

NorthStar Church

Student Membership



Welcome to the NorthStar Church family!

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HINTS FOR LEADERS

- Have some snacks and drinks available for a laid-back atmosphere.
- Have all your resources in hand, including pencils, New Members Notebooks (with student edition inside) NI V Bibles for those who don't own one (purchase cheaply in bulk from the American Bible Society), Gospel Tracts, "Getting Started" booklets for those who may be new Christians, Devotional Guides, handout of current times and locations of youth meetings, copies of either "More Than a Carpenter," by Josh McDowell or "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel for those who express a need.
- Think through what you want to accomplish during this session. Some purposes could include: introduce them to the church, let them know how to become a Christian, let them know that you care for them. In the final analysis, that last purpose may prove to be the most important. How can we show them that we care? 1) Be there early to meet the first arrivers and show an interest in them by finding their interests and getting them talking about these interests. Stay late with those who want to get to know you better or ask questions. 2) Respect them by making the sessions interactive and asking for their input on how we could do a better job with the church. (Questions deal with this during the session.) 3) Offer to give them things like a bible and devotional guide. 4) Make sessions interactive so that they 4) Ask if they have specific needs that the church can help with. Then follow through!

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the NorthStar Youth Membership Class! This is a time when you can get to know more about our church and the youth ministry. If I say anything you don't understand, feel free to interrupt at any time and ask, "What in the world are you talking about?" And jot down any questions that come to mind so that in case I don't answer them, you can ask during a question and answer time or after the session.

ACTIVITY: Before we get into this, let's all introduce ourselves by telling what school you attend and some hobby or interest or school activity that you like.

How Did NorthStar Get Started & What Are We Doing?

In January 1997, NorthStar Church held its first service with over 365 people attending. Although we didn't do any advertizing, people seemed to like our lively worship, our down-to-earth staff, and the way we went about doing nice things for people (Acts of Kindness). People liked it so much that they kept inviting their friends. Within four years over 2,000 people had joined!

MISSION STATEMENT

Someone once said that "if you aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time." That's why we've adopted both VISION and MISSION statements. You'll hear them a lot around NorthStar Church.

Here's our MISSION STATEMENT:

Northstar Church exists to show God's love in such a way that people exchange ordinary living for an extraordinary life through the power of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is based on two things that Jesus really emphasized:

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

The first thing He said was in response to the question, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" (In other words, if we misunderstand everything else about the Christian life, what do we want to make sure that we don't miss?) Here's what He said:

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:37-40)

- To "Love God with all your heart" is WORSHIP. Once we experience His love, we want to love Him back.
- To "Love your neighbor as yourself" is MINISTRY. One way we love Him back is to show love to other people. (I John 4:19,20).

THE GREAT COMMISSION

The second thing Jesus emphasized by saying it just before He left the earth. If you knew you were saying your last goodbye on earth to those closest to you, wouldn't you say something you didn't want them to forget? Here's part of what He said:

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-28)

- To "Go and make disciples" is "EVANGELISM," bringing other people to Jesus.
- To "baptize" is to "IDENTIFY WITH CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH" (Acts 19:5; Romans 6:1-11, I Corinthians 12:13)
- To teach "to obey everything I have commanded you" is "DISCIPLESHIP."

So that sums up our Mission. We also have a VISION STATEMENT.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is patterned after the way Jesus ministered to people and can be seen in Matthew 9:35-38. Could someone read it out loud for us?

"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

DISCUSSION: In this passage, how do you see Jesus ministering to people? (teaching, preaching and healing) How did Jesus feel about people? (had compassion, loved, understood their needs)

Since Jesus helped people and offered them a more “flavorful” life, we chose the acrostic S.A.L.T. to present our VISION, which is to:

S.EE people the way Jesus saw them,

A.CCEPT people the way Jesus accepted them,

L.OVE people the way Jesus loved them, and

T.OUCH people the way Jesus touched them.

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions about North Star’s Mission and Vision?

What Are Weekends @ NorthStar Like?

DISCUSSION: How many of you have been to our youth services? Could you describe them for those who haven't been?

We have five services where you can worship together with your family. Two services meet Saturday night, and three on Sunday morning. But if you haven't already, you really need to check out the student services. These are the services designed just for you, with music you can relate to and messages geared to issues that you face.

The Middle School meeting is called "Total C.H.A.O.S" and meets each Sunday Morning at either 9:00 AM or 11:00 AM upstairs in the Compass Center.

