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July 1
2020



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



North Main

Updates on Reopening >>>

Over the past month North Main has been slowly reopening...

... And, a part of that process has been assessing current trends, safety procedures, and cleaning guidelines.

This month (July), North Main will be reopening the first phase of Children's Ministry on July 5th by offering 4th -6th Grade classes during the morning service at 10:30am.

North Main will also be resuming regular Sunday morning small groups and classes on campus at 9:00am. To find out more about what classes will be offered, check out the "small group" section in this Newsletter.



Finding Joy Amidst Loss

Pastor Brandon Lenhart

The thought of my suffering and homelessness is bitter beyond words. I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!"

How can a person find joy amidst loss? That's a tough question to ponder, but it's one that we should all have an answer to. Though joy and loss may seem diametrically opposite, there is evidence in Scripture that both can coexist in the same person at the same time.

Consider the passage from the Old Testament book of Lamentations above. Written by Jeremiah (one of God's prophets), Lamentations was written during a time when the southern kingdom of Judah (the only remaining territory of Israel) was completely overthrown by the Babylonian Empire under King Nebuchadnezzar. During that conquest, the Babylonians not only invaded and overthrew the nation of Judah, but they also ransacked and destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem (the formal place of worship, prayer, and sacrifice for the Jewish people).

In the book of Lamentations, Jeremiah "laments" about the fact that the Jewish people (God's chosen people) no longer have a home or a place to worship. They are now destined to wander about as slaves and nomads scattered throughout the nation of Babylon.

How would you feel if the United States was overtaken by a foreign power, the

sacred and familiar spaces in society destroyed, and you were forced to move to a foreign land where the customs were strange and oppressive, and where life was harder than you've ever known?

After much time in contemplation, Jeremiah remembered the faithful love of the LORD, and how it never ends! This GOD who had allowed judgment to come upon the nation of Israel because of their constant

... Joy is not something we have only when times are good, we can have joy in the LORD even through the bad times of life.

disobedience and idol worship, still loved them no matter how evil and corrupt they became. This is how Jeremiah was able to have joy amidst great sorrow. This is how Jeremiah could lift his head toward God amidst great loss.

How do you deal with loss? How do you deal with sorrow and pain?

You see, joy is not something we have only when times are good, we can have joy in the LORD even through the bad times of

life. When Christ rules our life, even when bad times come (even when we encounter great loss) we can trust in GOD and know that He loves us. He too encountered great loss! Because of the joy set before Him, Jesus endured the cross, disregarding its shame (Heb 12:2). If He can do that for us, we can surely trust in His love for us!

GROUP LIFE

@ North Main

Group Life is the primary means of growth at North Main Street Church of God. It is our responsibility to ensure everyone who steps through our doors is provided with ongoing opportunities to in relationship with God and others by becoming more like Jesus.

Therefore, it is the goal of Group Life to faithfully provide classes, groups, teams, and structures to meet you wherever you find yourself on your journey with Christ. From beginners to seasoned saints, we pray you will find a place to grow deeper in your walk with Christ.

Group Life works closely with the Community Partnerships team at North Main. Each group is encouraged to find a place to serve the body of Christ and to serve the community at large.

For more information, to find active groups, or to connect with others, stop by reach out to:

Christy Pittman, Group Life Pastor at Christyp@Northmaincog.org



Upcoming >>>

July 5th - Sunday groups start up

July 19th—Graduation Sunday

July 26th—Annual Congregational Business Meeting

August 9th - Baptisms

If you would like to participate please contact Christy Pittman.



FAMILY LIFE

@ North Main

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

Nursery ~ Lisa Caldwell

Preschool ~ Laura Slaughenhoup

Jump Start Elementary ~ Emily Hooks

Driven Youth ~ BJ Hyatt

MOPS/ MomsNext ~ Marylou Palmer

Upward Sports ~ Justin Miller

How much time do you have left with your child? We encourage families to think with the end in mind. You have about 936 weeks from the time your baby is born until they graduate from high school. That's 18 summers with your child at home. How can you make the most of that time? Our goal is to *encourage and equip families to be their child's primary faith influencer.* (Deut 6)

Upcoming Driven Youth Events:

Sunday, July 5th—CORE Small group Bible Study resumes for 6th—12th graders in the LOFT @ 9am.

July 10th-12th IYC Virtual Experience

July 19th—Graduation Sunday

August 7th—Mini Golf at Erasers

August 30th—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!

Upcoming >>>

July 5th - 4th-6th grade Children's Ministry reopening. (10:30am)
Registration required

July 12th - 4th-6th grade ONLY
Registration required

July 19th - 1st-6th grade ONLY
Children's Ministry open.
Registration Required

July 26th - 1st-6th grade ONLY
Children's Ministry open.
Registration Required

(Nursery & Preschool Rooms set to reopen in August)

Please contact Melissa Hickman or call the church office to register.

Melissa Hickman, Family Life Pastor MelissaH@northmaincog.org

Here, there, and everywhere!

Check out what we're doing locally and globally with our partnerships!



Haiti & India

Richard Fields (Director)

Food costs are skyrocketing, but orphanage directors Frankie and Tonya are literally using every inch of available garden space for growing vegetables to help offset this problem. They have planted five gardens! Children at the orphanage help to care for and harvest the produce.

Prayer Needs:

Richard's wife, Debi, passed away this month after a long struggle with various health issues. Please pray for Richard and his two adult daughters Heather and Michelle as they go through the grieving process. Richard is hoping to have a church built in memory of Debi in either Haiti or India.

Uganda

Tim & Colleen Stevenson

Kaitlin Smith (medical missionary)

The International Heritage school is still closed through August per the Government's orders. Curfews are still in place, churches and schools are still closed, and the borders are not open. Public transportation is available if they can afford it, but most cannot. There is continued need for sanitation in health clinics. Some do not yet have running water. Kaitlin hopes to have hand sanitizing stations installed in each of the five clinics in the immediate future.

Prayer Needs:

Please pray for Colleen's father Stanley, for continued healing and peace of mind as he was recently diagnosed with stage 2 lung cancer.

For Colleen as a three time cancer survivor! PRAISE GOD! Prayers for continued health.

Children of Promise

All children sponsored through Children of Promise are receiving home visits from their teachers since they are not back in school. School work and food are being provided! Through this meager outreach, people are giving their lives to Christ amazed at the love being shown to them! Teachers also get a stipend of food for their families.

We are hearing that sponsored children in all 30 countries are being cared for well. Many food distributions are being implemented through the Children of Promise Emergency Fund.



Get Connected!

Want to know more about us?

Call the church office or visit

the Welcome Center in the

church lobby on Sunday

morning for more information

on any of our ministries.

Whitehall Camps

Elementary (3rd-5th Grade)

July 7-11

Junior High (6th-8th Grade)

July 12-17

Senior High (9th-12th Grade)

July 26-31

(Based on grade completed)

Please visit whitehallcamp.org for more details and select the "Register with your Church"

button.

North Main will cover:

\$80 for grades 6-12

and

\$65 for grades 3-5.

You will receive a bill from the church for the remainder.

Community Partnerships

Over the last few months, we have been reaching out and helping our local community by providing meals. We have shared **over 278 meals** with: employees from Butler County Prison, our County Commissioners, Life Choice's Maternity Inn, Fishbone Ministries, Butler Memorial Hospital, Park Manor, and many of our families from North Main.

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.



coming soon >>>

In The Next Issue

Sermon Series for August

New Classes/Groups

Dates for Children/Youth Activities

Results of Business Meeting



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Mon-Thu 9am - 4pm