



the
Encourager

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH PARK
CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 2022

The Empty Seat

The empty auditorium seat says a lot. Though it's message is unpleasant, it is one we all need to hear. To the preacher the empty seat says, "*Your sermon is not worthwhile.*" To the visitor it whispers, "*This worship service isn't worth my time and commitment.*" To the newcomer looking for a church home it suggests, "*You should probably keep looking.*"

The empty seat speaks against the worship service. It kills inspiration. It dulls the sharp edge of enthusiasm. The empty seat is a burden. The occupied seat, however, is a wing that helps us take flight, "*...you will be missed, because your seat will be empty*" (1 Sam 20:18).

THERE IS STILL MUCH TO DO IN 2022



**First Cup Coffee Fellowship –
Every Sunday Morning at 8:45.
Join us for coffee and doughnuts.**

Ministry Assistant Change!

A bittersweet day has arrived. As we've discussed how many things have changed for North Park in the last 2 years, one of them is that Ashley Gregory is moving on to another career and is passing the baton on November 1st to Katrina Whaley as the North Park Ministry Assistant. On December 11, 2013, Ashley began her tenure as our ministry assistant and has seen us through the last crazy decade helping hold us together with communications, publications, hands-on work on special projects and planning for the congregation like the amazing God's Hands Gift Shop, support for any/all ministries and worship services and many other behind-the-scenes labors of love you don't even know about. Please wish her the best and recommend to your friends the Twisted Tulip event venue where she now works. Ashley will still be very visible in the GHGS this year showing Katrina how it's done and will still, of course, be a vital member here. Just a different 'day job', that's all.

As of November 1, still send your prayer requests, announcements, and other things to the northparkcofc@gmail.com email address and use the same church phone number to get them to Katrina who will handle them for you just like Ashley did. We have also changed this position to be salaried, but part-time due to technology and a presently lighter workload. Katrina will handle emails and calls remotely and she will have part of a day each week when she is at the building for when you need to get her assistance on-site. She'll publish what day and times that will be. She will also have 2 days off each week. Please give her all the support and encouragement you've given Ashley and a little extra while she gets fully up to speed with all the things, and with some 'help' from Isla, of course!

- Ken Maupin

UPCOMING SUPER SUNDAY NIGHTS SCHEDULE NOVEMBER

11/6 – Life Groups meet

11/13 – Trivia Night (5:00PM): Timed questions, the team/group that answers the most correctly wins!

11/20 – Question Box Night (5:00PM): Submit questions to the Question Box.

11/27 – Service Project Sunday: Thanksgiving Dinner for the Community

ATTENTION: If you are listed to serve and are unable to, please contact Wayne Morris to let him know as soon as possible.

Those to Serve –November 6, 2022

Worship Director: Sid Long
Opening Prayer: Stan Gregory
Preside: Jeff Hagerman
Ann/Closing Prayer: Steve Adkins
Scripture Reading: John Castree
Greeters: John Castree & Joan Wadsworth
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern
Usher #1: Carl Dye
Usher #2: Jose Cervantes
A/V Booth: Scott Weir & JJ Whaley
Security: Jaye Lavern
Church Mailbox: Joan Wadsworth, Joan Schmidt
Nursery: Valerie Nicosia
Private Prayers: Joe Nicosia

Those to Serve –November 13, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Jeremy Schulz
Preside: Carl Dye
Ann/Closing Prayer: Steve Adkins
Scripture Reading: Zane Schulz
Greeters: Jennie Adams & Kim Bertram
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassidy
Usher #1: Jerry Gibson
Usher #2: Marcus Price
A/V Booth: Mark Murray
Security: Ken Maupin
Church Mailbox: Joan Wadsworth, Joan Schmidt
Nursery: Mignon Soter
Private Prayers: Joe Nicosia

Those to Serve –November 20, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Ron King
Preside: Sid Long
Ann/Closing Prayer: Steve Adkins
Scripture Reading: Dexter Schulz
Greeters: Gibsons
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern
Usher #1: Joe Nicosia
Usher #2: Scott Weir
A/V Booth: Tim Barton
Security: Jerry Gibson
Church Mailbox: Joan Wadsworth, Joan Schmidt
Nursery: Elizabeth Soter
Private Prayers: Joe Nicosia

Those to Serve –November 27 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Chris Youssi
Preside: Mike Cirrincione
Ann/Closing Prayer: Steve Adkins
Scripture Reading: Kevin Spaw
Greeters: Jeanne Wadsworth & Delores Warkins
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassidy
Usher #1: JJ Whaley
Usher #2: Marcus Cassidy
A/V Booth: Justin Reese
Security: Joe Nicosia
Church Mailbox: Joan Wadsworth, Joan Schmidt
Nursery: Pat Seifert
Private Prayers: Joe Nicosia

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERIES

For the months of October - December we invite anyone interested in attending or helping to be a part of this special series. Please help us get the word out by inviting and by posting the flyers around town. A meal will be served each week at 5:30 with the class beginning at 6:00 pm. Childcare is provided free of charge.



ADULT CLASSES (*Sunday Mornings @ 9:30 am*)

DOWNSTAIRS: Roddy Tate- "Freedom from Depression and Anxiety"

AUDITORIUM: Ron King- Matthew

THANKSGIVING MEAL for our Community

There will be a Thanksgiving meal provided at the church on Sunday, November 27, 2022 at 5:00 pm downstairs. Turkey, dressing, gravy, beverages and more will be on the menu. There will be a sign up to provide these delicious items if you wish to help. This will be our Community Service Project for November.



