



JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

NBCGARLAND.ORG

SCHOOL UNIFORM DRIVE

Northlake has “adopted” our local elementary school, Weaver. You are invited to help provide uniforms and/or backpacks to help families who are in need. A QR code to the Amazon wish list will be available this month at the Missions Table in the Gathering Hall. You may also donate Amazon gift cards or money toward the effort. Thank you for helping us love our community by providing for their needs.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MISSION PROJECTS

In lieu of a mission trip this summer, you are invited to serve with us at this local ministry, packing food to be shipped around the world to nourish hungry people. There are 2 dates/times reserved for a group from Northlake (limited number of participants per event). Dates are: Wed, July 24 (5-6:45 pm); and Sat, Aug 24 (7:15-9 pm). Meet at the church to ride the bus or meet there (1680 N Glenville Dr #300, Richardson). If you want to participate on one or more dates, please sign up on Realm or contact the church office.

“NACHO AVERAGE” BUSINESS MEETING & GAME NIGHT

Sun, July 21, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Join us for a short business meeting followed by a build-your-own nacho bar dinner and games (table games and gym games). Sign up to bring an item on Realm or by contacting the church office.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY OCC STUFFING PARTY

Wed, July 10, 10-11:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Come help us make early preparations for Operation Christmas Child! We will stuff some bags, sharpen pencils, and sort items—easy tasks!

FAREWELL POTLUCK LUNCH FOR THE CARLS

Sun, July 28, 12 noon, Multi-Purpose Center

Help us celebrate 17 years of service and wish the Carls well on their next life chapter at a potluck lunch. Sign up to bring a potluck food item on Realm or by calling the church office.



Yes, it's true. I am stepping away from pastoral leadership here at Northlake at the end of July—less than a month after you read these words. This will be my final article as your pastor; *even saying that makes me wince!* Our hearts are heavy with the emotional weight of so many meaningful relationships here. Yet, we have a sense of peace that THIS is where God is leading: We're joining Melody and her husband, Jeremiah, in Temple as they begin the journey of marriage...and parenthood. (Having our first grandchild may have something to do with it.) They still have much education ahead—Jeremiah graduates in May and Melody hopes to start P.A. school in January. Our intention is to help them build a good foundation in those early years of parenthood...and to hear those beloved words: **Papa John!** (I'm not sure what Tracy's moniker will be, but I'm putting money on "Nana").

We just celebrated seventeen years of ministry here at Northlake. *Seventeen.* While not a record for Northlake (by a longshot), it's my longest staff tenure—*by a factor of three.* The prospect of leaving this place, selling our house and being further from other family is hard to fathom...*not to mention uncertainty as to what's next for me vocationally and the fiscal concern that brings!* But this we know: God is leading, and He will continue providing—for YOU and for US. It will be **different**, but I think different is what Northlake needs right now, as it ministers to this community in today's culture. So, what I ask of you is threefold. 1) **PRAY FOR US**, that God reveals the entirety of His purpose for our future. 2) **STAY THE COURSE**, for Northlake needs your commitment, investment and encouragement. 3) **KEEP THE FAITH**, trusting that God knows what He's doing, even if we don't...*and greater things are yet to come as we work, watch and wait!* Tracy and I deeply love this church, and want only the best for what comes next. It has been an undeniable **PRIVILEGE** to serve you over these many years, even during the challenging days. For your love, support and missional partnership, we will forever be grateful.

The **Personnel Committee** is already hard at work, scheduling ministers to fill the pulpit until an **INTERIM PASTOR** is named (more on that in the coming weeks). The **Dallas Baptist Association** has been an **invaluable** resource for both my family and the church in this season of transition. I'm indebted to Ryan Jespersen and the entire DBA staff for their help, support, prayers and encouragement as we pursued the Lord's plan for our next steps. No matter WHO or WHAT the future holds, **God is already there**, so trust His **HAND** and follow His **HEART**. We'll be back from time to time, and you'll always be present in our minds and hearts. Thank you—for all that you have meant to our family over the past 17 years. Words can't convey the depth of my gratitude.

Know that it has indeed been a **PRIVILEGE** to be YOUR PASTOR...

Bro. John

RECENT GIVING

June 2 —\$12,904.15

June 9—\$8,618.15

June 16—\$11,892.63

June 23—\$9,241.46

Weekly Need: \$14,992.00

RECENT BIBLE STUDY ATTENDANCE

June 2 —117

June 9—126

June 16—118

June 23—111



JULY 2024 CALENDAR

Thurs, July 4—Church Office & Clothes Closet/Food Pantry Closed

**Wed, July 10—Christmas in July OCC Stuffing Party (10:00 am)
Finance Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)**

**Sun, July 14—Adult Directors' Meeting (9:00 am)
Home Grown Small Groups**

Tues, July 16—Ladies Book Club (6:00 pm)

**Wed, July 17—Missions Committee Meeting (6:00 pm)
Deacon's Meeting (6:00 pm)
Student Movie Outing (6:15 pm)**

Thurs, July 18—Food Pantry/Clothes Closet (1:00 pm)

**Sun, July 18—Quarterly Business Meeting (5:30 pm)
All-Church Nacho Bar and Game Night (6:00 pm)**

**Wed, July 24—Feed My Starving Children Mission Project (4:45 pm)
No Regular Wednesday Night Activities**

Wed, July 31—no Regular Wednesday Night Activities



LADIES' SUMMER EVENTS

Tues, July 16 (6-8 pm)
Book Club Discussion
A Million Little Choices
(by Tamera Alexander)
Carol Hartman's House
(440 Seleta, Murphy)

Tues, August 13 (6-8 pm)
Bunko Game Night
Gathering Place

STUDENT MOVIE OUTING

Wed, July 17, 6:15 pm

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join us as we go see *Despicable Me 4* at Firewheel AMC Theater. Meet at the theater at 6:15 pm or meet at 5:45 pm at the church to ride the bus. Cost is \$13 per person. Get a treat of your choice from the concession stand if you bring a friend!

UPCOMING WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

We will have no regular Wednesday night activities on the following nights:

Wed, July 24**

*(**Feed My Starving Children Mission Project in lieu of regular activities)*

Wed, July 31

Wed, Aug 7

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Wed, 7/10—Finance
Committee (6:00 pm)
Sun, 7/14—Directors'
Meeting (9:00 am)
Wed, 7/17—Deacons
Meeting (6:00 pm)
Wed, 7/17—Missions
Committee (6:00 pm)

PICKLEBALL

Tuesdays at 6:00 pm
Multi-Purpose Center

Anyone interested in playing Pickleball is invited to join us on Tuesday nights. No experience necessary. Bring your own equipment if you have it; if not, we have some you can borrow.

THE BIBLE RECAP

The Bible Recap is a year-long Bible reading plan. Many people in our church are walking through God's Word together. It's not too late to join! You can pick up where we are. An optional discussion group is offered on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Prayer Room.

CLOTHES CLOSET UPDATE

Good news! We have had volunteers step up to help keep the Clothes Closet/Food Pantry open at least until the end of this year. If you have donations of clean, usable clothing, we can accept them.