

# the Nall Call

monthly newsletter of Nall Avenue Baptist Church

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TRANSFORMING LIVES



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



IMPACTING COMMUNITIES

## ARE WE REALLY EVANGELICAL? by Joe Funderburk, senior pastor



Several years ago I was in a meeting with other Christians and we discussed the problem of evangelism. You know that word. It is the mandate all believers are given in Matthew to go out and make disciples. As evangelicals we believe that people must come to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in order to begin the life-long journey of discipleship. When we speak of evangelism we are speaking about the need to be used by God to help others come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The problem is that many people in our churches have heard the mandate, but very few actually practice it. This is not just speculation. Study after study confirms few believers today share their faith with people who are lost. We need not look far to understand why fewer people are coming to Christ in our culture.

I am not writing this article to shame us into action. I am writing this as a reminder of a light bulb that went off in my mind all those years ago in that meeting. As we were talking, someone blurted out, jokingly, that if we were going to get the church to share the gospel, we would first need to teach the church how to build relationships with people outside the church. As the laughter died down, I noticed how everyone in the room began to wrinkle their foreheads and slowly nod in agreement. What started out as a joke quickly turned into a serious conversation. How many of our people had any meaningful relationships with people who did not have faith in Christ? It was a simple and revealing question. We knew that in order to see people come to Christ we must build relationships outside the church.

For the rest of this summer, we will be discussing The Art of Neighboring. You might wonder why we would devote two months to this conversation, or perhaps you simply consider this another message series to fill time. Let me be very clear about our purpose. We want to see God use Nall in Transforming Lives, Building Relationships and Impacting Communities. Transformation does not happen by accident. Just imagine how God could use us if we were willing to simply build meaningful relationships in our neighborhoods. This emphasis is a tool to help us put our vision into practice. People are willing to hear and see the message of the Gospel, but only with people they have a relationship with. Build relationships and let God use your love for people to share His truth.

## WHY FIRST IMPRESSIONS MATTER SO MUCH by Kelly Jackson, family life and operations



Psychologists widely agree that good first impressions are an absolute must in building relationships—and we have a matter of seconds, if that, to make a good impression. Think about going into a new neighbor's house for the first time. You see it with outsider's eyes. Your brain picks up on subtle and not-so-subtle clues telling you if this is a safe, welcoming place with people who will respect you, or whether this is a place you will feel awkward, unwelcome and perhaps like a bit of a nuisance.

The same is true for guests of our church. We want them to feel as at home as we are within this building and among the people. We want them to come back and hear more about Christ! The First Impressions Team is committed to warmly welcoming visitors to Nall in a way that makes them feel like they belong in this body of believers.

Clint and Danica Stull (pictured) joined Nall a few years ago and recall what it was like to be the new faces at Nall, the questions they had and what helped them feel at ease. They recently accepted a nomination to join First Impressions. They embrace the role.

"We chose to help serve in First Impressions to meet and cultivate deeper relationships with the members and guests of the church," the couple said. "It's energizing to hear the stories and journeys of the people at Nall. We hope to warmly welcome more people in our community, form relationships with them, and transform lives with the love of Jesus."

First impressions is something we all have a part in. Nall has a great reputation as a hospitable church. As we continue to welcome more new people through ministry activities and on Sunday mornings, let's build on this wonderful foundation.

## SNAPSHOTS



Marie Clark gives her testimony during the first evening session of Women's Summer Bible Studies, June 7.



Many of the youth traveled to Glorieta, N.M., for a week-long Centrifuge Summer Camp, June 16-22.



A young participant enjoys the worship rally during the Submerged VBS. More than 100 kids from Nall and the community attended VBS, June 26-30.

## ABOUT THE CHURCH PLANT NALL SUPPORTS

This spring, Nall took on a support role for a new church plant in north Overland Park. Neighborhood Church is led by Dave and River Partins, who have a breadth of ministry leadership experience.

The couple, originally from Tennessee, has served with Young Life and Covenant Chapel in Kansas City as well as with Cru in Hungary. They were ministry leaders at a church plant in Pennsylvania before heeding God's call to return to Kansas City in 2014 to plant Neighborhood Church.

Currently Neighborhood Church meets at the Partins' home on Sunday evenings.

Nall has committed to provide monthly financial support to Neighborhood Church, as well as volunteers and resources as appropriate. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please contact Kelly Jackson to discuss how your talents may suit the church's needs.