The High School meeting is called "CI TY Church" and meets each Sunday night at 6:00 in the main auditorium of the Compass Center.

S.W.A.T (Spiritual Warfare and Training) meets each Sunday evening at 5:00 in the Compass Center for students wanting to go further in their faith by studying such topics as "Peer Counseling," "Evidence for Your Faith, and "Making a Mark That's Hard to Erase."

What is Church All About?

Some people say that they like God, but don't want to have anything to do with His church. So, why attend church and youth meetings?

ACTIVITY: Read the following verses to find what the Bible says about the importance of worshipping with others (corporate worship):

*"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."
(Matthew 18:20, New International Version)*

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another." (Hebrews 10:24,25, NIV).

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. (Ephesians 4:11,12)

DISCUSSION: According to these verses, why is coming to church regularly important? (Let them share. Discuss the following as they bring them up.)

- To meet with God (Matthew 18:20). Sure, you can worship God as you walk in the woods or read the Bible in your bedroom. I hope you do! But the Bible says that God is present in a special way when believers gather together.
- To minister to others. (Hebrews 10:24,25). Church was never meant to be a spectator sport!
- To learn from stronger Christians (Ephesians 4:11,12). Although at NorthStar we strongly encourage people to read their Bibles on their own, we realize that God has gifted certain people to be able to explain the Bible clearly and motivate us to follow it.

HINT: Want to get more out of a worship service? Try praying these three things while you're in your car on the way to church:

- 1) Lord, help me to concentrate on the words when I'm singing so that I can truly worship You.
- 2) Lord, as I enter and exit, put me in people's paths that I can encourage or make them feel welcome and loved.
- 3) Lord, help me to learn something about You and about how to live.

I challenge you to make this your prayer each Sunday. You may be surprised how God answers!

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions or comments about the importance of church or our weekend meetings? From your experience so far in our church programs, do you have any comments as to how we could minister more effectively?

Why Is Your Music So Contemporary?

We believe that the purpose of a worship service is to help us connect with God and praise Him. We've found that it's easier for us to concentrate on worship when we sing in the styles we're most comfortable with. Missionaries have found that just as people respond better when they speak to people in their most natural SPOKEN language, they also respond better when they worship in their most natural MUSICAL language. So, we try to use the musical language of the people we minister to and use lyrics that are scriptural and point us to God.

(This for adults: If you worship better to traditional church music set to styles that were popular a long time ago, then you might struggle with our worship. But give us time! We think it will grow on you.) If you like music that's different from what we sing, let us know and maybe we can do some worship in your favorite style!

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions or suggestions about our music?

What Does NorthStar Church Teach?

Although we learn a lot from the Sciences, History, and Church traditions, we've found the Bible to be the only perfect source of knowledge about God and how to live for Him. (Psalm 119:160)

Why Do We Believe in the Bible?

That's a big question! In brief, we trust it because:

- ✠ We've found tons of historical evidence that Jesus was the Son of God (Acts 1:3). Since we've accepted Jesus as our Lord, we thought we could trust what He told us about the Bible. Jesus believed in it's authority. (Matthew 1:18).
- ✠ As we've read the Bible with an open heart, God's Spirit has given us an assurance that the Bible is truth (James 1:5).
- ✠ As we've followed the teachings of the Bible, we've found them to work in our every day lives (Psalm 1:1-3).

Okay, so that's a simplistic answer to a big question. If you struggle with doubts and questions like many of us have, talk to one of our staff or read some good books like [More Than A Carpenter](#) by Josh McDowell (Small book, easy to read. Josh used to cut down Christianity in college until he studied the evidence), or [The Case For Christ](#) by Lee Strobel (There's a youth version too! Strobel is a Yale grad and award-winning journalist who investigated Jesus' life.) We have copies of these books if you feel the need for one.

Wherever you are in your search for God, we encourage you to read the Bible. A good place to start is the Gospel of John, which goes through Jesus' life. And get a good translation. Although the King James Version is very beautiful to read, it was written the way people talked in the year 1611. At NorthStar you'll find a lot of people using the New American Standard Bible (NASB) or the New International Version (NIV). Both are very accurate translations and also very readable. For youth we recommend the NIV. And we keep some copies on hand for those who don't have a good, readable version. Would anyone like a copy? We buy them in bulk!

