



# NORTHSIDE DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Annual Missions Update 2017

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Senior Pastor James Lamkin

## *NDBC Missions: Hands-On and Heart Warming*

“The church exists by mission, like a fire exists by burning.”

Theologian Emil Brunner said that. I agree. In the strange economy of God, giving away actually gives to the church. Mission both feeds and fuels. After all, like our vision statement says, “We believe hands-on service is crucial to our own discipleship and the mission of Christ in the world.”

**Throughout our 25 Habitat builds, we’ve been fueled by missions.** We partnered with New Hope AME Church. We connected with Atlanta’s Interfaith community alongside Buddhists and Bhaish, Methodists and Mormons. From 80-year-old Bob Haywood on the roof, to Dave Wooten’s prayers for Bob on the ground...our sweat has mingled with the sweat equity of every homeowner -- driving nails, painting walls, and roofing roofs.

**Through Touching Taliaferro with Love, we have been fueled by missions.** For eleven years, Barbara Atchley has choreographed. Susan Harlan and Rhonda Harris have inspired, hauled, and planned. Virginia Gilbert and Susan Dew have told stories and created Bible story snacks. Kay Braswell, Beth Laxton, and Letty Konenkamp have led teams in 100-degree kickball. And a host of others helped with the gaps in between. All the while, NDBC tithes and offerings provided funding to make it all work.

**Mission giving and mission doing have fueled us as we have supported Buckhead Christian Ministries and Lifespan and Agape Center and the Stewart Center and Morningstar and Crimes Victims Advocacy...and more!** What a joy it’s been to see these ministries thrive. They are outcroppings of NDBC’s Christian witness.

God is the ultimate ecologist. Nothing is wasted. And nothing is really ever given away. It is given...and in the reciprocity of God...is given back through joy, discovery, community, and love. At NDBC, missions are hands-on and heartwarming. Mission giving feeds us and fuels us and faithfully blesses us.

“The church exists by mission, like a fire exists by burning.” Yes sir. Yes ma’am. Thank God.





Associate Pastor Daniel Headrick

## *Dreaming of the Future*

My very first day as your Associate Pastor was on mission with Northside Drivers. I drove from Nashville, TN where I had been visiting my parents...all the way to Taliaferro County, Georgia. What a way to start! I listened to our volunteers as they told of their joy in being involved in Taliaferro over the years. I could see the gleam in their eyes.

Then the next day I witnessed Barbara Atchley play Potiphar's wife in a play for the children, and I knew then I was part of something special. Missions is the ongoing life of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. It is not just something we "do" out there, it arises from the heart of God, inspiring us to act and to love and to tell others about it.

A few weeks ago, I got up early and strolled into a Habitat for Humanity warehouse. Several other Northsiders were there and I learned how bad I was at hammering nails and how devoted our team was to building homes for those in need, year after year after year. I watched those walls go up, and what had started as a concrete foundation, a slab in the middle of a lot, well...now it was well on its way to being a home.

Recently I sat down with J.B. Gilbert and Bruce Cook, head of CVAC ("Crime Victims Advocacy Council"). Bruce shared how he had been a prison chaplain for years, and how he had been impacted by the murder of his brother in providing ministry to victims of crime. Having ministered to violent offenders for years, he transitioned to ministering to crime victims. CVAC annually trains volunteers who make phone calls to crime victims and offer them support. They are always looking for new volunteers. J.B. Gilbert has a great passion for CVAC and sits on the Board of Directors.

These are just a few of the missions areas in which I've been involved since my becoming your Associate Pastor. I hope to learn more about our other areas of support, and to help our church dream about the future. What might the future hold? In the past few weeks, I've sat down with the local director of L'Arche, which is a ministry group which provides housing to intellectually and physically disabled persons. I've attended a training session about environmental stewardship with Northside Drivers Caitlyn Cook-Furr and Will Bell. These are ongoing conversations, and the future is brimming with possibility. I'm excited to be part of it with you.

## **A letter from Finance Committee Chair Bruce Dick:**

Dear Congregation:

The 2018 Challenge Budget in the amount of \$871,125.00 was approved by the Church-In-Conference on October 19 and we kicked off this year's pledge campaign on Sunday, October 29.

Thanks to the various committees for their timely efforts to review the needs for their respective areas and what it will cost to accomplish their goals. A copy of the 2018 Challenge Budget expenses is attached for your review.

Most categories are relatively unchanged, some up slightly and some down slightly. The Missions category is a formula based as a percentage of contributions so a conservative number is used for budget purposes and is adjusted during the year.

The remaining expense category is Personnel. There have been a number of staff changes in the last year that have strengthened and improved our functionality as a church. That has come at a price.

Considering all things, the proposed 2018 Challenge Budget is only slightly higher than prior years. But with your help we will make it work.

As you consider your financial support and pledge, please reflect on what the church's programs mean to you and why they are important. Share your thoughts with others and encourage them to join you with their own pledge.

