

THE VISION

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

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ENGAGING
IN WORSHIP

GROWING
IN GROUPS

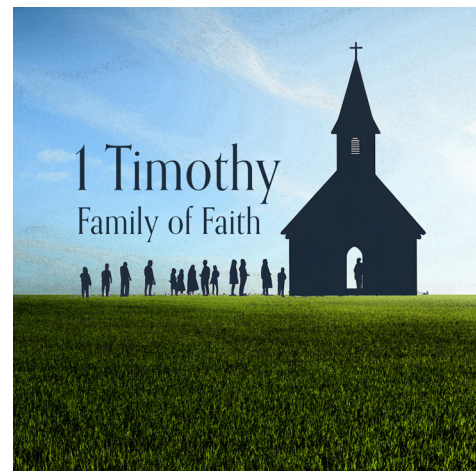
SERVING
IN MINISTRY

The Church as a Family of Faith

by Jeremy Couture, Senior Pastor

The church at Ephesus was as countercultural as they come. The congregation was planted with sound theology in a community where false teaching was common. Paul spent two full years discipling the new believers there in the basics of the Bible (Acts 19:10). The group also experienced great spiritual victory against the forces of darkness. The Apostle performed miracles and exorcisms while his Jewish counterparts were assaulted by the evil spirits they tried to subdue (Acts 19:14-15). At that time, the gospel movement was called "The Way," and Luke states that "no small occurrence" there concerning this new church and its teaching.

Paul gave the fledgling church in Ephesus a sense of identity as a "family of faith" in his first follow-up letter to them. He hints at the idea of a family connection by describing salvation as being "adopted as sons...by the kind intention of His will" (Ephesians 1:5). That concept is made explicit in Ephesians 2:19, where Paul sets their formed status as "strangers and aliens" against their current status as members of "God's household." This imagery is reinforced by how Paul describes the various arenas of Christian living in the household codes in Ephesians 5:21-6:9. All in all, Jesus Christ is the head and all believers are part of the family (Ephesians 5:23).



Years later, Paul sent his associate, Timothy, to assist the church in Ephesus. His instructions in 1 Timothy contain two goals for the younger pastor. First, he was to oppose the false doctrine that had infiltrated the church (1:3). Bits and pieces of the errant doctrine are described in the text, but there's no clear description of what the teaching is or where it came from. Instead of correcting the error directly, Paul addresses the errant actions that come from it.

As a second goal, Timothy was to explain the kind of behavior that should characterize members of God's household (3:15). The assumption is that convictions and character are connected. As Jesus taught in the Gospels, good fruit comes from the root of a good tree. If the fruit is bad it says something very important about the root that it came from (Luke 6:43-45). The Ephesians needed to step up to the behavior that was fitting for members of the family of faith.

Our new fall sermon series, Family of Faith, will explore the various aspects of what it means to be a group of believers bound together by our shared faith in Jesus Christ. This countercultural commitment will bring us closer to one another and to our Savior, the head of our family. I hope you'll be able to join us each week as we engage in worship through the study of God's Word.



Some of our Covenant Foods volunteers

A Blessed Ministry

by Denise Sherman, Covenant Foods Volunteer

Covenant Foods is a food pantry ministry of Northside Baptist Church since September 2008. This ministry has been blessed and is a blessing.

Mary Hall, prayed, researched and led by the Lord opened the doors on Tuesday, September 9, 2008. Her leadership skills were a blessing in getting it going and maintaining it for several years. Then Vivian Noggle, with a caring and generous heart continued to bless Covenant Foods. In recent years, Scott Long has led this ministry and he too has blessed Covenant Foods with a serving and giving heart.

We are also blessed by individual donors and vendors. With their help we can give even more than we would without them. We have been blessed with godly caring volunteers since day one. Without their faithfulness we could not operate. Also the countless guests that have come through our doors the past 18 years have blessed the volunteers greatly. We have witnessed changed lives.

