

**MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**  
**Every member a minister**

Every member of Northminster Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry. The following persons have been called by this congregation to serve as enablers in such ministry.

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor for Children and Adults  
Associate Pastor for Students  
Minister of Music  
Organist  
Organist Emeritus  
Office Manager  
Financial Secretary  
Receptionist/Secretary  
Sexton

Scott Dickison  
Lesley Ratcliff  
Major Treadway  
Tim Coker  
Sheila Hess  
Billy Trotter  
Leslie Ward  
Sam South  
Jan Wilson/Neely Grimsley  
Lamenais Simeon

**THE CHURCH IN SERVICE**

**Sunday, September 17**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. First Graders Lunch, GH  
4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee, L/CR  
4:00 p.m. Youth Lake Party  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six  
6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

**Monday, September 18**

8:30 a.m. Caregiving, L/CR

**Tuesday, September 19**

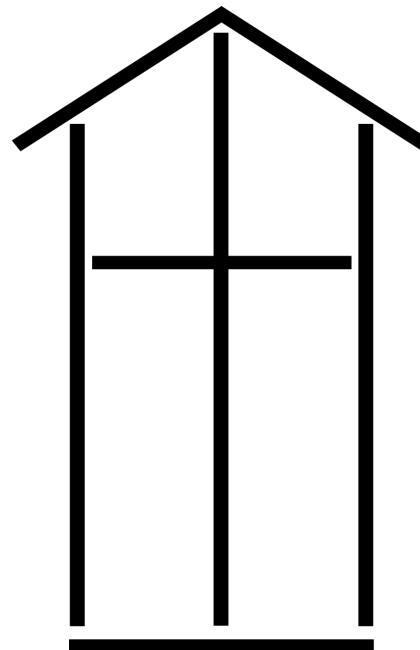
12:00 p.m. Youth Committee, YH  
4:00 p.m. Cancer Support, Adult Ed. Bldg.  
5:30 p.m. Adult Ministries Cmte., Adult Ed. Bldg.

**Wednesday, September 20**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, L/CR  
9:00 a.m. Enneagram, Adult Ed. Bldg.  
10:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH  
6:00 p.m. Life After High School, YH  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, September 24**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
5:00 p.m. Preschool & Elementary Atrium & Four5Six  
5:00 p.m. Youth YH  
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, Adult Ed. Bldg.



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

And ultimately forgiveness is a gift of grace rather than an act of will. I have to be willing to forgive, but I cannot will myself to forgive. I can forgive with my mind, but forgiveness is finally a matter of the heart. And the forgiveness of the heart comes from God, not from me. My part in it is to be willing to accept it.

—Madeleine L'Engle, *Glimpses of Grace*

Northminster Baptist Church  
3955 Ridgewood Road  
Jackson, MS 39211  
601-982-4703  
www.northminsterbaptist.org

**NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3955 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
September 17, 2023  
Ten-thirty o'clock

**PREPARATION AND PRAISE**

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer.

The Meditation of Preparation

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

— Matthew 18: 21-22

The Prelude	“When Morning Gilds the Skies”	Wood
The Call to Worship	“O Be Joyful in the Lord”	Yarrington
	O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands! Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Bless the Lord!	

\*The Processional Hymn No. 16 “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” *DUKE STREET*

\*The Litany of Praise Chichi Carson

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Great Spirit, you have turned your face earthward and opened your heart to your children,

**People: And so, O God, do we turn to you now.**

Leader: We turn to you for purpose and correction,

**People: For joy and peace,**

Leader: For a way out of hopeless situations,

**People: For justice,**

Leader: For forgiveness,

**People: For love.**

**All: We turn to you, O God, for all these things offered through Jesus the Christ, the maker of redemption and the bringer of hope.**

—Roger D. Straw, *Flames of the Spirit*

\*The Gloria Patri No. 807 “Glory Be to the Father” *MEINEKE*

\*The Prayer of Invocation Chichi Carson

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

**Children's Birthday  
Gathering**

**Tuesday, September 26  
3:00-5:00 p.m.**

Children who have a birthday in September are invited to stop by the Northminster Great Hall to enjoy an ice cream treat with Lesley.

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**Save the Date!**

**Inward and Onward:  
The Future of Church and Self  
October 14-15, 2023**

This fall you will have three opportunities at Northminster to hear from Ed Bacon, priest, speaker and author of *8 Habits of Love*.

**“8 Tools for Discovering Your True  
Self of Love Beneath Life’s Fears”**

Saturday, October 14  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**“Traits of Healthy Churches”**

Sunday, October 15  
Immediately following worship  
Lunch will be provided.

