

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

LORD, 'return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;<sup>13</sup> and rend your hearts and not your garments.' Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster" (Joel 2:12-13). The world is not grieved at sin. Neither is our sinful flesh grieved at sin. But when the Holy Spirit grieves our heart over sin, we then turn from it for the glory and honor of God.

**Third, truly seeking God requires faith in His grace and forgiveness.** "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;<sup>7</sup> 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). God provides comfort and help for those brokenhearted over their sin and totally humbled before God's throne. Through the blood of Christ and by the power of His resurrection, God offers free grace and forgiveness for all who believe. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Matthew 5:4). Just being sorry for sin is not God's will. His will is a godward sorrow that turns our hearts to Him for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of grace.

**Fourth, truly seeking God requires humility and leads to God's providential blessings.** "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14). Pride is a killer. Pride is what keeps us from truly seeking God, turning from sin, and calling out to Him in prayer in a genuine way. We must go to God to humble us — to kill the self-righteousness, self-reliance, and arrogance of the flesh. The only road to divine blessing is that of humility that despairs of self and leans totally on God.

**Fifth, truly seeking God acknowledging His greatness, awesomeness, and steadfast love and faithfulness.** "Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.<sup>4</sup> I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying, 'O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments'" (Daniel 9:3-4). If God is not the center of our thoughts and conversations, then our religious activity is play acting. It is a false show of public righteousness and counterfeit spirituality. True spirituality, righteousness, worship, service, prayer, and repentance is always preoccupied with God Himself and captivated by His glory and praise. If we were to observe an authentic revival of prayer (which is a work of God), we would see a group of people whose words and actions make much of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and the glory and wonder of the gospel, and the majesty, authority, and living power of God's inspired Word, the Bible.

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## 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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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 – May 31<sup>st</sup>

I AM (Crib) - Cheryl Brown and Lynette Winzenried

II AM (Toddlers) – Emma Evans and Marie Reid

PM– Combined I/II – Bill and Donna Tomlinson

**Prayer Intercessor** – May 31<sup>st</sup> – Gerry Cicone

**Greeters** – May 31<sup>st</sup>– Jenn Evans and Meg Fornoff

**Ushers** - May 31<sup>st</sup>– Danny Akers, Dave Good, Nathan Good, Wayne Hudson, John McDonald, and Blair Knouse

**Today's Ushers** - Malik Baker-Gore, Bob Burman, Frank Cicone\*, Jim Feldbush, Gary McAllister, and Tom Neunaber\*

\* ushers who greet in the lobby



## NORTH HARFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

To live for Jesus and not ourselves.

May 24, 2026

## MEMORIAL DAY "EVE" COOKOUT



TODAY at 5 PM

FREE Family-Friendly Fun!

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs  
off the grill with sides and desserts  
Yard Games | Popsicles  
Short Devotional

Please bring the food to church by 4:30 PM.

## READING THE BIBLE IN 2026

This week's readings are:

- |                  |              |                   |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| □ 2 Samuel 17-20 | Psalm 102    | Proverbs 27:1-7   |
| □ 2 Samuel 21-24 | Psalm 103    | Proverbs 27:8-14  |
| □ 1 Kings 1-4    | Ps 104:1-23  | Proverbs 27:15-20 |
| □ 1 Kings 5-8    | Ps 104:24-35 | Proverbs 27:21-27 |
| □ 1 Kings 9-12   | Ps 105:1-22  | Proverbs 28:1-7   |

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:45 AM	Worship Service* (Church/Facebook)
	4:30 PM	Food Should Arrive for Cookout
	5:00PM	Memorial Day Eve Cookout
<b>Monday</b>	Church Office CLOSED for Memorial Day	
<b>Wednesday</b>	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

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

## MORNING WORSHIP

Call to Worship and Announcements

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Reading: John 17:20-21, Unity in the Church

*Come We That Love the Lord (Marching to Zion)*

*My Worth Is Not in What I Own*

Offering

**SERMON:** Biblical Unity

Ephesians 4:4-6 (Pew Bible Page 1571)

*He Will Hold Me Fast* | Baptism

Closing Prayer | Receiving Line

## NO EVENING WORSHIP

### MEMORIAL DAY EVE COOKOUT

Join us tonight for a fun and delicious cookout next at 5 PM. We'll enjoy burgers and hot dogs hot off the grill with sides and desserts. There will be yard games to play and popsicles to enjoy! Invite others. *If you signed up to bring food, please bring the food by 4:30 PM.*

## 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

**May Prayer Meeting Attendance:** 30

**June Prayer Meeting:** June 7<sup>th</sup>

6:30-7:15 PM, Fellowship Hall

**May Men's Breakfast Attendance:** 22

## WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

### MEMBERS' MEETING

Update from Pastor Matt on former pastoral intern, Jeremiah Brown, at 12:10 PM today.

