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2020



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



# North Main

## North Main exists to:

*Develop completely committed followers of Christ who*

**KNOW** Christ intimately  
**GROW** in Christ continually  
**GO** for Christ daily

Our mission is centered in the process of discipleship where Jesus commands his followers 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

## Eternal Joy

*Pastor Brandon Lenhart*

In the month of December at North Main Street Church of God we will be focusing on the advent of Christ by exploring a theme entitled “Eternal Joy.” It only seems fitting as we close out our theme of “JOY” for this tumultuous year that we consider the eternal effect of joy that was ushered in through Christ at His birth, and consummated in Christ at His death and resurrection. Like the old hymn declares, “Our hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus blood and righteousness... On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.” This is not only our hope, but our joy.

Though not typical for advent season, we will be looking at the New Testament books of James, Peter, and Revelation in order to understand the eternal joy through faith, that Jesus’ birth ushered into this world. For instance, consider the famous passage in James 1:2-4, that when troubles come our way, to consider it a cause for great joy. But why? Because... our faith is tested, and our endurance grows, and when endurance has been fully developed we become complete, needing nothing this world has to offer.

If there is anything that Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection shows us, it is that the only way we can make through this broken and fallen world is by following Christ. However, when we do so, we must follow Him to the cross where He suffered and died. This would be completely devastating if that was the end of the story, but it’s not! As we follow Jesus to the cross,

we too must die to ourselves (Luke 9:23); and, as He died for our sins and was raised to new life, we too are raised to new life as we follow Jesus to the tomb and are resurrected with Him by faith. Thus, become transformed into new creations; living, breathing children of God on earth, patiently awaiting our Savior’s return to take us home into the *eternal joy* He has prepared for us.

You see, it was because of the *eternal joy* that awaited Him, that Jesus endured the cross, just as we have to endure trials and troubles this side of heaven. In doing so, Jesus disregarded the shame of the cross. The temporary embarrassment of being laid bare in complete humiliation on the cross was nothing compared to the glorious joy that awaited Jesus, and also awaits us who are in Him, in Heaven (Hebrews 12:2).

So, what is eternal joy? Eternal joy is a baby boy born in Bethlehem so very long ago, whose first bed was a manger, and whose first sounds were the sounds of sheep and livestock. Eternal joy is a young man who gathered disciples who, in turn, gathered the masses, for the purpose of spreading the Good News and the message of joy throughout all the world. Eternal joy loves you! His name is Jesus. That’s why we sing, “Joy to the World!”

Merry Christmas from our home to yours. I pray that you would be blessed as you ponder the goodness of God through the birth of Christ this season. Let’s look forward to a new year of godly possibilities as we press on to 2021.

*Eternal Joy is a  
baby boy born in  
Bethlehem so  
very long ago.*



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Mon-Thu 9am-4pm

# December 13th Baptism

## FAMILY LIFE @ North Main

Talk About the Bible Story with your kids this Christmas season:

Why is it so fun to receive a gift, even if it's a small one?  
What's the gift you're most excited about giving this year?  
What could you give that isn't a "thing"?

*Parent:* Share a personal story about a time you gave a gift that made you feel better than if you had received it.  
Why did God send Jesus for us? (Because He loves us!)  
Why did we need a Savior? (We sin, and our sin separates us from God. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the price for the sins of the world. Jesus made it possible for us to have a relationship with God.)

## GROUP LIFE @ North Main

Have you gotten plugged into a Community group yet? We're encouraging you to! Our Community (home) groups are not just about getting together and studying the Bible. You will discover that your needs and problems are not unique; we're all in the same boat. This will help you to know that others are facing the same difficulties, or have lived through them and learned spiritual principles in the process that can help you. We really do need each other. God never meant for you to go through it alone in the Christian life! If you're interested in joining or hosting one, please contact Angela Kupas at 724-285-4214 or [AngelaK@northmaincog.org](mailto:AngelaK@northmaincog.org).

## Community Partnerships @ North Main

### Foster Family Room

As North Main families are reaching out and opening their homes to children in need, we have developed a way to support them. Our "Foster Family Room" is now open with items available for loan to North Main families on an as needed basis to care for their foster children (like a library loan system).

We are accepting donations of new or gently used children's items. No clothes wanted at this point until we receive enough containers to be able to sort them. If you have any donations please call the church office to schedule a drop off.

#### Donations needed:

- Bouncy seats
- Car seats
- Cribs
- Diapers
- Highchairs
- Pack n plays
- Swings
- Totes
- Toys
- Etc.

#### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Weekly**
  - Mentoring Crisis Victims
  - Prayer Walk
- **Occasional**
  - Renovation Work

We would love to have you partner with us as we serve our community! If you're interested in any of these opportunities please call the church office or email us at:

**Pastor Christy Pittman:** [ChristyP@northmaincog.org](mailto:ChristyP@northmaincog.org)  
**Lisa Caldwell:** [LisaC@northmaincog.org](mailto:LisaC@northmaincog.org)





# Christmas Eve Services

Nursery Childcare provided for  
ages 3 and under

**4pm**

**7pm**



## THE LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL



# *Toy Shoppe*

**NOW THROUGH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH**



The Annual Christmas Toy Shoppe hosted by the Lighthouse Foundation is happening on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> this year. We would love for you to partner with us by donating a new and unwrapped toy, clothing, stocking stuffer, or gift card. Bring in your donations to North Main by Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.



2021

# YOUNG ADULT

WINTER RETREAT

JANUARY 8-9, 2021 @ WHITEHALL CAMP

REGISTER TODAY @ [WWW.NORTHMAINCOG.ORG](http://WWW.NORTHMAINCOG.ORG)

## Join us in December for:



Ham, Potatoes Gratin, Vegetable, Roll, Boston Cream Cake.

Cost: Adults \$5, Kids \$3, Max of \$15 per family.

Invite a friend to join you,  
newcomers to North Main eat free!

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## December Sermon Series

### Starting Dec 6th.

So, what is eternal joy? Eternal joy is a baby boy born in Bethlehem so very long ago, whose first bed was a manger, and whose first sounds were the sounds of sheep and livestock. Eternal joy is a young man who gathered disciples who, in turn, gathered the masses, for the purpose of spreading the Good News and the message of joy throughout all the world. Eternal joy loves you! His name is Jesus.

