

North Bay Community Church

OCTOBER TIDES

Seeing Halloween as an Opportunity

When you think of Halloween, what comes to mind? For some, it's goblins, ghouls, devils, and witches — a day best avoided. We might turn off the lights, lock the doors, and wait out the parade of tiny candy collectors. For others, it brings back memories of church fall festivals, where everyone dressed as Bible characters and filled the gym with laughter, candy, and mini-games. And some of us remember those freezing October nights when we had to wear a coat over our homemade Mario 3 costume, the one none of our friends ever saw because our parents didn't want us to catch a cold. (Okay, maybe that one's a little too specific!)

But now, I've come to see Halloween differently. I see it as an opportunity.

Think about it...when else do our neighbors literally come knocking on our doors? This is a unique chance to connect with our community in a friendly, non-threatening way. They're coming to us! So why not use that moment to build relationships and share the love of Christ in simple, genuine ways?

This month, I want to challenge all of us at **North Bay** to make the most of this opportunity. Let's engage our neighbors — learn their names, start conversations, and maybe even invite them to join us on a Sunday.

Here's my plan: I'll be handing out invitations to North Bay along with candy this Halloween. I encourage you to do the same! If you live in a neighborhood with trick-or-treaters, pick up a stack of invitations from the church and include one in each treat bag.

If you don't get many visitors where you live, connect with someone in the church whose neighborhood does — partner together! And if you still can't find a spot, come on over to my house. We get plenty of visitors, and I'd love to have you join me in sharing about our church and inviting others to come check it out.

Whatever you do this Halloween, remember what Ephesians 6:7 reminds us: *"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people."* I believe that includes passing out candy, too.

Let's turn this Halloween into a moment of light, connection, and invitation — one doorstep at a time.

-Pastor Anthony

Fellowship

Howdy Partner!

Everyone is Invited to our Country/Western Fall Chili Fest on Saturday, October 11th starting at 4:30p.m. with dinner at five. Bring chili, soups, sandwiches, salads or dessert and join in the fun in the hall. Crackers and other chili toppings along with beverages and ice cream sundaes will be provided.

Enjoy the entertainment and sign up to win the gold nugget chocolates. Invite your family and friends to this special fall fellowship.

Cathy Good

855 Pairs of Undies for Clothes to Kids



Missions

North Bay will be handing out paper bags with a Thanksgiving list of needs attached, for Feast Food Pantry on Sunday, October 12th. This gives us a few weeks to shop for the needy families in our community. Thank you all for supporting Feast as always!

Cindy Henningsen

Christmas Shoebox Drive

Samaritan's Purse Children's Christmas Box campaign is happening in October. An insert will be in your bulletin on October 5th for information or when you pick up your box.

Roberta Luckie

Flex & Stretch Class

There are still chairs available in our class on Monday and Friday mornings from 11-11:30.

No need to sign up, just show up in Edgar Hall and enjoy adding balance and flexibility to your life.

Suncoast Symphony Orchestra

Performing Sat., Oct. 25, 2 p.m.

Program:

Copeland-Fanfare for the

Common Man

Mendelssohn-Symphony #5

Weinberger-Polka from Schvanda

Ellington/Custer-Duke Ellington

Rodgers-Sound of Music

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