



True North

If a person were to stand today at the North Pole and look up, there would appear to be a star directly over his head. This is aptly called a "pole star" because it is approximately aligned with the Earth's axis of rotation. The current northern pole star is the star Polaris.

On a clear night in the Northern Hemisphere when the stars are shining brightly, Polaris is not difficult to spot. If one can find what many call "The Big Dipper" (part of the constellation Ursa Major, the Great Bear), he can use the "pointer stars" which are the stars furthest from the "handle" to find Polaris. Beginning from the star at the "bottom" of the "bowl" and imagining a line through the other star, the line will point to Polaris, a few degrees lower in the sky than the Big Dipper. (Recently, the Fourth Grade classes of Mobile (AL) Christian School and their chaperones (including this author and his daughter Haley) saw this demonstrated at the Montgomery City Planetarium in Montgomery, AL.)

Polaris is also known as the North Star, not only because it is currently the northern pole star, but also because it can be used to find the direction of north and to determine latitude. The North Star always appears due north in the night sky, and the angle it makes with respect to the horizon is equal to the latitude of the observer. Throughout the history of humanity, the North Star has been used as a point of navigation by mariners, shepherds, and travelers. For example...

'Chaldean shepherds, ranging trackless fields
Beneath the concave of unclouded skies
Spread like a sea, in boundless solitude,
Looked on the pole star, as on a guide
And guardian of their course, that never closed
His steadfast eye."
- William Wordsworth in "Excursion"

The stars, the constellations, and their intricate design reveal the incredible power and majesty of the God who created them. "Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing" (Isaiah 40:26).

Yet, God has revealed through His Word that His ultimate will for us – our "true north" – cannot be found in the STARS, but through His SON Jesus, the "Bright and Morning Star" (Revelation 22:16).

Don't look to the STARS to find "TRUE North." Rather, "fix your eyes on JESUS, the author and perfecter of our faith..., who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2), and thereby opened the Way to the Heaven of heavens for YOU and me.

-- From Living Water, written by [David A. Sargent](#)

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Sunday Worship

Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Worship Services 10:15 a.m.
Singing 4:30 p.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study

7:00 p.m.



Family Matters



Mike Russell responded last Sunday and asked for the prayers of his church family. Ron Whitman also responded. Ron's aunt passed away last Sunday. Ron's brother also recently passed away. He has had a very difficult past few months and really needs our prayers and support. A former member, Horace House, is battling stomach cancer. He is awaiting test results to see if the cancer has spread. We have another family member that is currently fighting cancer, Tom Jett. He was to start chemotherapy this week. Please be mindful of Tom and Pinky in your prayers.

We want to extend our deepest sympathies to Becky Howell on the loss of her mother last week. Becky asks that we keep her dad, Bill Reinhardt and the family in our prayers.

Bernice Kleckner and Dick Garner face upcoming surgeries. Bernice will be having back surgery at West Florida Hospital in Pensacola on February 15th. She expects to be in the hospital at least 5 days. Dick Garner is going to have outpatient surgery on his shoulder on the 10th.

June Newsom asks us to pray for her nephew's wife, Vickie Hendrickson. Vicki is in the end stages of cancer and June would like us to pray that her final days would be as peaceful and pain-free as possible.

We know there are many other family members coping with health issues, family problems, financial difficulties, unemployment, and other concerns that need our prayers.

Continued Prayer

Lola Megahee	Founding member
Tom Jett	Cancer treatment
Kevin Martinez	Deployed
Luther Reece	Deployed
Robert Stover	Deployed
Adam Zeithammel	Deployed
Sid Mosley (Dot Atkins's son-in-law)	Battling cancer
Polly Dean	Health Issues
Clyde Renfrow	Cancer treatment

Healthcare Facilities

Mary Johnson	Parthenon Healthcare
Betty Fowler	Parthenon Healthcare
Jeanette Murphy	Shoal Creek Rehab Center
Dolphus Reece	Emerald Coast Healthcare
Hazel Parrish	Emerald Coast Healthcare

Did you miss someone in church this morning? Why not drop them a note and let them know. Ok Davis and Betty Thompson are celebrating birthday's today and we sure have been missing them lately.



Let's Get Together!



Matt Husted would like to get together for lunch on Thursday's with anyone who works at Hurlburt Field. See Matt for more details. Matt & Melissa also invite anyone who is interested to a Bible study at their home on Friday evenings beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Gateway church of Christ is holding their annual Ladies Retreat this year on February 26-28 in Pensacola Beach. Speaking of ladies, there are pink volunteer sign up sheets in the foyers. We are looking for women to volunteer for the various ladies ministries here at the church. Janet Jeffcoat only collected 3 last week—we can do better than that, can't we ladies? Please pick one up, fill it out and return it to either Janet or Alison Seright. There is something for everyone.

