everybody who shares in providing. I couldn't make it without the food pantry. It means a lot that you care and have a heart to see that there are people in great need."



Our pantry over the past 17 years has remained strong to create a dignified shopping experience for our guests and to offer a network of resources to meet needs in the area we serve. Support for our food pantry goes well beyond the food itself. We so appreciate the donations given by our congregation to supplement food needs. Also, a portion of our tithes and offering has been an amazing resource for our pantry. Your ongoing prayers for our pantry are crucial as our community continues to face staggering challenges.



Grief Support Group

**Help and encouragement
after the death of a loved one**

A safe place to navigate the challenges of grief.
Come join us!

Beginning 9/8 6-8 pm
D Hallway West Entrance

griefshare.org

Introducing Grief Share Ministry at Northside

by Becky Reynolds

Northside Baptist Church member Don Davis says that the ministry of Griefshare provided the help that he needed during a time of loss in his life. "Griefshare helped me overcome trying to be self-sufficient during that time of grief."

Griefshare is a non-denominational small group ministry that offers hope and healing after the death of a loved one. Northside is offering Griefshare this fall on Monday evenings, beginning September 8, from 6:00 to 8:00, in room D113. Please enter the building using the west entrance in the education wing. Paul instructs us in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." By looking to Jesus Christ for hope after the loss of a loved one, Don states, "The same Holy Spirit who spoke in the Scriptures uses the Scriptures today for every need."

Grill Walk

9/13 10 am - 2 pm
Fireside Room



**Grill Walk
September 13
10 AM - 2 PM**

Join the deacons and elders of Northside for a fun neighborhood outreach. Meet in the Fireside Room at 10 AM.

Northside Youth Ministry Essentials

by Jared Barham, Youth Pastor

Greetings Northside Family!

As things begin to settle into their new normal with another school year, and our eyes shift to the Fall Season, I want to provide you with some updates on the life of Northside Youth as well as let you know of some upcoming events and ways you can pray for our Youth!

August was a super fun month as we had our Youth and Family Field Day in which our youth and their families competed in various relays and other competitions to decide who was the Field Day Champion. (Photos on right)

We also had several youth participate in Serve Night as they helped tidy up the Assembly Room.

On August 13, we restarted Assemble on Wednesday nights with a mini-series called "Little Sins". Please pray for our youth and their school year and all the challenges that come with that. Pray for Assemble as we study God's Word, have fun, and grow as disciples of Jesus.

And lastly, pray for our upcoming Home Bible Study that kicks off September 7th at the Barham house. We want our youth to learn how to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and that is fueled and empowered by your prayers and support, so thank you Northside Family for all you do!



Nerf / Hide & Seek: September 13
6-9 PM in the CLC for Grades 6-12



Youth Bible Study
Sundays, 5-8 PM
Begins September 7
at the Barham House



RYAN McDERMOTT

He is
HERE

ENCOUNTERING GOD
IN THE WILDERNESS

Northside Kids Ministry News

by Danielle Root, Children's Director

Kids Bible Study Classes at 9 AM on Sunday

September 7

The Kingdom Divided (1 Kings 11-13)

September 14

Israel's Evil Kings (1 Kings 14-15; 2 Chronicles 12-13)

September 21

Elijah Confronted Ahab (1 Kings 18-19)

September 28

The Reign of Ahab (1 Kings 20-22; 2 Kings 1)

Bible Explorers

Theme for the month is "God is trustworthy."

September 7

Ten Commandments (Exodus 19-20)

September 14

The Twelve Spies (Numbers 13-14)

September 21

The Walls of Jerico (Joshua 1:1-3; 5:13-6:27)

September 28

Samson (Judges 13-16)

Awana

We had a wonderful start to our new Awana year! Even though we had a few kids move away or join youth group, we still have just as many kids as last year! We had several new families join us and also 3-year-olds who just got old enough to join Cubbies. We have 58 kids registered for Awana! Please pray for our teachers that they disciple our kids' hearts well and for our clubbers that they can be approved workers who are not ashamed.




September

- 3 Regular Meeting
- 10 Regular Meeting
- 17 Regular Meeting
- 24 Bring your favorite stuffed animal!



Missions Fair

September 21

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Christian Life Center

Bring the family!

5

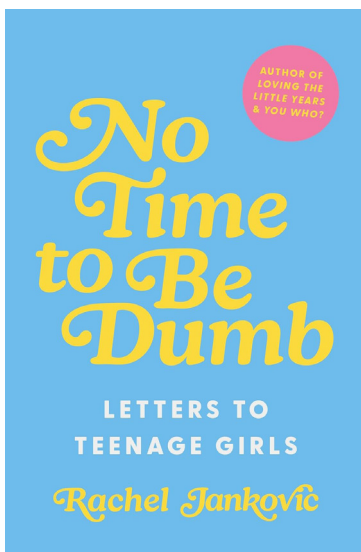
No Time to Be Dumb:

Letters to Teenage Girls

book by Rachel Jankovic

Rachel Jankovic wants terrible teenage daughters. Not a wasting-her-time-in-petty-squabbles, doomscrolling, dumb television shows, eating disorders, and foolish crushes kind of terrible. But a different kind of terrible: to be women who are genuine threats to the enemies of God, "fair as the moon . . . and terrible as an army with banners" (Song 6:10). She is not easily controlled by flattery; her joy is in the Lord. She is growing from a girl you love into a woman you admire. In this book Rachel covers the topics you would expect, like Modesty and Homemaking and Boys. But Rachel also speaks directly to awkward questions such as Handsomeness and Pornography. There's even a chapter on how to deal with self-righteous church ladies. Young women have all the time in the world for good things, but they really just don't have time to be dumb.