Some of our guests have been coming for years and some are brand new. They represent a myriad of spiritual backgrounds including some with no history of faith. BUT we are more than just a food pantry; we are a place of Godly Light. We share the Word of God, the Love of God, and we pray with the guests. We connect personally with each of them. Many have told us that the atmosphere is different here than at other pantries they visit. Some have come in just for prayer, not food.

Covenant Foods Ministry is blessed by God so we can bless others. All Glory to Him!

September Food Drive

You can help...

- flood victims
- low-income families
- stock the pantry for the holidays

Stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a list of suggested items. Return your donations to Northside by September 27. Thank you for supporting Covenant Foods!

The Joy of Giving and Receiving

Pastor Jeremy wrapped up his recent sermon series in Philippians with a message entitled, "The Joy of Giving and Receiving." (You can find that message in our sermon archive at northsideindy.org.) As we look toward fall and the holiday season, let's be intentional in exploring ways to be generous with ourselves and our resources.



Northside is hosting a **Missions Fair** on **Sunday, September 27** in the **Christian Life Center** where everyone attending will learn more about participating in missions, whether local or global. Plan to stay a little later after the worship service that day.

IMB Missionary, Rusty Ford, will be our guest speaker in the service. Then at the Missions Fair we'll have representatives from various missions organizations with information displays in the gym. There will be a sampling of international foods in the Fireside Room.

Covenant Foods is a wonderful ministry to serve and support. In celebration of our food pantry's 18th anniversary on September 9, (see article on page 2) we are conducting a food drive to stock the shelves in preparation for the holidays. Pick up a shopping list and bring your food donations to the **Donation Center** in the Christian Life Center by the end of this month.

The **Metro Baptist Center** in Indianapolis is another ministry we support with tangible donations. In-season clothing, sheets, towels and toiletries are welcome to be placed in the crate in the Donation Center.

We're also collecting gently used Christian books and curriculum for **Love Packages**, an organization that provides Bibles and other resources to missionary outreach around the world. Drop off your books and materials at the crate marked Love Packages.

