



# *the* Encourager

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER |  
NORTH PARK CHURCH  
OF CHRIST |  
OCTOBER 2021

## GOD IS WITH US

We are coming up on two years of the pandemic: two years of uncertainty, fear, anxiety, sickness, quarantine, social distancing, face masks, isolation, and death. The people we have usually trusted to have or find the answers or solutions seem to be failing us, can't seem to agree among themselves, and their indecisiveness just adds to division, more fear, and unfortunately more death.

In addition to questioning our leaders and the so-called experts, we may even have reached the point of questioning God. Where is God in all this? Why doesn't God just fix things? If God really exists then He would . . . Our faith in the Almighty is definitely being tested. Our commitment to believing, trusting, following, and serving Him may be wavering. Perhaps that's why overall church attendance in general has fallen off substantially. Perhaps that's why anger, hatred, violence, destruction, and murder seem to be more prevalent.

I don't really have the answers but what I still have is my belief that **God Is With Us!** In spite of all that continues to go on around us and throughout the world, God has not abandoned His people. God is still all powerful and ever-present. When the Israelites refused to follow God in the Old Testament, God allowed for them to be attacked, captured, punished, enslaved, and killed, in the hope that the Israelite nation would turn to Him once again and faithfully be His people. Maybe we are getting a taste of what the Israelites got because as a collective people, we are guilty of abandoning God.

However, here is my bit of encouragement to those who still are trying hard to be strong in your faith, struggling to hold on to your faith, or who have even walked away from God. I was sitting in my office at home doing some work and listening to an Acappella cd when this song started playing, [If There Were No God](#).

*(continued on next page)*

It moved me to tears and I have been singing parts of it ever since. The song was arranged by Keith Lancaster, and appears on Acappella's Beyond a Doubt, Hear It in Our Voice, and The Collection cd's (perhaps others as well). I would encourage you to find it and listen to it more than once because I think it will move you as well and will either strengthen or restore your faith in God. I've included the lyrics so you can at least read them and let them sink in.

*If there were no God there would be no music. There would be no dream to be dreaming of.  
What a dreadful thought of an empty future. If there were no God there would be no love.*

*If there were no God there would be no children. There would be no joy to relieve our tears.  
Not a tender hand to provide us comfort. No consoling heart to subdue our fears.*

Chorus:

*But we know that God is with us. And we know His majesty. Reigning now, the King eternal  
Yes, we know the victory!*

*If there were no God there would be no sunshine. There would be no rain to refresh the earth.  
There would be no jewels to display their value. There would be no thought of enduring words.*

*If there were no God there'd be no creation. There would be no light there would be no breath.  
No surpassing joy, nothing in existence. If there were no God all would be death.*

Chorus:

*But we know that God is with us. And we know His majesty. Reigning now, the King eternal  
Yes, we know the victory!*

*But we know that God is with us. And we know His majesty. Reigning now, the King eternal  
Yes, we know the victory!*

*Yes we know, yes we know the victory! Yes we know the victory!*

In spite of all that we are dealing with globally, faced with nationally, or coping with personally, God is still the Almighty God. Let us continue to place our faith and trust in Him and know that **GOD IS WITH US!**

**Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. (Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV)**

**Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. (James 1:12, NIV)**

~Tim~



# OCTOBER



# FEAR



Day 1 - Proverbs 19:23  
Day 2 - Proverbs 29:25  
Day 3 - Psalm 27:1-6  
Day 4 - John 14:27  
Day 5 - Psalm 111:10  
Day 6 - Proverbs 14:27  
Day 7 - 1 Peter 5:7  
Day 8 - Isaiah 41:10  
Day 9 - Psalm 34:4  
Day 10 - Psalm 91:1-10  
Day 11 - Psalm 91:11-16  
Day 12 - 1 John 4:18  
Day 13 - Luke 12:22-24  
Day 14 - Psalm 56:3-4  
Day 15 - Romans 8:15  
Day 16 - Isaiah 12:2  
Day 17 - Isaiah 54:17  
Day 18 - John 16:33

