Northside Baptist Church Community Newsletter

"Northside Baptist Church is intentional about making and growing disciples and empowering people to live changed lives"

Northside Baptist Church
Dr. Walter L. Parrish III, Pastor
1100 East Northern Parkway
Baltimore, Maryland 21239

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Edition 2, Volume 2

Reflections from Our Pastor

Peace and Blessings.

The Power at Work Within Us

Ephesians 3:20 [20]Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, [21]to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The theme that we have adopted as a church for 2026 is **"Our God Is Able"**. We recite it every Sunday during our worship moments. I know we have gotten very good at reciting it. I want, though, to "drill down" a little bit and talk about some of the many ways **"Our God Is Able"**.

"Our God Is Able" to keep us. The Apostle Paul is widely agreed to been the author of Ephesians. This letter to the young congregation in Ephesus was an attempt to remind the congregation of some important ideas they needed to lay claim to as they lived their lives as Christians.

For example, the writer stressed the importance of the believers being one in Christ. And, the congregation was encouraged to be united. Those issues are just as important today as they were when this letter was written.

And the same God who was able to keep that young congregation this is still able to keep us faithful and focused in 2026.
"Our God Is Able".

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Prayer for Our Sick and Shut-in

Heavenly Father I reach out to you on behalf of the sick and shut in, that your healing power your loving kindness and tender Mercy will touch them as they go throughout their day each and every day. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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While we recognize and remember God's "able-ness", it is also important to acknowledge the other truth this verse points to. The Apostle talks about "the power at work within us". I want to say a bit more about this.

Often, we rush to talk about God being able. And that is important. It is also important to remember that because we have accepted Christ as Savior, and because we are trying to be led, guided and directed by Christ, something else happens.

The Apostle talks about "power that is at work within us." I believe it is that power that enables us to keep on going when we are weary. It is that power that enables to hold to God's unchanging hand. It is that power, at work within us, that makes us sure and confident that God will get the victory in our life.

Don't forget, whatever you are facing, there is already power at work within you to help you meet every challenge, conquer every battle, and to keep the faith. It is at work within you!

Blessings. ₹

Members In the Spotlight

Sister Delisa Robinson was recognized in an issue of The Caregiver Mentor Newsletter. She was featured in the Caregiver Spotlight section. This newsletter is published by the Baltimore City Health Department, Family Caregivers Program, Division of Aging and Community Support. See a copy attached of her article with this newsletter. ₹



Ministries In the Spotlight

Sister Linda White Shares Her Vision for the Children's Bible Study Ministry

Reporter, Brother Antonio Cooper

In today's world, where children face increasing challenges and distractions, one ministry is standing firm in its mission to nurture young hearts in faith. Sister Linda White, the dedicated leader of the Children's Bible Study ministry, is on a heartfelt journey to help children build a lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.

A Vision Rooted in Christ

Sister White's passion for guiding the next generation is deeply rooted in her faith. When asked about the ministry's purpose, she shared:

"It's to introduce or help children learn about Jesus Christ, and to help them have Jesus in their life. It's also a place for children to fellowship and get to know Jesus better."

Her vision is clear: to create a welcoming space where children can grow spiritually and experience the love of Christ in a way that's meaningful and lasting.

Beyond Sunday Morning: Partnering with Parents

Sister White emphasizes that the ministry's impact extends far beyond the church walls. She believes that parental involvement is key to helping children develop a strong spiritual foundation.

"We need the support of parents to not only bring their children to church but to talk about Jesus at home. If children hear about God both at church and at home, it sticks with them more deeply."

By encouraging faith conversations at home, the ministry aims to reinforce biblical teachings and make them a natural part of daily life.



Creative Teaching for Every Child

Understanding that every child learns differently, Sister White uses a variety of teaching tools and techniques. She draws from Baptist, Methodist, and Catholic resources, with a strong reliance on Urban Ministries and Children to Children Ministries - materials she's trusted for over two decades.

"I use different approaches based on age group and learning styles. Some children need hands-on activities, while others prefer reading. It's not one-size-fits-all."

Her adaptable teaching style ensures that each child feels seen, heard, and spiritually engaged.

Reaching the Teens

Teenagers, often at a crossroad in life and faith, require a different approach. Sister White meets them where they are - emotionally, spiritually, and socially.

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"I let them talk about themselves. I find material that connects biblical principles to what they're facing now—like dealing with school, stress, or relationships."

One current focus in the teen group is applying faith to real-life challenges - demonstrating that scripture remains relevant and practical.

Volunteers: Heart Over Expertise

For those considering volunteering, Sister White offers reassurance: you don't need to be a Bible scholar to make a difference.

