

# 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.**

**Today's Events**

Elders/Deacons Meeting 8:00 a.m.

**Upcoming Events**

**Jan. 16** – Mercy House 4-8 p.m.

**Jan. 23** – Youth Group Trip to the Jenk's Aquarium

**Birthdays:**

**January:**

**10<sup>th</sup>** Audrey Darrow  
Madison Solis

**16<sup>th</sup>** David Petrik

**Record for 1-3-21**

Morning Worship..... 113  
Contribution ..... \$10,490.00  
Budget ..... \$6,634.62

**Order of Worship**

<b>Children's Worship</b> .....	<b>Derek Tinius</b>
<b>Welcome/Announcements</b> .....	Stephen Lincoln
<b>Scripture:</b> 1 Corinthians 13.....	Stephen Lincoln
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	<b>Chris Taylor</b>
<b>Song Leader</b> .....	<b>Dee Plummer</b>
<b>#587</b> .....	Sing and Be Happy
.....	Days of Elijah
.....	Your Loving Kindness
.....	We Shall Assemble
<b>#903</b> .....	Power in the Blood
<b>Communion Talk</b> .....	<b>Danny Powers</b>
.....	<b>Dismiss Children</b>
<b>#458</b> .....	Redeemed
<b>#469</b> .....	Faith is the Victory
<b>Sermon:</b> "Thrive by Following" .....	<b>Erik Granberg</b>
<b>#738</b> .....	Take the Name of Jesus With You
<b>Shepherd's Prayer</b> .....	<b>Pat Meek</b>
<b>Children's Worship</b> .....	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Nursery</b> .....	<b>Megan Darrow</b>
<b>Sound Booth</b> .....	<b>Dudley Darrow</b>
<b>Slides</b> .....	<b>Chris Taylor</b>

**Sermon Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 1

**Sermon Thought:** In this second sermon in our series, we see Paul hitting his common themes of faith, hope and love. This time however, he adds an action to each one. Following God is not just a mental decision, it must be paired with action.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. Often times, when people find themselves in the midst of turmoil, they shut down. Why do you think that is?
2. In following, there is at least one going in front and one going behind. How does this apply to Christianity?
3. How can our church help believers in this aspect of faith?

## Paradoxes of Following God

### New Prayer Concerns:

#### **All those affected with COVID-19**

**Willie Russell** – having a lot of pain in his knees and back

**Brad Goodwin** – Carol & JR Baxter's son-in-law; recovering from Covid

**Larry Cochran** – recovering from kneecap surgery

**Carter Buller Family** – Gordon's school mate, passed away from Covid

**Verda Haltom** – Jeanita Meek's mom; put on hospice care

**Linda Swart** – recovering from shoulder surgery

### Next Week's (1/17/21) Servants:

**Song Leader:** Danny Powers

**Opening Prayer:** Roger Owen

**Communion Talk:** Derek Tinius

**Shepherd's Prayer:** Terry Sherrill

**Sound Booth:** Robb Mills

**Slides:** Jim Coker

**Nursery:** Jeanita Meek

**Children's Worship:** Dee & Alyssa Plummer

I have been thinking recently about some of the big paradoxes of following God. This might make a good series someday, but for now I will share them here briefly. I'm not going to spend much time here expanding on these paradoxes. They might be good to dwell on during some individual devotional time.

The first, is that eternal life is free, but it costs everything. Consider a couple verses, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life," from Romans 6:23, and "whoever loses his life for my sake will save it," from Luke 9:24.

Second, following God is incredibly easy, but at the same time the most difficult thing a person will every try to do. Talking about the ease is Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for you souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." On the opposite side is Matthew 10:22, "Everyone will hate you because of me," and John 16:33, "In this world you will have trouble."

Finally, following God is for imperfect people. Think about all the people Jesus went to and spent time with: Peter denied Jesus, the woman who had been married 5 times, Paul was a murderer. On the other hand, perfection is required: Matthew 5:48, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly father is perfect." I end with this one because not to say, "HEY BE PERFECT!" but to remind us that our perfection is not our own doing. We are made perfect only in Jesus, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith."

*Erik Granberg*

### Thank You

Dear Youth Group,  
We are so grateful for all the goodies you brought us. We're anxious to see you all after the Covid is under control!  
Jim & Patty Long

Dear Garland Girls,  
Thank you so much for the delicious food! It was such a delicious surprise. We are truly grateful for the gifts!  
Sincerely,  
Terry & Mary Sherrill

Dear Brothers & Sisters,  
Thanks to all with love. Your prayers and gifts mean so much.  
Pat Hart

### 2021 Life Groups - Call for Leaders.

Have you ever given thought to being a life group leader? 2021 is a great year to step-up and thrive by staying engaged and encouraged with a Life Group. For those interested in being a leader, a sign-up sheet will be put on the welcome center table. This will help us take a pulse on what Life Groups will be forming for 2021. For more info or questions, contact Chris Taylor.