The Botelho's are leaving us! There will be a going away fish fry at the Haraway's home on Saturday, February 20th at 3 p.m. to say good-bye. Please bring side dishes and dessert to go with fish. Linda Haraway requests an RSVP—you can call her cell phone at 259-9853.

Looking for something to do on Valentine's weekend? The Destin church of Christ is holding their 2nd Annual Valentine Couples Getaway on February 13-14 at the Embassy Suites in Destin. The guest speakers are Buddy and Stephanie Bell form the Landmark congregation in Montgomery, AL. Please call 837-8050 with any questions.

All the ladies are invited to join the Ladies Bible class for Bible study and fellowship here at the building every Tuesday beginning at 10 a.m.

We have a wonderful Wednesday fellowship meal at 6 p.m. every week. Only \$2.00 for all the BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs you can eat. And the fellowship is priceless!

Can you sing? Would you like to sing better? We have a group that meets here at the building every 2nd Saturday to practice old standards and learn some new songs. They would love for you to join them this Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. They ask that you bring a dessert to share. Geoff Gurney is the point of contact for this ministry.



Helpers Today

Nursery

Infants Sandi Steck & Mary Beall
Toddler Joey & Jillian Duda

Wee Praise Tbd

Greeters Steve & Gail Tribble

Power Point Tim Thomas

Sound Matt Husted

Next Sunday 2-14

Nurs-

ery

Infants Sherry Barron & Pamela Bradshaw
Toddler Jasmin Ricks & Autumn Johnson

Wee Praise Sylvia Tribble & Kim Wynn

Greeters Steve & Gail Tribble

Power Point Tim Thomas

Sound Matt Husted

Scripture Challenge

7 February Leviticus 19-21
8 February Leviticus 22-23
9 February Leviticus 24-25
10 February Leviticus 26-27
11 February Numbers 1-2
12 February Numbers 3-4
13 February Numbers 5-6

Happy Birthday

Today Ok Davis
Today Betty Thompson
13th Vincent Becker

Happy Anniversary

11th Rick & Sharon Hurst #16

New Address

Renee Parrish
225 Argyle Court
Mary Esther, FL 32569
850-226-7574
reneeparrish37@yahoo.com

Lads To Leaders

****Bible bowl each Wednesday night****

Today Bible reading and puppets
Feb 14 Speeches
Feb 21 Bible bowl TEST and puppets
Feb 28 Song leading

Boxes, Boxes, Boxes

We appreciate all the folks who have brought boxes into the office. We have plenty and do not need anymore right now. Thank You!

Church Statistics

Attendance

January 31

Bible Class 165
AM Worship 215
PM Worship 31
Wednesday 152

Attendance

A Year Ago

Bible Class
AM Worship N/A
PM Worship
Wednesday

Contribution

January 31

Budget \$ 7,500
Gave \$ 8,091

Small Groups

No Meetings

Adults
Children
Total

Building Fund To Date

\$206,809

Pledged for 2010 \$175,935
Received for 2010 \$ 34,100

Please turn in your 2009 and 2010 pledges as soon as possible.

March 1st is the date construction is set to begin.

Building Fund Contribution Checks

Please make a separate check for any building fund donations. Thank You.

Guess The Member

(answer on back page)

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Gary O'Daniel

Opening Prayer Steve Tribble

Speaking Jeff Custer

Closing Prayer Jerry Young

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader Jerry Young

Prayer Ric Morales

Devotional Jeff Custer

Check out our web page at
www.ourchurchcares.com
for past bulletins, current events
and future plans.

A very special thank you to Tim Thomas
for taking care of the web page.

Answer: Bill Vandyke!

Sunday Morning

Song Leader Geoff Gurney

Song #154 Give Me The Bible

Announcements Curt Seright

Song Here I Am To Worship

Prayer John Williams

Song Blessed Be Your Name

Song Listen To Our Hearts

Song #189 Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Lord's Supper Presiding Glenn Barron

Serving Jason Riggs Ben Acock
Nik Honore Billy Lawson
Craig Geohagan Jordan Geohagan
Tyrell Rochell Juwan Taylor

Offering

Song #85 Buried With Christ

Scripture Ken Cherry—Ephesians 5:6-14 NAS

Wee Praise Offered for 4 years old through 2nd Grade

Song #255 I Am Resolved

Speaking Jeff Custer

Song #7 Abide With Me

Song #968 Shine, Jesus, Shine

Closing Prayer David Jeffcoat

Elder Point of Contact for February—David Jeffcoat

Children of the Light

Scripture: Ephesians 5:6-14

Introduction: God speaks of light and darkness as he differentiates between those who live for themselves and those who live for God. It is the choice of every Christian whether we will live in the light or not.

I. Once, You Lived in Darkness

II. Now, You Are in the Light

III. Wake Up! Walk in the Light!

Conclusion: