

the Nall Call

monthly newsletter of Nall Avenue Baptist Church

Volume #30, Issue 10 October 2016



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PLUS: The story behind the new hallway photos, Christmas season to look a little different

913.432.4141 // www.nallave.org



PRAYER AND THE SERMON OF THE SPIRIT by Joe Funderburk, senior pastor



Peter Beskendorf was a devout though very flawed individual. He was a barber who, while intoxicated at a family gathering, lost control and stabbed his own son-in-law to death. He escaped execution but was exiled and lived only a few more difficult years. We would not know his name today except for the fact that he had a very famous customer, Martin Luther. Before his exile Peter asked Luther for a simple way to pray. The responding letter is one of the most cherished texts on prayer in Christian history. In it, Luther offered Peter a rich but practical set of guidelines for establishing and maintaining an intimate prayer life. There is not space in this article to exhaust the list, but I do want to highlight one final point Luther emphasized in our prayer lives. It was something he instructed believers to constantly keep in mind when using any system of prayer, and it is very important. Let me give it to you in Luther's words:

“If (as we are meditating or praying) an abundance of good thoughts comes to us, we ought to disregard the other petitions, make room for such thoughts, listen in silence, and under no circumstances obstruct them. The Holy Spirit himself preaches here, and one word of His sermon is better than a thousand of our prayers.”

What Luther is saying can transform our prayer lives. He is making the case for us to expect God to speak in our prayer time, especially through reading His word. He experienced profound moments when meditating on the word before the Lord in prayer. God spoke in rich and meaningful ways with ideas that seemed new and relevant to his circumstances. It could be a text that he had read a hundred times, but in that moment of prayer, God spoke anew and Luther's heart would be enlightened. The key for him was to stop and listen, to drop his prayer routine and pay attention to the “sermon.”

When is the last time you heard the Lord speaking to your heart? I would encourage each one of us to pursue His voice in our prayer time. It will take a concerted effort to stop talking and concentrate, but the benefits will be immediate and transformational. If you have a chance, I would also encourage you to read the rest of Luther's letter on a simple way to pray. Who knew a letter to an exiled barber would become such a treasure in Christian history?

WOMEN'S FALL BRUNCH FEATURES GUEST SPEAKER, CATERED MEAL



The first annual Women's Fall Brunch is at 10 AM on Saturday, Nov. 5, in the foyer. The brunch is a time to pause, reflect and have fun. Plan to bring a friend and enjoy connecting with other gals in this relaxed setting. A delicious catered brunch and a gracious hostess at each table will greet you as you arrive.

Guest speaker Jen Abercrombie will challenge us as we consider “Traveling Life's Milestones”—both those that bring joy and those that bring tears. You will be inspired as Jen shares her humor and insights. She is practical and down-to-earth. God took her from a neighborhood kid who rode the Church Bus through many milestones to her current position as director of Kids Ministry at First

Baptist Raytown. She graduated from Southwest Baptist University and has been in ministry for 20 years, including 3 years at Nall Avenue as children's director. She and husband Jamon have been married 17 years and are proud parents of two boys, ages 12 and 13.

The Women's Fall Brunch brings a new time, a new format and an expanded outreach to all women. It marks a transition from the December Secret Sister Brunch that Nall women have enjoyed in past years.

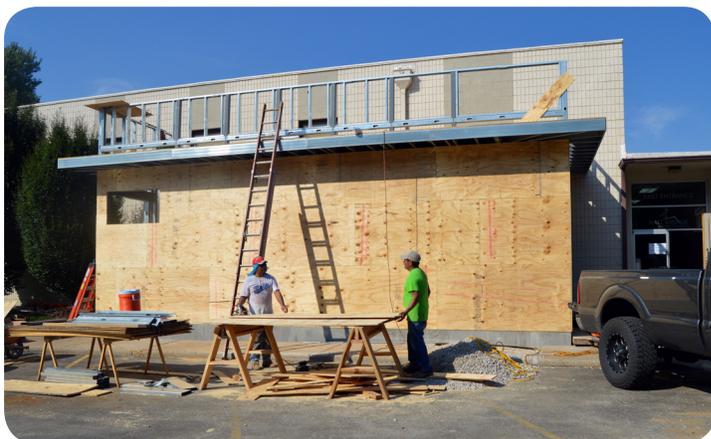
The cost is \$5.00 per person. Reservations are required.

Make your reservation no later than Nov. 2 by calling the church office or through our website, www.nallave.org/women. Limited child care for infants through age 12 is available by reservation only.

SNAPSHOTS



The CLC/Gym floor was completed the first week of September and features lines for adult and children's basketball as well as Awana Games.