The Partins will be at both services on Sunday, July 17, to share their story and vision for Neighborhood Church.

Learn more at:  
[www.neighborhoodchurchop.com](http://www.neighborhoodchurchop.com).



## MISSION KC: OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL MISSIONS WORK

"We have been faithful in sending others outside of our city to be witnesses for Christ, but we have been lacking in providing opportunities to serve locally," said Kristi DeMint, Missions Committee chair. "We have to get out of our building and love on our neighbors. This is what Mission KC is about."

Mission KC is Monday, Aug. 1, through Thursday, Aug. 4, 2016. Projects fit a wide range of ages and abilities:

### City Union Mission (Downtown Kansas City, MO):

- Share a Meal at the Family Shelter: lunch or dinner; ages 8 and up.
- Prepare a dessert at home for Family Shelter meals: Deliver to Nall; all ages.
- Warehouse sorting: items include clothing and food; ages 8 and up; 3-hour minimum shifts, daytime hours.
- Office help: small tasks; ages 8 and up; 3-hour minimum shifts, daytime hours.
- Landscaping/demolition/maintenance: Ages 12 and up; outdoor work, very physical. All-day shifts required.
- Spruce up a guest room: painting and refreshing rooms in the Family Shelter; ages 12 and up; all-day shifts required.

### Nelands' Carry the Cross Ministries (Kansas City, Kansas):

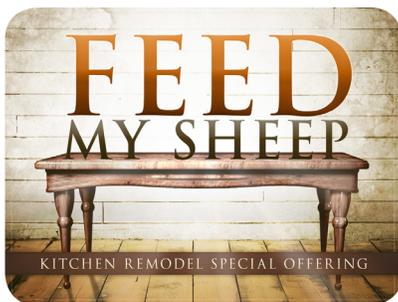
Help lead activities at a Kids Backyard Bible Club, which runs NOON to 3 PM each day, or help serve lunch. Pick one or more days to serve. All ages welcome.



**The deadline to register is July 22.** Sign up for as many projects as your schedule allows. Child care provided based on level of need.

Register through the church's website: [www.nallave.org/missionkc](http://www.nallave.org/missionkc). Registration tables will be set up in the foyer Sundays, July 10 and 17.

## FEED MY SHEEP UPDATE: Where we stand, estimated construction time line



As of June 26, 2016, Nall members and regular attenders have given \$130,568 toward the Feed My Sheep campaign (not counting future pledge amounts). The church's website now features a Feed My Sheep page: [www.nallave.org/feedmysheep](http://www.nallave.org/feedmysheep). The page contains the latest funds tally, videos related to the campaign and background information on the combined kitchen, storage and CLC/gym floor projects.

**July 18** is the expected start date of replacing the CLC/gym floor. The project will take up to several weeks.

**Early August** is the estimated start date of the new kitchen construction. The project is expected to take two to three months to complete.

The current kitchen will remain in use until the new kitchen is built. Wednesday Night Dinners are expected to continue as usual. Once the floor replacement is complete, the CLC/gym is expected to be available for ministry needs throughout the kitchen construction project.

Business meetings will be a key way to hear details about the progress of the projects. The next business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 31 at 5 PM.

## 7 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE ETHIOPIA MISSION

### TRIP *by Kim Jeffers, students*

The mission trip to Ethiopia is fast approaching. Here are seven facts you may not know about the trip.

#### **We will be in the Ethiopian capital.**

We will be in the capital of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, which means “new flower” in Amharic (the Ethiopian language). This area is much more developed than other areas of Africa and serves both wealthy and those in poverty. This will make it both safe and culturally relevant for those serving on this trip.



#### **This is not a “youth only” mission trip.**

This trip is made up of 12 people, including myself; 3 teenagers, 4 college students, and 6 adults. I’m thankful for a church that wants to lead our youth in serving our Lord across the nations.

#### **We will work with at-risk women and their children**

We are partnering with EWAR, a program that helps at-risk women and children and rescues and rehabilitates trafficked women. We will run a VBS summer camp, play a lot of soccer, and encourage those on the front lines for the Gospel to continue to stand strong.

#### **We re-live an entire day during travel.**

It takes us two days to get to Ethiopia, and we will re-live one whole day on the way home. We leave the States on July 12 and arrive in Ethiopia on July 14. We leave Ethiopia at 1:00 AM on July 22 and arrive home at 10:45 PM Kansas City time.