Day 19 - Psalm 56:3  
Day 20 - Romans 8:38-39  
Day 21 - Philippians 4:6  
Day 22 - Deuteronomy 7:21  
Day 23 - Deuteronomy 31:6  
Day 24 - 2 Timothy 1:7  
Day 25 - Matthew 10:28  
Day 26 - Psalm 23  
Day 27 - Joshua 1:9  
Day 28 - Isaiah 43:1-3  
Day 29 - Psalm 112:6-7  
Day 30 - Romans 8:31-34  
Day 31 - Hebrews 13:5-6



Those to Serve –October 3, 2021

Worship Director: Jordan Siracusa  
Opening Prayer: Tim Firm  
Preside: Steve Adkins  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory  
Scripture Reading: Marcus Cassady  
Pre-Class Greeter: Ken & Sara Maupin  
Class Attendance: Kena Maupin  
Pre-Worship Greeter: Ed & Wanda Long  
Usher #1: John Castree  
Usher #2: Jose Cervantes  
A/V Booth: Tim Barton, Ken Maupin

Those to Serve –October 10, 2021

Worship Director: Sid Long  
Opening Prayer: Ron King  
Preside: Scott Weir  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory  
Scripture Reading: Scott Seigrist  
Pre-Class Greeter: Wadsworths  
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern  
Pre-Worship Greeter: Joan Schmidt, Vikki Hatcher  
Usher #1: Ron Willis  
Usher #2: Marcus Cassady  
A/V Booth: Mark Murray

Those to Serve –October 17, 2021

Worship Director: Ken Maupin  
Opening Prayer: Scott Seigrist  
Preside: Sid Long  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory  
Scripture Reading: Spencer Carter  
Pre-Class Greeter: John Castree, Pat Williams  
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassady  
Pre-Worship Greeter: Reeses  
Usher #1: Joey Nicosia  
Usher #2: Jeremy Schulz  
A/V Booth: Adam Zomok

Those to Serve –October 24, 2021

Worship Director: Ken Maupin  
Opening Prayer: Jerry Gibson  
Preside: Chris Youssi  
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory  
Scripture Reading: Jeff Hagerman  
Pre-Class Greeter: Gibsons  
Class Attendance: Ken Maupin  
Pre-Worship Greeter: Weirs  
Usher #1: Doug Soter  
Usher #2: Greg Peck  
A/V Booth: Justin Reese

**Worship Usher #1** (inside auditorium main doors)

- greet latecomers and encourage sanitizing and help with finding seats (if there are none, ask elders to give up seat)
- may lock/unlock outer doors during worship
- take attendance on sheet provided and give to Ken/leave in Tim’s office after worship
- put attendance up on attendance board

**Worship Usher #2** - floating in the middle of the auditorium to help people find seats or add remove seats

# 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	Cathy Firm	815-298-6341
Maxine Byrne	815-494-2512	Liz Willis	815-494-0595
Joan Schmidt	815-708-3993	Brenda Mohler	815-505-7205
Pat Seifert	815-871-7236	Tim Firm	815-914-1782

## **Prayer List**

**Jason Willis**

**Anneka Broughton**

**Sue Ann Diaz**

**Bruce Rooks**

**Larry Borrison**

**Kevin Gillis**

**Donna Fincher**

**Lea Schorer** – no visitors at this time please

**Dar Hinrichs**

**Myrtle Williams**

**Gerald Harbach**

**Jacob Gaskins**

**Wendy Williams**

**Brandi Ostergard** – friend of Wendy Williams who has cancer

**Michelle Hutchison** – Tammy Weir's sister in law, undergoing cancer treatment

**Mike Trank** – Melanie Lavern's dad, being treated for cancer

**Carol McGowan** – recovering after heart procedure

**Mathew Ronan** – Doug Soter's nephew

**Kevin Sircloumb** – tumor on his brain stem, still in hospital

**Gregory Willis** – Ron Willis's brother, diagnosed with Myeloma

**Earline Nipps** – chemo treatments have been postponed while she continues to build up her strength

**Pat Eichmann** – is now at home recovering from her heart surgery

**Linda Ward** – is out of rehab and will be staying with family while she continues recovery

**People of Haiti** – please continue to keep Haiti in your prayers as the political strife in the country continues

**Judi Rogers** – at home recovering from her extended hospital stay

**Carol McGowan's daughter in law Kris** – is having stomach issues

**Freda Izzard** – Simon-Peter Broughton's Aunt who recently had a mild heart attack

**Santos family** - relatives of the Castrees whose youngest daughter was recently diagnosed with DIPG, a rare type of brain cancer