If you don't have a daily time with God, which we call a "Quiet Time," we encourage you to start today. Christianity is all about a personal relationship with Jesus, and it's awfully hard to carry on a personal relationship if you don't spend time together. A great way to spend personal time with Jesus is to read some of the Bible each day and end it with a time of prayer. We have a devotional guide to help you with this that we'd like to give to each of you.

✂ What's the Most Important Thing?

If you miss everything else, don't miss this! Whether or not you join NorthStar, we don't want you to leave without understanding one thing and that is what the Bible teaches about starting a relationship with God and gaining eternal life. Rather than tell it to you, we'll just look at what the Bible says. Will several of you volunteer to read these verses as I ask for them?

1. *"For God so loved the world..."* (John 3:16) How does God feel about you? (He loves you)
2. *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23) What's wrong with each of us? (We've all sinned.)
3. *"For the wages of sin is death..."* (Romans 6:23) What is a wage? (What we're paid for what we do.) So, what do we earn from our sin? (spiritual death) So, even though God loves us and wants to have a relationship with us, we've cut ourselves off from Him by our sin. So we've all sinned and we're separated from God. But God still wants us to have a relationship with Him. How did God solve this problem?
4. *"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8) Did God wait for us to clean up our lives? (no) Why did Jesus have to die for us? (The penalty for sin [death] had to be paid.) So how do I receive Jesus' payment for my sin?
5. *"Yet to all who received him (Jesus), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God..."* (John 1:12). How do we get the right to become His children? (Receive Jesus, believe in his name.) What else is involved in receiving Jesus?
6. *"So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."* (Acts 11:18) Repentance involves turning from my sin and accepting Jesus as boss. It doesn't mean that I'm promising to be perfect, because none of us are. But it is a turnaround from serving myself to serving God.

DISCUSSION: Are there any questions about what NorthStar believes about getting right with God and receiving eternal life?

If some of you are uncertain about whether or not you have eternal life, and you believe what we have just discussed from the Bible, I encourage you to pray a silent prayer to express this faith as I pray it out loud. Could everyone bow your heads?

"Jesus, I admit that I'm a sinner and that I can't save myself. I believe that you are the Son of God and that you died on the cross for my sins. Forgive me for my sins. I receive you into my life as my Savior and give control of my my life to you. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. Amen."

If you've just received Christ, please let me know by raising your hand so that I can talk to you further about your faith after this session.

LEADER: Hand out a gospel booklet (like "Jesus No Equal" from Reach Out) to each student so that they can take it home for future reference. After class, give any who accepted Jesus the follow-up book called "Getting Started" from Reach Out Youth Solutions (www.reach-out.org).

✠ What Do We Believe About the Lord's Supper?

We regularly celebrate the Lord's Supper (Communion) in remembrance of Jesus' death and resurrection. The bread represents His body, which was broken for us. The juice represents His blood which was shed for us on the cross. The Bible says this about the Lord's Supper:

"For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

✠ Who Should Take the Lord's Supper?

For a person who doesn't believe in Jesus or is living in active rebellion against Him, the Lord's Supper would have no meaning.

"Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

✠ What is Baptism?

Baptism pictures our identification with Jesus in His death and resurrection. We believe that "baptism" in the New Testament meant to immerse under water, so that's the way we baptize. Jesus set an example by being baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13-17).

Romans 6:4: We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

✠ Who Should be Baptized?

Although baptism doesn't save us (Titus 3:5) neither is it optional for a true believer (Acts 2:41). In New Testament times when people believed in Jesus, they were baptized to publically identify themselves with Jesus. So if you believe in Jesus but have not been baptized, please let us know so that you and others can share in this beautiful ordinance.

At NorthStar Church we don't baptize young children until they are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism.

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions about what NorthStar believes?

What Other Stuff Goes on For Youth?

LIFE GROUPS: I must say that my main spiritual growth came from small Bible study groups. There's just something about getting in a home with others who really want to seek God and learn. It's a place to dig deeper into the Word. These groups help you to get to know people outside of the "big church" setting that helps you relax and open up. Have any of you been involved in a LIFE group? Can you tell about it?

(LEADER: Give students that most current handout concerning times and locations of life groups and other youth events.)

DISCIPLE NOW WEEKENDS: Don't miss this opportunity to live with a group of teens in a home for a weekend, eat some great food, and connect with God under the leadership of a sharp youth leader. Have any of you gone to a Disciple Now Weekend? Could you tell us about it?

SPECIAL RETREATS AND TRIPS: If you want to really get to know other students and have a great time, go with us on one of our trips like our summer retreat or a missions trip.

