

A Place For YOU To Connect!

NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE

All classes are in the Education Building unless otherwise noted.

NURSERY, 8:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

Ages 0 – 35 months

CHILDREN, 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Ages 3 - 5: Room 103

Kinder. – 2nd Grade: Room 102

CHILDREN, 10:00-10:50 a.m.

3rd-4th Grade: Room 203

5th-6th Grade: Room 208 A

Junior High & High School,

10:00 – 10:50 a.m.

Room 309

ADULTS, 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Following Jesus at NFC: Room 309 (ROCK Room)

THIS WEEK AT NFC: JANUARY 21 - 27

Today

Congregational Business Meeting, 11:15 a.m.

All Church Luncheon in Family Center, 12:30 a.m.

Grief Share in Conference Room, 5:30 p.m.

Monday

Young Men's Basketball, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Bread & Basketball, 5:30 a.m.

NFC Pastors' & Staff Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

Learning Quest Tutoring Club (sponsored by FACE), 2:15 p.m.

Worship Team Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Quilting, 9:00 a.m.

Explore for Children, EDGE (Jr. High), ROCK (High School),

Men's & Women's Bible Studies, Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Learning Quest Tutoring Club (sponsored by FACE), 2:15 p.m.

Missions Committee, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday – Saturday

FACE Retreat

Friday

Bread & Basketball, 5:30 a.m.

Men's Prayer Meeting, 6:00 a.m.

Announcements

WORSHIP

Welcome to this combined worship service at North Fresno Church. Three times a year we intentionally gather together in one Sunday morning worship service. Pastor Milt, the choir, and the worship team are leading worship and music. Pastor James preaches. We dedicate these parents and their children: Jared & Emily B and Annie Gayle; Christian & Catherine F and Seth Asa; and Pastor Vanna & Marly I and Jeevin and Thanny. After this combined service, we have a congregational business meeting and then everyone is invited to an all church luncheon in the Family Center at about 12:30 p.m.

Next Sunday, we resume our regular 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

If you are a guest with us today, we're so glad you're here. Please complete a Connecting Card and drop it in the offering bag.

CONNECT

Look around and extend a welcome to people around you today.

Everyone is invited to the all church luncheon in the Family at about 12:30 p.m. after the congregational business meeting. The congregational business meeting will include approval of 2018 Budget, presenting a name of our Children's Pastor candidate, and other items.

Next Sunday, January 28 we will begin a three-week Sunday School series exploring our core beliefs as followers of Jesus at NFC. This 3 week class will parallel Pastor James' sermon series. All are invited to Room 309 (ROCK Room) at 10:00 a.m. to join the discussion.

Wednesday evening programs continue this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. as usual. For Children: Explore for Children (Ed Building). For Junior High and Senior High Students: EDGE (Room 301) and ROCK (Room 309). For Adults: Women's Bible Study (Room 207) and Men's Bible Study (Room 203). For Singers: Choir (Choir Room).

Young Adults group will meet at the home of Jennifer D. this Thursday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. for Chinese food. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please contact Pastor Vanna for more information.

Baptism and Membership: If you are interested in baptism and/or membership at NFC please contact Pastor Loren or join the Following Jesus at NFC Christ Sunday School class at 10:00 a.m. in Room 309 (ROCK Room) starting next Sunday, January 28.

NFC is joining other Fresno/Clovis churches to start the 2018 year with 21 Days (January 8-28) of Prayer and Fasting. Prayer and fasting guides are in the Lobby as are a list of churches that will have daily evening prayer meetings during this time. Next Sunday, January 28 we will be joining other Fresno/Clovis churches to 'break' our fast with a time of prayer and worship at 5:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Church (1545 Fulton St., Fresno).

Women of Worth (Widow's Small Group) will meet on Sunday, February 4 at the home of Evelyn K at 12:45 p.m. and discuss chapters 3 – 6 at *Widow's Might*. Please RSVP to Evelyn.

Girls Night In for 5th – 8th grade girls is Friday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. at Julie McNeely's home. For more information, please contact Jamie Mack, Interim Children's Ministries Director.

SERVE

Sign up to put flowers or centerpieces on the communion table for one or more Sundays this year. You may remember a special person or occasion. Contact Carla B or sign up on a calendar in the Lobby.

There is a need for 2 more people to help with the Good News Club at Robinson Elementary. Child Evangelism Fellowship will train volunteers and volunteers will serve with others from NFC. If you are interested, please contact Carol J.

Thank you for giving generously towards Advent Conspiracy this year. Together we were able to give money to MB (Mennonite Brethren) Mission so PK was able to distribute **practical Christmas gifts to small villages** in Northern Thailand. We also raised money for the **SART counseling fund**, assembled **15 Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Refugee Relief Kits**, and distributed **18 Neighborhood Food Baskets**.

Prayer Box – Feel free to fill out a prayer card with commitments or requests at the front left of the stage in the Sanctuary. Pastor James prays over them each week.

Interested in serving or joining a ministry team at NFC? We need people to serve in a number of our ministry areas. Contact one of our pastors for more information.

Podcasts of past NFC sermons are available at podbean.com (search 'North Fresno Church') and iTunes. Our worship services are digitally recorded every week. Please allow for up to a week for current sermons to be uploaded.

