

will@northsidedrive.org

Mark 9:30-37

at 770-377-3869.

Thursday, September 27

Pastoral Reflection By: Daniel Headrick

Have you heard of Pub Theology? It's well named. Every second Wednesday of the month, a group of Northside Drivers and various other folk from outside our community gather at

5 Seasons Westside, a restaurant and brewery in West Midtown to talk about....you guessed it...theology.

This week our own Johnny Elder hosted the discussion. Questions were printed on a card and passed around. After we finished our burgers and salads, the discussion began. We asked the group these questions:

Have you ever had a time where you didn't attend church? What caused this hiatus?

What brought you back to church, if you have returned?

What does the 21st century church need to do to re-engage people?

I heard over and over again the word "authenticity" ... as in, the church needs to be a place of authentic folk. Our words should match our actions. In the age of the glowing screen and the constant update, social isolation is rampant. People are having an increasingly difficult time connecting to community, and the virtual communities of which they are a part do not deliver the intimacy and fellowship they crave.

The second word I kept hearing was "judgmental." Too often, churches have been two-faced, promising a welcoming atmosphere, but delivering a judgmental attitude. That has been the experience of many.

The third word I heard was "vulnerability." That was a buzzword during seminary. I took it to mean being open to displaying your brokenness to others. It's something more than that. We are a confessional culture, with memoirs and screeds to be read by the millions. But most of that happens outside community. To be vulnerable within community, with those you have chosen voluntarily to call "church"...well, that's a different thing entirely.

How do we create spaces for vulnerability in church? In many churches, there is the passing of the peace, which asks you to touch your neighbor (ok, at least *look* at them) and share the joy of Christ with them. In other churches, there is a time of testimony, more or less policed by the clergy to avoid abuses of our shared communal time. But these spaces can disclose the most remarkable and beautiful things.

To be authentic, to be nonjudgmental, to be vulnerable. These all sound like values all communities would want. I believe we are doing these things well at NDBC. But, for us to live more fully into these values which we try imperfectly to embody, it will require a continual stretching and engagement with the world outside these church walls. I find that stretching occurring for me at Pub Theology.

Join me next time. It's not just a Young Adult thing.



If you are leading an event, or just happen to be there, take some pictures of the event and send them to Will in the church office so we can highlight that event in the life of our church through our publications. Email them to:

will@northsidedrive.org.

* Church Directory Update *

We are currently in the process of updating our Church Directory. So that we have the correct information for our members, we are asking that if you have moved, changed phone numbers, or emails that you let Will in the church office know no **later than September 17**. Call Will at 404-237-8621 or email him at will@northsidedrive.org.

> Habitat for Humanity 2018 Build

The Habitat build is still underway The build is still going on and you can still sign up. Sign -up sheets are in the hall outside the chapel, or contact Barbara Atchley or Dave Wooten for more info.



Church Council

Monday, September 17, 2018 7:00 PM Art & Soul Room





Music

Notes

CALLING ALL RINGERS!

The Northside Ringers will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 16, at 8:30 a.m. in the Handbell Room. Rehearsals will end at 9:30 so that you can

attend Church School. We will ring in worship on October 21, December 9, February 24, and a Sunday after Easter to be determined. Whether you have always wanted to try your hand at ringing or are a veteran ringer, we have a spot for you. If you would like more information, please contact Keith at 404-237-8621 or keith@northsidedrive.org.

NDBC Church School Kids Sep. 9, 2018





ROMEO'S WILL MEET NEXT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018, AT NOON

Following the summer break, the ROMEO'S are back on track with monthly meetings on the **third Tuesdays at noon.**

The new location will be:

Piccadilly Cafeteria, 536 Cobb Pkwy S. Marietta, GA 30060.

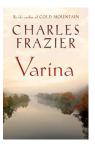
(Highway 41 just south of the Big Chicken).

The only cost is your food, plus a tip. Good meals. Good conversation. Visit with NDBC members and the ministerial staff. For further information call Posey Starkey: 404-904-0890.

All the way home you will be humming: "What a fellowship, what a joy divine!"--Posey Starkey



meets September 19 @ 1:00 PM



NDBC

Book Club

Varina by Charles Frazier

NDBC Fellowship Hall

Facilitator: Jane Lamkin

Hostess: Billie Davis

We currently have a need for a teacher in our 2-3 year old Church School class. We employ Michelle Roberts to provide care for this group, but in years past we have had a NDBC member sing songs, tell Bible stories, and provide some structure for our children in this age range. If you are interested in volunteering, we could really use your help. Please contact Daniel Headrick for more information.