Do you have any questions or suggestions about any of our trips or regular programs?

How Can I Serve?

Christianity was never meant to be a spectator sport. But sadly, many people see church like a professional football game: 22 men on the field, desperately in need of rest being watched by 10,000 people in the audience, desperately in need of exercise.

The Bible says that we are "the body of Christ" (I Corinthians 14:27) and all of us are different parts of that body (verses 12-26). Some are His hands, some His feet, some His ears. What would the church be like if the only thing people saw ministering in the church was a big mouth, perhaps represented by the preachers and singers? (It would look pretty strange and lots of ministry wouldn't be done.) So each of us have a part and to make the church work correctly (and not look stupid!), each of us needs to find our part.

As I Peter 4:10 says, *"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others...."*

So we don't believe that youth are just "the future church." We believe that you are a big part of making church happen today.

Here are a few of the many ways that students can serve at NorthStar:

MISSIONS

You've just got to do one of these with us! The Middle School usually does a mission in the USA and the High School outside of the country. It's an exciting opportunity to get out on the edge for God and minister to those less fortunate than us.

ACTS OF KINDNESS

The Bible says that God's kindness leads people to get right with Him (Romans 2:4). But how do people see God's kindness? One of the biggest ways is through the kindness of His people. So we're big on getting out of the church and doing nice things like raking people's yards, holding signs to help triathlon athletes find the next turn, or giving food to needy people. Sometimes we announce these projects to the entire youth group, other times they are done through LIFE Groups or Talk Back Groups.

Just a reminder: we don't do acts of kindness in order to get eternal life. We do it because we love God for giving us eternal life when we trusted Him for our salvation. Look at Ephesians 2:8,9: *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

DISCUSSION: According to this verse, how were we saved? (by grace through faith)

Can we earn salvation by our works? (no)

Why then do we do good works? (He created us in Christ for this purpose. It's a result of our salvation, not its cause.)

ONGOING MINISTRIES

Student Praise Team (singing or playing instruments)

Acts of Kindness (To be announced by your large or small group leaders)

Greeters (Welcome students as they enter or leave)

Small group assistants (Help make phone calls, keep rolls, help with teaching, etc.)

Nursery workers

Children's ministry

Other Ministries of the Church (see appendix)

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions about our youth activities or ministries you can participate in?

What will Northstar expect of me after I become a member?

Anyone is welcome to come and be ministered to through the ministries of our church. We hope that you've experienced the love and concern of our members. Our hope is that you'll take the next step and become a member. Don't worry. You don't have to be perfect. If you did, there would be no members! But we do expect members to strive for the following:

Worship with us weekly. "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Pray regularly that we'll be true to our mission, that our staff will be strong in Jesus, and that God will minister to those who are hurting. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42) "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ..." (Colossians 4:2-3)

Have a consistent "Quiet Time," reading God's Word, seeking to apply it to your life, and praying for God to work in your own life. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." (Psalm 119:105)

Support the church financially. "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38)

Find a place in the church where you can serve, using the gifts and talents and interests that God has given you. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others..." (1 Peter 4:10)

Tell others about what Jesus has done for you. "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..." (1 Peter 3:15)

Act in a loving way toward those in the church. Gossip and backbiting and divisions will kill a church! "Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble." (1 Peter 3:8)

DISCUSSION: Do you have any questions about membership at NorthStar? As we go to the Covenant, please be aware that if you have special needs, we'd love to find out how we can serve you. Just talk to me after the session.

I Want to Join! What do I do Now?

NorthStar Covenant of Membership

1. I received Christ as my Lord and Savior on

_____ (approximate age or date). Or, in this class _____.

2. I was baptized on _____ (date).

Or I want to be baptized at NorthStar Church. _____

3) I am in agreement with NorthStar Church's statements, structure, and strategy and feel led by the Holy Spirit to become a member of the NorthStar family.

Do you commit to abide by the NorthStar Membership Covenant below?

Yes, _____ (signature) _____ (date)

WELCOME TO THE NORTHSTAR FAMILY!

Please sign and turn in to your leader!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ email: _____

Sex: (M/F) _____ Your birthdate: _____

Current Grade in School: _____ School Name: _____

Information on Family Members:

Parent's Names _____

Do your parents attend NorthStar? ___yes ___no

Would you be interested in learning more about serving through NorthStar in Action? (Please check all those ministries that interest you.)

