

Northside Drive Baptist Church
3100 Northside Drive NW
Atlanta, GA 30305-1909



We're On the Web!
www.northsidedrive.org



Tender Loving Prayer List

The TLP is a Diaconate ministry. The names for this month are listed below.

Janet Bell
Reidar Bjornard

If you would like your name placed on our rotating TLP list, please give the church office a call.



Pastor's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Meets weekly from 10:30-11:30 AM in the Church's Conference Room. We study the texts selected in the Revised Common Lectionary for the next Sunday. Large print editions are available each week and for the upcoming Sunday. Discussion is deep and wide and lively. All are invited.

Meets on 1st Thursday and 3rd Thursday in the Parlor at 10:30 AM.



If you are not sure how to knit or crochet, no problem, there will be plenty of people to help you get started. This group is open to anyone who would like to join! For more information call Susan Harlan at 770-377-3869.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS January 2020

Jan. 1—Church offices closed—New Year's Day
Jan. 12—Music & Worship Team Meeting @ Noon in the Art & Soul Room
Jan. 14—Triple E @ 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall
Jan. 20—Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Church offices closed
Jan. 21—Church Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM in the Art & Soul Room
Jan. 21—ROMEOS @ Noon @ Piccadilly
Jan. 21—NDBC Book Club @ 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall
Jan. 26—Souper Bowl Sunday Lunch @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall
Jan. 26—Church in Conference @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday Morning Worship Scriptures

January 5

Epiphany Sunday
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 12

Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 19

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26

Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

These are the Lectionary Texts for the day, but the texts used in worship may vary.

NORTHSIDE DRIVE STAFF

Andrea Johnson
Director of Children's Ministries
Daniel Headrick
Associate Pastor
David Vaughns
Custodian
Gregory Colson
Director Emeritus of Music Ministries
James Lamkin
Pastor
Joleen Neel
Preschool Director
Keith H. Walker
Director of Music Ministries
Mary Lou Swann
Director of Children's Choirs
Melinda Clark
Organist
Nick Bonner
Custodian
Rose Hilday
Business Office Manager
Will Mathews
Administrative Manager

January Birthdays

Chelsea Clarke-1
Armand Kramdejian-2
Barbara Shroeder-2
Len Shelton-2
Gary Clark-3
Kennedy Molina-5
Posey Starkey-5
Katherine Bryson-6
Ruth Kramdejian-7
Joyce Wilson-7
William High-7
Jerry Smith-8
Pam Wamberg-9
Don Janney-9
Charlton Roberts-14
Libby Martin-15
Sebastian Almeida-Hall-15
Jeanne Hill-16
Ryan King-16
Anne Ledbetter-16
Fabio Molina-16
Donna McLarty-17
Vanita Morgan-17
Annie Molina-19
Norm Johnson-19
Gail Hermance-22
Harry Mathis-22
Nancy Hall-Shelton-23
Levi Milligan-24
Will Egan-25
Stephanie Jones-25
Jackson Singleton-25
Michael Hermance-26
Lanier Meeks-28
Riley Isakson-31



The PINNACLE

Northside Drive

BAPTIST CHURCH

Northside Drive Baptist Church • 3100 Northside Drive NW • Atlanta, GA 30305-1909 • Phone: 404-237-8621

December 27, 2019

Volume 7—Issue 16



**Guadete Sunday
December 15, 2019
A Day of Joy**

Pastoral Reflections
“Grace, Gratitude, and the Gravity
of Christmas ”
By James Lamkin



Last Sunday, the NDBC Sanctuary Choir powerfully presented *Handel’s Messiah, Part I*.
Like Jesus said in the Bible, “Wow!”
Gratitude overwhelms me. I so appreciate Dr. Keith Walker’s wrangling of all the musical pieces... and doing so amid relocation! Melinda Clark modified plans and scooted between the organ and harpsichord. Who knew, just 10 days before, that the death of the sanctuary’s boiler would relocate us for weeks? But, we are a wealthy congregation. We have two worship spaces, each with different gifts.

Given the chapel’s musical acoustics, the healthy size of Sunday’s choir, plus the placement of the eleven-piece string ensemble, woodwind, and harpsichord...all these made for a perfect equation equaling joy (*Gaudete Sunday*, remember?).

In fact, sometimes the hard work of musicians has dissipated in the large space of the sanctuary. However, the chapel afforded an intimacy which magnified the sacred immanence. It was like listeners and singers and instrumentalists were all connected. Truly, *The Messiah* was among us.

In addition, there were no casualties caused by notorious *Pinching Pews*. You’ve sat on them, right? For the longest time, I thought worshippers were “gettin’ the Holy Ghost.” But, no.

The bottom boards of some pews give-and-take; and by *take*, I mean they *take a bite!* So, we moved a few cushions from the sanctuary to dampen the pew-pinching. The pads are not a perfect fit; but, the place is far less dangerous.

When we had to move the whole *Messiah* musical presentation out of the sanctuary and into the chapel, I wanted to hang my harp on a willow tree in Babylon and weep. (See Psalm 137.)

Turns out, I was wrong, again. God does “work things together for good.” Our displacement to the chapel was like putting the genie in a bottle. Seemingly, the music had more focus, more heart, more presence, and more joy.

Like Jesus said, “Wow!”


