



DARRELL TOMASEK  
Senior Pastor

Four days! That is all that we have until Christmas is here. So, the question, how prepared are you? Do you still have gifts to buy? Do you still have groceries to buy? Is the house ready for the guests? Are the travel plans completed? Did I just make your anxiety level go up? Whether we are ready or not, Christmas is coming.

Preparation is an interesting word. We prepare for all sorts of things. We prepare for holidays. We prepare for guests. We prepare for tests. We prepare for meals. Preparation is a part of our lives. It seems that there is always something for which we need to prepare.

Can you imagine that first Christmas night? Somethings we are told. We are told that there was no room in the inn. We are told that Joseph and Mary made a makeshift dwelling out of a stable (most likely a cave). However, I wonder what things looked like beyond what is revealed. As Joseph and Mary settled into the stable, what did they have to do? Did Joseph have to do a lot of cleaning and moving things around? Was Mary anxious or at peace? There are plenty of details that we do not have as it relates to the preparations made that night.

While we may not be sure of all Joseph and Mary had to do to prepare, we can make sure that we are prepared - yes, for Christmas, but also for more. On that night, they prepared for the first coming of Jesus Christ. We, on the other hand, must prepare for His second coming. There are plenty of ideas as to what that might look like and when it might be - but let's be honest, most of that is speculation. What we do not have to speculate about is the fact He is coming, and we need to be prepared.

So, while we may not know all that happened in the stable that night, we must give our attention to being ready for His second coming. Have you made room for Him in your life? Have you arranged the affairs of your life to reflect that Christ is a priority? Are you ready for the adjustments such a commitment might bring?

As Christmas nears, let us give our attention to preparation and readiness, not for the holidays, but for a life surrendered to Him.

Honored to be your pastor,

## AT A GLANCE

<i>Sunday</i> <i>Dec 25</i>	10:30a	Christmas Service (Identical to Dec 24th PM)
<i>Tuesday</i> <i>Dec 27</i>	6:00p	Celebrate Recovery
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>Dec 28</i>		No Evening Activities
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<i>Sunday</i> <i>Jan 1</i>	9:30a 10:45a 10:45a	Group Life Kick Off Worship Service Kid's Church
<i>Monday</i> <i>Jan 2</i>		Office Closed
<i>Tuesday</i> <i>Jan 3</i>	6:00p 6:00p 6:30p	Celebrate Recovery AHG/ Trail Life Circle of Hope Bible Study
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>Jan 4</i>	6:00p 6:00p 6:00p	Wednesday Night Connect Student Midweek Awana
<i>Friday</i> <i>Jan 6</i>	6:00p 7:00p	Date Night Pre-Teen Lock In

# STOPS ON THE JOURNEY

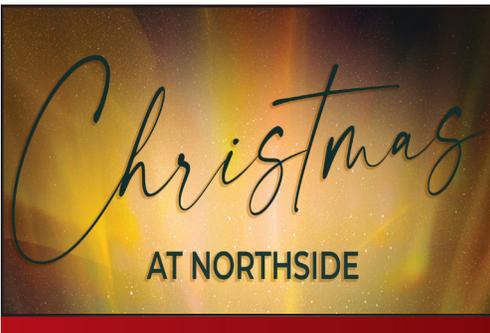
## ALL CALENDAR ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



### LOTTIE MOON

Every dollar you give to the Lottie Moon Offering enables gospel transformation around the world in places where Jesus is not known or named. Your gifts help missionaries stay on the field, providing things like housing needs to helping cover unexpected medical costs. Be a part of enabling gospel transformation among the unreached by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Northside's goal is \$22,000 and \$18,995.00 has been given to date. Please designate your gift as "Lottie Moon" when you give in person and online at [nbcvictoria.org](http://nbcvictoria.org).



### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There will be two identical Christmas services this year. One will be on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 5:00 PM and the other on Christmas Day, December 25, at 10:30 AM.



### JANUARY WOMEN'S NIGHT

Women's Night in January will be a bit different. There will still be Bible study and snacks, but we are having a paint night at the end. Sign up on the events page of our website if you would like to participate in the paint portion of the evening. The cost is \$49. Deadline to register is December 30.



### PRE-TEEN LOCK-IN: KIDS 3RD - 5TH GRADE

You won't want to miss the Pre-Teen Lock-In on January 6-7, 2023. The cost is \$20 and you can register now on the events page of our website.



### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no Wednesday evening activities on December 21 and 28. The office will be closed December 23, 26, and January 2.



### RAD WEEKEND HOST HOMES

RAD Weekend is January 27-29, 2023. If you would be interested in being a host home, co-host, or helping that weekend contact Cody at [codymoore@nbcvictoria.org](mailto:codymoore@nbcvictoria.org) or 361-578-1568.

