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August
2020



Developing completely committed followers of Christ who: KNOW – GROW – GO

mNorth Main

north main
know • grow • go

Business Meeting Results

Our business meeting went off without a hitch. The budget was ratified for the 2020-2021 year and two of our board members were elected for another term.

Should you wish to know who is a part of the Board of Elders or Staff, we have a booklet available at the Welcome Center.



www.northmaincog.org



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Mon-Thu 9am - 4pm

Going Home!

Pastor Brandon Lenhart

The verse above is from a passage in Luke's Gospel in the New Testament, and it's Jesus' response after healing a man possessed by many demonic entities. This man, commonly known as the Gerasene demoniac, lived among the tombs on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee just outside of his hometown. He was naked and in chains, and was a danger to himself and others; and, because of this the townspeople steered clear of him and left him completely alone. However, when Jesus encountered this man, He didn't steer clear of him. Rather, Jesus drew near to him and confronted, not the man, but the evil within him and healed the man from the onslaught of bondage that had burdened, and possessed him for many years.

Casting out the demons into a herd of pigs nearby, Jesus set this man free and gave him a second chance to return home better than when he left in the first place. He was now whole! He was now complete! He was now a new creation, saved from sin and death and the grip of hell.

I think it's interesting that after Jesus healed this man, word got out fast to the nearby town. When the people came out to see the man, and witness for themselves what Jesus had done, they were seized with so much fear that they asked Jesus to leave and go back where He came from. Of course, Jesus

Jesus said... **"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you."**

And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Luke 8:39 (ESV)

obliged and set off back across to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, but not before the man that was healed begged to go with Jesus. And, what was Jesus' response? **"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you."** And, what did he do? **"He went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him."** But why wouldn't Jesus want the man to come along with Him?

I think Jesus didn't want the man to come along with Him because of the work He was calling him to. Even though they didn't want Jesus to stay, the townspeople didn't ask the man who was healed to leave.

**The testimony of
a God-changed
life can
change lives.**

Sometimes people are willing to listen to our personal testimony of what Jesus has done before they are willing to listen to the story of Jesus from the Bible. Sometimes (many times) God uses those whose lives Jesus has changed, to be ministers to

others whose lives need to be changed.

Going home can be hard and difficult and painful at times because it requires that we face our past. But facing our past, is the only way to move into the future with healing and hope. Jesus healed this man and sent him home. Jesus longs to heal you and send you back home as His witness so that others might be set free by hearing your testimony. The testimony of a God-changed life can change lives.

GROUP LIFE

@ North Main

Discover North Main Class

During this 4 week class you will be looking at what it means to *be* Jesus' disciples and what it means to *make* Jesus' disciples through the lens of what is called the *Great Commission* in Matthew 28:18-20. Join us for our next class starting August 2nd, 2020. If you haven't yet taken this class, please feel free to do so. We would like everyone who considers North Main their home church to have taken it.

At North Main, we call this: "Developing completely committed followers of Christ who know Christ intimately, grow in Christ continually, and go in Christ daily." This is just another way of reaffirming our commitment to Jesus' mission for his church.

For more information, to find active groups, to connect with others, or if you would like to sign up for a class please contact Christy Pittman.
Christy Pittman, Group Life Pastor at Christyp@Northmaincog.org



Upcoming >>>

August 2nd - New Sunday 9am Classes

- Knit, Purl, Pray
- Overcoming Anxiety
- Discover North Main
- The Gospels (Drive Thru History)

August 9th - Baptisms

Pre-baptism class required.



The theme this month is "*Joy in Returning Home*". When you are home, there are feelings of stability and safety; a feeling of belonging and community. After being exiled from the promised land the Israelites no longer had this. They had fallen away from the ways of the Lord and had been exiled as a result.

In the month of August we will be exploring the books of Ezra and Nehemiah as the Jewish exiles, through God's hand on the current Kings, return home to Jerusalem. We will get to see the love of God amidst rebellious hearts, the providence of God amidst disobedience, and the joy of God amidst injustice. God's promises for the Jewish exiles included unity, community, and diversity, but with no change of heart on the Israelite's part, their separation from God continued through their return to Jerusalem.

We keep repeating this path of exile, of separation from God. The only way to reconcile is through Jesus! He is the true way home. He is the way, the truth, and the life, and is the pathway to our true home.

