

**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, October 15**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. Inward and Onward with Ed Bacon, GH  
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH  
5:00 p.m. Preschool, Elementary Atrium and 456  
6:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, L/CR

**Monday, October 16**

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

**Tuesday, October 17**

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast Club, Chick-fil-A  
4:30 p.m. Cancer Support, L/CR

**Wednesday, October 18**

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  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, October 20**

6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out, NCC

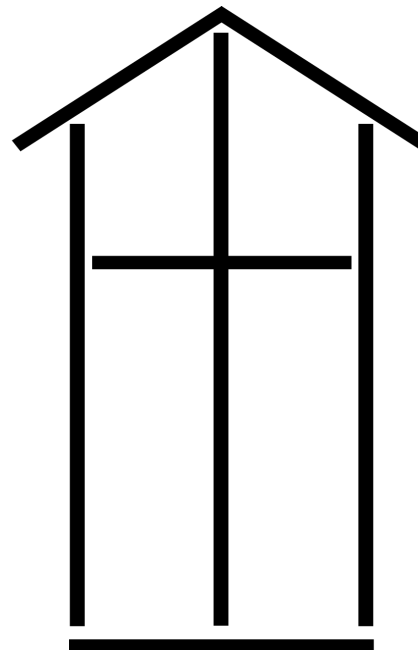
**Saturday, October 21**

8:30 a.m. Children leave for retreat  
10:00 a.m. Youth leave for retreat  
Choir Workshop, GH

**Sunday, October 22**

8:30 a.m. Children return from retreat  
Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
2:00 p.m. Youth return from retreat  
5:00 p.m. Preschool, Elementary Atrium and 456  
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

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



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

“On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines,” says the prophet Isaiah. Jesus likewise describes God as one who throws a banquet, and Jesus tells us that God feeds even the ravens. Jesus himself provides wedding guests with wine, feeds the five thousand, and after the resurrection, gives his friends a beachside breakfast of fish and bread (it’s really bruschetta, one book I read notes.) Over and over, the scriptures show that God is indeed the one who fills the hungry with good things.

—Lauren F. Winner, *Wearing God*

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

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**  
October 15, 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

Prayer is more than beginning, more than the first stab or the first several stabs. Prayer is a matter of keeping at it, a long obedience in the same direction. The rewards will come no other way. Thunderclaps and lightning flashes are very unlikely. It is well to start small and quietly. You should have it firm in your mind that the life of devotion is not to impress someone. God doesn't need to be dazzled. God already delights in you.

—Emilie Griffin, *Wilderness Time*

The Prelude	“Aria on a Chaconne”	Martinson
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. 77 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” *LOBE DEN HERREN*

\*The Litany of Praise Betsy Beard

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**People: For the Lord's steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all the Lord's praise?

**People: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.**

Leader: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them.

**All: That I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.**

—Psalm 106:1-5

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

\*The Prayer of Invocation Betsy Beard

The Greeting Lesley Ratcliff

The Lessons Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Stewpot Food Pantry**

**Monday, October 16**

Hilda & Bob Boteler

**Tuesday, October 17**

Laine & Bob Hardin

**Wednesday, October 18**

Mary Taylor

**Thursday, October 19**

Amanda Milam

Margie Van Meter

~~~~~

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**October 22**

**Firecrackers**

Leah & Tal Hendrix

**Sparklers**

Whitney & Slates Veazey

**October 29**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Caroline & Kirk Sims

**Firecrackers**

Amanda & Trey Clark

**Sparklers**

Dana & Scott Wilson

~~~~~

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

**November 5**

A printed list of names of loved ones who have preceded us into God's nearer presence will be part of our worship on All Saints' Sunday. Names may be submitted by e-mail to Leslie Ward at [lward@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lward@northminsterbaptist.org) or by printing them on the form provided in your Sunday worship bulletin, which may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. Forms will also be available in the church office. **All names must be submitted by Monday, October 23.**

On the evening of November 5, we will meet in the sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. for an All Saints' Vesper Service, at which time the names will be read aloud.

~~~~~

**Pastoral Care Number**

To alert the ministers of a pastoral care need, please call 601-980-1002.

**Pastor on Call**

Weekends and Monday: Rotating

Tuesday: Scott

Wednesday: Lesley

Thursday: Scott

Friday: Major

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, October 18

### Cooks

Judy Rankin  
Faye Barham  
Missy Caver

### Drivers

Rt. 1 Suzan & Tommy Thames  
Rt. 2 Rob Hill & Ryan McElveen

Monday, October 23

### Cooks

Sara Hays  
Gail Poole  
Lawana McLennan

### Drivers

Rt. 1 Julie & Dudley Wooley  
Rt. 2 Marianna Field & Janet Holt

~~~~~

## 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.

~~~~~

## Children's Retreat

**October 21-22, 2023**

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

We will leave at 8:00 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)

~~~~~

## Fall Festival

Wednesday, October 25 ~ 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

~ Giant Slide ~ Games ~ Cookout ~ Cupcake Walk ~ Pumpkin Painting ~

Costume Parade at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join us in the "backyard" of the church for a fun evening of festivities. Dinner will be provided and served on the back porch of the Youth House at no charge.

**Rain will cancel.**

Non-Scary Costumes Preferred.

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Meditation of Confession

The discipline of confession can easily be thought of as a discipline of reconciliation. It is an activity tending toward forgiveness. By acknowledging a fault or a failure we may forgive another person. We may decide to ask for another's forgiveness. More often we need to forgive ourselves.