Now we are a week downstream. In just a few days, Advent will end. Christmas Eve will be here; and the gravitational pull of Christmas grows. All sorts of folk end-up peering into the manger: saints and sinners, curmudgeons and caregivers, killjoys and the joyful.

All will be drawn to the holiest night’s quiet grace. All will leave with Mary and Joseph’s serene gratitude.

So will I. So will you.


In spite of ourselves, the grace and gratitude and gravity of Christmas will do their work. Like the Wise Men, we will go back home. But miracle of miracles, we will go home a different way. Why? Well, against all odds, *The Messiah* is among us.

Merry Christmas. Amen.



Church in Conference Meeting

The Church-in-Conference will meet on Sunday, January 26, 2020 in the Fellowship Hall after the morning worship service. This meeting will be held during our gathering for Souper Bowl Sunday and will include a report from the Finance Committee on any adjustments to the 2020 church budget. We will also hear updates concerning the pavilion project and the replacement structure for the Sanctuary Building, as well as reports from NDBC staff members on upcoming activities.




Our Annual “Souper Bowl Sunday” January 26 @ Noon

Volunteers are needed to either prepare a pot of soup or chili, or to bake cookies or brownies! If you are not fond of cooking we can always use help with set-up and/or clean-up. Whatever your talents are, join us that day for fellowship and fun. The donations we collect that day help support the Hunger Fund. To volunteer contact Mona Stines at mona.stines@att.net or 404-936-881.

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 PM—Family Vespers
10:30 PM—Lessons, Carols, & Communion
Services will be held in the NDBC Chapel



From the Finance Committee

Pledge the 2020 Church Budget Because. . .
When I was a young girl, I went to church every time the doors of Holly Hill First Baptist opened. Before we left for Sunday School, Daddy wrote out the giving envelopes: \$10 in his envelope, \$5 in my mom’s and \$1 in mine. Kind of like the story of the talents, or 1950’s style family hierarchy.


The necessity of giving to support one’s church and its missions was a natural expectation in my family of origin. Once my daddy even borrowed money to complete his church pledge.

Pledging NDBC’s budget in these 21st century times requires us to make personal priorities in an infinitely more complex world. But here are 10 simple reasons that might inspire and press each of us, as we can, to pledge toward meeting our church’s 2020 budget:


- 1) Modeling the life of Jesus Christ in a church community is essential to advancing God’s love in a contentious world.
- 2) 12.5 % of our entire budget goes to undergird and support hands-on mission projects like Buckhead Christian Ministries and the Stewart Baptist Center (now working proactively on Atlanta’s westside).
- 3) The growth and resilience of our church well into the 21st century depends upon the foundations we provide through Christian education for all our children and families.
- 4) James Lamkin weaves the stories from biblical texts into relevance for us and our hurting world and preaches the most lovingly personal funeral homilies. Daniel Headrick finds creative ways to engage members, friends, and the larger community in projects only a committed faith community can and should undertake.
- 5) Over the course of one’s life, the reminder that “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35) really does hold true.
- 6) Through its varied forms of Christian hospitality, Northside Drive nourishes our collective spirit and connectedness to one another. Church friendships sustain us in times of great joy and deep sadness and all the times in between.
- 7) The NDBC choir and others’ diverse musical talents are powerful vehicles for worshipfulness in our holy spaces.
- 8) Our Baptist church stands for inclusion in its membership practices and transparency in its approach to governing itself.
- 9) Northside Drive Baptist Church is known for its ecumenical spirit even in these divisive times.
- 10) Past congregational generosity and thoughtful attention to the future have given us a beautiful sanctuary and accommodating spaces in which to worship accessibly and commune with one another. And buildings, like people, need maintenance/TLC.

So please pick one of these reasons or two or more and make your pledge to extend our church’s reach now and into our future together.

Syd Janney, member since 1980



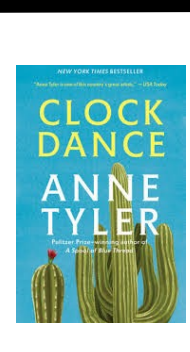
ROMEOS will meet on Tuesday, January 21 @ Noon @ Piccadilly in Marietta. For more information call Posey Starkey at 404-904-0890.



Meets Tuesday, January 14 @ 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

The program will be *The Story of Boxwoods, A Beloved Buckhead Shop* by Randy Korando.


An interview with Randy Korando and Dan Belman just as NPR has its program “How I Built This,” we will hear the story of how Randy and Dan built Boxwoods as well as what it takes to keep it fresh and compelling. Expect to hear about the fun and the misadventures of finding unique pieces, marketing to new shoppers, and running this unique Buckhead business. It will be great fun!



NDBC Book Club

Wednesday, January 22 @ 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

The featured book is:
Clock Dance: A Novel
Author: Anne Tyler
Facilitator: Beverly Allen
Hostess: Nancy Hall



Church Council

will meet on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM in the Art & Soul Room



34th Annual Women’s Retreat April 16-19, 2020

(You can decide to come on Thursday or Friday.)

Blue Boar Retreat at Lake Santeelah Robbinsville, North Carolina. Excellent meals provided. Very relaxing with time to visit, read, play games, canoe in lake, etc. Many enjoy hiking and a picnic in nearby Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. Communion service on Sunday morning
Reservation deadline: February 16, 2020
Make your reservation with \$150 deposit. Make your check out to Joyce Wilson. Give the check to Joyce.
It can also be mailed to
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Adairsville, GA 30103-0311
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