FAMILY LIFE

@ North Main

Passing Down A Faith-Filled Life, Not A Trial-Free Life

Courtney DeFeo

Do you remember the first time your child was in harm's way? I remember the time my oldest kicked a bright bouncy ball and landed on her head on the concrete. I remember when my youngest got her feelings hurt by a friend and cried real tears, not whiny tears.

I've watched my kids hurt many times, and it stinks. My knee-jerk reaction is to protect, hover, block, or tattle. Basically do anything to prevent my children from feeling pain. The same goes with their faith. I want them to fall in love with Jesus and frankly never walk away, while at the same time never experiencing hardship. And then I realize I love them too much to desire a trial-free life. I remember *my* biggest moments of growth were during my trials.

Bringing faith to life in our home is a great privilege. I'm encouraged that we don't have to have a perfect life to pass down a faith-filled life. He has got this. Our role is to simply teach them what we already know and to continue learning and sharing more day by day as we grow.

You can make a difference even if you're only one second ahead of your children in your own journey to know Jesus Christ better.

Your fear and uncertainty can show them God's grace and mercy. Your mistakes can teach them forgiveness. Your strengths can shine a spotlight on God's blessings and gifts. Your daily ordinary tasks can become extraordinary opportunities to reach the hearts of your children.

Is anyone with me? Let's slowly unpeel our grips and give God the chance to show up in the midst of trials. It's hard to imagine, but He loves our kids even more than we do.

To see more like this and for more resources, please visit: theparentcue.org

Our **Family Life Team** is comprised of the ministry leaders for each of the following areas:

Nursery

Lisa Caldwell

LisaC@northmaincog.org

Elementary

Emily Hooks

EmilyH@northmaincog.org

MOPS & MOMSnext

Marylou Palmer

MarylouP@northmaincog.org

Preschool

Laura Slaughenhoup

mrsslaughenhoup@gmail.com

Youth

BJ Hyatt

BJH@northmaincog.org

Upward Sports

Justin Miller

jtmiller98@hotmail.com

Upcoming >>>

August 1st - Saturday - 6:30pm

Family Event - Chalk the lot

August 2nd - Sunday

Birth - 6th grade open!

August 2nd - Sunday - 9am

Youth - C.O.R.E

August 7th - Friday - 6-8pm

Youth - Mini Golf at Erasers

August 30th - Sunday - 1-6pm

Youth - Back to School Bowl at the Hyatt's! Join us for our official kickoff event for the 2020-21 school year AND 6th grade induction!

September 6th - Sunday

Move up day for all kids ministry areas.

September 13th - Sunday

Fall Kick-off

Do you love kids and love Jesus?

Here is where you can get involved:

Small Group Leaders

Large Group Leaders

Administrative help

Preschool Leaders

Nursery Leaders

Childcare Volunteer

Baby Holder

Melissa Hickman, Family Life Pastor MelissaH@northmaincog.org

Our mission...

To develop completely committed followers of Christ who

KNOW Christ intimately,
GROW in Christ continually,
and **GO** for Christ daily.

Based on: Matthew 28:19-20

KNOW – The process of baptism is the first step in the discipleship process because it is an indicator of a person's belief and commitment to Christ as Lord and Savior. It is also the public profession of faith which brings a person into fellowship with the community of faith. The focal point for fleshing out this first step is the worship experience on Sunday mornings at North Main. Because our culture understands that the Christian church meets on Sundays for worship, this venue is our corporate opportunity for getting people connected to Christ and the church (this presupposes that each individual follower is doing his or her part in being a witness for Christ in the community).

GROW – The process of teaching people to obey everything Jesus commanded is the ongoing process of spiritual, mental, and emotional development required of every follower of Christ. This second step in the

discipleship process is not an end in-and-of itself, but rather a continual process of spiritual formation through small groups. Realizing that every believer is at different stages in their growth, the small group ministries at North Main are the catalyst for continual, holistic development in providing authentic community, accountability, Biblical study, prayer, and support.

GO – The final, but cyclical, process of discipleship is the element of ongoing ministry and service, which drives followers of Christ to step into the fullness of their God-given abilities and giftedness for the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Completely committed followers of Christ find it a privilege to get involved in ministry that connects the unchurched to Christ. They strive to plug in where they are gifted, and take seriously the mandate to Go and make disciples of all people.



In the next issue >>>

Sermon Series for September

New Classes/Groups

Dates for Children/Youth Activities

Fall Kick-off information