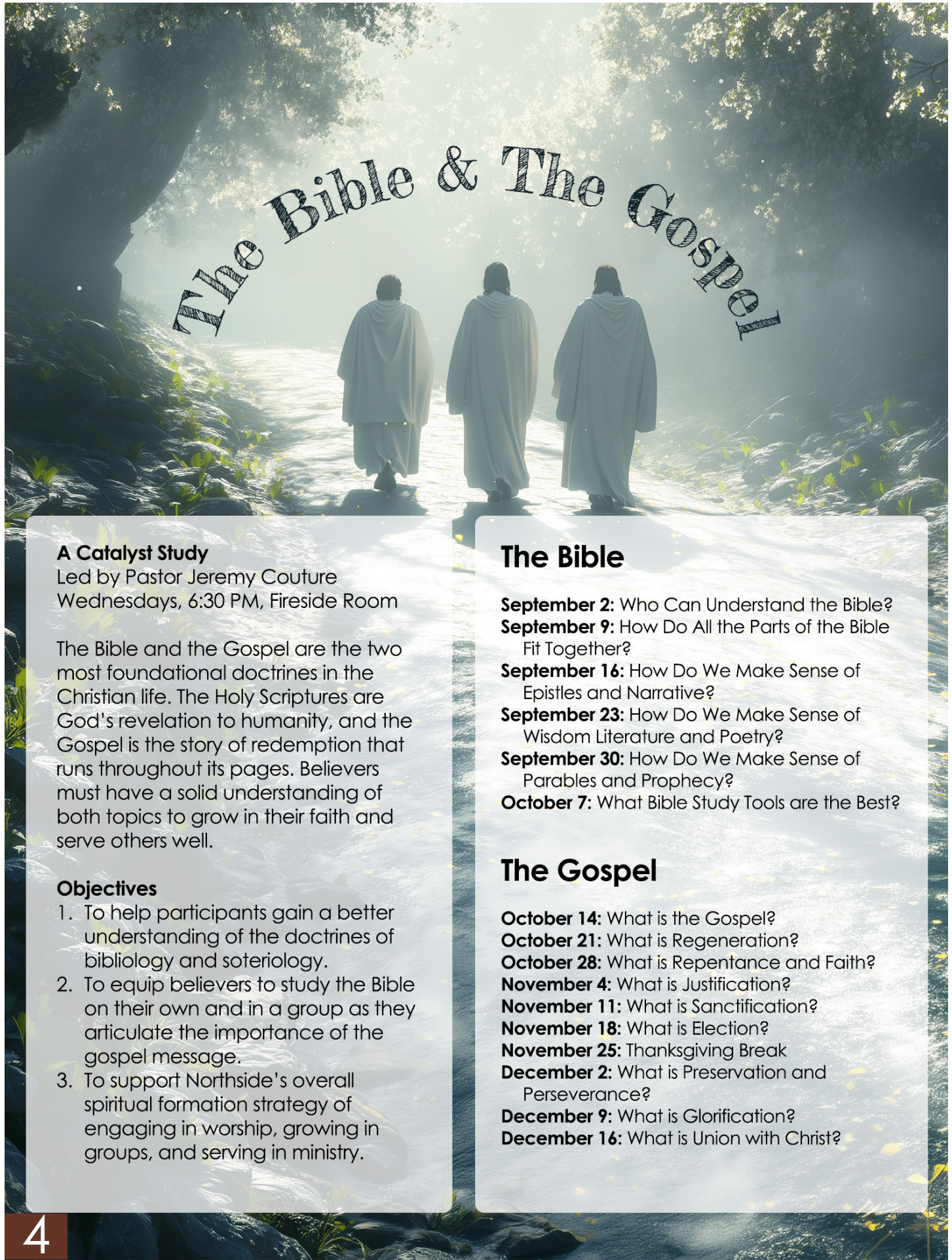


Join us for the **Grill Walk** on Saturday, **September 12**. Meet at Northside at 10:30 AM and help reach out to neighborhoods near the church.

Our deacons are organizing this special outreach featuring a portable grill and serving freshly made hamburgers.

This is a great way to break the ice with neighbors in the community by sharing a meal and starting conversations.

Please pray for this to be an impactful way to introduce ourselves to the local community.



The Bible & The Gospel

A Catalyst Study

Led by Pastor Jeremy Couture
Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, Fireside Room

The Bible and the Gospel are the two most foundational doctrines in the Christian life. The Holy Scriptures are God's revelation to humanity, and the Gospel is the story of redemption that runs throughout its pages. Believers must have a solid understanding of both topics to grow in their faith and serve others well.

Objectives

1. To help participants gain a better understanding of the doctrines of bibliology and soteriology.
2. To equip believers to study the Bible on their own and in a group as they articulate the importance of the gospel message.
3. To support Northside's overall spiritual formation strategy of engaging in worship, growing in groups, and serving in ministry.

The Bible

September 2: Who Can Understand the Bible?

September 9: How Do All the Parts of the Bible Fit Together?

September 16: How Do We Make Sense of Epistles and Narrative?

September 23: How Do We Make Sense of Wisdom Literature and Poetry?

September 30: How Do We Make Sense of Parables and Prophecy?

October 7: What Bible Study Tools are the Best?

The Gospel

October 14: What is the Gospel?

October 21: What is Regeneration?

October 28: What is Repentance and Faith?

November 4: What is Justification?

November 11: What is Sanctification?

November 18: What is Election?

November 25: Thanksgiving Break

December 2: What is Preservation and Perseverance?

December 9: What is Glorification?

December 16: What is Union with Christ?

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 9, 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 2026/2027 sessions, the women will study the books of 1 & 2 Samuel. The lessons are organized by week with daily reading and questions. Each lesson contains historical background, commentary, and a week's worth of personal application questions, leading readers to discover fresh insights into God's Word.

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.



