

PASTOR'S ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

Have you adopted this purpose? Do you joyfully embrace it in your heart? As a church, we are the household of God through faith in Christ. Since we belong to Christ, it is our honor, joy, duty, and privilege to give our lives to Him. By the grace of God, we must strive to live for Christ, learn to live for Christ, and persevere in living for Christ no matter what we face in life. We say along with Paul, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

When our purpose is to live for Jesus and not ourselves, His goals and values become our goals and values. To see what this looks like, we can summarize 7 core values that God's children embrace based on the teaching of Scripture. Today, we will look at the first core value: the glory and praise of God.

The glory and praise of God. This means we place a high level of importance on understanding, cherishing, and praising God for His love, power, and wisdom revealed supremely in Christ. The Bible says the reason God adopted us is "to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:6; see vv. 12, 14 also).

As man marvels at the starry sky or the power of the sun, Christians marvel all the more at God's love, power, and wisdom. We cherish His glory, and we praise Him for His glory. To give just one practical application, the chief reason we attend congregational worship is to sing PRAISES to God for His GLORIOUS character, works, words, and salvation. What drives our hearts as we drive our cars to Sunday worship? A desire to praise God drives us. A passion for His glory drives us. A hunger to know more of His glorious love, power, and wisdom stirs our hearts and stimulates our minds to gather for worship. The glory and praise of God are of the utmost importance. They are a core value and a chief motivator of the soul.

Therefore, beloved, let us humbly seek to glorify God in our attitudes and convictions. "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Let us also seek to glorify God in our words and deeds. "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17).

We must also strive to glorify God not only by serving Him, but in the way we serve Him – not making it about ourselves, our preferences, or our feelings, but about Him; not drawing attention to ourselves and living off the good feelings that brings, but drawing attention to Christ and His incomparable love, power, and wisdom for helpless and unworthy sinners. "Whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4:11).

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 – April 19th

I AM (Crib) - Tammy Wetters and Janie Steplowski

II AM (Toddlers) – Marie Reid and Mia Citro

PM– Combined I/II – Jenn Evans and Bella Fortunato

Prayer Intercessor – April 19th– Meg Fornoff

Greeters – April 19th– Jenn and Andrew Evans

Ushers - April 19th– Bob Doss, Jim Dougherty, Andrew Evans*, Eric Heinze, Vince Minichiello*, Peter Vaughan

Today's Ushers - Brian Akers*, Bradyn Citro, Bill Fornoff, Richard Perrine, Bill Tomlinson*, Donny Wetters

* ushers who greet in the lobby



**NORTH HARFORD
BAPTIST CHURCH**

To live for Jesus and not ourselves.

April 12, 2026



**Men's
Breakfast**

Saturday, April 18th, at 8 AM



**Ladies
Craft Day**

Saturday, April 18th, 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"/> 1 Cor. 5-8 | Psalm 74 | Prov. 20:26-30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor. 9-12 | Psalm 75 | Prov. 21:1-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor. 13-16 | Psalm 76 | Prov. 21:6-10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor. 1-4 | Psalm 77 | Prov. 21:11-15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor. 5-8 | Psalm 78:1-31 | Prov. 21:16-20 |

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:45 AM	Worship Service* (Church/Facebook)
	6:30 PM	Evening Worship* (Church/Facebook)
Tuesday	9:15AM	Precepts Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30AM	Men's Prayer Group (Fellowship Hall)
	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	7:00-9:30 PM	Youth Group (Glow Dodgeball)
Saturday	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

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Reading: Galatians 3:27-29, Abraham's Offspring

How Great Thou Art | How Firm a Foundation

Offering

SERMON: The Mystery of Christ

Ephesians 3:1-6 (Pew Bible Page 1570)

Tis the Power of the Cross

Closing Prayer

EVENING WORSHIP

Welcome

Reading & Prayer: John 14:25-31, Peace I Give to You

Holy, Holy, Holy

Reading & Prayer: Hebrews 1:1-4, God Revealed

The Solid Rock

SERMON: Jesus Appears

John 20:11-23 (Pew Bible Page 1435)

Closing Prayer

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 if you have any questions or special prayer requests.

UPCOMING PRAYER SERVICES

March Prayer Meeting Attendance: 35

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.

GLOW DODGEBALL

The youth favorite, Glow Dodgeball, is coming back to Youth Group on Friday, April 17th. Invite other youth!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 18th, at 8 AM. Sign up in the lobby or the Church Center app.

LADIES CRAFT DAY

The ladies will have a Craft Day on Saturday, April 18th, at 10 AM. BYO craft, do the provided craft, or just come for the fellowship. Sign up in the lobby or the Church Center app.

