

PASTOR'S ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

best we can. But this has not happened on accident. The world does not operate by random chance. We are more than just biological machines living inside a much larger machine. God is at work! God has a plan! The providential hand of God has led you our way, and I hope you see and acknowledge it. **“The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps”** (Proverbs 16:9).

2. **SEEK.** The second action item is to keep seeking God by hearing and learning about His truth and mercy. Keep coming to hear God's Word preached. Go home and read God's Word. Everything in the Bible teaches us God's will and brings us into a relationship with Jesus. The way to build a relationship with a friend is to spend time with them and speak with them. The way to seek God is to spend time with Him, listening to Him through the Bible, and speaking to Him through prayer. Do not try to map the whole thing out first, but rather, seek God in His Word and trust in Him to guide you. **“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”** (Psalm 119:105).

3. **ASK.** You probably have questions about the Bible, Christianity, salvation, or our church. That is normal, and we are here to help. Feel free to ask your questions or request help. Our contact information is on the back of the bulletin, but you can talk to us in person as well. The most important thing is to seek God with a sincere heart. God promises, **“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart”** (Jeremiah 29:13). And the Bible urges, **“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon”** (Isaiah 55:6-7).

4. **EXPERIENCE.** Keep coming to the church's worship and other events to experience the community of faith in an up-close-and-personal, real, and tangible way. North Harford Baptist Church is here to be an oasis of truth, love, and kindness -- a refuge of sorts. This is where you can learn to live for God based on the Bible, not tradition. You will not be manipulated or exploited, but loved and respected. We are not here for our own glory or popularity, but for God's glory and the spiritual well-being of whoever comes our way. God's will for you is to be saved, join the church, and live for Jesus in all areas of life. I know we live in a culture of hyper-individualism, but I encourage you to take full advantage of the blessings of **“the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth”** (1 Timothy 3:15).

To read more articles from Pastor Matt, please scan the QR Code or visit timeintheword.weebly.com



ONLINE GIVING

If you would prefer to give online, please scan the QR code for a secure online giving option.



NEED HELP?

Need help with a practical need? Your deacon is here to help make the resources of the church available to you. Email our secretary Jenn if you do not know who your deacon is (secretary@NorthHarford.org)

Danny Akers daneakers@gmail.com

Lew Carter joppatrans1@gmail.com

Mark Evans evansmark@yahoo.com

Dave Good (Chairman) davidpgood@aol.com

Wayne Hudson quallybear.usmc@gmail.com

John McDonald jmcdonald47@yahoo.com

Need a pastoral visit for prayer, comfort, or encouragement? Do you need Christian counselling or guidance? Do you have a theological question? Your pastors are here to help. Don't be afraid to text, call, or email us. We are here for you. Either contact us directly or schedule something through Jenn.

Matt Fortunato (Senior Pastor)

pastormatt@NorthHarford.org

Anthony Wilson (Associate Pastor)

pastoranthony@NorthHarford.org

Jeremiah Brown (Pastoral Intern)

Jeremiah@NorthHarford.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

North Harford Baptist Church

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Jarrettsville, MD 21084

(410) 836-6994

www.NorthHarford.org | info@NorthHarford.org

Scan the QR code or email Jenn at info@NorthHarford.org sign up for weekly Bible Devotions from Pastor Matt.



Nursery Workers – December 7th

I AM (Crib) – Penny Brown and Janie Steplowski

II AM (Toddlers) – Alex Lewis and Phoebe Evans

PM– Combined I/II – Linda Mack and Marie Reid

Prayer Intercessor – December 7th– Tina Holmes

Greeters – December 7th— John and Denise McDonald

Ushers – December 7th– Gil Brown, Josiah Brown, Mark Evans*, Wes Evans*, Mark Huna, and John Steplowski

Today's Ushers — Danny Akers, Dave Good, Nathan Good, Wayne Hudson*, Blair Knouse, and John McDonald

* ushers who greet in the lobby



NORTH HARFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

To live for Jesus and not ourselves.