___ Praise Team

___ Acts of Kindness ("Community Involvement")

___ Greeters ("Hospitality Team")

___ Small group assistants (In "Talk Back Groups," "Life Groups," etc.)

___ Nursery workers ("A Star is Born")

___ Children's ministry ("Planet NorthStar" or "Dreambuilders")

___ Middle School Ministry ("Total Chaos" or "Middle School Life Groups")

___ Other Ministries of the Church (see appendix and put

here: _____)

APPENDIX 1. About the NorthStar Logo



The Bible teaches that “the heavens tell of the glory of God” (Psalms 19:1). Did you know that the star we call the North Star is actually an object lesson about our Lord? Take a closer look.

The North Star gives us guidance and direction -- so does God. From our vantage point, because of the tilt of the earth’s axis, all the heavens appear to rotate around the North Star -- God is the center of the universe. The North Star is actually three separate stars that appear to be one -- God is also three in one: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The NorthStar logo represents these concepts visually. The triangle is the symbol for the Trinity. Notice that the star is made of three separate triangles. The perfect symmetrical, clean edged triangle, more personal in character and Hebrew in design, represents the Holy Spirit, in all His ethereal beauty and freedom. All three triangles interlock to form one star. The swirl in the center represents the rotation of the heavens around the North Star.

APPENDIX 2. Who are the Leaders at NorthStar Church?

The Church Ministry Team:

I ke Reighard

I ke is the founding Senior Pastor of NorthStar Church, Kennesaw, Georgia and the leader of the NorthStar Network. (bio info here)

Mike Linch

Mike is the Senior Associate Pastor of NorthStar Church... (bio info here).

The Student Ministry Team:

Russ Butcher

Russ and his wife, Jill, came to NorthStar in February, 2000.... bio here

Erin

Adam Bishop

Julie-Worship leader

Current interns - (2001-2002)

Jonathan

Emory

Joseph

APPENDIX 3. Ten Lifestyle Objectives @ NorthStar Church

✠ **Intentionally build relationships with lost people.** Luke 5:30-32: But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples ‘Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?’ Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

✠ **Actively share your faith in Jesus Christ.** 1 Peter 3:15: But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

✠ **Regularly invite seekers to a NorthStar service designed especially for them.** Romans 10:14: How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

✠ **Consistently and faithfully participate in a believers service at NorthStar.** Hebrews 10:25: Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

✠ **Determine to grow in your maturity in Christ by joining a LIFE group.** John 13:34-35: “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you love one another

✠ **Discover, develop and utilize your spiritual gift in ministry within the NorthStar Church body and your community.** 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12 .

✠ **Faithfully steward the financial blessings God has given you and tithe biblically and regularly.** Luke 6:38: Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

✠ **Develop a servant heart of compassion for others and involve yourself in practical ministry within your sphere of influence or within your community.** Galatians 6:10: Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

✠ **Develop a deeply passionate love for God.** 2 Corinthians 5:16-17: So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.

✠ **Live the lifestyle of a loving servant so that others can see Jesus in you!** Matthew 20:28: just as the Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

APPENDIX 4. NorthStar's Core Values

- ◆ People matter to God. Luke 10:27: Jesus answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."
- ◆ The Church is God's ordained instrument to restore broken lives, to repair damaged relationships, and to renew spiritual, physical and emotional health. 2 Corinthians 5:14-17: For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.
- ◆ NorthStar should utilize every available means to reach the community, the state, the nation and the world. 1 Cor. 9:22: ...I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. Acts 4:12: Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.
- ◆ Northstar Church promises to be culturally relevant, while remaining doctrinally pure. (1 Corinthians 9:19-22; Psalm 119:9)
- ◆ The Northstar shepherds desire that each Christian become fully mature disciples of Christ and will do everything to create an environment where growth and maturity is possible. Colossians 2:6-7: So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.
- ◆ Northstar determines to place people who are administratively gifted in positions of authority to utilize their spiritual gifts within the church body. (1 Peter 4:10,11)
- ◆ Ministry throughout Northstar Church will be done with excellence and integrity. Titus 2:7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

- ◆ Each member of the Northstar family is uniquely gifted by God and vital to the health and effectiveness of Christ's body. 1 Cor 12:4-6: There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.
- ◆ Northstar will see its greatest influence in the community by a continuous attitude of servanthood. 2 Corinthians 9:12-13: This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.
- ◆ Northstar believes that the family is the God-ordained backbone of society, thus we seek to strengthen and unite families. Deuteronomy 6:4-9: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

APPENDIX 5. The NorthStar Principles

N. avigating

We believe that every person is navigating through life looking for purpose, forgiveness, love, acceptance, and a place to belong. This includes the importance of salvation, baptism, church membership and fellowship in God's family.