Luis Llerena, Jr. on Mission in Ecuador

JOY Luncheon **September 17, 11:30 AM** **Fireside Room**

Don't miss our **special guest speaker** at the September JOY Luncheon. Our beloved Facility Director, Luis Llerena Jr, traveled to Ecuador on a mission trip in July. This was not his first trip to the country of his heritage, as he has visited family there in the past, and has connected with missionaries in the region such as Steve Saint, son of the well-known missionary pilot, Nate Saint, who died in 1956 with a group of four other missionaries attempting to bring the gospel to an unreached tribal people. Multiple books and films have been produced to tell the ongoing work the Lord is doing in the country of Ecuador. You will want to be here to hear Luis as he shares his experience on this trip and previous ones.

Luis, a former pastor, is quite gifted and comfortable sharing stories of God's work in his life. He and his wife, Sue, are regular attendees at the JOY Luncheon. We're thrilled that Luis is, once again, our special guest speaker for the day.

Youth Ministry Essentials

by Jared Barham, Associate Pastor of Youth

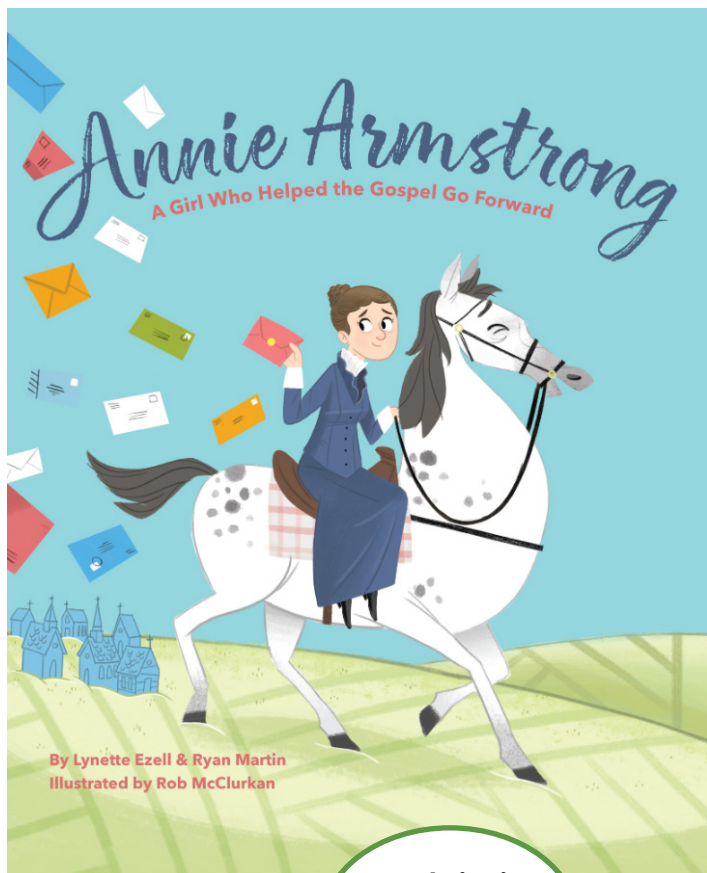
Greetings Northside family! I hope you have settled back into your fall rhythm as school is back in session and so are our Wednesday night activities. Assemble is back in full swing and we are studying the "I Am" statements of Jesus from the book of John. Please pray for our students to love Jesus more as they find out more about His identity and truth.

Our fall event schedule is ready to roll and we have some exciting events lined up for some great fellowship times and opportunities to invite friends to church! Please pray for these events as we seek to be a youth ministry that fellowships well and invites our friends into the story that God is writing here in our Northside family.

We also have a supremely exciting opportunity to partner with the new Fellowship of Christian Athletes at North Central High School! Please pray for the lives that are going to be changed and touched from this ministry, and please be open to different ways you can serve or assist with this ministry in the very near future!



Thank you for your continual support and prayer, and we are looking forward to an awesome school year of ministry and all that God is going to do in the lives of our teenagers!