"They don't need to know the whole Bible. What matters is a willingness to learn and patience. Kids today face things like bullying and peer pressure. Volunteers just need a heart for the children."

Her message is clear - compassion and commitment are the most powerful tools a volunteer can bring.

A Calling Born in the Classroom

Sister White's journey into ministry began with a moment of inspiration from a teacher who saw her potential.

"My second-grade teacher, Miss Clemens, inspired me. I was in the Urban Teacher Program in Detroit, and that experience helped me realize this was what I was meant to do."

> A Sunday school teacher asked her children on the way to service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

That early spark has grown into a lifelong calling - one that continues to bless countless young lives.

With unwavering faith and a passion for guiding young souls, Sister Linda White continues to build a space where children and teens not only learn about Jesus - but also grow in confidence, compassion, and connection to their faith. In today's complex world, ministries like this one are a much – needed light, reminding us all of the power of planting seeds early and nurturing them with love. ₹

Series 2: Life After Loss: Grieving With Hope - - cont'd

"Bereavement is a universal and integral part of our experience of love. It is not a truncation of the process but one of its phases; not the interruption of the dance but the next figure." [1]

Expect Confusion

C. S. Lewis described his struggle with grief this way: *"In grief nothing 'stays put.' One keeps on emerging from a phase, but it always recurs. Round and round. Everything repeats. Am I going in circles, or dare I hope I am on a spiral? But if a spiral, am I going up or down?"* [2]

This has been true for me, and I have seen it in the lives of those I've counseled. The journey can at times be undefined and disorienting, leading grievers to question their path. No one progresses through the stages of grief in the same order or at the same pace. We don't need to be alarmed when things don't make sense or seem to be recurring. If we know confusion is coming, we're better prepared to face it. The process of grieving is far from orderly. It's messy and, at times, it may feel like you're losing your mind. You're not. There is no universal pattern for grief.

Shock is Normal

It is to be expected after the news of a loss. It's our initial defensive response that enables us to carry on under unbelievable circumstances. God designed shock to cushion and protect us, helping us survive when it would otherwise be impossible for us to function under the emotional overload of grief. Shock should be allowed to take its course.

Don't Pretend

Resist denial. Be real. Attempting to outdistance the pain of grief by "being strong" is futile. It will only impede your progress. Frederick Buechner recognized denial as a problem in his failed attempts to deal with his father's suicide. Buechner said that while steeling yourself against the harsh realities of life may protect you from some pain, that same steel can become bars that keep you from being transformed by "the holy power that life itself comes from." He goes on to emphasize the necessity of allowing that power to work in you: "You can survive on your own. You can grow strong on your own. You can even prevail on your own. But you cannot become human on your own." [3] A grief denied is a grief unhealed.

It's vital for a grieving person to acknowledge the reality of what has been lost by head-on. Call it what it is. This helps stave off denial and is a big step on the journey through grief.

Be Honest About Your Feelings

God grieves too. Nicholas Wolterstorff, who lost a son in a climbing accident, said that it's "through our tears we see the tears of God." [4] When we grieve, we join God in lamenting, beauty that has been broken, and we grieve in anticipation of the day when all will be restored.

The longing for restoration, for all things to be made new (Rev. 21:4-5), and the awareness that renewal is yet future, are at the heart of all of our grief. The world is beautiful, but we are often reminded that it is also broken. It's when we lose some of the beauty in our lives and experience this brokenness that we grieve, longing for a better world. ₹

[1] C. S. Lewis, A Grief Observed (New York: Harper & Row, 1961), 58-59.
[2] Ibid., 67.
[3] Frederick Buechner, The Sacred Journey (San Francisco: Harper SanFrancisco, 1982), 46.
[4] Nicholas Wolterstorff, Lament for a Son (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1987), 80.

Source: Our Daily Bread Ministries. Discovery Series, Life After Loss: Grieving with Hope, By Tim Jackson. 2014 Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Series 3: Life After Loss: Grieving With Hope

Will be continued in the next issue.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL
Graylin Alston – 1st
Joycetta Brooks – 3rd
Josiah Parrish-Pettigen – 5th
Tanisha Cooper – 10th
Curtis Lyons, Jr. – 11th
Phyllis Willis – 13th
Betty Smith – 16th
Tyrone O'Neil – 17th
Manuel Tabron – 19th
Dora V. Brice – 19th
Elissia Greer – 20th
Shayla Watson – 24th
Anniversaries
Craig & Jean Williams – 4th

