



OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.nbcbgarland.org

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year, we are going to have a church-wide packing party again to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. You can sponsor boxes with a donation of \$30 per box (includes box, contents, and shipping). You may give toward this effort at the Mission Table or online through Realm with "Operation Christmas Child" in the memo line. The church-wide packing party will be Sun, Nov 12. You are also welcome to prepare your own boxes and donate them. We are also in need of donations of sewing kit items (needles, safety pins, thread, buttons, fabric), toothbrushes (no toothpaste please), and travel size bar soaps. A collection box is located at the Missions Table.

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING/POTLUCK DINNER

Sun, Oct 22, 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Join us for a "breakfast for dinner" potluck meal followed by a short business meeting. Bring a breakfast item to share, and the church will provide the drinks. Please sign up on Realm if you plan to attend.

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

Sun, Oct 29, 5-7 pm, South Parking Lot

Join us for one of the biggest community outreach events of the year! Sunday School classes will sponsor games (check with your director to see how you can help). Candy and Little Debbie-type snack cake donations are needed (individually wrapped) and will be collected outside the church office doors.

LADIES STAY-CATION

Sat, Oct 21, 9 am—6 pm, Multi-Purpose Center

Your cost depends on the activities you select. Classes, games, and mission projects are all options. You are also welcome to bring your own project to work on. Sign up and choose your activities on Realm. Contact Sarah if you have more questions.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Sat, Oct 21, 8:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Men are invited to join us for breakfast. Tickets are \$5 each. You can sign up & pay through Realm or at the table in the Gathering Hall.



October is upon us once more—time for leaves to fall, pumpkins to grow and (in theory) temperatures to drop. It also signals the arrival of some of our Fall ministries like **Operation Christmas Child** and **Fall Family Festival**. I hope you've marked your calendars and plan to join us for these outreach ministries. Speaking of outreach, THANK YOU to those who joined us on Monday, September 11 for a neighborhood connection effort: Visiting the community to pass out gift bags and share God's love by inviting people to our Pickle-Ball event. This is the first of MANY outreach efforts to our local neighborhood; the next will be **Sunday, December 10** (afternoon), when we'll invite people to join our GINGERBREAD HOUSE BUILDING CONTEST on December 16. Each time we go out, we need a **large** team of volunteers to walk the streets, visit homes and look for "people of peace" with whom God may lead us to connect. Our VISION will only be fulfilled as we take time to engage and embrace our community—one house, one family, one person at a time! *Please join us as we go in His name and for His glory.*

Well, we've answered the **QUESTION** discussed for many months through Realm posts, business meetings, newsletter articles and congregational presentations: Should we consider selling the land north of our facility purchased years ago for eventual building expansion? Our membership had an opportunity to vote on September 17...*and we did not reach the threshold necessary to move forward with consideration for selling (75%).* Various views were shared (often strongly held). I'm thankful for all who spoke their mind and shared their opinion. Now that the answer is in, ***we must move forward TOGETHER.*** No matter how you voted, let's embrace this decision as a unified church, seeking His will for our shared future. I pray that God makes it clear how this property can be used for His Kingdom (in His time), but the prospect of selling is off the table. Our goal now is moving beyond the discussion to pursue our mission—reaching our community by telling His story (see first paragraph above). ***That, folks, is what it's all about!***

As you (hopefully) know, we're in the midst of our DEACON NOMINATION CYCLE—seeking those God may be calling to serve Northlake as part of our deaconate ministry. Members were given opportunity to nominate men to serve last month; now we take the next step: *All nominees must be vetted in light of the biblical requirements of 1 Timothy 3.* Those qualified (and willing) will be interviewed by some of our deacons, presented to the church, then later affirmed with a service of commitment (ordination). Join with me in praying for God to raise up men who—with their wives—would be called and gifted additions to this servant-centered body.

As always, know that it's a privilege to be your pastor...