**Robert Schulz** – Jeremy Schulz's father, recovering from a recent stroke at Van Matre

**Lucy Chamberlain** – is home from the hospital and doing well

**Lindsey Farley** – friend of Katrina Weir's who was in a devastating car accident

**Family of Kelly Cole** – nephew of Jan Lavern, cousin of Gloria Gregory, Wendy Williams, and Jaye Lavern - passed away last week after suffering a massive heart attack

**Jan Lavern** – recovering after surgery to repair a broken femur, has moved to a rehab facility

# OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Ned Riffle's bday Bolen's ann.	2 Pantry 10:00
3 Bible Class @9:30 Worship @10:30 am Pat Williams & Sara Maupin's bday	4 <b>ROMEO Club</b>	5 Oliver Gregory's bday	6 Bible Study to am HHIP Food Delivery Wednesday evening service at 6:30 pm	7 6-7 pm Pantry	8	9 Chuck Mausehund's bday Rogers & Seibert's ann.
10 Bible Class @9:30 Worship @10:30 am LIFE Groups Asha Price's bday	11 Joey Nicosia's bday	12 <b>Blanket Workday 9am</b>	13 Bible Study to am Wednesday evening service at 6:30 pm Sandy Youss's bday Maupin's ann.	14	15 Freg, Peck & Dylan Erdman's bday	16 Pantry 10:00 Evangelism Seminar 1:00 - 5:00 pm
17 Bible Class @9:30 Worship @10:30 am Evangelism Seminar	18	19	20 Bible Study to am HHIP Food Delivery Wednesday evening service at 6:30 pm Wanda Long, Magnolia Duckmann, Jerika Hagerman & John Parker's bday Kulpa's ann.	21 6-7 pm Pantry Frank Rogers & Chad Kulpa's bday	22	23 Artistia McClain-Smith & Joe Nicosia's bday
24/31 Bible Class @9:30 Worship @10:30 am 24TH LIFE Groups Jst Ashley Nicosia's bday	25 Adam Zornok's bday	26 Erma Eldridge's bday	27 Bible Study to am Wednesday evening service at 6:30 pm Mickey Tooley & Ruth Mausehund's bday	28 Brett/Jenka Hagerman's ann.	29 Rick Phillips's bday	30 Mary Hall's bday Hirrich's ann.

# NEWS & EVENTS

- Our items for this year's Shults Lewis commodity drive are tea bags (regular tea only) and snacks. We will be collecting those things through October 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you would like to donate money for milk/meat/fresh fruits and vegetables, you can give that to Ashley Gregory with all checks made out to Shults Lewis

- Reminder that there are donation buckets set up in the hallway for you to make a donation to our collection for Trunk or Treat

- 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 web-site <https://rockfordchristiancamp.org/cabin-keepers/>

- If anyone would like to volunteer to be in charge of coordinating setting up the night of Trunk or Treat, please talk to Jeff Hagerman (you will not be responsible for buying/sorting/organizing treats ahead of time)

- Every Wednesday: Bible study at 10:00 am and devotional/singing service at 6:30 pm

- There will be an evangelism seminar "Bring/Teach/Keep" on October 15, 16, & 17. The 15th will start at 7:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm and the 16th will run from 1:00 - 5:00 pm and we will wrap everything up during Sunday morning worship on the 17th.

- The card ministry is starting to slowly be replenished – they will be in the card rack in the coat room and can be purchased for 25 cents

## Those to Serve -October 31, 2021

Worship Director: Sid Long

Opening Prayer: Marcus Price

Preside: Ken Maupin

Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory

Scripture Reading: Chris Youssi

Pre-Class Greeter: Jennie Adams, Gloria Gregory

Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern

Pre-Worship Greeter: Liz Willis, Ken Lynch

Usher #1: Jaye Lavern

Usher #2: Adam Zomok

A/V Booth: Tyler Zomok

Elder's Group E-Mail Address  
northparkcofcelders@gmail.com

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

**Tim Firm - cell phone: 815.914.1782**

CONTACT US:

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Email—NorthParkCofC@gmail.com

www.northparkchurchofchristil.com

Helping Hands Pantry— 815-633-1504

www.helpinghandspantry.com