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



North Main



Develop completely committed followers of Christ who

KNOW Christ intimatelyGROW in Christ continuallyGO 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



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Mon-Thu 9am-4pm

What is Peace? Pastor Brandon Lenhart

Three years ago, while away at a leadership retreat at Whitehall Camp and Conference Center, the ministry staff of North Main Street Church of God solidified a yearly theme sequence centered on the Fruit of the Spirit as found in the Apostle Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia (Galatians 5). In 2019 we focused on the theme of "Love," the first fruit listed in verse 22. In 2020 we focused on the second fruit of the Spirit listed in Paul's letter, the fruit of "Joy." This year (2021) we move on to Paul's third fruit of the Spirit, "PEACE." And how fitting that after the year we've just come through that our focus this coming year is on PEACE.

2020 brought a lot of impatience, frustration, and questioning, and it's because of these things that many of us found ourselves in some dark and desperate places. For many, our year of "joy" turned into a nightmare. However, in spite of all of this, I do believe that God was working just as powerfully as He always does, to bring something beautiful from something seemingly so awful.

In 2020, we were reminded that joy isn't relegated to circumstances and situations, but rather directly tied to our salvation and hope in God through Jesus Christ. Because of this, we learned that no matter what happens in life to the believer in Christ, there is a way of hope that leads to everlasting life devoid of sickness, death, pain, sorrow, sadness, and the like.

Amy Carmichael, missionary to India, wrote, "Blessed are the single-hearted, for they shall enjoy much PEACE... If you refuse to be hurried and pressed, if you stay your soul on God, nothing can keep you from that clearness of spirit which is life and PEACE. In that stillness you know what His will is."

As we look toward 2021 and our theme of PEACE, we notice that PEACE is tied directly to patience. We live in an impatient society. We want what we want, and we want it right now. There is even a pot roast now that you can cook in a microwave in less than ten minutes—but it's not as good as the real thing. When we refuse to wait on God and allow Him to work according to His schedule, when we take matters into our own hands, the result is always disaster.

PEACE is found only in what you put your trust in. And, if what you put your trust in is anything other than God, then your PEACE will be fleeting at best. This year (2021) let's determine to put our trust completely in God through faith in Jesus Christ, and experience the "PEACE" that passes understanding; the PEACE of God that gives rest to the weary soul.

FAMILY LIFE @ North Main

The holidays are such a special time of the year. But they can also be really stressful, especially during a pandemic! As you prepare to usher in 2021, we encourage you to be intentional about connecting with your family and to be present for them during a potentially tough season. Here are some suggestions:

- → Be present for every conversation, and encourage your kids to do the same, as they talk with relatives, even if it is over Facetime or Zoom. Teach your kids to ask open-ended questions such as "What was your favorite Christmas memory?" to create meaningful conversations.
- → Ask your kids what their goals are for this year. What are they most looking forward to in 2021? Set New Year's resolutions with your family. Your resolutions can be for each individual or for you as a
 - family—maybe you choose one verse a month that you want to memorize, or a special way that you want to help someone.
- → Pray together as a family. Consider making a special prayer jar or prayer box. You can even save the Christmas cards or pictures you received & use those to take turns praying over friends and family (pick a new one each day). The holidays can be a tense time, but coming together in prayer to start the new year will be a source of comfort and PEACE.

Pastor Melissa Hickman: MelissaH@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.

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 **Lisa Caldwell:** LisaC@northmaincog.org



Have you gotten connected with a group yet?

We have several on-campus or in-home groups for you to choose from. Please get connected to one. They provide an excellent source of support in times of crisis, change, and stress. You'll have a sense of stability and security knowing there are people who care for you and are standing with you.

If you have any questions, please, contact: **Pastor Christy Pittman**ChristyP@northmaincog.org
or by calling the office at
724-285-4214.



2021 Bible Reading Plan

You're invited to journey through the Bible with North Main this year as we enter 2021: a year of **PEACE!** As you read through the Bible, highlight evidence of **PEACE!** throughout your daily Scripture readings. Regular print or large print reading guides & blue highlighters will be available at the Welcome Center or for pickup at the office.



scripture readings & videos through the You Version Bible App on your phone, tablet, or computer.



Simply log on to: **bible.com/r/1Fk** or scan this QR code.

You may also access the daily

An update from North Main regarding Covid-19

We continue to remain open for in-person worship for those who would like to attend. As previously stated, if you are sick or feel unwell, please stay home, and join us online. Please wear a face covering when you're at North Main if you can. We know there are people with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask and we will not police mask-wearing in the building. As cases continue to rise locally, we know there is more potential for exposure, so please use your best judgement when making the decision whether to join us online or in person. When the staff at North Main Street Church of God is made aware of someone who has recently tested positive for Covid-19 and has been in the building, we will notify the others in their group or class that they have potentially been exposed and will close the group the following week. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all try to navigate these challenging times.



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JANUARY 2021

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