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January
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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



www.northmaincog.org



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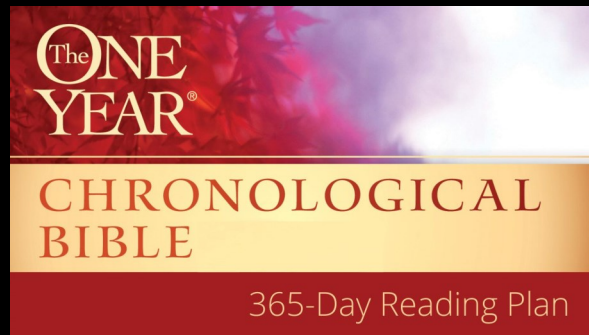
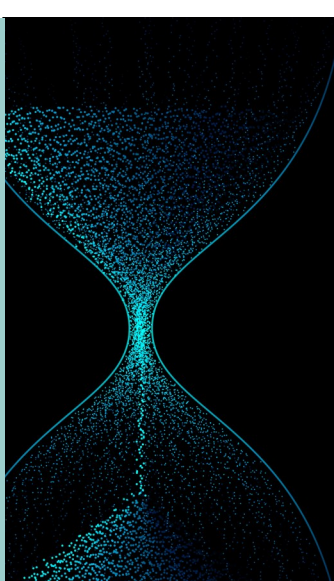
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info@northmaincog.org



Mon-Thu 9am-4pm



North Main Challenge for 2022

As you read through the Bible this year, highlight evidence of "PATIENCE" throughout your daily Scripture readings. The color of patience is represented by silver. Silver highlighters and the Reading Plan will be available at the Welcome Center for this purpose.

The One Year Chronological Bible:

The one year chronological reading plan contains the entire text of the Bible arranged in the order the events actually occurred. This unique viewpoint allows you to read the whole Bible as a single story and to see the unfolding of God's plan in history.

YOUVERSION Bible App:

If you have the "YouVersion" Bible App on your phone, "The One Year Chronological Bible" reading plan is available there. Just look up "The One Year Chronological Bible" 365-day reading plan, and you will find the reading plan that we will be using together as a church.

Access to the Online Version:
<https://oneyearbibleonline.com/>





divine PATIENCE part 1

PATIENCE

By: **Brandon Lenhart**

According to Webster's Dictionary, *patience* is: "A calm temper which bears evils without murmuring or discontent." Rousseau is quoted as having said, "Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet." Over the past several years, we have been exploring the *fruit of the Spirit* (Galatians 5:22-23) by focusing on one fruit per year here at North Main. Just as we have focused on the fruit of *love, joy, and peace* thus far, this year we will be exploring the fruit of *patience*.

Interestingly, as we have focused on each of these fruits of the Spirit, they have been tested every year. In 2019, we looked at "Love," and as is always the case, love is often tested by the strains of difficulty. However, we learned that love is the foundation for what we were about to experience in the coming year. In 2020, we looked at "Joy," and to say that our joy was tested that year would be an understatement. However, we learned that joy is not contingent upon our circumstances, but rather, supersedes all difficulty because it is rooted in Christ and our hope for eternal life.

Last year (2021) we focused on the fruit of "Peace," and how peace can be tested. In the midst of civil unrest, racial tensions, political polarization, and the ongoing COVID crisis, peace did not come easy. However, we learned that peace is not the absence of hardship, but rather, our ability to weather the storms of life knowing that GOD is ultimately in control and can be trusted.

This year, we will be exploring "Patience," and as has been the case up to this point, we should expect patience to be tested. That being the case, what are some things we can do to help the production of the fruit of patience in our lives? There are several things that come to mind:

1. **Root yourself in prayer.** Without a healthy, thriving prayer life, patience does not come easy, if at all. GOD, who can always be trusted, does not work on our timeline, but rather, on His own timeline. However, GOD's timing is perfect.
2. **Diligently study the Word (The Bible).** Scripture has countless stories of people who waited on the LORD, and their strength was renewed. The Bible encourages us when we feel like all hope is lost, and there is nothing we can do. It shows us men and women who pushed through and endured difficulties and were blessed by GOD for doing so. The Bible also reminds us of the promises of GOD which gives us the strength to persevere.
3. **Be unified in fellowship with other believers.** Remember, you are never alone; GOD is with you. However, GOD has also given us one another. The Church, the fellowship of believers and the body of Christ, is the counterpoint to a world gone mad. We were not created to do life alone. We were created to live in unity and holiness together under the headship of Christ.

So, be encouraged. Though your patience may be tested this year, know that there is a GOD who is trustworthy and good, and will strengthen you as you lean into Him. Also, don't forget to apply the previous disciplines to your life if you haven't already done so. It will change your life for the better if you do.

Lighthouse Toy Shoppe

Thank you for all of your donations! We reached our donation goal, and surpassed it with over 122 gifts given to the Toy Shoppe for this Christmas season.

Over 90 birthdays in January

- January 1 - Betty Dallos (90)
- January 28 - Paul Rettig (92)

Upward Basketball 4-6th Grade League Registration Open!