You can return your completed pledge form to Rose Hidlay. Mail it back, drop it off during a visit to the church, or simply put it in the offering plate in a sealed envelope on Sunday. Rose can also take your phone pledge (404-237-8621) or your email pledge ([rose@northsidedrive.org](mailto:rose@northsidedrive.org)).

Whatever you decide to do, please do it now so we can make the 2018 Challenge Budget a reality.

Thanks,

Bruce Dick

For the Finance Committee

# 2018 Budget

Personnel	\$460,895.00
Worship	\$29,500.00
Church Family Education	\$21,185.00
Promotion	\$14,400.00
Building & Grounds	\$198,145.00
General & Administrative	\$53,000.00
Missions	\$94,000.00

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Total expenses	
Including missions	<b>\$871,125.00</b>





# Spotlight on Missions

From the very beginning, missions at Northside Drive has had a central placement. This “spotlight” on missions cannot do justice to that rich history. Instead, we seek to highlight some of the things we’ve been involved with this year. We’ll hear from several of our Missions Committee members...what they’re passionate about, and what makes them return year after year to missions. Mission is incarnational, and when we see the human faces that Northside Drivers have supported and nurtured, it “fleshes” out our understanding of how God is at work among us.

Kathy Harris, who has served on the board of the *Andrew P Stewart Center*, keeps us connected with this organization which recently celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The center has expanded its mission to work alongside members of the Pittsburgh community to improve housing, nutrition, mental health, and education in one of the most neglected areas of Atlanta.

A highlight of the missions year is the annual *Souper Bowl Sunday* coordinated by Mona Stines. The Fellowship Hall is filled to capacity as members enjoy a variety of homemade soups and chilies while raising money for our Hunger Fund. These funds are distributed throughout the year to agencies like the Atlanta Food Bank.



**Touching Taliaferro with Love, 2017**



*A word from Susan Harlan about Touching Taliaferro with Love*

The mission I am most passionate about is Touching Taliaferro With Love. It is a mission that was started in Georgia in 2002. My late husband was on the steering committee that helped in its inception so it is near and dear to my heart. CBF of Georgia's mission committee, under the leadership of their chairman, Jimmy Lewis decided to partner with the poorest county in Georgia. That turned out to be Taliaferro (pronounced Tolliver, don't ask me why) County. The largest employer in the county at that time was a truck stop. The children of Taliaferro County had been bussed to Green County for years but in the Summer of 2001 the county had built a brand new school for grades K-12. As CBF talked with the people of the county about a place we could carry on a camp for two weeks in the summer, the citizens wanted us to use the public school. So a partnership began. We agreed to host the camp, but although they never censored us and realized we were biblically and spiritually based, they asked that we call our classes story time as opposed to bible study.

The first camp was held in the summer of 2002. I have been involved almost every year since. The camp originally worked with both elementary and middle and high school students. Many churches throughout Georgia have been involved. Each year we try to do a two week camp to hit during the kids longest break from school as many of them are not well fed at home. Over the years we have had to drop down to just the K-5 students.

Northside Drivers began to come in 2006, mostly as observers or helpers. But in typical Northside Drive fashion they made this mission their own. They began to run week two of the camp in 2007 and have been doing it ever since. We work with the kids on all kinds of fun things, crafts, Bible story, drama, recreation. There is truly a place for anyone who wants to participate, whether for one day or four days. And the community has really stepped up taking over the first week of camp.

-Susan Harlan





*A word from Caitlyn Cook-Furr about missions:*

I'm passionate about missions at NDBC because I believe that God calls us to act in the world in a way that spreads the gospel, as well as justice and joy. I take Micah 6:8 to heart, and believe that the church and individual Christians should be committed to acting justly and loving kindness. I also think we are called to be in relationship with one another inside the church and with the community outside the church's walls. Missions at NDBC encourages us to do both. Most of the relationships I have with other congregants at NDBC were formed through doing mission work, and I highly value those relationships. I have also had the opportunity to form meaningful relationships with non-members, such as the Zada family, through the work we've done at NDBC. As a whole, the congregation at NDBC is greatly blessed with resources. Our mission work allows us to share those resources and the love of Jesus with others, which energizes the congregation. I find that church members get truly excited about mission work, and I love to see that excitement!

-Caitlyn Cook-Furr



*Andrew P.  
Stewart  
Center.*

**Molly Harlan Aziz currently works at the Stewart Center. She is standing next to the “Little Free Library,” which was built by Susan Harlan.**





Ms. Olivia Moore visited NDBC on November 12 with her son Justin and daughter Harmony, joined here with Barbara Atchley and Dave Wooten. The Moore family will be moving into a Habitat home which NDBC helped build!







**Taliaferro**  
**County Mission Trip 2017**



**NORTHSIDE DRIVE**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Inclusive. Inquiring. Involved.**