**Rev. Bacon will also offer the sermon during worship on October 15.**

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**Children’s Retreat  
October 21-22, 2023**

Children in third through sixth grade are invited to our annual Fall Retreat.

*We will leave at 8 a.m. on October 21 and return in time for worship at Northminster on October 22.*

*For questions or to sign up, contact Lesley Ratcliff at 601-982-4703 or [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).*

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**PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT**

**Friday, October 20  
6:00-10:00 p.m. ~ NCC**

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-6th grade) by calling the church office, **601-982-4703, by Wednesday, October 18.**

Please remember to feed your children before they arrive, or provide a brown-bag supper.

**We will also have Parents’ Night Out on  
November 10, and December 1.**

## LUNCH & LEARN

Come enjoy a delicious meal and a presentation during the lunch hour!

A Visual Presentation by  
**WYATT WATERS**

Tuesday, September 26  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
Great Hall

The cost will be \$10 per person. Please RSVP by September 21 by calling the church office or emailing [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org)

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## FALL ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES

5:30 p.m.  
Adult Ed. Building

### Funerals 101

Sundays, September 24 and October 1

On the first night, we will talk about why we do funerals the way we do funerals at Northminster. On the second night, you will have opportunity to think about what is important to you for your funeral service, and record that information in a funeral form to ensure that information is available to your family after your death.

Let's plan ahead but not put a date on the calendar!

### Deep Calls Out to Deep: The Poetry of Scripture

Sundays, October 8, 22, and 29

It is no coincidence that the language of God in scripture is most often written in poetry and not prose. This subtle shift in form opens our imaginations to infinite possibilities of inference, reflection, and depth. Over these three weeks, Scott will lead us as we consider the use of poetry in scripture, and pair scripture with contemporary poems to explore the ways in which these extra-biblical voices can enhance and enrich our experience of the gospel.

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## MEALS ON WHEELS

### Wednesday, September 20

#### Cooks

Carolyn McIntyre  
Shari Culver  
Jo Ann Welch

#### Drivers

Rt. 1 Cathy & Jeff Davis  
Rt. 2 Carol Taff & Keith Davis

### Monday, September 25

#### Cooks

Polly Watkins  
Jean Welch  
Helen Turner

#### Drivers

Rt. 1 Kelley & Jean Williams  
Rt. 2 Cathy & Jeff Davis

## The Presentation of Bibles to First Graders

|                       |                        |                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Lucy Mitchell Beard   | Abigail Lucille Boykin | Reynolds Abbey Clark       |
| Mary Mariah Fox       | James Wyatt Kitchell   | Brian Carter Long, Jr.     |
| Bailey Locke Munn     | Evelyn Lee Nowell      | Stetson Cypert Parks       |
| Sims McCallum Quinn   | Phinn Parker Snow      | James Edwin Bennett Snyder |
| Robert Moses Treadway |                        |                            |

Pastor: This is an exciting time for the children who are gathered before us. They have entered first grade, and many of them have also begun worshipping with us in the sanctuary for the first time.

**People: It is our privilege to make a place for them, for they belong to us, just as we all belong to God.**

Pastor: As we officially welcome our first graders to worship today, we present them with Bibles inscribed with their own names, praying that, as the Scripture is placed into their hands, so it will become written upon their hearts.

**All: Together we give thanks for the children of our congregation and for the Bible; both gifts from God to help us all learn and grow.**

The Lessons Psalm 103:8-13  
Romans 14:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## CONFESSIO AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession  
Forgiveness often seems impossible, but nothing is impossible for God. The God who lives within us will give us the grace to go beyond our wounded selves and say, "In the Name of God you are forgiven." Let's pray for that grace.

—Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

## INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn No. 486 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" *WELLESLEY*

\*The Offertory Prayer *Chichi Carson*

The Offertory "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" *Callahan*

\*The Doxology *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise loving God, whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

The Gospel Matthew 18:21-35 Major Treadway  
Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Nelson  
Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of thy redeeming love.  
Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by the help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.  
O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it for thy courts above.

The Sermon "A Different Kind of People" Scott Dickison

**COMMITMENT**

Northminster is an open fellowship that wants to share its gift of life and ministry with others. During the Time of Response, this church extends an invitation to membership by request for baptism, by letter from a sister church, or by statement of your Christian experience in another denomination. If you would like to unite with this covenant community, please come forward at this point in the service.

