

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

Our goal is for every student to experience God's love for them in such a way that it overflows into authentic love for each other and a desire to make a difference in their family, school, community, and world.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

IMPACT 101

101 Memory Verse for March

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.

This class is offered Sunday mornings at 9:00 and 10:30 for 6-12th grade students. This year we are going through the major stories of the Bible.

Mar 3 - 2 Kings 4:1-7 Elisha helps a widow in need

In this story God uses Elisha to take care of a poor widow and her two sons. The Bible makes it clear that we are to help the poor. God especially mentions the widow, the orphan, and the immigrant as people we are to take care of. We will discuss the ways we are committed to this here at NorthRidge.

Mar 10 - 2 Kings 22-23 Josiah turns the people back to God

When a scroll containing the Book of the Law was found and read to King Josiah, he realized how deeply the people disobeyed the Lord and called them to repent and change their ways. We will discuss the importance of knowing God's Word and walking in his ways.

Mar 17 - Ezra - God sends Ezra to rebuild his temple

Following seventy years of exile in Babylon, the people are allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. This is a fulfillment of God's promise to forgive and restore his people. We will consider how God keeps his promises.

Mar 24 - Nehemiah - God sends Nehemiah to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem

When Nehemiah learned that the walls of Jerusalem were broken down in disgrace, he asks King Artaxerxes to allow him to rebuild them. There is much opposition, but God gives Nehemiah the strength to organize the people to complete the job. We will learn that God is stronger than anyone who opposes us when we follow him.

Mar 31 - Esther - God sends Esther to save her people

Esther was an ordinary girl living in exile in the land of Persia. When she learned of a plan to kill the Jewish people, she courageously followed God's plan and risked her own life to save them. We will see that God has plan for each of our lives and will give us the strength and courage we need to follow him.

IMPACT 201

201 Memory Verse for March

Ephesians 2:8-9 So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

IMPACT 201 is geared for 9-12th grade students and is offered at 9:00 Sunday mornings. Students start the morning in the youth room for worship and then move to the classroom in the hallway.

Mar 3 - The Conscience

We're told by movies time and again to "follow our hearts" and to "let our conscience be our guide." But what is the conscience and what role does it play in the Christian life? It turns out, the Bible has a lot to say about the conscience and what it has to say is massively important. Come this week to learn about the importance of your conscience in your life as a Christian.

Mar 10 - Truth

"In" but not "of" the world. If you've been around the church long enough, you've probably been encouraged to be "in the world, but not of take James seriously in James chapter 1, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God is... to keep oneself unstained from the world" Come this week to learn about different approaches to this topic.

Mar 17 - Media and Entertainment

There are a lot of opinions about the media and entertainment these days. Some people say that you shouldn't watch/listen to/play anything that doesn't have a Christian message or a Christian label. Others would say you can watch anything that you want; that God doesn't really care about our entertainment choices. Come this week to learn how to think biblically

Mar 24 - Abortion

Few topics in our day are as controversial or as emotional than the topic of abortion. In 201 this week, we will examine this topic as carefully and biblically as we can. Come this week to learn about what a proper Christian approach to abortion ought to be.

Mar 31 - Racism

Unfortunately, there have been times in church history that Christians have not been very loving towards other ethnicities. But the Bible exhorts us time and again to love our neighbor as ourselves. Come this weekend to learn about a Christian approach to racism and the gospel in America.

SATURDAY NITE

High school students and college-age adults 18-23 are invited to attend this weekly event called **Saturday Nite**. We attend the 5:00pm worship service together, eat dinner in the youth room, discuss the scripture and ideas brought up in the sermon, and finish with a time of prayer. Those who can should stay after we're done to hang out and have fun until 10pm.

- ⇒ 5:00 Attend worship service together
- ⇒ 6:30pm Eat supper together in youth room
- ⇒ 8:30 Games and hang out time ending by 10 pm

Memory Verse for March

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Wednesday Night IMPACT is for 6-12th graders. The evening begins with large group games and student led worship. Following this middle school and high school students split into two groups for large group teaching and end the evening in small groups.

Mar 6 – Spiritual Practice: Believing Who God Says I Am

As we read and memorize the Bible, we can let God change the way we think about ourselves. We need to see ourselves as God sees us. God says we are chosen, adopted, treasured, loved, forgiven, righteous, a new creation, able to live his way.

Mar 13 - Spiritual Practices: Seeing others as God sees them

Seeing myself as God sees me enables me to see others as God sees them. Each person is created and loved by God. He wants us to love those he loves and to treat them with kindness, respect, dignity, and love. We will talk about how forgiveness is a part of being able to love like God loves.

Mar 20 - Moral Boundaries: Marriage

We will look at God's good plan for marriage and family. We will see that our actions now will affect our future happiness. We will talk about trusting God enough to live his way.

Mar 27 - Moral Boundaries: Guarding my mind

The images and thoughts I allow into my mind affect the way I think and therefore the way I act.

Apr 3 - Moral Boundaries: Dating

We will talk about practical ways to create healthy friendships and dating relationships that will prepare us for intimate, satisfying relationships through-out our life.



Our middle school girls showing the blankets they made to share with the people at Nett Lake

DATES TO KNOW:

March 22 - High School Pizza and Movie Night 6-10pm

Held at Brax and Jessica Carvette's home at 10553 74th Street, Otsego, MN 55301

May 10-12 Spring Retreat

6th - 12th Grade

Life is an amazing journey. However, we all know that along with the best parts of life come some incredibly challenging moments. How we respond to the good and the bad moments in life have the potential to determine not only where we end up but who we will become. Jesus has shown us how we can live victorious in every aspect of life. He did the hard part through his sacrifice on the cross. Now he calls us to follow him and to be more like him in the way that we live.

Determined. Fierce. Uncompromising. Unstoppable. Relentless.

Cost for the retreat is \$100 per student. \$90 for additional students from the same family. This early bird price is good until the end of February. After that the price goes up to \$120 per student, \$110 for each additional family member.



Vacation Bible School - Save the date June 17-21



Every year over 50 students have a blast serving together at VBS. Be sure to mark your calendar and set aside this week to make a difference here in our community serving our kids and the friends they will invite to ROAR!

Parents - How can you help?

We are looking for a couple of people to invest in the lives of students as IMPACT Small Group Leaders on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening.

We also need parents who would like to organize a social event for a sub group of kids such as a game night at your house for middle school girls.

Email Youth@NRF.Life for more information about getting involved with youth.