No Time to Be Dumb is perfect for educating young women on the importance of abstaining from frivolous activities such as petty squabbles, mindless television shows, unhealthy diet patterns, and superficial crushes. This teen girl book focuses on striving to raise daughters who aren't "terrible" in an unruly or rebellious way, but in a way that makes them strong, bold, and uncompromising in their faith and values. Instead of seeking happiness from external validation or being controlled by flattery, this Christian book for teenagers encourage young girls to live a life filled with the purpose of staying devoted and finding joy in the Lord. This book highlights the transformation of growing from a loving young girl to an admirable woman people look up to. It offers guidance for navigating awkward relationship questions some teens have and gracefully addresses mature themes.



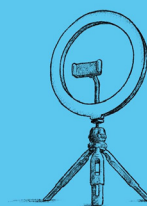
Rachel Jankovic
wants terrible
teenage
daughters.

But a
different kind
of terrible:

to be women who are
genuine threats to
the enemies of God.



Not wasting-her-time-
in-petty-squabbles,
doomscrolling, dumb television
shows, eating disorders, and
foolish crushes
kind of terrible.



Family Resource
LIBRARY

Upstairs in
the Christian
Life Center

RAISE THE
DAUGHTERS YOU
LOVE TO BE WOMEN
YOU ADMIRE.

Join us on Wednesday Nights

We've had a strong restart of our Wednesday night groups. We have "Something for Everyone" on Wednesday Nights.

Awana

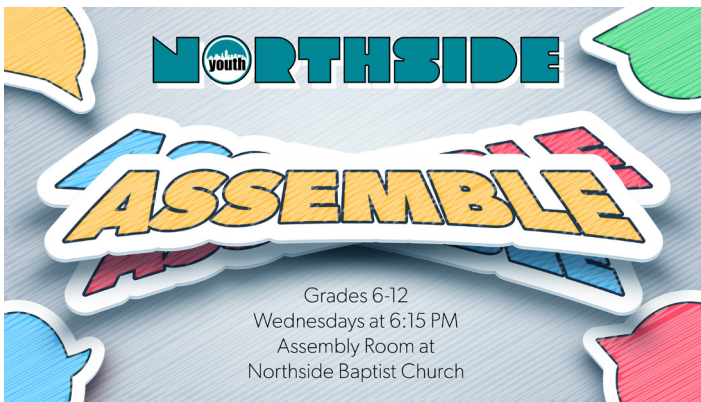
Meets during the fall and spring semesters, 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM each Wednesday in Kids Cove. Awana stands for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed" (based on 2 Timothy 2:15). Make sure your kids are grounded in God's word. Kids age 3 through 6th grade learn Bible verses and hear Bible stories in a fun, club atmosphere. Each child receives a workbook, vest and badges. (Childcare is available for kids under 3.)

Assemble for Northside Youth

Grades 6-12 meet in the Assembly Room - upstairs in the Christian Life Center at 6:15 PM each Wednesday. This gathering includes worship, learning the Bible and participating in fun activities.

Catalyst

This group for Adults any age meets in the Fireside Room at 6:30 PM. Pastor Jeremy leads this time of learning and fellowship. Pastor Jeremy is currently leading the study, "Growing in Grace through Spiritual Disciplines."



Growing in Grace through Spiritual Disciplines

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM, Fireside Room

The Revelation/Response Model of Worship in Isaiah 6

by Alex Darnall, Worship Pastor

Worship at its core is not a human invention but a divine encounter. It begins not with what we do, but with who God is and what He reveals. One of the clearest biblical pictures of this reality comes from Isaiah 6, where the prophet has a vision of the Lord in the temple. This passage lays out what many call the Revelation/Response model of worship: God reveals Himself, and His people respond.

God's Revelation (Isaiah 6:1–4)

Isaiah begins by describing his encounter:

"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple."

Before Isaiah speaks or acts, God reveals Himself. The Lord is shown as exalted, holy, and glorious, with seraphim crying out, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" Worship begins with a vision of who God is.

This reminds us that worship is not rooted in our preferences, emotions, or creativity. It flows from the character and presence of God. In gathered worship, Scripture, song, prayer, and proclamation should first and foremost help us see God as He truly is: holy, glorious, and sovereign.

Our Response of Confession (Isaiah 6:5)

Isaiah's immediate response is not celebration, but confession:

"Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

When confronted with God's holiness, Isaiah recognizes his sinfulness. This is always the movement of true worship. Revelation leads to humility, repentance, and recognition of our need for grace.