MAY
Lucille Evans – 4th
Latoya Clark – 7th
Sydney Benjamin – 7th
Sheila Tabron – 18th
Jordyn Barnes – 20th
Betty A. Jones– 20th
Brenda Jowers-Tasker – 20th
Albert Cooper – 20th
Sherry Jefferson – 20th
Ronald Canady – 24th
Sheltrice Holmes – 24th
Anshrea Morant – 24th
Theresa Foster – 29th
Jesse Boyd – 29th
Mary F. Snow-Moore – 31st
Anniversaries
Steven & Tonya Waltrick – 2nd
Ronald & Rayetta Anthony – 30th

JUNE
Glenda Curtis – 1st
Lynaia Jordan – 2nd
Wenda Royster – 4th
Hattie Nixon – 12th
April Adams – 14th
Vernell Thames – 14th
Richard J. Carroll – 15th
Craig Williams – 17th
Tasherria Boyd – 17th
Demetra Tunstall – 17th
Virginia (Diane) Pretlow – 19th
Jasmine Lewis – 21st
Rayetta Anthony – 25th
Willette Parrish-Harris – 28th
Anniversaries
Willette & Dorothy Parrish-Harris – 1st
Billy & Constance Lance – 4th
Archie & Patricia Alston – 5th
Ronald & Carla Canady – 22nd

NEW DISCIPLES (APRIL TO JUNE)

Marguerite Brooks
Sheila Brewington
Kathleen Carroll
Pamela K. Davis
Betty A. Jones
Sosanya Jones
Anshrea Morant
Destiny Nelson
Josephine Okorie-Simmons
Melvin Simmons
Sheron Pearson

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Rev. Dr. Charles Johnson
(on his recent Doctorate Degree)

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Dr. Walter L. Parrish, III, *Pastor*
Dr. Felicia Thomas
Reverend Derrick McCraw
Reverend Charles Johnson
Minister George Branch
Minister Chris Crawford
Elder Evelyn Alston
Elder Graylin Alston
Minister JoyAnne Amani
Reverend Constance Boykin
Reverend Gwen Lloyd

OUR DEACON MINISTRY

Rayetta Anthony
Felicia McCraw
Ronald Canady
Kimika Hicks
Herbert Johnson
Bernadette Crowder-Johnson
Jimmette Lewis, *Chair*
Phyllis McNair
Ken Royster

OUR TRUSTEE MINISTRY

Brother Joseph Boyd
Sister Juliette Braman
Brother Dwayne Brown
Sister Tanisha Cooper, *Chair*
Sister Vernell Crawford
Brother John Scovens

UPCOMING EVENTS

Usher's Appreciation Day
Sunday, September 27th

Also join us on Facebook Live every Sunday Morning at 11:00 a.m.

Our Newsletter is published quarterly

The Newsletter Staff

Editor-in-Chief, Jewel Crum
Report #1, Journey Hillman
Reporter #2, Antonio Cooper
Reporter #3, Elder Graylin Alston

All newsletter submissions can be emailed to **formylili3@hotmail.com** - or placed in the **Newsletter Drop Box** located in the lobby.
We cannot guarantee that every submission will be published. All items will be reviewed first.

Ways to Worship

Puzzle 18

U A T C E L F E R Q D T I L O S I G W R I T I N G
E G D A E R Y S R I Z M A R Z S V P S C R A C T A
S C O M M O T E X P R S E C E G U S W R I T I N C
U I O N Y C G I V I N O R D O S F M J R S M H P T
M D V N A P L I C F M N E E I M T N E M E V O M L
R N O I S S E R P X E T F F T T Z L P V D F A K N
I D U D G C L E T T D L C D E G A R Q G O V F R L
V R P A T R F F A N I P L A C L A T Y I E M F O P
H Z W E A I C L R I T R P O C H L H I F X X E W R
S B R R T P O E P R A A N C W T A O C O P C L L E
S O L E I T M C F E T Y G H G S N R W R R I L E A
O B N Z D U M T A F I O Q A P M H O I O E V O F X
L K N G E R U I K F O C H R R S G I S T S R W N T
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D R Z P L P E J O I R T F I E P A U I I S O L V I
X C V R R F N I N D A N I L A T E F Z C C Q F O R
M S T A C A N O V V H B M L E R R Z E V H K A M E
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S E I R M E C W J M D M U S I S T I P O V R T V F
R Y D M Y W M R R U T P I R C S P I G L Y A R Z O
R P O A K Y O I E S S E R P X E U Z O R F E I S B
C C R G I V C T N S E R V I C E Q U E L S B R I M
N P G I V I N G E E F F O E O F F S R E F L W Z D

Word List

Acts
Art
Charity
Communion
Expression
Fellowship
Giving
Meditation
Movement
Music
Offering
Praise
Prayer
Reading
Reflection
Scripture
Service
Solitude
Song
Writing