Annie Armstrong: A Girl Who Helped the Gospel Go Forward

by Jared Barham, Associate Pastor of Youth

One of the coolest new resources from SBC Annual Meeting 2026 was this book about Annie Armstrong which was written by Lynette Ezell and Ryan Martin. Each year, around Easter, Northside gives money to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. This money goes toward the North American Mission Board and helps church planters, missionaries, and churches all across North America. But who was Annie Armstrong?

Discover how one woman's faith and obedience advanced the gospel and inspired generations of missions work. Written for elementary-aged children, this engaging and practical book introduces kids to the importance of generosity, compassion, and sharing the hope of Christ with others through the story of Annie Armstrong. Children will be inspired to see how they can make a meaningful impact for God's kingdom through missions and everyday faithfulness. We hope you will check out this awesome resource and read it with your whole family as you find out more about this awesome and faithful servant of God!

(This and other books are available to check out from our Family Resource Library - upstairs in Northside's Christian Life Center.)

Upstairs in
the Christian
Life Center

NORTHSIDE YOUTH

FA

**SEP
OCT
26**

Events



Assemble: Wednesdays at 6:15 PM
8-week study: I AM

HOME BIBLE STUDY
STARTS SEPTEMBER 13



Hide & Seek

HIDE & SEEK
SEPTEMBER 26
6-9 PM @
NORTHSIDE

CORN MAZE AND BONFIRE
OCTOBER 24 \$15/PERSON
MEET AT NORTHSIDE
3 PM - 8 PM

Northside Kids Ministry News

by Danielle Root, Children's Director

Awana: Wednesdays at 6:15 PM

We had a great start to our Awana year! It's not too late to join us even if you missed August.

Kids Community Groups: Sundays at 9 AM

Join us each Sunday at 9 AM as we study "Jesus Brings Truth" in the following lessons.

September 6

Jesus Taught in Parables (Matthew 13/Mark 4/Luke 8)

September 13

Jesus Taught About the Kingdom (Matthew 13/Mark 4)

September 20

Jesus Calmed a Storm (Matthew 8/Mark 4/Luke 8)

September 27

Jesus Gave Life & Healing (Matthew 9/Mark 5/Luke 8)

Bible Explorers: Sundays at 10:30 AM

Bible Explorers meets each Sunday during the main service and is for 1st-6th grade. We also have classes for babies through kindergarten.

September 6 Jacob's Dream Genesis 27-28

September 13 Joseph & His Brothers Genesis 37

September 20 The Burning Bush Exodus 3

September 27 The Wilderness Exodus 13:1-17:6



Secret Service

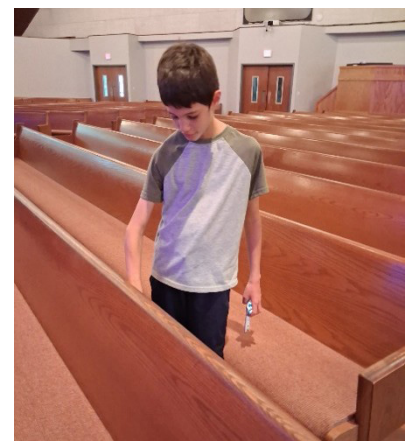
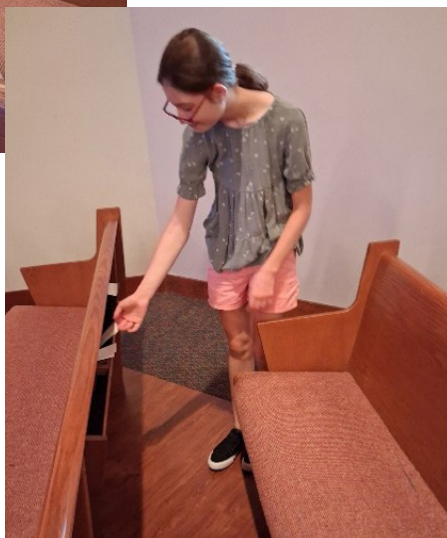
by Phyllis Rudisill, Controller

Did you know there are many who work "behind the scenes" each week to help keep our church a welcoming place to worship?

