

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

work within us. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church, "we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers" (1 Thessalonians 2:13). The Word builds us up in the knowledge, love, and likeness of Christ. Scripture says, "Now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32).

God's Word, therefore, is the chief means of grace, and it is ministered to our hearts by the Holy Spirit. As we feed on Truth, the Spirit of Christ illumines our souls to the greatness of God and the wonder of His grace in Christ in such a way that changes us. We are fruitless branches apart from God's Word and Spirit. As Christ taught, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

4. Practical Discipleship. Practical discipleship is learning to obey and honor Jesus in all areas of life out of love for Him and a desire to please Him. A disciple is a student, a follower. It is someone who is learning a skill, field of knowledge, or way of life from a respected teacher. Jesus is the authority; we are His followers. Jesus is the master; we are His students. Since we love Jesus and aim to please Him, we humbly and gladly strive to obey and honor Him at home, church, work, school, society, and in all our hobbies and relationships. We strive to obey and honor Him with our thoughts, desires, words, and actions.

First, discipleship requires self-denial and a willingness to be hated and rejected by the world. "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me'" (Matthew 16:24). Second, discipleship requires obedience to Jesus' commandments. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). Third, resulting from the first two, our discipleship will cause us to more and more imitate Jesus, which brings persecution from the world. "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household" (Matthew 24-25).

To read the rest of this article, please scan the QR code or visit our SermonAudio page. It 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](mailto:secretary@NorthHarford.org))

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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.

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Scan the QR code or email [info@NorthHarford.org](mailto:info@NorthHarford.org) to sign up for weekly emails and inclement weather announcements.



**Nursery Workers** – March 22<sup>nd</sup>

I AM (Crib) - Page Knox and Lynette Winzenried

II AM (Toddlers) – Maria Minichiello and Julia Minichiello

PM– Combined I/II – Dave Good and Linda Perrine

**Prayer Intercessor** – March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Gerry Cicone

**Greeters** – March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sallye Hoover and Wes Evans

**Ushers** - March 22<sup>nd</sup>– Malik Baker-Gore, Bob Burman, Frank Cicone\*, Jim Feldbush, Gary McAllister, and Tom Neunaber\*

**Today's Ushers** - Bob Doss, Jim Dougherty, Andrew Evans\*, Eric Heinze, Vince Minichiello\*, and Peter Vaughan

\* ushers who greet in the lobby



**NORTH HARFORD  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

*To live for Jesus and not ourselves.*

**March 15, 2026**



**Men's  
Breakfast**

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 8 AM**

Continuing the series on "The Wisdom of Solomon"



**Ladies  
Craft Day**

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10 AM**

BYO craft, do the provided craft,  
or just come for fellowship

## READING THE BIBLE IN 2026

This week's readings are:

- |  |          |                   |
|--|----------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 13-16 | Psalm 57 | Proverbs 17:8-14  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 17-20 | Psalm 58 | Proverbs 17:15-21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 21-24 | Psalm 59 | Proverbs 17:22-28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 25-28 | Psalm 60 | Proverbs 18:1-6   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 29-32 | Psalm 61 | Proverbs 18:7-12  |

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:45 AM	Worship Service* (Church/Facebook)
	After church 6:30 PM	Youth/Adult Choir Practice (downstairs) Evening Worship* (Church/Facebook)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:15 AM	Precepts Ladies Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 AM	Men's Prayer Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 PM	Adult Bible Study (Rm. 1) Boys Bible Club (1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade boys) Girls in Action (1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade girls) Mission Friends (Nursery-K) Youth on Mission (7 <sup>th</sup> —12 <sup>th</sup> graders)
<b>Friday</b>	7:00-9:30 PM	Youth Group
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast
	10:00 AM	Ladies' Craft Day

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

## MORNING WORSHIP

Call to Worship and Announcements

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Reading: Matthew 21:42-45, The Rejected Stone

*His Mercy Is More | There Is a Fountain*

Offering

**SERMON:** Gentiles United to Israel

Ephesians 2:11-16 (Pew Bible Page 1569)

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* | Closing Prayer

## EVENING WORSHIP

Welcome

Reading & Prayer: Luke 5:27-32

*Nothing But the Blood*

Reading & Prayer: 2 Peter 3:9

*Rock of Ages*

**SERMON:** Genuine Repentance

Jonah 3 (Pew Bible Page 1168)

Lord's Supper\* | *Doxology* | Closing Prayer

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

*If you are able, please help set up tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall for the Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible Study after the Evening Service. Thank You!*

## 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](mailto:info@NorthHarford.org) if you have any questions or special prayer requests.

## UPCOMING PRAYER SERVICES

**March Prayer Meeting Attendance:** 35

Due to Easter, there will be no Prayer Meeting in April.

**May Prayer Meeting:** Sunday 5/3

- 6:30-7:15 pm, Fellowship Hall

## WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

### MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The Men's Prayer Group meets this Wednesday at 9:30 AM.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men will have a breakfast this Saturday at 8 AM in the Fellowship Hall. They will continue their study on "The Wisdom of Solomon." Sign up on the Church Center app or in the lobby.