O. ngoing

We believe that discipleship, shepherding needs, and life-change happens most effectively in ongoing LIFE groups which includes the concept of accountability and mentoring.

R. eaching

We believe that our most essential task is reaching our community with the gospel of Jesus Christ in a compassion-focused way without compromising our beliefs. This includes helping each member discover his or her life mission.

T. aking

We believe the every member is responsible for taking on a God-given ministry. This includes helping our members discover their spiritual gifts and equipping them with ministry skills.

H. eading

We believe that every member should be heading toward spiritual maturity through the development of healthy habits. This includes the habits of time with God, prayer, tithing and fellowship.

S. erving

We believe that serving our community with acts of kindness effectively opens doors to the gospel of Jesus Christ and allows our members opportunities to serve. This includes the concept of servanthood evangelism.

T. eaching

We believe that teaching the Word of God equips our members with knowledge, perspective, conviction, skills and character resulting in life change. This includes sermons, seminars, small groups, Bible Studies and conferences.

A. doring

We believe that adoring God with praise and worship, corporately and individually, prepares our heart for an encounter with God. This includes praising God through music, prayer, testimony, giving and living.

R. elying

We believe that relying on God in fervent prayer is essential for the accomplishment of His will and mission. This includes an organized prayer ministry, along with the individual believers fervently seeking God on a daily basis.

6. NorthStar Church in Action

God commands us to reach out with our hearts and time for others. Our Mission is to show God's love in such a way that people exchange ordinary living for and extraordinary life through the power of Jesus Christ. Through our Northstar in Action, we discover how we, as Christians, are becoming instruments for God's noble purposes. The following ministries are part of the body life of Northstar Church, Kennesaw:

Church In-Reach Team:

- Special Event Hospitality Team

Welcome Team

College Ministry: contact Carey Akin (ext. 213)

- True North

Community Involvement: contact Marlon Longacre (ext. 209)

- Acts of Compassion Ministry
- Acworth/Kennesaw Senior Luncheon
- Bible Study for Educators
- Blended Families Ministry
- Calvary Children's Home
- Cobb Pregnancy Center
- Dream Builders

- Food from the Heart
- Happy Tails Pet Therapy

On-Star Team

- Star Care Team/Nursing Home Ministry

Elementary Ministry: contact Aaron Coe (ext. 203)

- Kids-N-Company
- Planet NorthStar
- Rainbows

High School Student Ministry: contact Russ Butcher (ext. 313)

- C.I.T.Y. Church - Student Ministry
- High School LIFE Groups

Job Networking Ministry: contact Phil Stroud, (ext. 470)

- Job Seekers

Men's Ministry: contact Jay McAnnally (ext. 204)

- God's Outlaws
- Mighty Warrior 2001
- Morning Bible Studies

Middle School Ministry: contact Adam Bishop (ext. 217)

- c.h.a.o.s.
- c.h.a.o.s. mid-week Bible study
- total c.h.a.o.s.

Missions: contact Steve Bell (ext. 234)

- International Missions

Other Ministries

- Crown Ministries (financial counseling)

Pastoral Care/Hospital Visitation

Prayer Ministry: contact Jay McAnnally (ext. 204)

- Ike's Mighty Men
- Moms in Touch Prayer Ministry

Preschool Ministry: contact Marsha James (ext. 426)

- A Star is Born

Awana

Rising Stars

Singles Ministry: contact Carey Akin (ext. 213)

Women's Ministry - contact Ruby Berry (ext. 499)

- Midweek Bible Studies
- Heartsong

Worship and Creative Arts Ministry: contact Cynthia Cullen (ext. 210)

- Worship Team
- Media Ministry
- NorthStar Players
- Student Praise Team

- Worship Community (i.e. "choir")

L.I.F.E. Group Ministry - Terry Nelson (ext. 203),

Pastoral Care Ministry - Director - Bob Covington (ext. 499)

Foreign Missions Lay Pastor - Jack Fussell (ext. 434)

Director of Special Events & Marketing: contact Beverly Rhodes (ext. 235)

Director of Technical Ministries: contact Winfrey Shields (ext. 498)