November 30, 2025



READING THE BIBLE IN 2025

This week's readings are:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 10-11 | Proverbs 24:1-22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 12-14 | Proverbs 24:23-34 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 15-16 | Proverbs 25:1-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 17-19 | Proverbs 25:15-28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 20-22 | Proverbs 26:1-16 |

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|---|
| Sunday | 9:30 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:45 AM | Worship Service* (Church/Facebook) |
| | After Church 6:30 PM | Christmas Choirs Practice (downstairs) Evening Worship* (Church/Facebook) |
| Wednesday | 9:30 AM | Men's Prayer Group |
| | 6:30 PM | GriefShare (Youth Café) |
| | 7:00 PM | Adult Bible Study (Rm. 1) Mission Friends (Pre-K/K) Boys Bible Club (1 st -6 th grade boys) Girls in Action (1 st -6 th grade girls) Youth on Mission (7 th —12 th graders) |
| Friday | 7:00 - 9:30PM | Youth Group |

* Nursery Provided (birth-3 years old), Downstairs in Rooms 8 and 9

MORNING WORSHIP

Call to Worship and Announcements

For the Beauty of the Earth

Reading: John 13:34-35, The Way of Love

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

All Creatures of Our God and King

Offering

SERMON: Reminders for Christian Living
Titus 3, (Pew Bible Page 1631)

Fairest Lord Jesus | Closing Prayer

EVENING WORSHIP

Welcome (Pastor Matt)

Reading & Prayer: Luke 8:38-39, New Life

Testimony (Pastor John Manry)

O Lord My Rock and My Redeemer | *There Is a Fountain*

SERMON: Everything Changes
Philemon (Pew Bible Page 1635)

Closing Prayer

VISITING WITH US?

We are glad to have you with us this morning, and we hope God speaks to your heart through the great and wonderful truths of the Bible. Please visit the ***Guest Resources*** desk in the lobby, where you will find a variety of free gifts for you, including a study Bible for adults and a study Bible for teens. Email us at info@NorthHarford.org if you have any questions or special prayer requests.

UPCOMING PRAYER SERVICES

FIRST FRIDAYS PRAYER VIGIL FOR AMERICA

Join us in the Youth Café from 6-7 PM every FIRST FRIDAY of the month for a time of focused prayer for America. Friday, December 5th, is the next one.

PRAYER MEETING

On Sunday, December 14th from 6:30 to 7:15 PM. in the Fellowship Hall for a time of prayer. The pastor will lead a time in the Word to stir our hearts to prayer. Then, each table will have a prayer time focused on God's glory in the world, our outreach and evangelism efforts, salvation for the lost, and the health of the church. No one will be forced to pray. Nursery will be provided.

WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

TONIGHT'S EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Tonight, during the evening service, we will have a send off and prayer for John Manry. He has been elected as Middle River Baptist Church's interim pastor. If elected, he will begin in December.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Our men's prayer group meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30AM-10:00AM every FIRST and THIRD Wednesday. The next meeting is this Wednesday. Come when you can for encouragement and prayer. *This is a great opportunity for fellowship for retired men who don't work during the day.*

GRIEFSHARE

The GriefShare Program we host is restarting with a new time! The program is a faith-based program designed to help those in the grieving process. The cost of the book is \$20. Scholarships are available. They will meet in the Youth Café on Wednesdays from 5-7 PM from December 3-March 11 See Robyn Smith with any questions.

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CHRISTMAS CHOIRS REHEARSALS

Both choirs are practicing upstairs after the service today and next Sunday. The adult choir will practice upstairs on Wednesday, December 3rd, from 7-8 PM.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Next Sunday at 6:30 PM we will have a Christmas Concert. Bring your family and friends to hear and join the children, youth, and adult choirs sing about the joy of Christ's coming. We will have refreshments following the concert.

ON THE HORIZON

SEE TODAY'S INSERT FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH NEWS

SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

Pastor Matt will be teaching a 4-part series on **CHRISTIAN LIVING on Sundays in December (9:30-10:30 am in the main sanctuary)**. If you are not a part of a Sunday School class, please consider joining us for a thorough but accessible "guide" to the basic principles of living for Jesus rather than ourselves.

CHURCH NEWS (CONTINUED)

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Church directories are available in the lobby for members to pick up. Let the church office know if you'd like an updated directory at any time during the year.

NEW PODCAST

Check out Pastors Matt and Anthony's podcast on any of the following platforms: Apple Podcast, Spotify, iHeart Radio, our Sermon Audio page, and our YouTube Channel. Just search for North Harford Baptist Church to find the podcast.

HOME CARE MINISTRY - URGENT NEED

There is an immediate need for more volunteers to provide meals for church family who have had surgery. Please contact Verla Evans for more information or to help.

KITCHEN COMMITTEE HELP NEEDED

We need one or two more ladies to serve on our Kitchen Committee. The committee helps serve at Fellowship Meals and some events. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Sallye Hoover or the church office.

THREE NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Please contact Lynette Winzenried to volunteer to serve in the nursery on the or 5th Sunday mornings (crib) or the 5th Sunday evening (combined).

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

HOW TO SEEK GOD

In God's providence and wisdom, we have had numerous newcomers to the church in recent months. This is a wonderful thing and is solely a result of God's working. This is one way that a church is supposed to function in a community... as a place for seekers to come and hear God's Word and enjoy fellowship with God's people. We are a community of faith with an open-door policy. Our doors are always open to those who want to learn God's Truth, experience God's Love, and enjoy the blessings of God's kingdom.

This brief article outlines simple action items for any such newcomer, but also for any who have not yet come to faith in Jesus and given their lives to Him. Wherever you are, I trust you can apply these steps to your situation in a wise and fruitful way. The action items on the table are: **SEE, SEEK, ASK, and EXPERIENCE.**

1. **SEE.** Your first action item is simply to acknowledge the providential hand of God at work in your life. Something (or a series of somethings!) has happened in your life that led you to us. We are thankful for that, and we are genuinely delighted to minister God's truth and love to you as
(continues to the next page)

AM Sermon: Reminders for Christian Living

Titus 3

Four Crucial Reminders for Children of God:

1. Remember Christian character (vv. 1-3).

A.

B.

C.

D.

2. Remember Christian identity (vv. 4-7).

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

3. Remember Christian charity (vv. 8, 12-15).

4. Remember Christian unity (vv. 9-11).



Christmas News

CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO THE BALTIMORE RESCUE MISSION

Please take a look at the red bulletin insert for a list of items that the Baltimore Rescue Mission is asking for Christmas. Please place the items on the designated table in the fellowship hall downstairs. Please do not leave them in the lobby. Please bring the items in by December 10th.

COOKIES FOR THE BALTIMORE RESCUE MISSION

We are collecting cookies for the Baltimore Rescue Mission to pass out on Christmas Eve. Our goal is 250 dozen cookies. Any leftover cookies will be given to the Karis Home. Cookies are due on Wednesday, December 10th. Please use the tear-off sheets on the lobby bulletin boards to select what you'd like to provide. Please label your cookies with the number of cookies provided (you can use the tear-off if you'd like) and leave them in the refrigerator downstairs. Please do not leave them in the lobby. Not a baker? Store-bought cookies are welcome, too!

COOKIE PACKING & SIP & SEE THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Ladies, join us for a time of fellowship and service as we pack cookies donated for the Baltimore Rescue Mission on Thursday, December 11th, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. After the packing, we'll enjoy refreshments next door at Becky Fortunato's house.

CHRISTMAS CAROLERS WANTED

Hart Heritage Estates in Street, MD has requested carolers to sing for the residents at 1 PM on any weekday before Christmas. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Youth will again organize the Christmas Card Ministry this year to raise money for missions. Bring your cards to the Fellowship Hall from December 7th through December 21st. Label them with the names of those in the church you wish to send a card to. Cost: 10¢ each, 3 for 25¢, 12 for \$1, and 60 for \$5. A Word document and a PDF of labels are available on our website's password-protected members' page, which can be printed and used for your Christmas cards. The labels include members and visitors and are designed for 2 5/8" x 1" address labels (Avery 5160).

CHRISTMAS EVE COOKIES AND CAROLING

We will have our annual Christmas Eve Cookies and Caroling at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Come for a relaxed celebration with singing and cookies! If you'd like to bring cookies for this event, please sign up in the lobby. Invite others!

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This week is the Lottie Moon Week of Prayer for international missionaries. 100% of your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering support missionaries overseas. You may put your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in the envelope in your bulletin today and place it in the offering plate.

CHRISTMAS BENEVOLENCE

Do you know a family that needs help with Christmas this year? If so, please let Danny Akers or one of the deacons know.

DECEMBER MAGAZINES AND WINTER DEVOTIONALS

New magazines and devotionals are available in the magazine racks located on either side of the lobby and downstairs by the exit. Please help yourself!

'TIS THE SEASON

Invite your friends and family to our ADVENT SERMON SERIES on Sunday mornings in December. All the sermons will focus on one aspect of Christ's coming and what it means for the world: LOVE, JOY, PEACE, and HOPE. A thorough treatment of these topics will get us in the proper mindset for Christmas and set us in the right direction for 2026.

