

October 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	2 WIC Prayer Time (Madeja Home) 10 am	3 Readers Game Night 6 pm (Madeja Home)	4
5 Sunday School 9:30am Morning Worship Sacrament of the Lord's Supper 10:30 am Evening Service 6 pm	6 Men's Book Study 7 pm (Madeja Home)	7 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 am Women's Bible Study 9:30 am	8 Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	9	10 Parent's Night Out 6:00 pm	11
12 Sunday School 9:30am Morning Worship 10:30 am Guthrie/Thaggard Bridal Shower 2 pm Evening Service 6pm	13	14 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 am Women's Bible Study 9:30 am	15 Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	16 WIC Prayer Time (Madeja Home) 10 am	17 Men's Retreat Lake Forest Ranch Macon, MS	18 Men's Retreat Lake Forest Ranch Macon, MS
19 Sunday School 9:30am Morning Worship 10:30 am Evening Service 6 pm	20 Men's Book Study 7 pm (Madeja Home)	21 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 am Women's Bible Study 9:30 am Good News Jail Ministry Meeting 6 pm Long Creek Baptist Church	22 Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	23	24	25 Men's Monthly Study Breakfast 8 am
26 Sunday School 9:30am Morning Worship 10:30 am Evening Service 6 pm	27	28 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6 am Women's Bible Study 9:30 am	29 Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 pm Choir 7 pm	30	31	

NORTHPOINTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



October 2025

From the Pastor

Family Worship in Principle

“It is a principal duty of the Church to promote true religion in the home,” says the PCA Book of Church Order 28-1. By true religion, the BCO means the whole of our calling unto the worship of God—both *directly*, with set apart time for the reading of Scripture, singing, and prayer, and *indirectly*, through the living out of godliness in the home. The Church promotes true religion through its corporate services, planned times of teaching, and encouraging the fellowship of believers. But the promotion ought not stop there. It is also the duty of the Church to call single believers and families together to the set apart worship of God in their home.

The Christian family must worship God together in the home. By family, I mean that institution that begins with a husband and wife and then extends to any children given them by the Lord. After this, the family might take different forms—only a husband and wife, a single parent with children, a child living with grandparents, etc. Every family, whether Christian or not, promotes some kind of worship. William Boekestein writes: “Every family has a god. Every day, young adults leave home with the gods of self-fulfillment, money, leisure, work, or even ministry. Some leave with the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. To a large extent, the difference is determined by how our families worship in the home.” And so, over the coming months, I’d like for us to consider the topic of family worship. Next month, we will look at what family worship can look like in practice. This month, my goal is to discuss family worship in principle.

Worship Distinctions

We make a distinction between corporate worship and family worship. The family should not replace the gathering of Christ’s people together for public, corporate wor-

ship of God. From the earliest days of the NT Church, believers make a point to meet for worship. Three thousand people believed on Christ after Peter’s first sermon. After recording this, Luke adds: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). That is, they devoted themselves to early corporate worship services. The writer of Hebrews puts the call to corporate worship plainly, writing: “Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some” (10:24-25). Many families, smaller covenant units of believers, are to gather for corporate worship. Only as they gather do God’s people enjoy the benefits of the ordinary means of his grace through the preaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, and the offering up of corporate prayer. We must maintain a distinction between this and what is to mark worship in the home among our families. Worship in the Church and in the home ought to serve, rather than replace, one another.

Biblical Foundations

The worship of Triune God that must be the heart and soul of the Church finds its foundation in the family. From the beginning, the family was called unto the promotion, preservation, and practice of right worship. God’s design for the family to “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion” was to be worshipful work for the family together (Gen 1:28). The positive command to the first family to obey God by not eating from the forbidden tree was to be worship with the particular tincture of trust in his Word (Gen 2:16-17). The family was always meant to be the very epicenter of promoting, preserving, and

practicing the true worship of the one true God. After the fall, as the Scriptures unfold the covenant of Grace, the family retains its central place. God’s one covenant people are established through a family line of faith—that is, all those who share in the faith of Abraham (Gen 17, Rom 9:6-8, Gal 3:7-9). God’s people begin with a family. A family which is to promote and practice the worship of God in the home (Gen 18:19). We find principles for family worship where parents are called to keep before their children the commands and redemptive work of God (Deut 6:4-9, 20-25, Josh 4:19-24). That is, for parents to talk about God’s Word and works and to keep these before their children regularly unto the end of the promotion and preserving of right worship. Against the backdrop of pagan worship, Joshua declares: “But as for me and my house, *we will serve the LORD*” (25:15). After the ark returns to Jerusalem with corporate celebration and worship by God’s people, we are told that “David returned to bless his household” (2 Sam 6:20). That is, he went home to lead his family in the worship of God. In Acts 10, in the home of Cornelius, we find a family gathered to hear Peter tell of the gospel. The Word is taught in the home of a Gentile family. Upon this basis, the Church has long understood the pressing need for families to practice family worship. That is, *a set apart time within the rhythms of the days for a family purposefully and regularly to worship God together*.

While the practice of family worship can seem very daunting to us, it need not be altogether difficult. We’ll consider the practice of worship in the home next month. But for now, let me encourage you, whether you are a single person or part of a family, to worship God in your home.

