



# NORTHMINSTER NEWS

NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON, MS

February 4, 2026



Northminster Women's Retreat 2026  
 Saturday, February 28 - Sunday, March 1  
 Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Raymond, MS

*Unrushed:  
 Finding Sacred Rest*

On this year's retreat, we will explore the gift of sabbath as a sacred unhurried way of being. We'll gather for a learning session on Saturday morning, vespers service and games on Saturday night, and a learning session and worship service mid-day on Sunday. The remaining time will be open for you to explore the gifts of sabbath. We'll have optional sessions on walking the labyrinth, creating art, practicing gentle movement, and settling into quiet meditation, and you will be able to find whatever holy rhythm suits your needs. As always, we'll laugh together, rest together, and savor plenty of good snacks along the way!

Cost: \$200 per person; \$250 for a single room  
 Cost should never keep someone from attending. If there is a need for a scholarship, please contact Lesley Ratcliff.

Questions or to Register? Contact Lesley Ratcliff at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org) or 601-927-0259.  
 Please register by February 11.

**SPANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
 SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE**

Our friends at Spann need underwear and socks for their school clothing closet. They welcome all sizes for children ages 4-12. Please drop your donations off in the church office by February 6 and we will deliver them to Spann.

**Wednesday Night Supper**

Tonight, Wednesday, February 4  
 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 per adult, \$25 per family

Menu: lasagna, spinach sauté,  
 green salad, french bread and cake

Servers: Hilda Boteler,  
 Sara Cox, Gloria Montgomery  
 and Susan Phillips

Cashier: George Luter

Dear Northminster,

As we continue to open our spaces to our friends and neighbors of Beth Israel Congregation, you'll notice an addition to our sanctuary this coming Sunday.

Their congregation received the generous gift of a replacement "ark," a beautiful copper cabinet that houses the Torah scroll for use in their worship. This ark will reside in our sanctuary just in front of the baptistry and rubber tree for the duration of their time with us. Keeping it in its place throughout the week will not only help them feel more at home in their worship but will also serve as a visible reminder for us of the gift of their presence.


Our invitation to Beth Israel is and remains open-ended, as they continue to assess damage and plan to rebuild. As we discussed with their leaders, we all agreed it would be best for them to remain with us for an extended period, rather than move from one church to another. We agreed to reassess in about six months, as their plans for returning to their own spaces come into clearer view.

Though we continue to grieve the circumstances that have brought them to us, what a joy it has been to welcome and worship with them, and we look forward to all the ways we will learn and grow from their time with us.

Abounding in hope,  
 Scott

— CAREGIVING CONCERNS —

CURRENT CAREGIVING CONCERNS

 Northminster is saddened by the death of Mark Wiggs, a member of Northminster since 1986. Christian sympathy is extended to Rebecca Wiggs, Patty Wiggs, and Chris, Holly, Madeleine and Noel Wiggs and all of Mark's friends and family.

Christian sympathy is extended to John and Gayla Purvis on the death of John's brother, Joe Purvis.

ONGOING CAREGIVING CONCERNS

Virginia Hamilton	Libby McGee	Sue Edwards
Carla Holt	Gorman Schaffer	Beth Israel Congregation

THIS MONTH/WEEK IN ACTION



— DEACON OF THE WEEK —

**February 1-7**  
Elizabeth Boone

**February 8-14**  
Nancy Smith

**February 15-21**  
Sunny Fowler

— CAREGIVING —

**CAREGIVING CHAIR  
FOR FEBRUARY**

Annette Hitt

**CAREGIVING COORDINATORS  
FOR FEBRUARY**

Faye Barham  
Helen Turner

**CAREGIVER(S) OF THE WEEK**

**February 1-7**  
Brooks Elfert

**February 8-14**  
Gail England

**February 15-21**  
Cathy & Jeff Davis

**LITURGIST FOR FEBRUARY**

Holly Wiggs

**FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY**

Jill Buckley  
Kathryn Sams  
Lesley Mosby  
Lawana McLennan

**USHER CAPTAIN  
FOR FEBRUARY**

Nancy Smith

**AUDIO/VIDEO  
FOR FEBRUARY**

Ryder Taff

**Northminster Essentials**

through Sunday, March 1  
9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Library (room opposite the main office)

If you are seeking to better understand the history and practices of the family of faith called Northminster, this is the course for you.

For questions or to sign up, please call the church office at 601-982-4703 or email Lesley at [lesley@northminsterbaptist.org](mailto:lesley@northminsterbaptist.org).

**Parents' Night Out**

Friday, February 6, 6:00-10:00 p.m.

You can make a reservation for your children (infant-sixth grade) by calling the church office, 601-982-4703. Please remember to feed your children before they arrive, or provide a brown-bag supper.

**Children's  
Birthday  
Gathering**

Tuesday, February 10  
3:00-5:00 p.m.

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



MAHJONG  
MINISTRY

2:30 TO 4:30 IN THE GREAT HALL

**NEXT HAND: FEBRUARY 15**

WE'LL ALSO PLAY MARCH 15, APRIL 26 AND MAY 17  
JOIN US FOR ONE, SOME OR ALL OF THE DATES!



SIGN UP HERE FOR ALL SPRING MAHJONG OFFERINGS!

THESE WILL BE EVENTS FOR FOLKS WHO HAVE LEARNED THE BASICS.  
IF YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED, PLEASE REACH OUT TO LESLEY ABOUT A TIME TO DO SO.

— YOUTH NEWS —

**Youth Sunday School**

Join us in the youth house at 9:15 a.m. for donuts and good conversation.

**Upcoming Dates**

**Superbowl Party**

February 8, 5:00 p.m.

