

Service Times:

Sunday: 10 am Wednesday: 7 pm



AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: SUNDAYS:

Total - 86 Kid's Church - 15

WEDNESDAY:

Total - 41 Kid's Church - 8

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TOTAL TITHES & OFFERINGS: \$10,460.59 TOTAL EXPENSES: \$13,210.35

Please join Northwest
Church of God this month in
wishing the following
people a very

Happy Birthday

1st Nolan Wilkinson

3rd Nelda Scott

6th Noah Leger

20th Mary Huskey

25th Justice Cabezas

26th Channon Fox

30th Pastor John Wilkinson

From the Editors:

During the month of June we celebrate Fathers. There is a special place in all of our hearts for our dad, and it is our greatest desire to wish all dads in our church a Happy Faather's Day!

⇒ Gail Hipsher, Joyce Costantino, Sarah Cabezas

Fathers

At 47 years of age I have lived long enough to experience my father, becoming a father, and Abba, my heavenly Father. When I was a child, my earthly father seemed distant, angry, sometimes unpredictable, intolerant, and violent. I remember being fearful of his reactions. Sometimes he was funny and fun-loving; we would play ball in the yard or wrestle on the trampoline. Other times, the simplest act could elicit a sudden cruel or violent response. This was my norm. This is just what fathers are like. I learned to navigate around the challenges of having a father. (Cintinue reading on back page)

→ Keith Underwood

Our Graduates!

The end of the school year is finally here, and along with it comes a time of celebration for several within our church family. We offer our sincere

<u>CONGRATULATIONS</u> to all our graduates! You did it! We are so very proud of you!

High School Graduates: Katie Early Kylee Hipsher Lilly Stepherson Kevin Wilkinson

Charles and Ginny Leger have been going through the Church of God Ministerial Internship Program (MIP). Charles will be walking the stage this month to receive his papers to become a minister with the Church of God.





Keith Underwood walked the stage in April and has received his *Master of Science in Pschology* from Capella University!



David wrote the Psalms during some of the hardest times in his life. Times when his enemies were pursuing him to kill him. David encourages us to press in to God when we feel we're going under.

One of my favorite Psalms is 91.. it begins by stating:

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

David knew where his help came from and continued to praise God!

We're His children and need to remember that praise and worship are how we express our love for the Father. Praise and worship is not just a Sunday or Wednesday habit, but should be a lifestyle. We live daily to praise and worship our Creator.

I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to sing or play an instrument to join our Worship Ministry Team. There's always room for more! Come join us for Choir Practice on Wednesdays at 6 pm and Sundays at 9 am.

NORTHWEST Kids Church

Northwest Kids Church has had quite a month of activity, starting off with going to KidFest. It was a weekend of fun that impacted our kids in a big way! God brought them to new levels, and we cannot wait to see what God has next for our young people.

Our *Drop the Dime Fundraiser* finished up in May and we raised an amazing \$337.26 for the *Kids Church* fund. The girls outgave the boys, so Pastor Donald was made into a Sundae Pastor in front of the whole church. The kids had a blast putting ice cream, sprinkles, chocolate, and whipped cream all over his head!

During May we also had the opportunity to take over the Sunday Worship Service one week. The adults got to see firsthand what we do in *Kids Church* every week. We had games, songs, a fun visitor, and as always, a deeper understanding of the Bible as we dove into the story of Elisha.

Northwest Kids Church is a high energy and engaging service where our children can learn to worship God and come away with a deeper knowledge of the Bible and what God has for their lives, both now and in the future. If your child is not connected, we hope you will encourage them to join Pastor Donald and Amanda Russell, and all our Kids Church children, during our regular Sunday Morning and Wednesday Evening worship services.



Donating to KARM?

Tell them you are with *Northwest Church of God*. Not only will you receive a receipt for 100% tax write-off, but our church will also get points to go towards *KARM Gift Cards* that we can then use for local benevolence to hand out and help those in need.

→ April Underwood





Warrior Student Ministries meets on Wednesday nights during our regular midweek service, at 7 pm. Come join the fun in the gym before church begins. The gym is usually open around 6 pm, but check our Facebook group for any scheduling changes. For more information, please contact Pastor Scott or Cathy Daugherty.

SUNDAY MORNING MANNA

Join us for breakfast before Sunday Worship Service! WHERE: PRAYER ROOM | WHEN: 8:30 - 9:40 AM

First come, first served. Free, with donations welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy or Patsy Ogle

Available every week:

Coffee, Milk, Chocolate Milk, Orange Juice, Bottled Water Cereal, Oatmeal, PopTarts, Pastries

Available on the following dates:

June 2: Waffles, Honey Buns, Muffins, Pin Wheels

June 9: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Bacon, Hashbrown Casserole, Biscuits

June 16: (Hot off the grill) French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits

June 23: Scrambled Eggs, Pork Chops, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy

June 30: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits



GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, July 12, 2019

Mark your calendars and fill out your registration forms now for the Northwest Church of God Golf Tournament!

All proceedes will go towards our *Northwest Kids Church and Warrior Student Ministries* funds.

Register and pay online at: NorthwestCOG.com

Come and be a part of our Midweek Service!

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm for Bible Study. Come learn and grow with us as we press on to what God has next for our church.

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Each month the *Nursing Home Ministry* gets together to visit local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. We sing hymns, play games, and enjoy fellowship with those who are limited in their ability to be out and about.

This month we will again be enjoying the company of the residents at *Morning Pointe of Knoxville* on Saturday, June 22 at 2:30 pm. If you are interested in joining this outreach ministry, please contact Gail Hipsher.





Men's & Women's Fellowship is a Life Group of Northwest Church of God. We gather on the second Sunday of each month for fellowship and food - both physical and spiritual.

After a time together eating, we split into groups of Men, Women, and Kids, and each will have a time of discussion and study of God's Word and how it can apply to our lives in today's world.

We would love to have you join us!

This month's fellowship will be on Sunday, June 9, at 6 pm in the FLC (Family Life Center). Bring finger foods, enough for you and your family and to share.

⇒ Sarah Cabezas



Women Moving Forward is a Life Group of Christian women who meet together to exercise, to fellowship, and to lift one another up in prayer. Tag-alongs are welcome, so bring the kids, their bikes, scooters, and strollers.

We meet on Saturdays at 9 am at the park across the street from the church. So grab your walking shoes and meet us for some sun, fresh air, and exercise.

⇒ Jatina Wilkinson



The Ladies Bible Study Life Group meets every Thursday morning at 10 am. (Childcare is available.)

We are excited to start this summer with our new series: *The Tabernacle*. We will be taking an in-depth look at what God said about how it was to be created, what God wanted put inside, and why it is important to us still today.

If you are available on Thursday mornings, we would love to have you join us as we dive into God's Word together!

⇒ Sarah Cabezas

LIFE GROUPS:

Life happens all around us, and it's important to keep our focus on Christ in everything we do. One way *Northwest Church of God* hopes to help you in this endeavor, through fellowship and encouragement, is with our *Northwest Life Groups*. We encourage everyone to join a *Life Group* this month!

Sunday Morning Manna:

When: Sundays, 8:30 - 9:40 am Where: Church, Prayer Room Contact: Jimmy & Patsy Ogle

Ladies Bible Study:

When: Thursdays, 10:00 am Where: Church, FLC Classroom Contact: Sarah Cabezas

Women Moving Forward:

When: Saturdays, 9:00 am Where: Park across from church Contact: Jatina Wilkinson

Young @ Heart:

When: Tuesday, June 11, 12:30 pm

Where: Church, FLC Contact: Gail Hipsher

Men's & Women's Fellowship:

When: Sunday, June 9, 6:00 pm

Where: Church, FLC

Contact: Pastor John Wilkinson
Bring finger foods to share

Nursing Home Visitation:

When: Saturday, June 22, 2:30 pm Where: Morning Pointe of Knoxville 9649 WestInd Dr., Knoxville

Contact: Gail Hipsher

Find Northwest Church of God Online:







Fathers (Continued from front page)

Fast forward to January 1992. I was 20 years old, at this point I had been in the US Navy for almost 3 years. I was away from my father; away from his rules, his temper, his violence. I did what I wanted, I lived life for the moment. For some 974 days I made my choices based on how it made me feel, what it did for me. This left me with an emptiness inside. The feeling of being allowed to run as far as I could, with the feeling that I was still within the watchful eye of someone. In the middle of January of 1992, in a small storefront church in Smithfield Virginia, I gave my heart to God. The prodigal returned home. Unfortunately for me, my knowledge of fathers was based on my personal experience with my father. This provided a warped frame of reference for what Abba, my heavenly Father was like.

As a new believer, I soaked up the scripture like a sponge. I prayed and studied and attempted to walk out these new standards of living in my life. Every day, it seemed I would fail. Simple things really, now that I look back, but I was so fearful of Abba's response to my failure, my incompetence, my stupidity, my uselessness, that I would treat myself harshly. My self-talk sounded something like this, "What is wrong with you? Are you an IDIOT?", "You knew better than to do that (say that, think that, etc.)", "You are always going to fail. Why would God bother with you? You don't seem to have it in you to get it right. What a waste." This was the self-talk that I developed as an adolescent and teen in response to my dad. I would react harsher to myself before he could, in preparation for the reaction that was to come.

I lived this way in a vicious cycle for almost 4 years. In the fall of 1996, I made the wise choice (please notice the sarcasm in that description), to uproot April, little baby Bethany and move to the coast of North Carolina to work with a hurricane clean-up crew. I worked 6 days a week, 12 – 14 hours a day, and April and Bethany sat in a motel waiting for me to come home. The men that I worked with epitomized the stereotypical construction crew: drunks, drug-users, whore-mongers, disrespectful heathens. It almost sounds comical, but this was the crew that I spent over half of my day with every single day. I was away from church, away from fellow believers, and felt myself slowly slipping into the mire of sin.

One day standing in the middle of some road, somewhere on the coast of Carolina, God spoke to me. I almost didn't recognize Him. He didn't fit the profile of what I thought he should. I regularly expected to be chastised both verbally and physically for my poor choices. Choices which were leading to my family being swept out to the sea of this cruel, uncaring world. Instead, Abba reached out to me, assuring me that He loved me. He missed me, and craved time with me. He was not condemning, insulting, sarcastic, or hateful. He warmed me with His love; a love that is best described by the words of Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:5-7 (NIV):

"It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

I learned that a father was meant to be a walking, talking version of this chapter of 1 Corinthians. Fathers are patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, nor proud. Fathers do not dishonor others, they aren't self-seeking, not easily angered, they keep no record of wrongs. Fathers do not delight in evil, but rejoice in truth. Fathers always protect, always trust, always hope, always persevere.

Being a father is the most challenging task given to a man, but we are given the most amazing example of fatherhood in Abba, our heavenly Father. Fathers, examine yourself against the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians. Where do you stand?