In corporate worship, this is why we often move from adoration to confession. Seeing God clearly compels us to see ourselves truthfully.

God's Response of Grace (Isaiah 6:6–7)

God does not leave Isaiah in despair. A seraph touches his lips with a burning coal, declaring, "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." Revelation of God's holiness leads to confession, and confession opens the door to God's cleansing grace.

This moment foreshadows the cross of Christ, where our sins are finally and fully atoned for. Every act of Christian worship is centered on this gospel reality: we who were unclean have been made clean by Jesus.

Our Response of Surrender (Isaiah 6:8)

Finally, worship culminates in mission: "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here I am! Send me.'"

Isaiah's encounter does not end in private devotion but in public commission. Having seen God, confessed sin, and received grace, he now offers himself in obedience.

This is the full cycle of worship: Revelation → Confession → Grace → Surrender. God reveals, we respond. God speaks, we obey.

Conclusion

Isaiah 6 provides a timeless pattern for Christian worship. True worship is never one-sided. It is not merely us singing songs upward, nor is it simply God blessing us downward. It is a dialogue of revelation and response:

- God reveals Himself in His holiness and glory.
- We respond with confession of our sin.
- God responds with cleansing and grace.
- We respond with surrender and obedience.

LADIES' GAME



THURS
SEPT
25

6-8
PM

Fireside Room

Ladies Game Night

Bring your own dinner. Snacks and drinks provided. We will be playing card games.

Season 5

THE CHOSEN

Women's Group
Restarts September 11
Thursdays at 9:30 AM
Fireside Room



Creative Living Bible Study



**Wednesdays at 9:15 AM
Thursdays at 7:00 PM**

Sign up at CLBSindy.org

Creative Living Bible Study for Women

Beginning on September 3, Northside will once again be the venue for Creative Living Bible Study, a non-denominational women's Bible Study committed to assisting each person in understanding the Christian faith and supporting an individual's commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The group meets 9:15 - 11:15 AM each Wednesday, September through April. There is also a Thursday evening group available if you are unable to attend in the morning.

For the 2025/2026 sessions, the women will study the books of Romans, Philippians and Colossians.

Childcare is provided as long as space is available. After registering you will be notified with additional details.

Go to www.clbsindy.org to register and learn more.

Discovering Northside Luncheon

**Sunday, October 19
 Fireside Room**

 **NORTHSIDE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

INSPIRING PEOPLE TO BECOME FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST



3021 E 71st Street
Indianapolis IN 46220
317.255.6692
www.northsideindy.org

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Labor Day (Office Closed) 8a Don Agnew Golf Tournament	7:30a Men's Coffee, Fellowship & Prayer 4p Covenant Foods	9:15a Creative Living Bible Study for Women 6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst	7p Creative Living Bible Study for Women		
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship 5p Youth Bible Study	6p GriefShare	4p Covenant Foods	9:15a Creative Living Bible Study for Women 6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst	9:30a The Chosen (Season 5) 7p Creative Living Bible Study for Women		10a Grill Walk 6p Nerf Hide & Seek
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Bible Explorers 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship 5p Youth Bible Study	6p GriefShare	7:30a Men's Coffee, Fellowship & Prayer 4p Covenant Foods	9:15a Creative Living Bible Study for Women 6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst	9:30a The Chosen (Season 5) 7p Creative Living Bible Study for Women		
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Bible Explorers 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship 11:30a Missions Fair 5p Youth Bible Study	6p GriefShare	4p Covenant Foods	9:15a Creative Living Bible Study for Women 6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst	9:30a The Chosen (Season 5) 6p Ladies Game Night 7p Creative Living Bible Study for Women		
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Bible Explorers 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship 5p Youth Bible Study	6p GriefShare	4p Covenant Foods				

ENGAGING GROWING SERVING

IN WORSHIP IN GROUPS IN MINISTRY

Contact Information

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Sunday Morning

Groups and Classes - 9:15 AM

Worship - 10:30 AM

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Luis Llerena Jr.

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Facility Director

Welcome, New Members!

Jason & Johanna Hollanbeck

ONLINE GIVING
Text GIVE to
317-659-6348



COMMUNITY GROUPS: SUNDAYS AT 9:15 AM

The Journey

Alex Darnall

B201

Bible Studies for Life

Parents & Professionals

Couture, Donaldson

& Kern in B203

Bible Studies for Life

Moran Group

Jim Moran, Mark West

D114

Various Topics

James 1:22

Pittman/Dickerson

D110

Explore the Bible

Living Stones

Christie, Schlotterbeck

& Greenly in D109

Bible Studies for Life

Legacy Ladies

Gail Bland

D100

Various Studies

Senior Women

Donna Kreke

D102

Explore the Bible

Beacons

Mike Bowman

D104

Explore the Bible

The Brethren

Jim Myers/Nick Laurino

D113 (New location)

Various Studies

Grades 6-12

Upstairs CLC

Elementary/Preschool

Kids Wing