



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

**Today's Events**

Meet & Greet with Adam & Joselyn Bentley

LCCC Senior Session Begins

**Upcoming Events**

**July 18**-Wednesday Meal-Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Baked Beans, Chips, Brownies

**July 21**-Mercy House; 4-8pm

**July 22-25**-VBS

**July 29**- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship

**Aug. 1**- Blood Drive

**Aug. 14**-Summer Ladies Class

**Aug. 18**-Mercy House; 4-8pm

Ten volunteers are needed at Mercy House for Saturday, July 21. Contact Terry Gordon if you can help.

VBS registration forms are in the lobby. Please fill one out and return to the office. Forms also available on our website. [northgarlandchurch.org](http://northgarlandchurch.org)

**Order of Worship**

<b>Song Leader</b> .....	<b>Chase Coldwater</b>		
#286 .....	Wonderful Story of Love		
.....	Blessed Be The Lord God Almighty		
<b>Welcome/Scripture:</b> .....	<b>Erik Granberg</b>		
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	<b>Gordon Jantz</b>		
#258 .....	The New Song		
#214 .....	Have You Seen Jesus My Lord		
#180 .....	Jesus is Lord		
<b>Communion Talk</b> .....	<b>Roger Owen</b>		
Roger Owen	Cory Moore	Gene Denney	Curtis Diel
Trenn Watson	Dan Kent	Shane Holderly	Jerod Burford
#608 .....	He Gave Me a Song		
.....	<b>Dismiss Children</b>		
#290 .....	Shine Jesus Shine		
<b>Sermon</b> .....	<b>Erik Granberg</b>		
#23 .....	Our God, He is Alive		
<b>Welcome/Announcements</b> .....	<b>Gordon Jantz</b>		
<b>Shepherd's Prayer</b> .....	<b>Brent Dittmeyer</b>		
<b>Children's Worship</b> .....	<b>Krystal Wright</b>		
<b>Nursery</b> .....	<b>Reeta Williams; Wendy Taylor</b>		
<b>Sound Booth</b> .....	<b>Daylon Roitsch</b>		
<b>Slides</b> .....	<b>Terry Sherrill</b>		
<b>Lock Up</b> .....	<b>Michael Manley; Robb Mills</b>		

**Sermon Scripture:** Matthew 13:1-23

**Sermon Thought:** In the parable of the soils four soils are given to represent four types of people. Each one of us hopes we are the good soil but we each have our own struggles. Bad soil must be amended so that it will be good soil. As followers we need to be people who amend our lives to ensure we are able to receive the word.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. What is your life susceptible to that could lead to bad soil?
2. God can work in our lives if we let him, but in what ways can we work on amending our own life soil?
3. What stood out to you from today's sermon?

## Prayer List

**Larry LeCrone**-recovering from bypass surgery

**Nellie Jo Dittmeyer** – struggling with health issues

**Link Setser**-recovering from knee injury

**Shawn Tuohy**-mom & dad both having health issues

**Dennette Ray**-Loretta Ball's daughter; home recovering from surgeries

**Verda Lee Haltom**-Jeanita Meek's mother; multiple fractures of her pelvis

**Patrece Allen**-recovering from shingles

**Geneva Sheffield**-Greenbrier Nursing Home #19; having multiple health issues

**Margaret Jenkinson**- moving to Greenbrier assisted living on Monday. Room 413

**Mandy Cocker**- stomach flu

## Record for 7-08-18

Bible Class.....	89
Morning Worship .....	146
Life Groups .....	47
Contribution .....	\$5,653.00
Budget .....	\$6,634.62
2018 YTD Cont.....	\$138,829.49
2018 YTD Bdgt.....	\$179,134.74

## Birthdays

### July:

16<sup>th</sup> Jimmy Burnett

17<sup>th</sup> Dan Kent

18<sup>th</sup> Varna Nolen

19<sup>th</sup> Brenda Wright

## Love

### *"The Essence of God"*

Love is an amazing thing. It is the essence and expression of the inner most part of our human existence. We exist because of love and it is the powerful force that motivates our daily actions and responses in our relationships with others. Dr. Scott Peck in his book "The Road Less Traveled" offers this definition of love. "The will to extend one's self for the purpose of nurturing one's own or another's spiritual growth." I believe that captures what I am trying to say and what has been the focus of my life. Love is the divine power behind our spiritual growth. The apostle Paul also tells us "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Cor. 13:7). It is the spiritual force that gets us through the bad times and lets us rejoice in the good times.

When we peel back all the different layers and attributes of love, we find God. That is right. Love is **the essence of God**. "So we know and believe the love God has for us, God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (1 Jn. 4:16). That means when God created man and woman in "our image, after our likeness" (Gen. 2:26), his divine presence of love is woven through every fiber of our human lives. We have a natural desire to love because we were formed by love. God reaffirms his love for our spiritual being as well. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16). Our lives are permeated by **the essence of God** through the divine power of his love in us. Everything about us is encompassed by the love of God. That is why we can bear – believe – hope – and endure all things we face in life. Love is God's presence in our lives, and it connects us in perfect harmony through all the relationships we are blessed to have. *Gordon*

## Playground Equipment Fundraiser

To help North Garland fund a playground set and spread the word about our church, we are having a t-shirt fundraiser.

T-shirts previously ordered are available today. If you haven't paid for yours, you may do so today. You can continue to order more t-shirts by filling out the form on the credenza outside the auditorium. T-shirts are \$12.

## School Supply Drive

We are having a school supply drive again this year for Longfellow Middle School until August 13. We will accept monetary donations or school supplies, including pencils, paper, back packs, tissue, and hand sanitizer. Contacts are Dudley Darrow and Robb Mills.