



The PINNACLE

Northside Drive

BAPTIST CHURCH

Northside Drive Baptist Church • 3100 Northside Drive NW • Atlanta, GA 30305-1909 • Phone: 404-237-8621

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A Pastoral Statement on Violence and Racism

By: James Lamkin & Daniel Headrick

As clergy of Northside Drive Baptist Church (NDBC), we believe that every person is made in the image of God and worthy of fundamental dignity. Because of this, we take a clear stand against violence, and against the violence of racism.

As was said by several NDBC members in Sunday School this week, “White silence is a form of racism.” We agree. We confess. We repent. As one friend puts it, “Racism is not Covid-19. It is Covid-1619. This was the year that a slave ship carrying 30 African slaves slipped into a harbor of the Virginia Colony.” If racism is like a pandemic, it is as ancient as humankind; and, certainly as old as the founding of America. Because it is frequently disguised, often times overt, but sometimes unintentional—continuing education about this insidious sin warrants life-long learning.

Some call it systemic racism. Many impersonal forces compose this very personal wrong: cultural, relational, educational, judicial, political, religious, economic, and more.

So many, in fact, that privilege can blind us with layers of blinders; and spiritual blindness leads to idolatry.

We believe it is important to name names, such as, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. By doing so we do not perpetuate the appearance of silence; rather, we take daily steps on the long journey toward justice. Their tragic deaths are symptoms of on-going, bigger stories.

Sunday’s Pentecost text heralded God’s diverse hope. The Holy Spirit’s fiery presence embraced and empowered all: women and men, slaves and free, young and old, daughters and sons. Everybody.

As congregational clergy, we will pursue God’s wide hope for our world and faith community. We will study and learn and seek conversation with partners of color; and will acknowledge our sense of privilege.

These are anxious days due to disease. These are painful days as we see the violence racism does to the human race. These are holy days as we yearn to speak the truth in the presence of God.

**Sunday Morning
Worship Scriptures**

June 7

Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalms 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

June 14

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-25 (2:1-7)

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 21

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

June 28

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalms 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

July 5

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalms 45:10-17

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

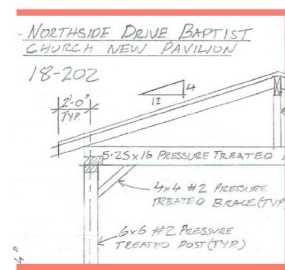
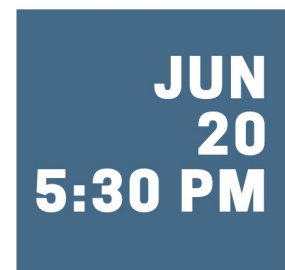
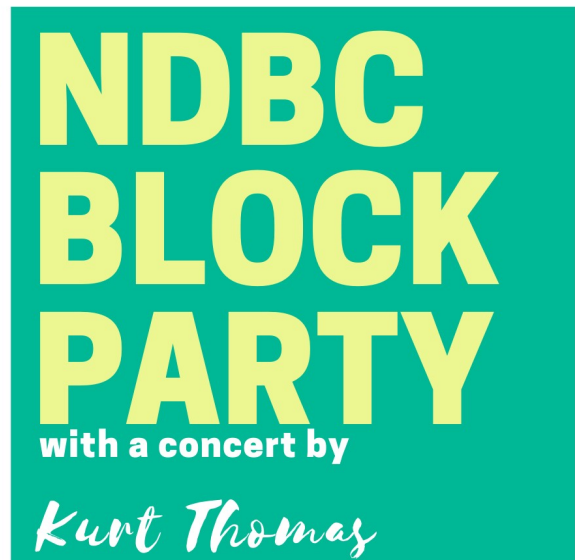
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34

Psalms 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE OBSERVED

Come join us for an evening full of fun at Northside Drive Baptist Church: Kurt Thomas will be playing a wonderful concert, and we will break ground on our church's Chapel Grounds Pavilion!

This will be an outdoor, BYO everything event. Please bring your family, your friends, your picnics, blankets & chairs! All ages are welcome to attend.

We ask that you and your crew park on the back circle, then find a "block" to set up your chairs, etc., and enjoy the night's festivities. Our "Blocks" will be marked & appropriately spaced parking spots in order to accommodate proper social distancing.

In order for all to enjoy the evening safely, please do your part in the following: observe proper social distancing, engage in proper hand-washing & sanitizing practices, and BYO everything. Church restrooms will be open.

Please email Andrea Johnson, Director of Children's Ministries, if you have any questions: andrae@northsidedrive.org

Andrea Corso Johnson
Director of Children's Ministries
Northside Drive Baptist Church