Construction crews work on the walls for the new kitchen, Sept. 21.



Pastor Joe Funderburk speaks at the Sept. 25 Groundbreaking Celebration to commemorate the new CLC/gym floor and kitchen construction.

UPWARD SPORTS PREPARES FOR NEW SEASON



Upward Sports is open to all children in kindergarten through 6th grade.

Cheerleading for girls and basketball for boys and girls are offered. Registration is \$100 per player, which includes uniforms, awards and the popular season-end celebration.

Online registration ends on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

Registrants must attend one of the two evaluations scheduled for 5:30–9 PM on Oct. 25.

Practices for the 2016–17 Upward Sports season begin the last week of November. Games are Saturdays in January and February.

Volunteers are needed for coaching, concession stand, referees and scoreboard operation.

Learn more: www.nallave.org/upward.

PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE BENEFITS HARVESTERS



Once again, Nall will participate in the City of Prairie Village's Annual Peanut Butter Drive to benefit Harvesters.

This is the 32nd year the City has hosted the drive, which collects as many jars of peanut butter as possible the first part of October each year.

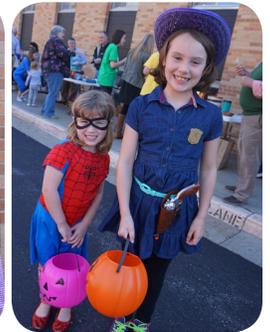
Collection bins will be available in the main hallway of Nall Oct. 2–16.

FALL FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR OCT. 30

The annual Fall Festival will take place Sunday, Oct. 30, 3–5 PM, in the north parking lot of Nall. The Fall Festival will include the much-anticipated Chili Cookoff, Trunk-or-Treating, carnival games with extra-cool prizes, cookie decorating and more. There is no charge to attend.

New this year

- **Cookie Decorating:** All ages can decorate a cookie for themselves and/or someone else.
- **Food Pantry donations for chili votes:** For every can of fruit or vegetables you donate, you receive one additional ballot for the Chili Cookoff. Stuff the ballot box for your favorite chili!
- **Carnival Games:** All ages, from preschool through adult, can compete for prizes. Games include a target launch game, giant basketball, cup-stacking challenge, balloon blaster and more. Families encouraged to play together.
- **Tot Spot:** A centrally located area for babies and toddlers featuring age-appropriate fun. Seating will be available for parents to keep an eye on their little ones while enjoying fellowship with others.



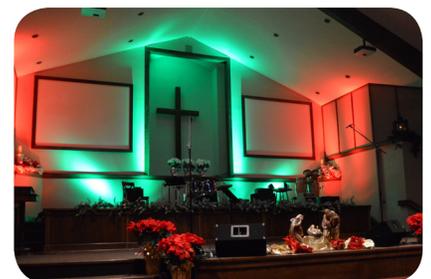
Ways to participate

- **Enter the Chili Cookoff.** Think you have what it takes to reign champ? Register to enter your chili and find out.
- **Decorate your trunk and pass out candy.** Candy provided. Only 13 spots available; registration required.
- **Donate candy and/or cookie decorating supplies.** Look for the collection bins in the main hallway.
- **Volunteer to staff a game.** Volunteers needed for 30-minute increments at each game.
- **Help with setup/teardown.** Plenty of hands are needed.
- **Invite people!** This is a community event. Help spread the word.

If interested in volunteering, contact Sara Brunsvold, sara@nallave.org / 913-432-4141. In the event of inclement weather, the Fall Festival will be moved indoors.

CHRISTMAS SEASON AT NALL WILL LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

Nall will host a donation drive for City Union Mission, the beneficiary of much of our service projects for Mission KC week in August. City Union Mission has a wish list of items to stock its annual Christmas Store, where local families in need go to “shop” for Christmas gifts. Items include toys, baby supplies, clothing and small appliances (toasters, slow cookers, etc.). Prices range from \$1 to about \$40. Starting in early November, Christmas trees will be placed in a common area of the church with “ornaments” representing different items for the store. Nall families can select as many ornaments as they wish and drop off their donations at the church. Collection will continue through Nov. 17. This donation drive replaces Operation Christmas Child and the Johnson County Christmas Bureau donation drives.



The evening of Sunday, Dec. 4, Nall will host a special night of catered dinner and music featuring the talents of Tresa Mote's Cowboy Church Band. This is a great opportunity to bring friends and family. Watch for details in November. This event will replace the Children's Christmas Program and Soup Supper this year.

BREAKING FREE OF SIN by Kim Jeffers, students



On Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016, I will be taking a group of youth to The Clue Pursuit of Kansas City. They will bust out their inner Sherlock Holmes during this hour-and-a-half of sheer entertainment that requires them to be locked in a room filled with clues that

they must find and put together to figure out a code that will let them “escape” from the room. This is an action-packed, humorous, and entertaining game to experience with their chums. (It is equally exciting for adults, too!)

These “escape rooms” are very popular right now. When I think of the concept behind them, I am reminded of how many times we are stuck with our sin, trying to break free from it. Many times we try to solve clues, or puzzles, but never really escape—as happens often in these escape rooms.

We feel trapped, like there is no way out. But unlike the escape rooms, we don’t have to put puzzles and clues together to break the chains of our sin. We need to stop feeling like there is no freedom or that we are trapped by our sin and start seeing the clear escape sign—the CROSS OF CHRIST.

Grace is the escape password and Jesus has already entered the code.

Think about how thankful we get to be that we aren’t locked up with our sin, trapped and trying to find a way out. And thank Him for his Victory on the cross that gave us a way out.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Guest Speaker, Oct. 2

Donnie Simpson, executive director of missions, Kansas City Kansas Baptist Association, will speak at both services.

Girls/Guys Hangout, Oct. 2

Breakout Room challenge. Meet at church at 6:15 PM.

Men’s Coffee, Oct. 3

6:30 AM, HyVee at 95th and Antioch. All men welcome. Meet in upstairs cafe.

JOY Luncheon, Oct. 13

11:30 AM, CLC/Gym. Featuring the musical comedy “Time of Your Life.” Bring a potluck dish to share or \$4.

Upward Sports Online Registration Deadline, Oct. 25

Ends at 11 PM. Learn more: www.nallave.org/upward.

Upward Evaluations, Oct. 25 & 27

5:30–9 PM each night. All players are required to attend one evaluation.

Fall Festival, Oct. 30

3–5 PM. See page 4 for details.

Child Dedication

Originally scheduled for Oct. 16 has been postponed until January.

What’s next:

Men’s Fish Fry, Nov. 4

Women’s Brunch, Nov. 5 (see page 2)

THE STORY BEHIND THE NEW HALLWAY PHOTOS

Over the course of weeks this spring and summer, two professional photographers walked the halls of Nall looking for moments that tell the story of our church. They captured both full faces of people and “detail” pictures in candid as well as staged settings.

The resulting images showcase key characteristics of Nall, such as the emphasis on worship, discipling, fellowship, prayer and family. A keen eye will also pick up on the highlight of our multigenerational congregation. The photos will be used on the church’s website, in marketing materials, as background for slides during worship services, on social media and more. A handful of the images now grace the wall of the main hallway, where each week hundreds of members and visitors will see the story of Nall shown in vivid illustration. These nine hallways photos were especially chosen for their ability to illustrate our vision: Transforming Lives, Building Relationships and Impacting Communities.



Regular Weekly Activities

Sundays

- 8:15 AM Worship
- 9:30 AM Core Groups
- 10:45 AM Worship
- 12:00 PM Singles Lunch Bunch
- 7:00 PM Youth Girls Bible Study

Tuesdays

- 4:30 PM Staff Meeting

Wednesdays

- 9:00 AM Bible Study Fellowship
- 5:00 PM Dinner service starts
- 6:30 PM Wednesday Night studies
Awana
- 8:30 PM Men's Basketball

October Activities

- 2 Girls/Guys Hangout, 6:15 PM
- 3 Men's Coffee, 6:30 AM
- 6 MOPS meeting, 9:30 AM
- 11 KC Rescue Mission, 5:30 PM
- 13 JOY Luncheon, 11:30 AM
- 20 MOPS meeting, 9:30 AM
- 30 Fall Festival, 3-5 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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OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of **Antoinette Miller**, 87, who passed away on Sept. 16. She had been a member of Nall for 20 years.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new church members Andy and Edis Wu, Toni J. Friend and JD and Alberta Bittel. Also welcome, new Core Group members, Kevin and Samantha Perkins and Jeffrey and Lacy White.



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Prairie Village, Kansas 66208

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SINGLE ADULTS LUNCH BUNCH

Sundays at noon. Family and friends welcome.

Oct. 2: Culver's, 6005 Metcalf, Mission

Oct. 9: Popeyes Chicken, 6821 Johnson Dr., Mission

Oct. 16: Jose Pepper's, 6870 Johnson Dr., Mission

Oct. 23: McAlister's Deli, 11330 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Shawnee

Oct. 30: Applebee's, 6800 Johnson Dr., Mission

