



In this issue >>>

Letter from Pastor Brandon

Elementary Ministry Update

Upward Sports Registration

Thirst 2021

Rightnow Media

Connection Luncheon

October
2021

PEACE in GIVING

North Main exists to:

*Develop completely
committed followers
of Christ who*

KNOW Christ intimately
GROW in Christ continually
GO for Christ daily

Our philosophy of ministry (*why* we do what we do) is centered on the process of discipleship in the New Testament where Jesus commands us to:

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28:19-20 NLT



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Mon-Thu 9am-4pm

“Generosity”

By Brandon Lenhart

The word for “Generosity” in the New Testament is the Greek word, “*haplotes*”, and it is translated as “sincerity” in addition to “generosity.” In this regard it means the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech, as well as in giving/sharing one’s resources or money for the benefit of GOD and others.

I’ll admit, there have been times when I haven’t given time, money, or resources out of the sincerity and goodness of my heart. I have in times past given begrudgingly, or out of obligation. I’m not proud that I’ve done this; quite the opposite. It’s embarrassing to admit it even now.

There is a diminishing of the gift when it is given begrudgingly. When a gift is given out of obligation rather than out of the sincerity of the heart, there is a stain that is left not only on the gift that is given but also on the heart of the giver. The receiver of the “tainted” gift may be none the wiser of the motives with which the gift is given, but the tainted gift, now in their possession, will only be a mere token of what it could have been if given out of a heart of generosity.

Let me explain. How would you like to be given a gift by someone, who felt obligated to give you a gift? Doesn’t it steal a bit of the wonder and awe of the gift? Or, what about a gift that was given begrudgingly? Who wants to receive a gift like that?

Now, consider the gifts we give to

GOD. Whether it’s our money, time, or resources, when we give reluctantly, begrudgingly, or out of obligation, we are in essence telling GOD that He’s not worth the gift we’re giving to Him, or that we could do better with the things He’s giving us than He can.

Sadly, all too often, this mentality pervades the church. We squander what we have been given for things that are self-focused and fleeting rather than on those things that are eternal. Not only individually, but corporately, we waste the time, talents, and resources of the Body of Christ on things that end up building up our kingdoms rather than GOD’s eternal Kingdom. This shouldn’t be!

For part of the month of October, we will be exploring what it means to give with generosity. We will learn the type of giving that honors GOD above all else, and we will learn about the purpose of giving as not only an act of obedience but also a spiritual discipline. Looking both at the Old and New Testament, we will gain greater insight into what GOD desires for us to do with what He has entrusted to us. We will learn how to steward GOD’s creation and blessings in such a way as to bring Him glory rather than to selfishly gain an advantage in this life.

Take some time this month to check where you stand on generosity. Are you generous? Take some time to explore generosity this month.

“Give away your life;
you’ll find life given
back, but not merely
given back—given back
with bonus and
blessing. Giving, not
getting, is the way.
Generosity begets
generosity.”
Luke 6:38 (MSG)

Children's Ministry

Jump Start - Elementary

September started our new school year and with it we launched our new **brite*** elementary curriculum!

It is designed around a scope and sequence that helps kids discover Jesus through the Bible, apply God's Word to their lives and develop a biblical worldview.

Each week during the lesson they have "Practical Kids Questions" to engage them with the story.

"HE" - Questions about God

"WE" - Questions about People

"ME" - Questions about Our Purpose

brite*
POWERED BY AWANA

Emily Hooks - Jump Start Elementary Director - emilyh@northmaincog.org

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

K-3rd grade season

October - January

northmaincog.org/upward

UPWARD
SPORTS

4-6th Grade season

February into April

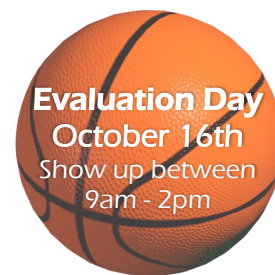
(Registration opens in December)

Online registration will be open until October 11th and the cost is \$75 plus an optional \$14 for basketball shorts, socks (new for this season), or cheerleading mock turtleneck. There is a sibling discount of \$15. We know that this pandemic has created some hardships for some of our families and we do have scholarships available. Please contact Justin Miller for more details. Do **NOT** use last season's uniform as a guide as Upward has changed vendors for their uniforms.

Ministry Leaders

Justin Miller: jtmiller98@hotmail.com

Melissa Hickman: melissah@northmaincog.org



Driven Youth
Hebrews 12:1-2



THIRST 2021
NOVEMBER 19-21, 2021

It is a weekend event created for teens to refresh, connect, grow and worship together - all because of Jesus Christ.

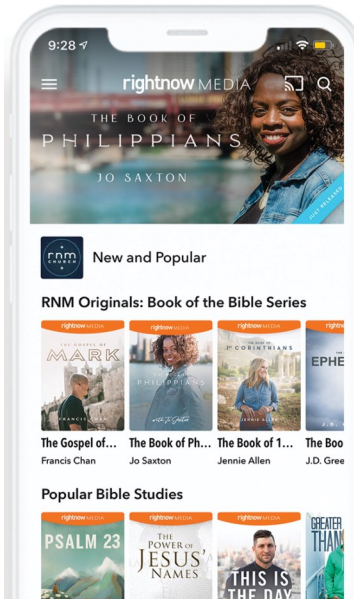
Discount for early bird registrations.

Contact: BJH@northmaincog.org for more information



⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷ You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."^[a] ⁸ And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8



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1201 North Main Street Ext
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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
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Connection Luncheon

will be on:

October 10th

Bacon Covered Meatloaf
Smashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Rolls
Apple Pie

Cost:

\$5/adult,

\$3/kid and

max of \$15/family.

Newcomers to North Main
eat for free!

Not only are we finishing up the "Bait of Satan" series this month, we are also starting a new series entitled: *Peace in Giving*. This new series will cover three weeks of information on the Old and New Testament teachings of generosity and giving. Though this topic is oftentimes fraught with tension, giving is something that is spoken of a lot within Scripture. This month we will be exploring the following topics:

- **October 3rd (Bait of Satan):** Sermon Title—*Escaping the Trap*; Scripture—Matthew 18:21-35; Key Point—"Sin is sin, and it *all* requires forgiveness."
- **October 10th (Bait of Satan):** Sermon Title—*Reconciliation*; Scripture—Acts 24:16; Matthew 5:44; 1 Peter 4:8; Romans 12:18; Psalm 35:11-12; Key Point—"As much as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."
- **October 17th (Peace in Giving):** Sermon Title—*An Act of Worship*; Scripture—Deuteronomy 14:22-29; Key Point—"Giving what you have to GOD is about more than money and possessions, it's an act of worship."
- **October 24th (Peace in Giving):** Sermon Title—*An Act of Genuine Generosity*; Scripture—Matthew 23:23-24; Key Point—"Giving to GOD must be done with a sincere heart without regard for what one will receive in return."
- **October 31st (Peace in Giving):** Sermon Title—*An Act of Sacrifice*; Scripture—Luke 21:1-4; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Key Point—"GOD doesn't need our money; He desires our hearts. However, giving to GOD from our resources is a great reminder to us from where all good gifts come."

October 2021



PEACE in GIVING