#### **The accommodations are familiar; the food is not.**

We will be staying in a guest house owned by a mission agency, and it has many accommodations similar to the States. The food, however, is nothing like in the States. They eat everything with their hands. They have this sponge-like bread called “injera” which is an acquired taste. Thankfully they have coffee, and a lot of it! Ethiopia is the birth place of coffee, so everywhere you go you are given the best tasting coffee in the whole world!

#### **We need lots of prayer support.**

Please pray for the children and women. Pray that they will be open to the love we are coming to show them. Pray for their financial situations and for poverty mindsets to be shifted. Pray for peace in Ethiopia, and for our eyes to be in tune with what God wants us to see. Pray for opportunities to share the word of God on a personal level.

#### **We would love donated items.**

Look for the “Africa donations” box outside the youth area. Requests include: women’s and kids clothes, soccer balls, boxing gear, Swiss balls, resistance bands, t-ball gear, Biblically-themed craft activities for 130 people, child-size sports shoes, trophies and medals, plastic plates and cups, face paint, candy and small gifts for 800 kids.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Widows’ and Senior Single Women’s Luncheon, July 10**

NOON, CLC/gym. By invitation. Hosted by the deacons.

### **Ethiopia mission team leaves, July 11**

Please be in prayer for the team.

### **JOY Luncheon, July 14**

11:30 AM, Foyer (note location change). Craig Dillavou, Indian artifact collector, will present. Bring a potluck dish or \$4.

### **Guest speakers: The Partins, July 17**

Dave and River Partins, Neighborhood Church. See more on page 3.

### **Kids Camp Parent Meeting, July 17**

3:00 PM, Chapel. For parents whose children will attend camp in Bolivar, Mo.

### **CLC/gym floor replacement begins (estimated), July 18**

See more on page 4.

### **Mission KC sign-up deadline, July 22**

See more on page 4.

### **Business Meeting, July 31**

5 PM, Sanctuary.

## MOPS PREPARES FOR NEW YEAR

Twenty-four women have already signed up for the 2016-17 Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) year beginning in September. The leadership team, led by Joanna Unruh, couldn’t be more excited.

MOPS ministers to young moms regardless of church background. Many moms are from the community, providing a great opportunity to build relationships. Several moms who first attended MOPS later accepted Christ and/or joined Nall.

The MOPS year runs September through May. An open house is scheduled for Aug. 18, 6-8 PM. Learn more: [www.nallave.org/mops](http://www.nallave.org/mops).

## Regular Weekly Activities

### Sundays

- 8:15 AM Worship
- 9:30 AM Core Groups
- 10:45 AM Worship
- 12:00 PM Singles Lunch Bunch

### Mondays

- 6:30 & 7:30 PM Softball teams play

### Tuesdays

- 9:30 AM Women's Bible Studies, morning session
- 6:30 PM Women's Bible Studies, evening session

### Wednesdays

- 4:30 PM Staff Meeting
- 6:30 PM Fast Track study

## July Activities

- 4 Independence Day (office closed)
- 12 KC Rescue Mission, 5:30 PM
- 14 JOY Luncheon, 11:30 AM
- 17 Guest Speakers in service: Dave and River Partins
- 17 Baby Shower for Youngs, 2 PM
- 17 Kids Camp Parent Meeting, 3 PM
- 31 Business Meeting, 5 PM

*Note: The church building is used by various groups throughout the week. To check room or building availability, see the calendar on our website, or call the church office.*

### About Nall Call

Nall Call is distributed via mail, email and web, and is the work of many hands.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the Nall church family:

Tanner Long, by baptism.

## MAIN EVENT MEN'S CONFERENCE

Save the date for the annual Main Event Men's Conference, Aug. 26-27, at First Baptist Church in Raytown. Registration is \$69. Featured speakers include T.C. Stallings (*War Room* movie), Johnny Hunt, Jonathan Evans and comedian Brad Stine. Learn more: [www.nallave.org/men](http://www.nallave.org/men).



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### SINGLE ADULTS LUNCH BUNCH

Sundays at noon. Family and friends welcome.

July 3: Popeye's Chicken, 6821 Johnson Dr., Mission

July 10: Pie Five Pizza, 6809 Johnson Dr., Mission

July 17: Dos Reales, 8841 W. 75th St., Overland Park

July 24: Panera, 7070 Martway, Mission

July 31: Sweet Tomatoes, 8505 College Blvd., Overland Park