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office is closed on Monday for Memorial Day.

### BABY BOTTLE DRIVE FOR ALPHA'S GLORY

Alpha's Glory Pregnancy Resource Center is doing its annual Baby Bottle Drive from Mother's Day to Father's Day. Pick up a bottle in the lobby, fill it with change and money, and return it to the lobby by Father's Day. If you'd prefer to write a check, please make it out to Alpha's Glory Pregnancy Resource Center and place it in the bottle.

### KIDS KAMP REGISTRATIONS DEADLINE

Kids Kamp is a day camp for 9-12-year-olds held at Camp Wo-Me-To. The camp will be held on June 29<sup>th</sup>—July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. The cost is \$140. There are discounts for sending multiple campers and scholarships are available. A \$50 deposit is required per camper at the time of registration. *Registrations are due NEXT Sunday.*

### DEACONS MEETING

The deacons will meet next Sunday at 5 PM in Room 24.

### CALL TO BAPTISM

If you have turned to Jesus in faith for salvation, contact the church to start the process to be baptized and join the church ([info@NorthHarford.org](mailto:info@NorthHarford.org)). See Acts 2:40-41 and Matthew 28:19-20 on God's will for new believers to be baptized and join the fellowship of Christians.

## ON THE HORIZON

### TRUSTEES MEETING

The trustees will meet on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30 PM in Room 1.

### LADIES' BREAKFAST AND PLANT EXCHANGE

The ladies will have a breakfast, a devotional, and a plant exchange on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9 AM. Please bring a breakfast food and a plant(s) to exchange (if you have one). Please sign up in the lobby or Church Center App to let us know you're attending and what breakfast food you will bring. If you decide to bring plants, please include a note with them that lists their names and planting instructions (e.g., full sun or shade).

### CHURCH WORKDAY

The trustees invite you to a workday on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8 AM. Many hands make light work - come help! Contact Bill Tomlinson for more information.

## ON THE HORIZON (CONTINUED)

### BASKETBALL CAMP VOLUNTEERS MEETING

Jarrettsville Basketball Camp volunteers will meet after church on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, for 45 minutes in Room 1. More volunteers are needed! Sign up on the Church Center App or in the lobby. Contact Brian Akers with any questions.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

We are having a Men's Breakfast on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, at 8 AM. The Men's Ministry will provide a hearty breakfast and the pastor will bring a message from The Book of Proverbs. Sign up on the Church Center app or in the lobby.

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE

### REVIVAL OF PRAYER, PART 2

Where does a revival of prayer begin from a practical perspective? Once we have the right heart (a heart of faith) and the right mindset (desperate humility), what do we do? What actions do we turn our attention to? The three principal activities -- in no particular order, but braided together as a single strand -- are **repentance, private prayer, and congregational worship**. These are the basic elements of Christian devotion. If we want Christian revival, we need a practical revival of basic Christian duties and devotion. This article is about repentance.

Repentance. **Repentance is a turning from sin toward God that begins in the heart and mind but reorients our will, words, and actions.** Prayer without repentance is hypocrisy. We must turn our hearts to God before turning our voices to God. Are we willing to clean the outside of the bowl but not the inside? Do we wish to honor Christ with our lips while our hearts are far from Him? Do we want the reward that comes from being seen by men on earth or that which comes from our Father in heaven? Beloved, let us seek God with all our hearts, turn to Him, turn from sin, cry out for mercy, and in that glorious context of spiritual power, may God revive us in the work of prayer. The points below describe how we must seek God through repentance and prayer.

**First, genuine prayer requires truly seeking God from the heart.** "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:12-13). Otherwise, we would be like selfish and spoiled children who desire good things from mom and dad but not a closer bond. Let us give our hearts to God first, and then cry out to Him in prayer.

**Second, truly seeking God requires godly sorrow and repentance from sin.** "Yet even now," declares the

*(continued on the next page)*

**AM Sermon: Unity in the Church**  
**Ephesians 4:4-6**

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What we share in Jesus gives us unity in Jesus.

1. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

2. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

3. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

4. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

5. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

6. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.

7. We share in one \_\_\_\_\_.