### LADIES' CRAFT DAY

Ladies, 7th grade and up, are invited to a Craft Day this Saturday at 10 AM. They can bring their own craft to work on, do the provided craft, or just come for fellowship. Sign up in the lobby or Church Center app.

### LADIES CONFERENCE

Cornerstone Community Church in Joppa, MD is hosting a Ladies Conference on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9 AM—2:30 PM. The speaker is author Tilley Dillehay. She will teach on "The Lies Satan Tells." The cost is \$40, which includes all conference materials, a light breakfast, coffee, refreshments, and a fully catered lunch. To register, visit their website [cornerstonejoppa.org](http://cornerstonejoppa.org).

### SPRING PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY - DATES UPDATED

The ladies' Bible study that meets on Tuesdays from 9:15-11:15 AM is beginning a new study on March 31<sup>st</sup> on the Book of Amos. Amos, a shepherd, whom God called to preach at Bethel. He has a timeless message for the people of God. The cost is \$14. Registration forms are in the lobby. They are due this Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

## ON THE HORIZON

### SISTER TO SISTER

Ladies are invited to Sister to Sister on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM in the Youth Café for a time of prayer and encouragement from God's Word.

### NEMOURS ESTATE VISIT

Ladies, the Women's Ministry is planning a trip to the Nemours Estate in Wilmington, Delaware, on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> (tentative date). The cost is \$23 for adults (ages 17+); \$21 for seniors (62+), students, military, and teachers; disabled veterans are free; \$10 for children (6-16); children aged 5 and under are free. Two adults cost \$40 and a family of 2 adults and up to 4 children costs \$43. Sign up in the lobby to express your interest in attending.

### BUILDERS FOR CHRIST

Please consider joining the Builders for Christ trip to Hillside Baptist Church in Springfield, MO from Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Visit their website [www.marylandbuildersforchrist.com](http://www.marylandbuildersforchrist.com) or contact Roger Williams for more information.

## CHURCH NEWS

### ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

100% of monies given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering go directly to support the 3,000 missionary families serving in North America.

### PRAYER MEETING GROWTH

Thank you and praise God for your attendance at the March prayer meeting. If you were not able to make it, we hope to see you at the May one. It is on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. Our monthly prayer meeting is always the first Sunday in the evening. Remember that God hears, answers, and uses our prayers according to His purpose. Come be a part of a revival of congregational prayer.

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE

### TRUE CHRISTIAN LIVING, CONTINUED

Last week, we summarized true Christian living. We saw that the heart of true Christian living is our union with Christ, the spiritual bond we have with Jesus through faith in Him. Jesus teaches, "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me." <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:4-5).

We also saw that the fruit of our union with Christ is sanctification, the work of God to make us more like Jesus in heart, mind, word, and deed. To be sanctified means to be set apart and made holy by God's grace and for God's glory. Those who are united to Christ are also made holy by Christ. Scripture says, "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God" (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5).

Today, I want to summarize the next two headings under true Christian living: Ongoing grace and practical discipleship.

3. Ongoing Grace. Ongoing grace is God's ongoing ministry to us by His Word and Spirit to administer His grace to our hearts, minds, and lives. In steadfast love and faithfulness, the Father administers the grace of Christ to us in the power of the Spirit by means of the Word, prayer, Christian fellowship, love, accountability, and congregational worship in all its components. We therefore call these the "means of grace." God gives His children ongoing grace to sanctify, strengthen, preserve, comfort, and guide us daily for our good and His glory.

We benefit from this grace as much as God's Word is at  
(continues to the next page)

## AM Sermon: Gentiles United to Israel Ephesians 2:11-16

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The Old Covenant separated Gentiles from Israel, but the New Covenant unites Gentiles to Israel... IN CHRIST.

1. The Bird's Eye View -- The key words in the passage
  
  2. The "Before" -- Under the Old Covenant, Gentiles were:
    - a. Separated from Christ
  
    - b. Alienated from Israel
  
    - c. Strangers to the Covenants of Promise
  
    - d. Void of hope
  
    - e. Without God
  
  3. The "After" -- But in the New Covenant era,
    - a. Gentiles are brought near (in Christ)
  
    - b. Gentiles are made one with God's people (in Christ)
  
    - c. The Old Covenant is abolished (by Christ)
  
    - d. Jew and Gentile reconciled to God (in Christ)
  
    - e. Jew and Gentile not at war, but at peace (in Christ)  
(14a, 15b, 16b)
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# Easter Flowers 2026

Would you like to honor or remember a loved one at Easter? You may order flowers that will decorate the front of the church at Easter, and then you or the recipient may take them home. Or you can make a donation to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering, which supports the missionaries of the North American Mission Board.

**Order Deadline: SUNDAY, MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup>**

Please place the completed form and payment in the designated box in the lobby.  
If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Akers.

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT THIS IN THE OFFERING PLATE!**

Type	Quantity	Each	Total
Tulips		\$8.50	\$
Daffodils		\$8.50	\$
Donation to Annie Armstrong Easter Offering		\$10.00	\$
Please make checks payable to NHBC			\$

Type of Flower/Donation \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of    -or-     In honor of

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Loved One*

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of giver as you want it shown in bulletin.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Your Name* (in case we need to contact you)

Type of Flower/Donation \_\_\_\_\_

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