Bro. John

RECENT GIVING

Sept 3—\$41,380.55

Sept 10—\$13,601.81

Sept 17—\$16,454.28

Sept 24—\$12,132.40

Weekly Need: \$14,151.00

RECENT BIBLE STUDY ATTENDANCE

Sept 3—137

Sept 10—162

Sept 17—178

Sept 24—156



OCTOBER 2023 CALENDAR

Wed, Oct 3—Senior Adult Trip to Camp Copass (8:00 am)

Wed, Oct 4—Deacons Meeting (6:00 pm)

Prayer First Prayer Meeting (7:00 pm)

Thurs, Oct 5—Food Pantry/Clothes Closet (1:00 pm)

Sun, Oct 8—Tracey Villarreal's 7th Anniversary

Adult Directors' Meeting (9:00 am)

Home Grown Small Group Meetings

Wed, Oct 11—Finance Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)

Sat, Oct 14—Adult Choir Rehearsal (9:00 am)

Senior Adult Monthly Outing (11:00 am)

Sun, Oct 15—DBA Annual Meeting (4:30 pm)

Wed, Oct 18—Lunch & A Movie (12:00 pm)

Missions Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)

Thurs, Oct 19—Food Pantry/Clothes Closet (1:00 pm)

Fri, Oct 20—Pumpkin Decorating Event (6:30 pm)

Sat, Oct 21—Operation Christmas Child Training (8:00 am)

Men's Prayer Breakfast (8:30 am)

Ladies Stay-cation (9:00 am)

Sun, Oct 22—Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck (5:00 pm)

Sun, Oct 29—Fall Family Festival (5:00 pm)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

This month, we celebrate Tracey Villarreal's 7th anniversary as Financial Secretary & Pastor's Assistant. Thank you, Tracey, for all you do for Northlake!

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES

Senior Adult Day at Camp Copass—Tues, Oct 3

Church bus leaves at 8 am and returns at 4:30 pm. RSVP with Michael Byrd or Joe Miller. Limited spots are available.

Saturday Lunch Outing—Sat, Oct 14

We will be eating at Meteor Hamburgers in Wylie. Meet at the church at 11 am to ride the bus.

Lunch & a Movie—Wed, Oct 18, 12:00 pm, Room E-115

Everyone is invited to bring a brown bag lunch and join us to watch *Lifemark*, a film based on an incredible true story, celebrating the gift of life.

**YOUR
PROMISES
ARE SWEET
TO ME!**

**PSALM 119:103
NEW CENTURY VERSION**

NORTHLAKE CONNECTS

Week of Oct 1—Reach Your One—With whom will you share Jesus?

Sun, Oct 8—Home Grown Groups

Sun, Oct 15—DBA Annual Meeting

Sun, Oct 22—Quarterly Business Meeting/Potluck (6:00 pm)

Sun, Oct 29—Fall Family Festival (5:00 pm)

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is now meeting every Tues evening. Anyone who is interested invited to join us in the Multi-Purpose Center from 6—8 pm to play.

PRAYER FIRST

Wed, Oct 4, 7 pm, Seminar Room

We meet each month on the first Wed of the month to pray for our church, our community, and our world. We hope you will make prayer a priority by joining us!

PUMPKIN DECORATING EVENT

Fri, Oct 20, 6:30—8:30 pm, Multi-Purpose Center

Bring your families and friends and join us for pumpkin decorating! There is no cost but please bring your own pumpkin(s). Decorating ideas and supplies will be provided.

FALL FASTBREAK

Fri, Nov 3—Sun, Nov 5, Mt. Lebanon Camp, Cedar Hill

All 6th—12th graders are invited to join us for our annual fall retreat. Cost is \$30 per person. Sign up on Realm.

DBA ANNUAL MEETING

Sun, Oct 15 at Mt. Lebanon Camp in Cedar Hill

3:30 pm—Family Fun (hayrides, gaga ball, jump pillow & more)

4:30 pm—Business Meeting in the Mt. Lebanon Worship Center

5:00 pm—Worship Celebration in the Mt. Lebanon Worship Center

6:00 pm—Dinner in the Mt. Lebanon Dining Hall

Register to attend at dba.net. There is no cost. If you would like to serve as a messenger from Northlake, please indicate your interest on your Connection Card.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TRAINING

Sat, Oct 21, 8-10 am, Seminar Room

You are invited to attend if you are interested in volunteering in this ministry. Northlake is a central drop-off location for shoeboxes.

POINSETTIA ORDER

Help us decorate our Worship Center this December by purchasing poinsettias in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Order forms will be accepted in the Gathering Hall (near Church Office doors) Oct 1—22. Cost is \$9 each (due 10/22).