For parents, we have a document with more important information, please see our website to register and for more information: northmaincog.org/upward.

Registration

- Games in this league will be played full court with the presence of a PIAA referee (or two volunteer referees). Tournament games will have two referees per game.
- The cost will be \$85 plus an optional \$14 for shorts and/or socks. There is also a sibling discount of \$15 per child if the sibling participated in the k-3rd grade basketball and cheerleading league. When you register, please enter the sibling discount code SIBLING.

Mandatory Evaluations

We will be having MANDATORY evaluation nights which will be an open gym/scrimmaging concept on the following dates:

- 6th Grade - Monday, January 24th and 31st (6-7:30)
- 5th Grade - Tuesday, January 25th and February 1st (6-7:30)
- 4th Grade - Wednesday, January 26th and February 2nd (6-7:30)

You must make one but preferably both of the evaluation nights in order to play.

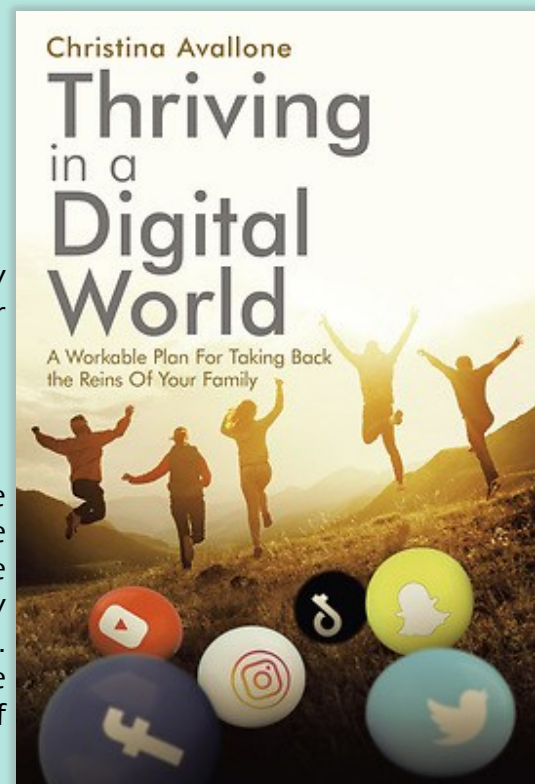
January Churchwide Study

SAVE THE DATE
January 9th, 2022
10:30am at North Main

Christina Avallone will be joining us to speak on a topic she's very passionate about: Thriving in a digital world. This will launch us into our churchwide study the following week which you can find at:

northmaincog.org/groups

Starting January 16th groups will be meeting weekly to learn valuable insights and discuss lessons on how to prevent a digital invasion and save your children (and yourself) from a dangerous addiction and balance technology with everyday living. You will be reminded that you not only can take the reins back, but that you have a God-given mandate to do so. We will dive deep into detailed strategies to help guide us through the often treacherous world of tech and social media. This is a message of hope that we can thrive in the digital world we live in.





North Main Street Church of God
1201 North Main Street Ext
Butler, PA 16001-1537



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
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Connection Luncheon

will be on:
January 9th

Menu

Soup - Chili
Soup - Corn Chowder
Soup - Chicken Tortilla
Soup - Vegetable
Soup - Potato
BBQ Chicken Sandwich
Giant Chocolate Chip Cookie

Cost:
\$6/adult,
\$4/kid and
max of \$20/family.
Newcomers to North Main
eat for free!

Sermon Series information for the January 2022 Newsletter:

Has there ever been a time when you needed an extra measure of patience toward someone or something? Has there ever been a time when you needed an extra measure of other people's patience toward you?

Our theme this year at North Main is "PATIENCE," and our first sermon series of the year will focus on GOD's divine patience with us. Throughout the five Sundays of January, we will look at characters from the Old Testament that tested GOD's patience. People like Adam and Eve, Cain, Abraham and Sarah, all tested GOD's patience in various ways, but GOD was merciful to not punish them to the extent they deserved. Here's a detailed look at the coming weeks:

- **January 2:** Sermon Title – What is Patience? (Galatians 5:22-23)
Key Point: "Patience is endurance in the face of difficulty."
- **January 9:** Guest Speaker and Author, Christina Avallone
Message Title – Thriving in a Digital World;
Key Topic: Christina Avallone will be speaking on developing a workable plan to taking back the reigns of our families. From the back cover of her book: "In this book you will gain valuable insight into how to balance technology with everyday living. You will be reminded that you not only can take the reins back, but that you have a God-given mandate to do so. You will be armed not only with the statistics but also the tools to keep your child from becoming yet another statistic. This is a message of hope that we can thrive in the digital world we live in."
- **January 16:** Sermon Title – Adam and Eve's Failure (Genesis 3)
Key Point: "GOD's protection shows His patience toward us even when we're in the wrong."
- **January 23:** Sermon Title – Cain's Failure (Genesis 4)
Key Point: "GOD's mercy shows His patience toward us even when we deserve punishment."
- **January 30:** Sermon Title – Abraham and Sarah's Laughter (Genesis 17:15–18:15)
Key Point: "GOD's willingness to endure our disbelief proves His patience toward us."

