



North Garland CHURCH OF CHRIST

We Strive to Be: A church devoted to making disciples of Jesus Christ, growing together in knowledge and relationship with God and each other.

Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 3** – Men's/Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10-11 a.m.
- Dec. 8** – Elders/Deacons/Ministers Meeting
- Dec. 8** – Youth Group Christmas Party at the Webb's House
- Dec. 10** – Golden Gals' Christmas Party
- Dec. 17** – Men's/Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10-11 a.m.
- Dec. 24** – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 6-7 p.m.
- Dec. 25** – Christmas (Office Closed)
- Dec. 26** – Office Closed
- Dec. 31** – New Year's Eve (Office Closed)
- Jan. 1** – New Year's Day (Office Closed)

Pantry Stats:

We had a record number of pantry patrons served this month! This November, we served 348 families!

Wednesday Meals:

There are **no** meals provided before class on Wednesday nights in the month of December.

Order of Worship

.....	<i>The Steadfast Love of the Lord</i>
Song Leader/Welcome	Jim Coker
.....	<i>I Am a Sheep</i>
.....	<i>10,000 Reasons</i>
.....	<i>Everlasting God</i>
Prayer	TBD
.....	<i>How Great Is Our God</i>
.....	<i>Come, Share the Lord</i>
Communion Talk	Dee Plummer
Servers	Keaton Francis, Isaac Taylor, Dallas Darrow
.....	Brooks Wilson, Chester Peyton, Jeff Owen
.....	<i>Heavenly Sunlight</i>
.....	<i>Step by Step</i>
Sermon: Continue Faithfully	Erik Granberg
.....	<i>I Have Decided to Follow Jesus</i>
Shepherd's Prayer	Terry Sherrill
Nursery	Wendy Taylor, Eleanor Taylor
Sound Booth/Slides	Dudley Darrow

Sermon Scripture:

Nehemiah 8-13

Sermon Thought:

We are not promised tomorrow, but it will probably come, as will the next and the next. Each day is a new day to continue following God and to continue improving our walk with God. We must continue to faithfully follow God all the days of our lives.

Sermon Questions:

1. Think of your life with God so far and share some of these moments in your journey: the beginning, some high moments, some low moments, where are you at the moment in your walk with God.
2. What is an element in your walk with God that has grown over the last year or so?
3. The Jews were given actions that would serve as reminders of following God: sabbath, feast of booths, stones from the Jordan and so on. Do you have any physical reminders of your walk with God?

Next Week's (12/8/24) Servants:

Song Leader /Welcome: Robb Mills

Communion Talk: Hudson Plumer

Servers: Brian Wright
Gordon Jantz
Michael Granberg
Butch McComas
Todd Anderson
Dylan Anderson

Shepherd's Prayer: Dan Kent

Sound Booth/ Slides: Terry Sherrill

Nursery: Wed. Toddler/ Preschool Teacher 4th: Jacqueline Anderson

This Week's Birthdays:

1st Roger Owen
2nd Jesse Barker
..... Karma Barker
6th Brett Thornton

This Week's Anniversaries:

1st Bryan & Kendra Brownell
..... Terry & Mary Sherrill

Revealing God – Disciples

Follow Me

Remember the childhood game we played called "Follow the Leader"? It was a fun game and very challenging at times. The leader would always try to do things that made it difficult to follow. If you messed up, you were out of the game. Then came your time to be the leader, and you would do some crazy things that others could not do.

I reflect on those special memories as I think about Jesus calling his disciples to follow him. It has always amazed me that when he said "**Follow me**," each one of his disciples left what they were doing and followed him so he could "*make them fishers of men*" (Matt. 4:19). Unlike our childhood game, Jesus did not intentionally do things they couldn't follow, but the things he taught them, showed them, and asked them to do were at times a major challenge for them. There were times they didn't understand, and other times they tried to do things their way, instead of following their leader. The gentle and loving spirit of Jesus always took time to explain things more fully to them, and to encourage them when the situation was very difficult. The biblical text tells about people who followed Jesus for a time, and then turned away when things became too much for them to bear. Then there was Judas Iscariot who for "*thirty pieces of silver said he would deliver Jesus to the chief priests*" (Matt. 26:14-15). Even the strong disciple, Peter, denied Jesus three times during his trial (Matt. 26:69-75). You see, it is not always easy to follow the leader when the situation becomes threatening, and we are vulnerable to falling away. We must always remember that when Jesus says **Follow Me**, he will be there to walk with us. He tells his disciples, "*...and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age*" (Matt. 28:20). Enjoy your special time of following the leader with Jesus.

Gordon Jantz

Children's Christmas Play

We will be having a children's Christmas play on Sunday December 22nd in place of Sunday school. The practice session will be on Saturday December 21st. Dee Plummer and Chris Taylor will have more details.

Sunday School Teachers

Sunday January 5th through Sunday March 30th is the next teaching quarter for the children education ministry. We want to express our gratitude to those who have taught this past year and encourage you to keep teaching. We also encourage men, women and youth who are interested in teaching the Word of God to children in the nursery thru elementary age, to let Robb or Chris know if you would like to teach this next quarter.