

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

KEPT IN HEAVEN FOR YOU

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfailing, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation to be revealed in the last time." -1 Peter 1:3-5

If you are like me, you probably change your mind a lot. Sometimes we can take our own ways of thinking and apply them to God. "If I change my mind depending on my feelings, maybe God will change how he views me..." This type of thinking can ruin our confidence in God and the salvation He gifted us.

This 1 Peter 1 passage is so encouraging to me and helps to fight against the lies about God and our salvation. First, we are born again because of his great mercy. God is the one who has brought us new life. Our hope rests on God, not ourselves. We can live with confidence that we will enter glory because of Christ.

Second, our inheritance is imperishable. The great gift of eternal life is not like that loaf of bread that you leave on the counter for too long. Unlike the bread, our inheritance does not get moldy or destroyed with time. There is no time limit to the mercy of God. The gift is ours forever.

Third, we cannot defile our inheritance. We struggle with the security of our salvation because we know that we are going to sin, even after we are born again. Paul addresses this problem in Romans. He acknowledges that he is saved by the grace of God, yet while on this earth, he will be fighting against sin. Remember, our salvation is a gift from God, not an accomplishment of our works. If we earned our salvation, then we would surely destroy it. Since Christ earned our salvation, it cannot be defiled.

Lastly, God does not fail. Once again, we picture God like us. We fail and are unable to accomplish everything we planned. Not God! What He wills, He accomplishes. He does not give up or fall short.

Remember that God is the author and sustainer of your faith. One day, you will enter glory because of what He accomplished for you.

To read more of our pastor's articles please scan the QR code or visit our SermonAudio page. They can be found under the heading "Articles."



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

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Scan the QR code or email info@NorthHarford.org to sign up for weekly emails and inclement weather announcements.



Nursery Workers – February 8th

I AM (Crib) – Colleen Good and Janie Steplowski

II AM (Toddlers) – Matt/Jenn Evans and Sarah Evans

PM– Combined I/II – Lynette Winzenried and Jordyn Fortunato

Prayer Intercessor – February 8th – Meg Fornoff

Greeters – February 8th – Denise McDonald and Wesley Evans

Ushers – February 8th – Brian Akers*, Bradyn Citro, Bill

Fornoff, Richard Perrine, Bill Tomlinson*, and Don Wetters

Today's Ushers – Gil Brown, Josiah Brown, Mark Evans*, Wes Evans*, Mark Huna, and John Steplowski

* ushers who greet in the lobby



**NORTH HARFORD
BAPTIST CHURCH**

To live for Jesus and not ourselves.

February 1, 2026

Prayer Meeting

FEBRUARY 1ST | 6:30-7:15 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL



Friday, February 6th, 6-6:45 PM
In the Youth Cafe

READING THE BIBLE IN 2026

This week's readings are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 13-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalms 28-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 9:13-18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 17-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalms 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 10:1-8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 21-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalms 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 10:9-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 25-28 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 10:17-24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 29-32 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> Proverbs 10:25-32 |

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:45 AM	Worship Service* (Church/Facebook)
	6:30 PM	Prayer Meeting*
Wednesday	9:30 AM	Men's Prayer Group
	5:00-7:00 PM	GriefShare (Youth Café)
	7:00 PM	Adult Bible Study (Rm. 1) Boys Bible Club (1 st -6 th grade boys) Girls in Action (1 st -6 th grade girls) Mission Friends (Nursery-K) Youth on Mission (7 th —12 th graders)
Friday	6:00 PM	First Fridays Prayer Vigil for America
	7:00-9:30 PM	Youth Group

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

MORNING WORSHIP

Call to Worship and Announcements

All Creatures of Our God and King

Reading: Mark 1:14-15, The Gospel of God

Rejoice the Lord is King

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Offering

SERMON: The Blessings of God in Christ
Ephesians 1:3-14 (Pew Bible Page 1567)

Lord's Supper * | *Jesus Paid It All*

Closing Prayer | *Doxology*

*Baptized believers may participate in the Lord's Supper.

EVENING WORSHIP

PRAYER MEETING

We will have a Prayer Meeting tonight at 6:30. We will gather around tables in the Fellowship Hall to pray. No one will be forced to pray. Nursery provided.

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

January Prayer Meeting Attendance: 18

February Prayer Meeting: Sunday, 2/1
- 6:30-7:15 pm, Fellowship Hall

February Prayer for America: Friday, 2/6
- 6-6:45 pm, Church Café

WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

JARRETTSVILLE BASKETBALL CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration opens today! Jarrettsville Basketball Camp is held outside at the church for students in 1st-8th grade (as of January 2026) to learn and practice fundamental basketball skills and hear about Jesus. The camp is from August 3rd to August 8th, from 9-11:35 AM, with check-in beginning at 8:30 AM. Register by July 10th.



MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The Men's Prayer Group will meet this Wednesdays at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

FIRST FRIDAYS PRAYER VIGIL FOR AMERICA

Join us on Friday at 6 PM in the Youth Café for a time of focused prayer for America.

ON THE HORIZON

TRUSTEE MEETING

The trustees will meet on Monday, February 9th, at 6:30 PM in Room 1.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Our first Fellowship Supper of 2026 is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th, at 6:15 PM. If you are able, please bring a main dish and a side or dessert to share. If you'd like to join the Kitchen Committee who helps at these suppers, please contact Sallye Hoover.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

On Saturday, February 21st, at 8 AM, the men will have a breakfast together in the fellowship hall. Come enjoy delicious food made by the Men's Ministry. There will be a time in God's Word and time for fellowship. Pastor Anthony will teach from Proverbs on "The Wisdom of Solomon." Sign up in the lobby or on the Church Center app.



LADIES' COMEDY AND PIE

We hope you will join us on Saturday, February 21st, at 2 PM for some laughs and pie. We will meet in the Youth Café to watch some funny skits from comedians and enjoy pie. Please bring a pie or a snack to share. Feel free to wear comfy clothes and bring a blanket. Sign up in the lobby or on the Church Center app.



CHURCH NEWS

YEARLY GIVING STATEMENTS

Please pick up your 2025 giving statement in the lobby. Thank you for your faithful giving.

2026 CHURCH CALENDAR

Church calendars are available in the lobby, on the member's page of our website, and on our Church Center app. If there are any changes or updates they will be published in the bulletin, weekly email, our website, and our Facebook page.

KIDS KAMP REGISTRATION

Kids Kamp is a day camp held at Camp Wo-Me-To for 9-12 -year-olds. This year's camp will be from June 29th to July 3rd, from 9 AM - 4:30 PM. Cost is \$140. There are discounts for families sending multiple children and scholarships are available. Scan the QR code to register, or you can register using our website, or the forms in the lobby. Register by May 31st.



BASKETBALL CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our basketball camp for students currently in 1st-8th grade will take place on August 3rd-7th. Volunteers are needed to help make this camp possible. We need people who know basketball to be coaches, but you don't need to know basketball to help. We will need team helpers to assist the coaches, people to direct traffic, people to serve at the first-aid and drink stations, and more. Can't help during the week? You could help the team set up for the camp on Saturday, August 1st. Sign up on the sheet in the lobby or on our Church Center app. See Brian Akers with any questions.



FEBRUARY MAGAZINES

February magazines and seasonal devotionals are available in the magazine racks on either side of the lobby and downstairs by the ext. Please help yourself.

SBA SOFTBALL

If you are interested in playing softball on a team through the Susquehanna Baptist Association, please contact the church office.

AM Sermon: The Blessings of God in Christ
Ephesians 1:3-14

Seven Aspects of the Blessings of God in Christ:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____