—Emilie Griffin, *Wilderness Time*

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

## INTERCESSION AND DEDICATION

\*The Offertory Hymn "Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast" *GIFT OF LOVE*

Come, sinners, to the gospel feast; let every soul be Jesus's guest.  
Ye need not one be left behind, for God hath bid all humankind.

Sent by my Lord, on you I call; the invitation is to all.

Come, all the world! Come, sinner, thou! All things in Christ are ready now.

Come, all ye souls by sin oppressed, ye restless wanderers after rest;  
Ye poor, and maimed, and halt, and blind; in Christ a hearty welcome find.

\*The Offertory Prayer

Betsy Beard

The Offertory

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Wood

\*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 22:1-14

Scott Dickison

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"Thy Kingdom Come, O Lord"

Christiansen

Thy Kingdom come, O Lord, Wide circling as the sun;  
Fulfill of old thy word And make the nations one,

One in the bond of peace. The service glad and free  
Of truth and righteousness, Of love and equity.

Speed, speed the longed for time Foretold by raptured seers,  
The prophecy sublime, The hope of years.

Till rise at last, to span, Its firm foundation broad,  
The commonwealth of all, The city of our God,  
The city of our God. Thy Kingdom come, O Lord,  
Wide circling as the sun, as the sun.

The Sermon

"Jesus Is a Banquet, not a Courtroom"

Ed Bacon

**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**

Jesus’ most consistent metaphor and image for this final state of affairs was some version of a wedding feast or banquet...The ungenerous mind does not like the wedding banquet. It prefers a dualistic courtroom scene as its metaphor for the end of time....Scared people remember threats and do not hear invitations!

—Richard Rohr, *The Universal Christ*

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 60 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” *FAITHFULNESS*

\*The Benediction Ed Bacon

\*The Postlude “When in Our Music” Powell

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for October 15 are found on the following pages in the pew Bible:**

- Exodus 32:1-14 ~ page 69
- Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 ~ pages 485-486
- Isaiah 25:1-9 ~ page 568
- Psalm 23 ~ pages 435-436
- Philippians 4:1-9 ~ page 955
- Matthew 22:1-14 ~ page 803

**Children's Birthday Gathering**

**Tuesday, October 17**

**3:00-5:00 p.m.**

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

~~~~~

**Wednesday Night Supper, October 18**

**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: Anna Katherine Scott, Judy Rankin,  
Cindy Reed, Hilda Boteler

Cashier: George Luter

Menu: Fried chicken, savory green salad, scalloped potatoes,  
baby lima beans, cornbread and yeast rolls,  
assorted desserts, iced tea

~~~~~

**LUNCH & LEARN**

Tuesday, October 31

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Great Hall

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

**(HOLY) GHOST STORIES WITH SCOTT DICKISON**

It could be argued that mystery is at the heart of faith. And yet, as the Southern fiction writer Flannery O’Conner has said, “Mystery is the embarrassment of the modern mind.” How do we resolve this tension between mystery and a modern, rational understanding of the universe? Is there a tension? We’ll explore these questions and more on All Hallow’s Eve, and ask how a richer understanding of “spirituality” might help make room for the unexplainable in our faith.

The cost will be \$10 per person. Please RSVP by October 27 by calling the church office or emailing [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org)

~~~~~

**BRUMFIELD HOUSE**

**October 19**

Holly Wiggs

**October 26**

Josh Poole

**November 2**

Kirk Sims

**November 9**

Jimmy Allen

## YOUTH NEWS

### Youth Sunday School

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

### Sunday Nights at the Youth House

**Tonight at 5:00 p.m.** Join us for a shared meal, games, lessons, prayer and fellowship.

### Breakfast Club

**October Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.** Breakfast for students before school. We'll gather at 7:00 a.m. and finish in time for folks to get to school. Please let Major know in advance if you would like to come and need a ride to school.

October 17: Chick-fil-A on Highland Colony

October 24: Primos on Lakeland

October 31: Epic Donuts in Gluckstadt

### Girls' Small Group

**Alternating Wednesday nights at 5:30; next group meeting October 25.**

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

### Fall Retreat

**Saturday, October 21—Sunday, October 22 at Camp Bratton-Green in Canton.**

We will leave from the church at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and return by 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Sign up with Major.

### Passport

**July 13-19.**

Put these dates on your calendar now. More information to come.

~~~~~

## **ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES**

5:30 p.m.  
Great Hall

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

October 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 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.

~~~~~

## 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

Roger Paynter is hospitalized in Austin, TX.

Steve Chester is under hospice care in Yazoo City.

### ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

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

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 Twentieth 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.

~~~~~

The Deacon of the Week is Susan O'Mara.  
The Caregiving Chair for October is Janice Joyner.  
The Caregiving Coordinator for October is Janice Joyner.  
The Caregiver of the Week is Sara Hays.  
The Liturgist for October is Mark Wiggs.  
The Flowers for October are provided by Lisa Kelly, Kandy Sims and John Tingle.  
The Usher Captain for October is Eddie Mahaffey.

~~~~~

Our Sanctuary carpet and brick flooring have recently been professionally cleaned (including the balcony) and we ask that everyone help us maintain these spaces by disposing of any beverages prior to entering these sacred spaces.

~~~~~

## **Inward and Onward:**

### **The Future of Church and Self**

**Today, immediately following worship, in the Great Hall**

**"Traits of Healthy Churches" with Ed Bacon**

Lunch will be provided.