## .:SHORTLINES:.

**DATE NIGHT:** Date Night will be January 6. Childcare is offered at the church from 6:00 - 10:00pm for \$10 per child. Childcare is free if you are attending a Northside fellowship. Please register at [nbcvictoria.org](http://nbcvictoria.org) on the Events Page by Wednesday, January 4.

### UPWARD SOCCER REGISTRATION OPEN

Upward Soccer registration is open for \$130. Registration will close when teams are full, so register early! Practices will start the week of March 6 and the games will be on Saturdays March 25 to April 29.

**SUMMIT SUMMER CAMP:** Mark your calendars for Generate Student Camp on June 5-9, 2023. A \$60.00 deposit will be due by February 26, 2023. Keep an eye out for more information.

**NEW YEAR GROUPLIFE KICKOFF:** On January 1, during the 9:30 AM Bible Study time, we will all meet together in the Worship Center to preview the upcoming groups for the semester.

**JOURNEY GROUPS RESUME:** Sunday Morning Bible Studies and Sunday evening Journey Groups will resume on Sunday, January 8.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:** In order to get contribution credit for 2022, your cash or check donations must be in the church office by December 30. If submitting a donation by mail, it needs to be postmarked by December 31. Online donations must be submitted by December 31.

**SYMPATHY TO AND PRAYERS FOR:** The family of Hal Smith on his death and Liz Fryer on the death of her father. We join together as a family of faith and pray as we celebrate Christ's gift of eternal life.

## NEW FACES AT NORTHSIDE

*We welcome these new folks to the community of Northside.*



*The Barnett Family- Andrew, James, Evelyn, and Susannah*

## THE RECORD SPEAKS

### MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

#### Received December 11

Budget Receipts	33,281.69
Designated & Other:	2,459.00
Total Weekly Receipts:	46,728.34

#### Received December 18

Budget Receipts:	21,299.71
Designated & Other:	4,546.85
Total Weekly Receipts:	25,896.56

Year-to-Date Need: 220,801.00

Year-to-Date Received: 213,682.51

### BIBLE STUDY

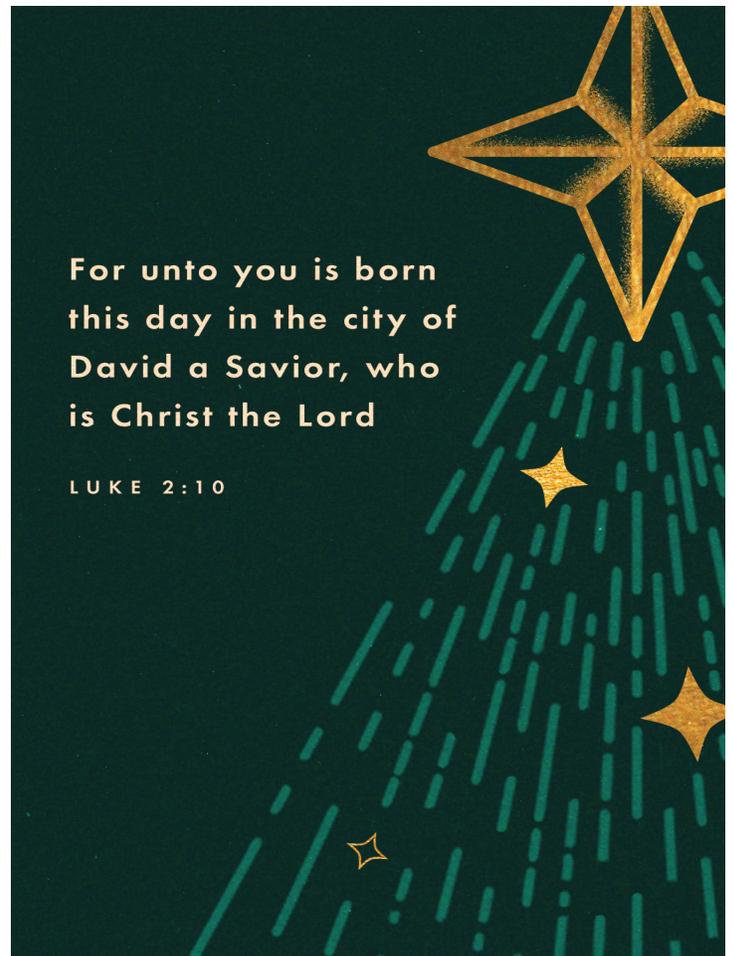
December 11	219
December 18	N/A

### WORSHIP

December 11	366
December 18	N/A

For unto you is born  
this day in the city of  
David a Savior, who  
is Christ the Lord

LUKE 2:10



IN  
FOCUS



— journey ^ together —

NORTHSIDE  
STAFF

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Sundays  
9:30am Bible Study Groups  
10:45am Worship

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northside  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED