

Northgate Baptist Church

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www.northgatebaptist.com

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Dr. Barry Jimmerson
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Pastor

Rev. Matthew Winters
Assistant Pastor and
Worship Leader

Mrs. Beth Todd
Minister of Preschoolers
and their Families

Mrs. Tina Jimmerson
Minister of Children
and their families

Northgate
Seek. God. First.

Thoughts from our Pastor

What is Thanksgiving? No, this is not going to be one of those cheesy Thanksgiving articles to make us feel guilty for not making every day a day of thanksgiving. Although, that's not a bad thought - why can't everyday a day of thanksgiving? Grammatically, thanksgiving is a noun and Thanksgiving is a proper noun. But shouldn't thanksgiving be a verb? Doesn't thanksgiving require action? Didn't the pastor say, "Adoration" is praising God for who He is and "Thanksgiving" is praising God for what He does?" Let's reflect on this as we begin to move toward the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas.



I recently read a warm story printed in the *Tri-County Independent* about thanksgiving. The story weaved together two stories about thanksgiving that has inspired me to reflect upon lessons learned from these lives. Bob Macauley was the friend and roommate of President George H.W. Bush while they were at Yale University. As the Vietnam War drew to a conclusion, people were desperate to get out of South Vietnam. In April 1975, a Lockheed C5-A cargo plane which was participating in Operation Babylift crashed upon landing killing more than 150 South Vietnamese orphans. When Bob heard of the accident, he mortgaged his house, chartered a Boeing 747 and arranged for 300 orphans to escape South Vietnam.

Andy was not part of Operation Babylift. He was eleven in 1975 when he and his family fled Saigon in a Lockheed C-130 cargo plane filled with refugees. The son of a South Vietnamese Army General, Andy lived a privileged life in South Vietnam. But he arrived in the United States wearing rags. His aunt took Andy and his family into her home - ten people living in a two bedroom apartment in San Francisco. That autumn, Andy's English teacher taught him to say the word, "Thanksgiving." Soon, Andy began to learn what "thanksgiving" meant. His father was reunited with his family, he made friends at school and he learned how to play sports. One family took Andy with them on their family vacation and another family took him to Disneyland. Andy's English teacher had a special place in her heart for Andy and made sure that he and his family had two turkeys for their Thanksgiving meal. Andy's father retired as a bank executive in the United States. His brother is an engineer. His sister lives in a luxury San Francisco condo, and he is a successful author. And the Thanksgiving that he will never forget was his first one, when he sat on the floor of his aunt's apartment in donated clothes eating donated turkeys while still trying to learn to pronounce the word - thanksgiving!

"For Andy, Thanksgiving was a noun. For Bob, it was a verb."

As Christians, we can't allow thanksgiving to merely be a noun. We have to make it to be a verb. Turn your Thanksgiving into thanksgiving by doing something selfless for someone nameless.

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."

Happy Thanksgiving,

The Gate Post

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Barry Agnew, Sr.
Steve Todd
Joel Warren

Moving? Please notify the church office of your address change



The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper will be Sunday, November 24.

A fellowship meal will follow. The church provides the meat for our meal. Please bring side dishes that would feed your family with some to share. And don't forget about the dessert!

There will be no Kids Worship on November 24.



Boxes are ready to be picked up and filled for 2024 Operation Christmas Child. Please take one or two to fill. Join us for the shoebox packing party on Saturday, November 9 at 9am in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to help pack boxes. You may also give toward the postage for the boxes. The postage for each box is \$10. Just note in the memo line "OCC postage."



The Church Office will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 28 and 29. We will close at noon on November 27. NO service or other activities will be held on Wednesday, November 27. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.



Daylight Saving Time ends on November 3. Reset your clock before retiring on November 2.



MATTHEW WINTERS, ASSISTANT PASTOR AND WORSHIP LEADER

Mark 2 is, by far, one of my favorite stories in the Gospels. If you have been in a meeting with me, you have probably heard me reference it. Here is what Mark 2:1-5 says:

And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

Note a couple of things about this. First, word was getting around that Jesus was in the house. People were excited about Jesus and what He can do! There is a strong correlation between this story and church growth. Church growth will not happen without people being excited about Jesus and inviting people to experience Him for themselves. Furthermore, church growth will not happen without people having an invitation mindset in relation to the church. People will likely not come to Northgate without an invitation from one of us. Statistics say that 86% of people attend a church because a friend invited them.

Second, people who are excited about Jesus and what He is doing in His church will go to great lengths to invite. In this biblical account, four men tear a roof off a house to get a paralyzed man to Jesus. When was the last time we had such an urgency to get people to Jesus and to His church? All I can think is, "God, help me be like these four unnamed men who were not going to let anything stop them from getting this man to Jesus."

God wants the culture of Northgate to be an inviting culture. A culture where we are inviting people to worship services. A culture where we are inviting people to faith in Christ. A culture where we are inviting people to pickleball or JOY club meetings or anything we have happening.

With all that said, it's time to get excited about Jesus and His church and invite all we can to enter the same relationship that has changed our lives and rescued us from an eternity in hell.



PICKLEBALL AT NORTHGATE!

Northgate and friends Pickleball! The gym will be open every Sunday afternoon from 4:00-7:00pm for pickleball.

Come join the fun and bring your family and friends. The gym will be open for pickle ball every Sunday afternoon. Note that on Sunday when we have our prayer and praise service at 4:00pm, the gym will be open 5:00-7:00pm.



AWANA is on Wednesdays 6:16-7:30pm

Wednesday, November 20

Fruit Basket Mission Project

NO AWANA November 27

You can register your children at
www.northgatebaptist.com.

Kids invite your friends to come
to AWANA.

GATHER
with us

On Sunday,
November 10, at 3:00
pm, we will have the
first of several "Let's
Gather" events.

These will be times to foster unity and fellowship within our church body as well as invite unchurched or unbelieving friends to a gathering where they can feel and experience the love of Jesus. Please plan now to attend this special time and invite your friends, neighbors, relatives, and all you can.



WEDNESDAY SUPPER MENU FOR NOVEMBER

\$8 FOR ADULTS, \$4 FOR
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER

If you're not on the standing list, call the church
office no later than Monday at noon to be placed
on the weekly list.

November 6—Fried boneless chicken breast, corn,
battered potatoes, rolls, strawberry cake and tea

November 13—Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and
gravy, pinto beans, rolls, chocolate cake and tea

November 20—Chick-fil-A, chips, cookie and tea



Joy Club

Joy Club will meet Monday,
November 18 at 10:45am. Our
special guest will be our own Kate
Few. All are invited. If you are not on
the standing list, call the church for a reservation.

Deadline to sign up is Tuesday, November 13.



Sunday, November 10, we
will have an IMB Missionary
will be at Northgate.
The service will not be
recorded or live streamed.
Plan to be here.

Pray for our missionaries.

Women's

**Bible Study "Jesus Calling: Practicing
Thankfulness" by Sarah Young begins
Sunday, November 3 at 5pm in the Fidelis
class. Ladies come join us. Contact
Debbie Hudson at 864-630-4938 if you
have questions.**

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday nights at 6:30pm in the sanctuary we
have begun the series "The Teacher I Want to Be:
learning and sharing the Word of God" by Danny
Akin. Come join us for this series. You don't want to
miss it!