**TIME OF RESPONSE**

Community is not possible without the willingness to forgive one another "seventy-seven times." Forgiveness is the cement of community life. Forgiveness holds us together through good and bad times, and it allows us to grow in mutual love.

—Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

- \*The Recessional Hymn No. 92 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA
- \*The Benediction Scott Dickison
- \*The Postlude "Hymn to Joy" Travis

**YOUTH NEWS**

**Youth Sunday School**

**Sunday mornings at 9:15-ish** in the Youth House. There will be donuts and good conversation.

**Lake Party**

**Today, 4:00-6:00 p.m.** We'll gather at the Jernigans' house at Lake Lorman where we'll eat dinner, tube, and swim. Let Major know if you need a ride to/from the church.

**Life after High School**

**Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

All high school seniors are welcome to join Major for a series of discussions about practical life skills necessary for thriving after high school graduation.

**Girls' Small Group**

**Every other Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m., next group meeting September 27**

Join Sarah Reynolds in a study of *3 Big Questions That Shape Your Future* by K. Acevedo and B. Griffin.

**Stewpot**

**Saturday, October 7 at 9:30 a.m.**

We will gather in the Great Hall kitchen, prepare a meal and serve it at Stewpot; then we will eat lunch together.

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**Wednesday Night Supper September 20**

**5:30 p.m. ~ Great Hall**

Come join us for a delicious meal and a brief vespers service!

Cost: \$5 per child, \$8 per adult, \$25 per family

Servers: Carol Ann Vest, Hilda Boteler, Kathy Burkhalter

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: Green Autumn Salad, Fried Chicken, Rice Consommé, Sweet & Sour Green Beans, Yeast Rolls and Biscuits, Key Lime Pie, Iced Tea

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**BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

**September 21**

Carrie Blount

**September 28**

Jeff Wilson

**October 5**

Joe Sims

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**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**September 24**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Elizabeth & Percy Quinn

**Firecrackers**

Jennifer & Christian Byrd

**Sparklers**

Caroline & Jack Nowell

**CAREGIVING CONCERNS**

**CARE CARDS** may be found in the pew racks, if you would like to write anyone. Place your cards in the offering plate. Cards will be mailed from the church office on Monday morning.

**CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Ryder and Blair Taff, 1509 Ivy Street, Jackson, MS 39202, on the birth of their son, Blair Cavett Taff. Cavett is also welcomed by his sister, Ryder Marie, along with Carol Taff, and Emily, Philip, and Lila Taff.

Justin Beard is hospitalized at UMMC.

Steve Chester is hospitalized at Baptist Hospital.

**ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS**

Gorman Schaffer	Sue Edwards	Virginia Hamilton
Roxanne Aldridge	R.W. McCarley	Libby McGee
Carolyn Aden	Vivian Thompson	Michael Grantham
Robbie Cross	Tom Starling	

Louise Phillips, mother of Cindy Griffin

Martha Quarles, mother of Lori Quarles

The Caregiving Committee considers it a privilege to pray for each concern that affects our church family. Recognizing the power of prayer, we meet each Monday at 8:30 a.m. in the church conference room for a brief, informal prayer-time and invite all who can to join us. If you have prayer concerns, please call the church office or a member of the Caregiving Committee.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today is the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost.** The Season after Pentecost celebrates the existence of the church and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world. The liturgical color is green, symbolic of the church’s growth and mission. The Tree of Life (Genesis 2:9, Revelation 22:1-2), which rises above the baptistry and is woven into our paraments, underscores this liturgical season’s emphasis on the living, growing Kingdom of God.

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The Deacon of the Week is Carrie Blount.  
The Caregiving Chair for September is Sunny Fowler.  
The Caregiving Coordinator for September is Susan O’Mara.  
The Caregivers of the Week are Ginger Parham and Sara Cox.  
The Liturgist for September is Gray Jackson.  
The Flowers for September are provided by Lisa Kelly and Kandy Sims.  
The Usher Captains for September are Nancy Smith, Matt Kelly and Dawn Warrington.

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**Preschool Atrium, Elementary Atrium  
and Four5Six today at 5:00 p.m.**

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*The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Blair Cavett Taff. The proud parents are Ryder and Blair Taff.*

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for September 17 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

Exodus 14:19-31 ~ pages 53-54  
 Psalm 114 ~ page 491  
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 ~ pages 54-55  
 Genesis 50:15-21 ~ page 42  
 Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13 ~ pages 482-483  
 Romans 14:1-12 ~ pages 923-924  
 Matthew 18:21-35 ~ page 800