Other Church News

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026

We are preparing next year's offering envelopes for distribution by the end of December. Please contact the church office if you would like to have envelopes and do not currently have an assigned number. Also, if you have been assigned a number and do not plan to use envelopes, please contact the church office.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Precepts is an in-depth Bible Study for women that meets on Tuesdays from 9:15-11:30 AM. On January 13th, they will begin a study of the Book of John (Part 2). Registration costs \$23.00 and is due by December 19th. Registration forms are available in the lobby. See Anita Gearhart with questions.

BALTIMORE RESCUE MISSION / KARIS HOME CHRISTMAS WISH LIST 2025

UNITED WAY ACCT #4184

DO NOT GIFT WRAP! Items needed by Tuesday Dec. 16th to be included in Christmas gift bags. Items received after 16th are used but might not be included in gift bags.

KITCHEN

- GROUND BEEF & HAMS
- turkeys, tuna
- bottled water, juices
- fresh milk, eggs
- dried northern beans
- canned corn, gr beans, spaghetti sauce, baked beans, sweet potatoes, mix veg, carrots, peas
- SUGAR, syrup, salt
- complete pancake mix
- peanut butter, mayo
- ranch, french, bleu ch
- soups: cream chicken, cr celery, cr mushroom, variety vegetable soups
- powdered drinks: iced tea, lemonade, kool-aid
- egg noodles, Ramen

- ketchup, mustard, gravy, alfredo, rice
- 7-10oz disposable cups
- disposable plates
- plastic spoons, forks
- toilet paper
- luncheon napkins
- paper towels on a roll
- alum foil, ziploc bags
- dishwashing liquid

GIFT CARDS for:

- VISA, Walmart, Aldi's
- McDonald's, Wendy's,
- Burger King, Chick-fil-A
(Mail or hand deliver to Janna Buettner)
- Games: Battleship, Uno
- writing pads, pens
- postage stamps – flags, flowers

TOILETRIES, MEDS, and CLEANERS

- liq laundry detergent
- boxes of Kleenex
- individual Kleenex pks
- spray air freshener
- chapstick, Q-tips
- Tums, Roloids
- M, L, XL disposable cleaning gloves
- ibuprofen, cough drops
- bleach, cleaners
- Lysol disinfect wipes
- liquid soap, lotion
- toilet bowl cleaner
- toothpaste, brushes
- Pepto-Bismol, Benadryl
- neosporin, nail clippers
- cornstarch (baby) powder

NO TOYS, NO HATS, NO WOMEN'S SCARVES & GLOVES NEW MEN'S, WOMEN'S, CHILDREN'S GIFT BAG ITEMS

BIBLES

- KJV large print Bibles

MEN (new)

- jeans, casual pants all sizes
- boxers/briefs 34 – 58
- sweat shirts: M – 7X
- casual long sleeve shirts: M – 7X
- t-shirts: 2X – 7X
- tennis, casual shoes
- men's shampoo
- men's body wash
- twin size sheet sets
- washcloths, bath towels
- men's stick deodorant
- LED flashlights
- insulated water bottles
- 2026 pocket calendars

WOMEN (new)

- twin size sheet sets
- bed pillows
- washcloths, bath towels
- women's back packs
- shoulder tote bags
- sweat shirts, sweaters: womens L – 7X, socks
- ***underwear: all sizes-7X
- ***sports bras: all sizes
- ***camisoles: all sizes
- ***pj's & nightgowns
- robes: all sizes – 7X
- women's shampoo
- women's body wash
- portable shower caddies
- LED flashlights
- insulated water bottles
- writing pads, pens

- 2026 pocket calendars

- Word search books

- lge zipper Bible covers

CHILDREN (new)

- NEW OR GENTLY USED PACK 'N PLAYS
- high chairs
- boys pullups 4T-5, 5T-6
- disp diapers: sizes 4,5,6
- BOYS newborn-size – size 12: clothing, pj's, robes, socks, underwear, slippers
- GIRLS newborn-size – size 12: clothing, pj's, robes, socks, underwear, slippers
- children's backpacks
- Bible story books

To read the Week of Prayer for International Missions 2025 Prayer Guide please scan the QR Code or go to

<https://www.imb.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/WOP-25-Prayer-Guide-digital-1.pdf>



Please place your donations on the designated table downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Donations are due Wednesday, December 10th.