



northside

BAPTIST CHURCH

All are welcome | Clinton, Mississippi

**September
2020**
**Ordinary
Time**

Sunday Schedule

Worship 10:30am
**Facebook Live
Only**

Church Staff

Norma Baker
Church Hostess

James Stringer
Interim
Church Treasurer

Martha Hutson
Church Recorder

Heather Ivery
Church Administrator

Tequila Johnson
Nursery Worker

Susan Meadors
Associate Pastor

Toney Keeler
Director of Music

Dottie Serio
Pianist

Courtney Stamey
Senior Pastor

Janet Taylor
Organist

Youth Experience Camp Like Never Before

Like in pervious years, our youth experienced Passport Camp. However, this year they experienced camp right in their backyard at their church. Once the Passport Camps organization recognized the severity of the pandemic they quickly pivoted to providing online resources to all churches that registered for traditional camp this summer. This year the theme was *Be Together*, with the focal verse “[God] gives us the power to live, to move, and to be who we are.” Acts 17:28a. Each day of youth camp we focused on a different aspect of that theme: Be Still, Be Loved, Be One, and Be With. Our schedule included games, missions, Bible study, dances, worship, a variety

show, art, messy games, and a movie. Most of all, our youth learned what it means to be together as a youth group, as a church family, and as the Body of Christ. Youth Camp was led by Nancy Leigh Strum who dedicated countless hours of in-person and preparation time. Thank you is not enough to say to her and the ways she supported the spiritual growth of our youth this summer. Parents, the Youth Team, and Pastor Courtney also provided support. And thank you to all of you who showed up at the conclusion of the camp to show your support for them. Hear more about camp in their own words and in pictures here:

What was your favorite thing about camp?

Probably the messy games. –Brady Mayfield
The team building exercises, such as getting over the “electric fence.” -David Patterson (don’t worry adults, it was a pretend electric fence)
The games. –Nick Davis

I enjoyed all the activities. –Liam Coker

I loved getting to see everyone and just getting to hang out and play games. –Emma Phillips

I like the people at camp. –Ian Davis

What was one take-away you had?

Be still and allow God to reach you. –Nick Davis
To understand God, to have faith and believe.–

Brady Mayfield

Northside looks out for its members. –David Patterson

I learned there are a lot of people in the world who need help and a lot of missionaries who try to help them. –Emma Phillips

I’m never alone. –Ian Davis



News of Interest

Relational Ministry Matters

What makes Northside who it is? One of the key elements in our DNA is relationships. We all know that community does not occur overnight, but needs to be built over years (and sometimes decades)! The good news is that the pandemic has given us an opportunity to double-down on our commitment to building up our relationships in the church. While we may not be able to gather in large groups for worship, Sunday School, or special programming, we can meet individually or in small groups. We are encouraging each member to participate digitally on Zoom in small groups through Sunday School, Wednesday Check-Ins, and book club(s). However, we know that some of us desire in-person contact. While large group time together is on pause, let us each commit to deepening those relationships that make Northside who it is, and invite in newer members to do the same. Remember these opportunities:

- Deliveries with the Outreach Team
 - See July Newsletter for details.
- Sanctuary Porch Gatherings
 - Gather with five people or less on the east side of the building.
 - Find members of your Sunday School class, your pew mates, or connect with someone who is new to the church.
- One-on-one Visits
 - Call up someone you miss and schedule an outdoor, distanced, and masked visit with them. Remember, WE are the church not the building.
- Church Work Days
 - Clean up, organization, design and more! We have several projects in the works for an all-church work day. Check your email for times as they approach.

Book Club Begins!

A book club focusing on social issues has begun with the book *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. The group began meeting on August 25 and will cover a portion of the book every week for seven weeks. The group meets via **Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm**. If you are interested please contact Nancy Anderson at nanderson@newper.com. Future books will come from recommendations from participants, will be led by different people and meeting times may vary.

Facing the Unknown Together

I have never been a fan of the unknown. This year, as the longest spring break in the history of spring breaks came to an end, we found ourselves entering an entire new world of the unknown. As parents, we found ourselves sending our children into the very danger we had been protecting them from for the past 5 months. Our son, Bradley Reid, took his first steps into kindergarten while wearing a mask. Our daughter, Eleanor, carefully chose which mask matched her outfit for the start of 4th grade. The excitement of a new school year was overshadowed by the anxiety of the unknown. Would the kids be safe? Would they contract coronavirus? Are we making the right decision? These questions filled our minds and weighed on our hearts.

We asked the same questions about ourselves as teachers. Stepping into a classroom again after five months brought with it the excitement of meeting and building relationships with new students, but it also meant accepting the risk that we had isolated ourselves from for so long. That being said, I am thankful to work in and send my children to school in a district where it is evident that the safety of the teachers and the students is a top priority. As I have settled into a new normal, my fears, while still present, have been eased. One thing I have learned during this pandemic is that I cannot control everything. By stepping into the unknown, I have had to let go of my certainty and have faith that God knows the “hows” and the “whys” and the “what ifs”. I have also learned to be thankful for the blessings in my life. Our family so far has been blessed with our health, quality time together, and consistent paychecks. My complaints feel selfish in light of what others are enduring. I am thankful for the prayers of my church family. Let us continue to build each other up and bear each other’s burdens as we make our way through the unknown.