Pastor Kevin Vollema

Northpointe Presbyterian Church
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MISSIONS MINUTE

A note from Basaam Chedid, Children of Abraham, Colorado Springs, CO

Dear Friends,

I continue to be thankful for how God has continued to favor this ministry since its inception 28 years ago. We certainly do not know how many lives have been touched on this side of eternity. I only echo Paul’s admonition: “Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful” (1 Cor. 4:2). Your faithful prayers and support during these years are deeply cherished.

Allow me to encourage you with a brief update. Our digital campaign, targeting 375,000 Arabic-speaking and Muslim friends across the US, has proven highly effective. As a result, we regularly send the Arabic Study Bible. Most of these dear folks have never read the Word of God before. I wholeheartedly agree with a dear faithful supporter who included a note with her generous gift toward this project, saying:

“Basaam, the only way we’ll win the battle for the Lord is by getting the Bibles into their hands.”

I was encouraged by the following quote, which was received from a dear Muslim friend:

“I am from the Middle East of Islamic faith... I am looking forward to receiving a copy of the Holy Bible in the Arabic language, like the one you have translated from the original language. Until I hear from you-God may bless and keep you close to Him.”

God has proven it over and over again: “So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty” (Is. 55:11).

Pray that God will continue to give us wisdom as we carry out the work of the ministry. Another 250,000 individuals will be contacted. Pray for divine appointments as we continue the work.

Pray for the church in the Middle East. Perhaps you remember that on 22 June 2025, at least on attacker opened fire and detonated an explosive device during a service in Damascus, killing at least 30 people and injuring 54 others. Pastor Abraham, (my brother-in-law) asked for your prayers as he also faces constant threats. He is a faithful man of God, and the Lord blessed his work in several cities in Syria.

Pray that God will continue to give us wisdom as we carry out the work of the ministry.

Again, wholeheartedly we thank you. May our Lord be real and gracious to you and yours.

In Christ,

Basam Chedid

MORE THAN JUST DESSERTS

The Lauderdale County chapter of the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry will once again be hosting a time of desserts and testimonies of God’s work in the Lauderdale County Detention Facility. It will be hosted by Long-Creek Baptist Church (4631 Causeyville Road) on Tuesday, **October 21**, beginning at 6 pm. Please register at gnglobal.org if you plan to attend.

REMINDERS

- ◆ The *Lord’s Supper* will be observed during morning worship on Sunday, **October 5**.
- ◆ *Readers Game Night* will be on **October 3** in the Madeja home at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ *Men’s Prayer Breakfast* dates for this month are **October 7, 14, 21, and 28** at 6 am.
- ◆ *Women’s Prayer Times* this month are at 10 am, on **October 2 and 16**, in the home of Carmel Madeja [420 Eastwood Street].
- ◆ The *Men’s Book Study* dates are **October 6 and 20**, at 7 pm [Madeja Home].
- ◆ *Parents’ Night Out* will be **October 10**, from 6 - 9 pm. Please make sure to pick up your children by 9 pm.
- ◆ The *Men’s Monthly Fellowship Breakfast* will be Saturday, **October 25**, at 8 am. We will be discussing *The Lord of Psalm 23*, by David Gibson.
- ◆ The *Youth* will meet on Monday, **October 6**, from 6-9 pm for a meal, movie discussion, and fellowship in the Joransen Home [8720 B Hwy 39 North].

BRIDAL SHOWER

There will be a Bridal Shower for Lily Guthrie, bride-to-be of Cooper Thaggard, on Sunday, **October 12** at 2pm in the home of Beth Whitehead (906 Beechwood Drive). They are registered at Generations and Amazon.

MEN’S RETREAT 2025

Our Northpointe Men’s Retreat is **October 17-18**. Rev. Dr. David Irving, new president of RTS-Jackson, will be our retreat speaker. We’ll meet at Lake Forest Ranch in Macon, MS. You have the option of staying overnight or coming and going as able. The cost for meals and overnight is \$35. The cost for Saturday attendance is \$15. Please register at northpointepca.org/ events, if you plan on attending and drop your check in the lockbox on the lobby table. ***Deadline for registering is Sunday, October 12.***

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Adult/Teenage choir rehearsals for the Christmas Eve Service will be as follows: Wednesdays from **October 1 - November 19, and December 3 from 7 - 7:45 pm**. Choir practice for children will be Sundays after morning service on **October 5, 19, November 2, 16, 30 and December 14, from 12 to 12:30pm**. **ALL CALLED: December 21**, when we all gather for a complete run through of all music from 12-12:45 pm after morning service. Nursery is available during Wednesday nights through November 19. We would like invite everyone who enjoys singing to join the choir as we prepare for this special event. If you would like to sing in the choir, and have any questions, please see Kristen Gunn.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Howard Secrest
- Kevin Vollema
- Emma Watson
- 9 Carolyn Secrest
- Lauren Kiefer
- 10 Cheryl Kramar
- 11 Wyatt Rushing
- 20 Lindsey Smith
- Hannah Thaggard
- 21 Allie Phillips
- 25 Roy Stevens
- 27 Will Whitehead
- 29 Jack Vollema
- 31 Nikie Purvis

