

January 2024 Newsletter



nbcgarland.org

Deacon Ordination

Sun, Jan 7, 10:45 am, Worship Center
Join us for a special service kicking off the new year as we ordain two new deacons—Jim Thompson and Tom Johnson—during the worship service.

One Weekend D-Now

Fri, Jan 12—Sun, Jan 14

One Weekend (our annual D-Now Student Retreat) is coming up for 6th-12th graders on Jan 12-14. Cost is \$50 per student. Please sign up on Realm or contact Andrew.

2024 Bible Reading Plan

Are you interested in reading through the Bible this year? We will be following a plan called the Bible Recap. If you'd like to participate, please sign up on Realm, contact the Church Office, or contact Sarah.

Committee Kickoff

Sun, Jan 14, 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
If you are on a 2024 Church Committee, please plan to attend our annual kick-off event.

Quarterly Business Meeting & All-Church Fellowship

Sun, Jan 21, 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
Please join us for a church-wide potluck dinner of "Family Favorites," followed by our quarterly business meeting. Please bring a food item to share, and the church will provide the drinks.

Community Connection Outreach

Sat, Jan 27, 10:30 am
Join us as we canvas our neighborhood and invite neighbors to our upcoming chili cookoff (coming up on Sun, Feb 4)!



And so it begins. 2024—a new year of possibilities, ministry opportunities and relational bridges (not to mention a presidential election). Regardless of what happens in November—and while I hope you cast a vote to guide our nation, let’s avoid the animosity that often accompanies politics—*I anticipate some wonderful blessings here at Northlake!* As we continue our focus on COMMUNITY CONNECTION, getting to know our neighbors by having conversations, offering prayers, sharing Christ, extending invitations and making friends, God will give us opportunities to point them to Him. If you’re physically able to walk and knock on doors, I encourage you to be part of this ministry that defines our mission—*adopting a street around our church*. We’ll have a series of church-wide outreaches when we’ll invite people to attend different activities, share prayer requests, communicate their greatest needs and allow us to build relationships. But it starts with us...*because that’s the biblical model!* (Cf. Matthew 28:18-20) Talk to me if you’d like more information.

We open the year on January 7 with a **Service of Commitment**—recognizing two men God has called to join our deaconate: TOM JOHNSON and JIM THOMPSON. Previously, we had this service at night, but we wanted more of you to share this affirmation of servant ministry...reminding us that we’re **all** called to serve (Matthew 20:20-28). As a disciple, you have a role to fill, too. Some positions take center-stage, while others are more in the background...*but all are critical*. Teachers, greeters, worship leaders, choir members, coffee makers, extended session workers, sound booth volunteers—the list is long. My point is that in the body of Christ, each one has a role to play (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, especially vs.7). *Have you found yours?*

Other dates of note in January are: **Disciple-Now** for our Student Ministry (January 12-14)...our annual **Committee Kickoff** for all who serve on a Northlake Committee or team (January 14)...our next **Quarterly Business Meeting** (January 21), when we’ll share a meal of family favorites...and our next **Community Connection** effort (Saturday, January 27), when we’ll hit the streets to reach out and invite our neighbors to attend our **Chili Cook-off** the following Sunday night (February 4). So, mark your calendar, buckle your seatbelt and let’s get ready for an amazing 2024...together as a family of faith!

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

Bro. John

Recent Giving

Dec 3—\$16,214.02

Dec 10—\$15,243.19

Dec 17—\$16,882.60

Weekly Need: \$14,151.00

Recent Bible Study Attendance

Dec 3—136

Dec 10—160

Dec 17—151

January 2024 Calendar

Mon, Jan 1—Church Office Closed

**Wed, Jan 3—Deacons' Meeting (6:00 pm)
Prayer First Prayer Time (7:00 pm)**

Sun, Jan 7—Deacon Ordination Service (10:45 am)

Wed, Jan 10—Finance Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)

Fri, Jan 12—Sun, Jan 14—D-Now Student Retreat

St, Jan 13—Senior Adult Outing (12:00)

**Sun, Jan 14—Adult Directors' Meeting (9:00 am)
Committee Kickoff (6:00 pm)**

**Wed, Jan 17—Lunch and a Movie Event (12:00 pm)
Missions Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)**

Thurs, Jan 18—Food Pantry/Clothes Closet (2:00 pm)

Sat, Jan 20—Adult Choir Rehearsal (9:00 am)

Sun, Jan 21—Quarterly Business Meeting & Fellowship (6:00 pm)

Sat, Jan 27—Community Connection Outreach (10:30 am)

Prayer First

Wed, Jan 3, 7:00 pm, Seminar Room

We meet each month on the first Wednesday night of the month to pray for our church, our community, and our world. Make prayer a priority by joining us!

2024 Flower Calendar

Sign up on the church office doors to provide altar flowers for the Sunday of your choice in honor or in memory of a loved one. Arrangements are \$40 each (payable in advance).

Monthly Meetings

Wed, Jan 3—Deacons Meeting (6:00 pm)
Wed, Jan 10—Finance Committee (6:00 pm)
Sun, Jan 14—Directors' Meeting (9:00 am)
Wed, Jan 17—Missions Committee (6:00 pm)

Easter Musical Presentation Rehearsal

Plans are already being made for our annual Easter presentation, and we need singers! If you are interested, please plan to attend the first rehearsal on Sat, Jan 20 from 9-11 am in the Choir Room.

Pickleball

Tuesdays at 6:00 pm, Multi-Purpose Center
Anyone interested in playing Pickleball is invited to join us on Tuesday nights. No experience necessary. Bring your equipment if you have it; if not, we have some you can borrow.

Senior Adult Events

Lunch Outing

Sat, Jan 13, 12:00 pm

Chubbie's Restaurant

11331 E NW Hwy #105, Dallas 75238

Join us for lunch!

Lunch & a Movie

Wed, Jan 17, 12:00 pm, Room E-115

Bring your own brown bag lunch and join us as we watch *Decision*. A family in despair rediscovers its faith in this uplifting drama starring Natalie Grant & Billy Dean.

A Note from the Personnel Committee

Northlake, have you ever considered that you could be someone who regularly provides encouragement to our ministry staff? Will you pray and consider if this could be for you? Please watch for communication and opportunities about this in coming weeks and months. If you have specific ideas or thoughts, please direct them to the Personnel Committee.

A New Year's Prayer

**Lord, You make all things new.
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits
to be born again.**

**Thank you for this new year,
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame**

**So that in our time, many will
see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise
Your glorious name.**

- Author Unknown