Bradley Freeny

News of Interest

New Book from Jason Coker

Our very own Rev. Dr. Jason Coker has a new book published from Smyth & Helwys entitled, *Faded Flowers: Preaching in the Aftermath of Suicide*. This work is based on Jason's real life experience after a young man in the congregation he was pastoring died by suicide.

Q & A from Smyth & Helwys

What is your hope for how your new book might impact readers?

I hope that my story and the story of our congregation can provide a witness to how we moved through some of the most tragic space in our church's life. By telling my/our story, I sincerely hope that others can find a light in it that can illuminate their own path through tragedy. My greatest hope, however, is that this book can intervene in someone's life that is contemplating suicide and prevent them from doing so. I want them to know that they are important to our world and we all need them.

*What was the most meaningful or surprising experience you had in the process of writing *Faded Flowers*?*

As you will read in chapter 7, I actually lost the manuscript and had to rewrite the sermon that provides the narrative of that chapter. Months later, I found the manuscript in an old envelope hidden in the deep dark spaces of my office desk. In what felt like a spiritual experience, the sermon I wrote nearly a decade later was remarkably similar to the one I rewrote for the book. It was a holy moment for me to see how they were so similar and yet represented my own growth over a decade later. It was both meaningful and surprising.

What can pain and grief teach us about our faith?

Faith is not and should not be impervious to pain and grief, because those experiences of pain and grief are foundational for all human beings. We all experience these deep, transformative moments of grief and pain. They shape our faith in important ways and our faith shapes the way we experience pain and grief. At the center of our Christian faith there is a cross. All of Christian faith is forged in the crucible of the crucifixion. It is an unmistakable fact of our faith.

Recent Prayer Requests

John Averitt, husband of Judy Gearhart's cousin Joy Gore Averitt; diagnosed with ALS

Abby Bosarge, Yvette Dale's brother's granddaughter, in hospital for AML leukemia

Donna Corbett, mother of Kim Corbett, cancer

George Dale, recovering from heart surgery

Nancy Farrar, Landa Strum's sister-in-law, chemo therapy finished

Dolores Garcia, Anna Garcia's mother, chemotherapy finished

Caleb Hawkins, great nephew of David Miller, recovering from partial colectomy

Parker Ingram, 2 year old son of Eastside teacher Morgan Ingram (friend of Strums) Ewings sarcoma in his spine; St. Jude's.

Ali Jenkins, spinal cancer

Elvin Key, radiation therapy for cancer

Jeannie Lane, friend of Northside,; her mother had a stroke and is isolated in Memphis

Ed Livingston, recovering from knee cap surgery complications

Eddie Mellado, brother in law of Judy Gearhart, surgery 8/25 follow up scans for cancer in future.

Kenneth and Polly Massey, sister and brother-in-law of Nancy Hancock serious COVID-19,

Susan Meadors, sabbatical

Sharon McInnes, friend of Jimmy Sclater, has ALS

Rikki Morrow, post-partum cardiomyopathy

Blake Parham, brother of Jason Parham, chemo therapy for cancer

Suzie Ratliff, niece of Caby Byrne, cancer

Jimmie Street, recovering from surgery

Tony White, husband of John's colleague LaJune, waiting for kidney transplant

MEMBERS CONFINED AT HOME

Ruth Houston — 227 Brookdale Asst. Living, 39056

Merle Thomas — 100 Parker Drive, #2B, 39056

La Deane Moore — 200 Serenity Lane, Apt. 310, Madison, 39110

Thelma Basley — 650 A Highland Colony Parkway, Apartment 302, Ridgeland, MS 39157

SYMPATHY

We grieve alongside Hal and Lou Ann Lee in the loss of their son Daniel Lee.

We offer Christian sympathy to the Nations family in the loss of Northside member, Sue Nations.

We pray alongside Duewayne and Carrie Tullos in the loss of Duewayne's brother Ron Tullos.

We pray with the family of Bonnie Berry (Crockett) upon her passing.

We offer Christian sympathy to Nancy Hancock in the loss of her sister, Polly Massey.



Northside Baptist Church
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Clinton MS 39056

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info@northsidebaptistms.org

Proclaiming, Sharing, Caring, Growing

We're on the Web:
northsidebaptistms.org

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Youth Zoom

Sunday School is Back On! 7th-12th graders are invited to Zoom every Sunday at 3pm.

Meeting ID: 782 7465 1049

Password: NS Youth

Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed in the church office Tuesday—Friday afternoons from 2—4 pm. Volunteers will answer phones, make calls to check on members, and sometimes help prepare bulletins. Contact Heather if you are interested.

STAY CONNECTED

ZOOM Conference Calls

Plan on attending one of our two regular thirty-minute Zoom calls on Wednesdays.

10am meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/524651104>

Meeting ID: 524 651 104

Password: 307563

6pm meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/370527100>

Meeting ID: 370 527 100

Password: 125842