

# February 2024 Newsletter



[nbcgarland.org](http://nbcgarland.org)

## *Chili Cook-Off*

*Sun, Feb 4, 5 pm, Multi-Purpose Center*

Join us for our annual chili cook-off!

This year, we are pleased to announce that we will have a fire truck here for photo ops with the family, and Garland Firefighters will be serving as judges.

Also, we are inviting the neighborhood to be our guests, so we need a lot of chili!

If you'd like to enter a crockpot of chili, please sign up on your Connection Card, or on the list at the Missions Table, or contact the church office.

## *Ladies' Retreat*

*Fri, March 1—Sun, March 3*

*Mt. Lebanon Camp*

Please see the Realm event (coming soon) for more information on prices and room options. If you have questions, please contact Sarah.

## *Ladies' Bible Study*

*Fridays, 9:30—11 am (beginning Feb 2)*

*Seminar Room*

Ladies, you are invited to join us for a 7-session study called *When You Pray*. Cost is \$25. Childcare is available, but by request only (contact Sarah). If you plan to participate, please sign up on Realm or contact the Church Office.

## *Northlake Connects*

In March, we will resume our Northlake Connects emphasis. In general, the pattern is for each month is:

Week 1—Reach Your One

Week 2—Home Grown Small Groups

Week 3—Church-Wide Activity

Week 4—Sabbath Rest

Sign ups for Home Grown groups will be later this month. Don't miss out on participating in this growth opportunity!



As we move further into 2024 (my 17th year as Northlake’s pastor), we continue our focus on NORTHLAKE CONNECTS—a 4-part emphasis on fostering relationships. Beginning in March, we’ll devote week 1 to **Reach Your One**—looking for ways to share our faith, show His love and fulfill our mission by connecting with those beyond our current circle of friends/family. Week 2 sees the return of our **HomeGrown Groups**, meeting in member’s homes (one meets at church) for a time of fellowship, food (optional) and watching season 2 of “*The Chosen*.” **Watch for sign-ups starting soon and make a commitment join one of these groups in 2024!** Week 3 will be a **Church-Wide Activity** of some kind, which varies from month-to-month. And week 4 is an often overlooked focus on **Practicing Sabbath**. As we saw last year, some months will shift that schedule due to holidays or other conflicts, but this is the basic plan for our calendar from March to October. **So, make the time to take part in NORTHLAKE CONNECTS!**

On the subject of Reaching Your One, let me address a new effort we’ve made to reach our community. We’ve always invested locally with multiple ministries (ESL, Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Weaver Volunteers, etc.), but last year we began connecting more intentionally. We sent out teams with street assignments, **going door-to-door to meet our neighbors**...people from whom we’ve largely become disconnected. Usually, we’ve given a flyer inviting them to some free activity at Northlake to foster community...**but our primary goal is making connections, planting seeds for future relationships**. Now, many won’t be interested, they may not speak English or they just refuse to answer the door. But it’s not about reaching EVERYONE; it’s about connecting with SOMEONE—finding your “person of peace,” open to conversation. I implore you, as your pastor, leader and example: **Join this COMMUNITY CONNECTION EFFORT!** Many streets, many doors and many souls await, so we need willing walkers to get it done. If you’ve not (yet) found someone with whom build relationship—your “One”—perhaps God will lead you to them through this neighborhood initiative. **Talk with me and take a street!**

One final note. A generous donor has given \$10,000 to begin a fund to replace our aging marquee sign with a new, electronic one, giving us much greater flexibility with graphics and rotating messages. The cost for such a sign is around \$30,000, **so we need additional sacrificial givers to step up to the plate**—investing BEYOND THEIR REGULAR TITHE towards this project. As with our Roof Replacement Effort (Project Nehemiah), we won’t move forward until money is given...**so is this something YOU have a passion to complete?** If so, talk with me or simply make a donation (by check or online), designating it for “Digital Sign.” In our visual culture, graphics speak loudly, so help us make this a reality in 2024!

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

*Bro. John*

## Recent Giving

Dec 24—\$17,943.23

Dec 31—\$20,876.10

Jan 7—\$14,974.02

Jan 14—\$8,844.01

Jan 21—\$12,923.10

Jan 28—\$9,515.28

**Weekly Need: \$14,151.00**

## Recent Bible Study Attendance

Jan 7—159

Jan 14—112

Jan 21—133

Jan 28—130



# February 2024 Calendar

**Thurs, Feb 1—Clothes Closet/Food Pantry (1:00 pm)**

**Sun, Feb 4—Chili Cook-Off (5:00 pm)**

**Wed, Feb 7—Deacons Meeting (6:00 pm)**

**Prayer First Prayer Time (7:00 pm)**

**Sat, Feb 10—Choir Rehearsal (9:00 am)**

**Senior Adult Fellowship (12:00 pm)**

**Sun, Feb 11—Adult Directors Meeting (9:00 am)**

**Mon, Feb 12—Finance Committee Meeting (5:30 pm)**

**Thurs, Feb 15—Clothes Closet/Food Pantry (1:00 pm)**

**Sat, Feb 17—Youth Hangout (3:00 pm)**

**Wed, Feb 21—Missions Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)**

## *Prayer First*

*Wed, Feb 7, 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, Feb 7—Deacons Meeting (6:00 pm)*

*Sun, Feb 11—Directors' Meeting (9:00 am)*

*Mon, Feb 12—Finance Committee (5:30 pm)*

*Wed, Feb 21—Missions Committee (6:00 pm)*

## *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 Fellowship*

*Sat, Feb 10, 12-3 pm, Fellowship Hall*

Join us for a potluck lunch and games. Bring a friend!

## *The Bible Recap*

The Bible Recap is a year-long Bible reading plan. Many people in our church are walking through God's Word together. It's not too late to join! You can pick up where we are. Contact Sarah to find out more information! Optional discussion groups are offered on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Prayer Room OR Fridays at 6:30 am in the Prayer Room.

## *Youth Hangout*

*Sat, Feb 17, 3-6 pm, Infinity Arcade*

*532 Main St, Garland*

Join us for some fun at a retro-style arcade! Cost is \$10 per person. Drop off and pick up from the arcade.

Invite a friend to join you!

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

*1 John 4:10 -11*