MEETING WITH MUSIC MINISTRY

If you have been involved in the Sunday worship music ministry, you are invited to a meeting NEXT Sunday after church in room 1 regarding our search for a music minister AND your involvement in the process.

ON THE HORIZON

YOUTH GROUP SPRING FORMAL

The Youth Group will be having a spring formal on May 9th at 6 PM. It will be held at the Dallas Sutton building. This event is for students in high school (grades 9-12). The cost is \$20/person. Scholarships are available. There will be food, entertainment, and a photo booth. Please sign up in the lobby or at Church Center app so we know how many will be attending. Any questions, please see Jeremiah Brown.

NEMOURS ESTATE VISIT

Ladies, the Women's Ministry is planning a trip to the Nemours Estate in Wilmington, Delaware, on Tuesday, May 12th. The estate is open 10 AM—5 PM. We plan to meet at the entrance at 10 AM. You will have an option of touring the gardens and grounds (Garden Day Pass) or grounds, gardens, mansion and chauffeur's garage (Estate Day Pass). We will provide a ticket link when it becomes available. This is a new date, so there is a new sign-up sheet (pricing included). Please sign up so we know how many will be attending.

BUILDERS FOR CHRIST

Please consider joining the Builders for Christ trip to Hillside Baptist Church in Springfield, MO from Saturday, June 20th through Friday, June 26th. Visit their website www.marylandbuildersforchrist.com or contact Roger Williams for more information.

CHURCH NEWS

MUSIC LEADER POSITION

In October, when our church's fiscal year begins, we approved a budget that includes a new part-time position for a music leader for our church (up to 8 hours/week at \$20/hour). Today, we begin moving forward in that endeavor by announcing it to the church and by beginning to share the job posting in various ways. Tomorrow, I will post the opening, along with the full job description, on our website so we can see and share it as the Lord leads. We will also post it on select job sites. Below is the first section of the opening. It explains the duties and expectations:

1. We are prayerfully seeking a Christian man to lead a group of singers and musicians to create a rotation of various "teams" for morning and evening worship, teams that he will lead during worship, but is also able to lead music solo as needed.
2. Lead a regular – not necessarily weekly – practice for team building and development (flexible).
3. Working in collaboration with the pastors, choose a mix of older and newer songs for each service.
4. Working under the direction of the pastors, view the musical aspect of worship in service to the ministry of the Word and prayer, not an independent or autonomous ministry.

INTERVIEW PROCESS FOR MUSIC LEADER

As applications come in, the pastors will bring viable candidates to the deacons for further review. If we begin an interview process for anyone, I will involve the music ministry team for collaboration, support, and feedback. The interview process will include but not be limited to: Discussion(s) with pastor and pastor(s), and a formal interview with the pastors and deacons. Part of that will be open to music ministry people to observe and take notes so that they can provide feedback and ask us questions. This will be followed by some sort of fellowship time and meal for face time and conversations. Part of the process will include the candidate leading music for AM and PM worship, along with some kind of fellowship time for more face time and conversations. If the pastors and deacons unanimously agree on 1 candidate, we would bring it to the church for a vote, requiring a 3/4 majority.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

REMINDER OF OUR PURPOSE

If we forget our purpose, we will be like a car with bad alignment, always drifting off to one side or the other. Our purpose is not entertainment, socializing, tradition, or any variety of manufactured emotional experiences. Our purpose is to live for Jesus and not for ourselves. Paul wrote about Jesus and why He died, saying that "He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised" (2 Corinthians 5:15).

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AM Sermon: The Mystery of Christ Ephesians 3:1-6

God's Promise of Salvation was not for Jews only, but also for Gentiles.

Paul's grasp of the mystery of Christ:

1. Was clear (vv. 3a, 4b, 6)
2. Was dangerous (vv. 1-2)
3. Was revealed (vv. 3-5)
4. Was international (v. 6)
 - a. The Gentiles are "fellow heirs"
 - b. The Gentiles are "members of the same body"
 - c. The Gentiles are "partakers of the promise"



To register, scan the QR code, use the forms in the lobby, or visit our website (www.NorthHarford.org). Completed forms can be emailed to info@northharford.org or left on the secretary's desk.

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. A \$50 deposit is required per camper at the time of registration. Register by May 31st.



JARRETTSVILLE BASKETBALL CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Jarrettsville Basketball Camp (August 3-8). 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.



JARRETTSVILLE BASKETBALL CAMP REGISTRATION

Jarrettsville Basketball Camp is held outside at the church for students in 1st-8th grade (grade completed as of June 2026) to learn and practice fundamental basketball skills and hear about Jesus. The FREE 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.