This month's example highlights the Root children. They come EVERY Monday to clean up the auditorium. They straighten the books and Bibles in each pew, picking up left behind papers and trash, communion cups, etc. and then they restock all the pew supplies. They have been faithful servants for several years and they MAKE A NORTHSIDE DIFFERENCE.

Thank you to Jubilee, Boaz, and Phoebe!

We will have more pictures of behind-the-scenes servants in our next edition of *The Vision*!





Awana[®] 2026-2027 calendar

Wednesdays, 6:15 PM —7:30 PM for age 3 through Grade 6 in Kids Cove

September

- 2 Regular Meeting
- 9 Regular Meeting
- 16 Regular Meeting
- 23 Bring your favorite stuffed animal!
- 30 Regular Meeting

October

- 7 Regular Meeting
- 14 Missionary Focus (Gwion Family)
- 21 Regular Meeting
- 28 Painting Pumpkins!

November

(Covenant Foods donations all month)

- 4 Regular Meeting
- 11 Regular Meeting
- 18 Bring a donation for Covenant Foods for extra Awana bucks!
- 25 No Awana – Thanksgiving break

December

- 2 Regular Meeting
- 9 Regular Meeting
- 16 Awana store & wear Christmas themed clothing!

January

- 13 Awana resumes!
- 20 Regular Meeting
- 27 Pajama Day & Tricky theological pastor questions due!

February

- 3 Regular Meeting
- 10 Pastor Popcorn Night via video!
- 17 Regular Meeting
- 24 Regular Meeting

March

- 3 Local Ministry Focus TBA
- 10 Regular Meeting
- 17 Regular Meeting
- 24 No Awana – Spring Break!
- 31 Regular Meeting

April

- 7 Missionary Focus (Gwion Family)
- 14 Regular Meeting
- 21 Regular Meeting
- 28 Regular Meeting

May

- 5 Awana store!
- 12 Award Ceremony & Roller Skating Party!



Northside Mission Trip

Bogotá, Colombia

2026



On Mission to Bogota

Our team from Northside had a great time visiting our missionaries in Colombia, serving alongside them in various ways, and taking gifts for the missionary kids which were given out at a Back to School Bash (2 photos on the right).



Check out the booth at the Missions Fair at Northside on Sunday, September 27 and find out how you can be part of the group traveling to Bogota in 2027.



September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		7:30a Men's Coffee, Fellowship & Prayer 4p Covenant Foods	6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst			
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship	Labor Day (Office Closed) 8a Don Agnew Golf Tournament	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		10:30a Grill Walk
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship		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	11:30a Joy Luncheon 7p Creative Living Bible Study for Women		
9:15a Community Groups 10:30a Kids Worship 10:30a Worship		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		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 11:30a Missions Fair		4p Covenant Foods	9:15a Creative Living Bible Study for Women 6:15p Assemble 6:15p Awana 6:30p Catalyst			

ENGAGING IN WORSHIP

GROWING IN GROUPS

SERVING IN MINISTRY

Contact Information

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Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

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Facility Director

COMMUNITY GROUPS: SUNDAYS AT 9:15 AM

The Journey

Room B201

Adults in their 20s

Led by Alex Darnall

Freed to Lead

Adults in their 30s

Room B206

Led by Jerod and Ashli Evans

Parents and Professionals

Room B203

Adults in their 40s

Matt Donaldson and Matt Kern

Moran Group

Room D114

Adults any age

Led by Jim Moran

James 1:22

Room D110

Adults any age,

Cliff Pittman and Veda Dickerson

Living Stones

Room D109

Adults any age

Christie/Schlotterbeck/Greenly

Legacy Ladies

Room D100

Women any age

Senior Women's Group

Room D102

Women age 70+

Led by Donna Kreke

The Brethren

Room D103

Men any age, Single or Married

Jim Myers and Nick Laurino

Grades 6-12

Assembly Room

Elementary/Preschool

Kids Wing

Welcome, New Members!

Robert Ingram

Sarah Childress

ONLINE GIVING
Text GIVE to
317-659-6348