Pantry Sub List

Justin Reese	815-299-0762	Jaye Lavern	815-608-4465
Elizabeth Soter	815-721-0405	Jeremy Schulz	630-418-0371
Cameron Maupin	815-978-3362	Ken Maupin	815-262-1487
Mary Riley	815-988-7440	Sara Maupin	815-262-0303
Tammy Weir	815-751-0866	Naomi Gibson	815-742-2291
Katie Schulz	630-418-0372	Liz Willis	815-494-0595
Maxine Bowers	815-494-2512	Brenda Mohler	815-505-7205
Joan Schmidt	815-708-3993		
Pat Seifert	815-871-7236		

Prayer List

Jason Willis
Helen Holland
Myrtle Williams
People of Haiti
People of Ukraine

Donna Fincher
Earline Nipps

Sue Ann Diaz
Dustin Arreguin

Kevin Sircloumb
Gregory Willis

Brandi Ostergard – friend of Wendy Williams who is recovering from cancerous tumor surgeries (10-19-2022)

John Parker – having low dose treatments every 3 weeks to shrink cancerous lymph nodes (10-19-2022)

Mary Ann Sircloumb's niece – recovering very well from burns, may not even scar (10-19-2022)

Ellie Krepfle – daughter of a former student of Gloria Gregory, born with Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome and recently found out that she has cancer in her kidneys and is now done with her first round of a 6 month course of treatment (10-19-2022)

Marsha Herndon – awaiting results after her most recent round of treatments (10-19-2022)

Cathy Oswald – friend of Gloria Gregory, at home but remains under hospice care after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer (10-19-2022)

Billee Jo Schmidt (Tracey Meinert's friend) - father has prostate cancer that has spread to his bones (10-19-2022)

Bonnie Cole – in a nursing home with multiple health issues (10-19-2022)

Floyd Barton – Tim Barton's father, recovering from heart surgery (10-19-2022)

Family of Joan Letsinger – mourning Joan's passing

Veronica Fuller – friend of the Youssis who has recently been diagnosed with cancer (10-19-2022)

Ned Riffle – recovering from hip replacement surgery (10-19-2022)

Maxine Bowers – continuing to recover after surgery to repair a detached hamstring. (10-19-2022)

Mark Sorinto's wife-formerly worshipped at North Park and currently helps with the Pantry; wife hospitalized with very low potassium

Mildred Clark - passed away 10/15. Was a member of Broadway CoC, wife of Eddie Clark that some of us may know

Delores Warkins' brother David - for safe travels to Washington

Tammy Weir's niece Rebecca Hooks - traveling to the Republic of Georgia for work

NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10:00 am Bible Study	3	4 Ashley Gregory, Stephany Cervantes, & Steve Atkins' Birthday.	5 Party 10:00 am Joe and Val Nicolas's anniversary
6 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Life Groups	7 ROMEO Club	8 Blanket Ministry	9 10:00 am Bible Study HHP Food Delivery	10 6-7 pm Party	11	12
13 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Cathy Finn and Justin Reese's Birthday Trivia Night at 5PM	14 Sue Ann Diaz's Birthday	15	16 10:00 am Bible Study	17 Mary Enfield's birthday	18 Sandi Riffle's Birthday	19 Party 10:00 am Mellescia Pyle's Birthday
20 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Light Up the Parks Parade	21 Ed and Wanda Long's anniversary Jerry Gibson and Maddalson Zornok's Birthday	22	23 10:00 am Bible Study HHP Food Delivery	24 NO PAINTHY 	25 Katie Schulz Birthday	26 MaryAnn Comstock's Birthday
27 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Service Project— Thanksgiving meal for the community	28	29 Baegan Riley's Birthday	30 10:00 am Bible Study			



NEWS & EVENTS

- If you would like make a donation to RCC to help with raising funds for the cabin siding, you can write a check made to RCC or you can go to this website:

<https://rockfordchristiancamp.org/donate/>

- There is a Meijer Simply Give campaign running through Saturday, December 31st, 2022. Double match day will be on Saturday, December 17, 2022.

- Roddy Tate will be starting a new class in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM titled "Freedom From Anxiety & Depression"

- Beginning this Fall, Super Sunday Nights are coming! Family activities each Sunday Night at 6 pm. Some will include food, some will include games, some will include Bible Study, some will include service projects, and all will include Fellowship and growing us closer together. Make plans to volunteer your family for service in this great opportunity for ministry! You can find more details about dates and events in the encourager.

- On Wednesday Evenings beginning this Fall we will be offering Community Enrichment Programs to our immediate neighborhood. Our desire is to make a difference in families lives and reach the homes immediately around our church building. We will be offering programs like DivorceCare, DC4K (*DivorceCare for Kids*), Marriage Classes, Parenting Classes, etc. We will need significant help from our church family providing such things as: prayer, providing meals, snacks, child care, and just warm bodies in a seat for moral support, among other things. Plan on being here on Wednesday evenings to see how YOU can make a difference in people's lives.

- The Light Up The Parks parade will be on Sunday, November 20th. More details to come!

- Be watching for sign up sheets for God's Hands Gift Shop which will be on Saturday, December 10th

Elder's Group E-Mail Address
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Steve Adkins
eldersteveadkins@gmail.com

Jeff Hagerman
elderjeffhagerman@gmail.com

Joe Nicosia
elderjoenicosia@gmail.com

Ken Maupin
elderkenmaupin@gmail.com

The North Park Church of Christ is committed to sharing Jesus with our community and the world; while encouraging the spiritual development of our youth, strengthening the bond of our families, and serving the needs of our senior adults to build a church known by its love and message that flows from the very heart of God.

Where Friends Learn to Live and Love Like Jesus

MINISTER

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www.northparkchurchofchristil.com

Helping Hands Pantry— 815-633-1504

www.helpinghandspantry.com