**Stewminster Basketball**

Seventh and eight grade boys from Northminster and Stewpot will meet to play basketball at Madison Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m., each Thursday through February 12, with playoffs to come.

**Youth Sunday & Dessert Auction**

February 8

Youth will lead worship and teach Sunday school, followed by a church-wide luncheon and dessert auction to raise money to support our ministry.

If you would like to donate a dessert for the auction, contact Jennifer Stribling at 601-209-2223 or [jenniferstribling@me.com](mailto:jenniferstribling@me.com).

**Spring Break Trip to Dauphin Island, AL**

March 8-11

Cost: \$200

Get away from the semester and join us at the beach! Space is limited, so reserve your spot online or in the church office.

**Children's Worship Hour**

**February 8**

**Chapel Coordinators**

Elizabeth & Percy Quinn

**Firecrackers & Sparklers**

Lida & Gregg Caraway

**February 15**

**Firecrackers**

Blair & Ryder Taff

**Sparklers**

Amanda & Trey Clark

**February 22**

**Firecrackers**

Anne & Parker Snow

**Sparklers**

Kelly & Josh Guyton

**Brumfield House**

**February 5**

Joe Sims

**February 12**

Mike Peters

**February 19**

Charles O'Mara

**Atrium & Four5Six**

will not meet Sunday, February 8.  
We will resume on the 15th.

**The Great Hall Series**

The Great Hall Series is a new Sunday School offering that will meet in the Great Hall three to four times a year. These sessions are designed as short-term, stand-alone experiences open to anyone. On Great Hall Series Sundays, some Sunday School classes will meet as usual, while others will pause and participate in the Great Hall Series instead. This format allows flexibility for both classes and individuals while offering a shared learning opportunity at several points throughout the year. Our first offering will be Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent.

**Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent**

Sundays, February 22-March 29

The word sabbath comes from the Hebrew word for "to stop," and in practice involves the deliberate pause, or laying aside, of secondary concerns to make room for primary ones. This ancient biblical rhythm provides a beautiful backdrop for our observance of Lent, as we reorient our lives toward the cross and the miracle and mystery of resurrection. Over the Sundays of Lent, Scott will lead a special Lenten study, pairing scripture with the work of Wendell Berry, who has devoted many Sundays to writing "sabbath poetry," reflecting on this holy ideal. Come join us for discussion, reflection, renewal, and breakfast!

— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

**Wednesday, February 4**

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 5**

7:00 p.m. Stewminster Basketball, Madison Methodist Church

**Friday, February 6**

6:00 p.m. Parents' Night Out  
6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Sanctuary

**Saturday, February 7**

9:00 a.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Chapel  
10:45 a.m. Beth Israel Torah Study, Chapel

**Sunday, February 8**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Northminster Essentials, L/CR  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Youth Sunday  
11:30 a.m. Youth Lunch and Dessert Auction, GH  
5:00 p.m. Youth Super Bowl Party, YH

**Monday, February 9**

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

**Tuesday, February 10**

3:00 p.m. Children's Birthday Gathering, GH  
5:30 p.m. Finance Cmte., L/CR

**Wednesday, February 11**

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper, GH  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 12**

7:00 p.m. Stewminster Basketball, Madison Methodist Church

**Friday, February 13**

6:15 p.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Sanctuary

**Saturday, February 14**

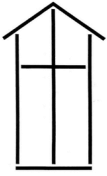
9:00 a.m. Beth Israel Shabbat Service, Chapel  
10:45 a.m. Beth Israel Torah Study, Chapel

**Sunday, February 15**

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion  
9:15 a.m. Northminster Essentials, L/CR  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:30 a.m. Committee Orientation & Lunch, GH  
4:00 p.m. Youth Ensemble Choir  
5:00 p.m. Atrium & Four5Six  
5:00 p.m. Youth, YH  
5:30 p.m. Adult Studies, GH

**Monday, February 16**

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



**NORTHMINSTER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 3955 Ridgewood Road  
 Jackson, MS 39211  
 601-982-4703  
 www.northminsterbaptist.org

**NONPROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**JACKSON, MS**  
**PERMIT NO. 359**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Meals on Wheels**

**Wednesday, February 18**

**Cooks**

Missy Caver  
 Judy Rankin  
 Helen Turner

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Laine & Bob Hardin  
 Rt. 2 Rob Hill & Ryan McElveen

**Monday, February 23**

**Cooks**

Amy Moremen  
 TBA  
 Faye Barham

**Drivers**

Rt. 1 Luke Dove & Bob Hardin  
 Rt. 2 James Bethea & Keith Davis

Meals on Wheels is in need of a cook for Team 6 (Mondays). If you are interested or know someone that may be interested, please contact Peggy Brady at 601-201-6242 for details.

**Adult Studies**

Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

**The Birth of Satan: The Biblical Roots of the Evil One and Why He Won't Go Away**

February 15, 22, March 1 and 8

Satan, Lucifer, Old Scratch, Beelzebub, the Prince of Darkness. His many names are evidence of how the Devil has captured the imagination like few other biblical characters. Yet much of the character we recognize was developed apart from the pages of scripture. Over these four weeks, using T.J. Wray and Gregory Mobley's fascinating book, *The Birth of Satan: Tracing the Devil's Biblical Roots*, as our guide, we will tease out what the bible actually says from what has been gathered from other sources. Finally, we'll talk about how we make sense of evil in the world, and how we might understand the Adversary today.

**Save the Date**

**PROTECTION  
 POLICY TRAINING**  
 for  
**ALL WHO  
 VOLUNTEER**  
 with children, youth or  
 vulnerable adults!

**March 22  
 5-7pm**