NFC has a collection box in the Lobby cabinet for Box Tops for Education that are on retail products. If you don't already collect Box Tops for Education for a school, you can give them to **NFC to help Robinson Elementary with their efforts**. For more information, contact Marcy B.

Parking Lot Reminder – As you arrive at NFC anytime please respect the parking stalls reserved for handicapped parking. If you do not have a handicap placard on your vehicle, please do not park or idle in a handicap parking stall.

Experience Israel and the Holy Land with Pastor James and Dr. Tim G. The tour is from May 18-28, with an additional 4 day conference option in Bethlehem. Brochures are in the Lobby, or contact Pastor James.

Inviting all men who love to sing: Monday evening practices for the West Coast Mennonite Men's Chorus begin tomorrow evening, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church (1362 L St., Reedley). Contact Pastor Milt, Leon T, or Gerald K for more information.

Discovery: A Comic Lament will be performed by Ted & Company Theater Works on Friday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m. here at NFC. Adult ticket is \$10.

If you shop on Amazon.com, you can go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1728463> and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to North Fresno Church by Amazon.

Apply for 2018-2019 Everence college scholarships: If your family uses Everence faith-based services, you are eligible to apply for college scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year. Submit your application by Feb. 28, 2018. Go to <https://www.everence.com/living-the-values/grants-and-scholarships-and-awards> or contact Jim W, our NFC Everence representative, for more information.

Everence (a Mennonite provider of insurance and financial information) provides a service that provides counseling in basic budgeting, consumer debt consolidation, as well as mortgage and credit score education at no cost. Call toll-free: [\(877\) 809-0039](tel:877-809-0039) and for Spanish language counselors call [\(800\) 388-2227](tel:800-388-2227). Contact Jim W, our NFC Everence representative, for more information.

Attendance for January 14, 2018: 294

Offering for General Budget for January 14, 2018: \$7,350

Worship Service

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

Everyone is invited to use the Connecting Cards to share your prayer requests, or give other information. **Guests** are also invited to use the Connecting Cards and place them in the offering bag. Thank you.

PRELUDE: *"Processional of Joy"* Stephen V
by Beethoven/Hopson

CALL TO WORSHIP: *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"* Hymn #97

WELCOME & GREETING

"Oh, How Good It Is"

PARENT & CHILD DEDICATIONS

Annie Gayle B
Parents – Jared & Emily B

Seth Asa F
Parents – Christian & Catherine F

Jeevin Veada and Thanny Phankha I
Parents – Pastor Vanna & Marly I

*Children, 3 years through 2nd grade, are invited to Children's Church.**

"Salvation's Song" Choir

"Speak, O Lord"

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *"Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth"*

Stephen V & Larry W

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

"Stir In Me"

Worship Team

CHILDREN, 3RD – 6TH GRADE, ARE DISMISSED TO THE LOBBY
PRIOR TO THE MESSAGE FOR BLAST.**

MESSAGE: *"Following Jesus at NFC"* Pastor James

"Hallelujah! (Your Love Is Amazing)"
"Land of My Father"

BENEDICTION Pastor James

POSTLUDE: *"Fanfare"* by Lemmens

Infants and toddlers through age 35 months are cared for in the nursery on the 1st floor of the Education Building. Pagets are provided to parents in case their child has a need. *Children from 3 years through 2nd grade are invited to Children's Church on the 1st floor of the Ed Building. Children in 3rd – 6th grades are dismissed to the Lobby prior to the message for BLAST which meets in Room 208 in the Ed Building.

Prayer Connection

NFC FAMILY

Pray for the following people: Chris H and Wanda ; Wyatt H; Jennie H; Jeremy and Christine H, Jeronimo and Joaquin; Chris H; Teri H; and JT and Ashley H, Quinn, Cillian and Connely.

Pray for the family of Brett M whose father, Glenn M, died recently. The memorial service was Friday, January 19.

Pray for healing for those dealing with illness and medical treatments: **Steve E, Jonathan N, Nalynn N, Sandy O, Tammy S, Lizz T and Richard U.**

NFC MINISTRIES

Pray for Pastor Vanna and Marly and family as he leads North Fresno Church in the area of youth. Pray that God will give him wisdom, love, and energy.

Pray for Children's Pastor search team, the church's candidate and candidating process.

The pastors and the Congregational Care Team host a time of healing prayer in the Conference Room at **9:45 a.m.** next Sunday and on the last Sunday of every month. If you want to join in this prayer time, just come or contact Pastor James.

COMMUNITY AND WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES

Pray for other churches; in our neighborhood, **Hope Lutheran Church** (at the corner of N. Fresno St. and Barstow Ave.) and **The Prodigal Church**, a sister MB (Mennonite Brethren) Church that meets in the area. Pray that God would bless and use them for effective Kingdom work and to help meet the needs of the community.

Pray for Doris G, our partner missionary with MB (Mennonite Brethren) Mission in Japan as she teaches English and helps in leading the Amagasaki Mennonite Brethren Church. Pray for Midori and her daughter, Coco, who attend the house church that meets in Doris' home. Pray that Midori will accept the peace, hope and life that God is offering.

Prayer requests written on NFC Connecting cards and put in the offering bag are prayed for by the staff each week. If you wish to put a prayer request on the NFC prayer chain, please call Thea D, the e-prayer chain by emailing NFC Office, or post on NFC's Facebook page.

