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September
2020



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



North Main

Fall Kick-off

September 13

Join us after church on Sunday, September 13th for fellowship, food, and fun! We will be out in the back parking lot together as we play yard games and eat delicious food. Cost: Adults \$5, Kids \$3, Max of \$15 per family. Invite a friend to join you, first time guests eat free!



www.northmaincog.org



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Mon-Thu 9am-4pm

Good News!

Pastor Brandon Lenhart

When was the last time you heard good news?

Now, coming into the fall of 2020, we have experienced much in the way of bad news on a regular basis. COVID-19, racial tensions, the vast political divide, unemployment, and tensions among the nations of the world are just a few of the things that we have been faced with on a large scale this year. In addition to these things, many of us have had bad news that has affected us personally; things that have thrown us for a loop, and left us dazed and confused. We need a break! We desperately need some good news!

In the Gospel of Luke, the fourth chapter, Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah (chapter 61), as His very own mission statement, if you will. Teaching in the synagogue of Nazareth (His hometown), Jesus reads, and explains that, "The Spirit of God is upon" Him. That "He has anointed [Jesus] to bring the Good News to the poor..." But, what is the "Good News" of which He speaks?

You see, for many centuries, since the time of Isaiah (and before), the people had been awaiting a Messiah who would come and set them free from oppression and troubles. They were awaiting a messenger of God who would take away their hardships, and set everything right. Now, flash-forward several hundred centuries from

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD's favor has come." (Luke 4:18-19, NLT)

the time of Isaiah to the time of Jesus, and Jesus is reading this very passage in a synagogue in Nazareth proclaiming (in essence) that He is the one for whom they have waited. You would think they would be excited, right? No. As a matter of fact, Luke records that after further discussion, the crowd that heard this teaching became incensed, to the point of violence against Jesus, and that because of their unbelief, He was unable to do miracles in their midst.

What should have been good news to them, became news that angered and frustrated them to the point of violence.

Today, as we consider this passage of Scripture, and the good news of the Gospel of Christ, it's important to remember that good news

may not seem like good news at the time, but if it's from God it always works out for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose for them (Rm8:28).

There are several reasons that the people of Nazareth became angry, but I believe one of those reasons is that they struggled seeing Good News for what it was. Jesus *was* the Good News made flesh, but they couldn't see it. They had heard Isaiah's prophecies before, but had expected something different; and because of this, they ultimately missed it.

**Good News
may not seem
like good news
at the time**

GROUP LIFE

@ North Main

Take our 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 the *Great Commission* in Matthew 28:18-20.

Join us for our next class starting September 6th, 2020. 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, Group Life Pastor at Christy@Northmaincog.org



Monthly News >>>

September Groups

- Knit, Purl, Pray
- Facing Anxiety
- Discover North Main
- The Gospels (Drive Thru History)
- Men's Group
- How to Read the Bible for all it's worth class at 6:30pm Thursday nights @6:30pm virtually and in-person.

New churchwide campaign coming in October!



The theme this month is "*Joy's Good News*". We will be discussing how true *Joy* comes from the gift that is Jesus. We will focus on these four themes: 1) The Birth, 2) The Mission, 3) The Death, and 4) The Resurrection of Christ..

We will learn that true Joy was born in the small town of Bethlehem in Judea, and that true Joy brings good news. In addition, we will learn how true joy is surprising and how true Joy gives witness to the future by being faithful in the present.

If you would like to read ahead and begin studying for this series, the Scripture references are: September 6th—Luke 2:8-20; September 13th—Luke 4:14-30; September 20—Luke 24:13-34; September 27—Luke 24:35-53.

If you would like study guides for this series please call the office: (724) 285-4214.

FAMILY LIFE

@ North Main

Melissa Hickman, Family Life Pastor

MelissaH@northmaincog.org

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

Nursery

Lisa Caldwell
LisaC@northmaincog.org

Preschool

Laura Slaughenhoup
mrsslaughenhoup@gmail.com

Elementary

Emily Hooks
EmilyH@northmaincog.org

Youth

BJ Hyatt
BJH@northmaincog.org

MOPS & MOMSnext

Marylou Palmer
MarylouP@northmaincog.org

Upward Sports

Justin Miller
jtmiller98@hotmail.com

Monthly News >>>>

September 6th - Sunday
Move up day for all kids ministry areas.

September 10th- Thursday
Driven Youth Group is beginning for the 2020-2021 year! Come at 6:47pm.

September 13th - Sunday
Fall Kick-off

Community Partnerships @ North Main



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

Service Opportunities

- **Monthly**
Serving dinner on the Island (downtown Butler)
- **Occasional**
Housing Renovations
Porch Painting
- **Weekly**
Mentoring Crisis Victims
Prayer Walk

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 October

Current Classes & Groups

Family Life Dates

Church-wide campaign info