

# KOINONIA



W I N T E R 2 0 1 6



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*Koinonia* is a Greek word whose primary meaning is “fellowship or sharing in common.” It means that we are in agreement with one another, united in a common purpose, and serving alongside each other. It is the ideal state of fellowship, community and family that should exist within a body of believers. It is this ideal state, this *koinonia*, that we hope to encourage through this publication. Our hope is that it would be far more than just a fancy listing of events, but that people would get a greater sense of who we are as a church, that they would see our heart, not just our hands and feet.

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*This magazine is a collaboration of a large group of people of all ages and ranges of talents and abilities. If you are interested in becoming a part of this Media Arts Team, please contact Michael Hickman, or Andy Byers, or email [koinonia@dnbc.org](mailto:koinonia@dnbc.org). We would love to have you join us!*

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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- January 6 – Family Movie Night – War Room
- January 10 – Missions Lunch
- January 13 – “A New Song” in concert
- January 31 – 5th Sunday Sing
- February 5/6 & 13/14 – 13th Annual Melodrama
- February 17 thru 20 – Pictorial Directory Photos
- March 4/5 – Marriage Retreat
- March 20 – Celebration Choir Easter Presentation
- March 23 – Down Home Family in concert
- March 27 – Easter Sunday
- April 9 – Young Lives Ablaze
- April 14 – VBS Training
- April 23 – Women of Worship Concert at DNBC
- May 7 – State Bible Drill
- May 15 – Children’s Choir Program
- May 29 – Youth Sunday and Church Picnic
- June 13 thru 17 – Vacation Bible School
- July 2 thru 8 – Youth Mission Trip to Eagle Nest



## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Here we are at the start of a new year embarking on new Journeys in the life of DNBC. 2016 promises to be an awesome year in our church life. We will be focused on many efforts to reach the lost, disciple the believers, and do missions both here and around the World.

As we start 2016, I want us to be a church that focuses on 3 distinct functions.

**MINISTRY:** Giving numerous opportunities for our church family to be involved in the sharing of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Making sure that an evangelistic heart is at the center in every effort of our church family. That every work of DNBC reaches to the hearts of those it is ministering to in the name of Jesus.

**MISSIONS:** Giving numerous opportunities for our church family to help meet the needs of those here in our community and around the world. Seeing that our constant goal is to be on mission in everything we do in our daily living, community focus, and international endeavors.

**MOVERS:** Encouraging our church family to get involved, moving out and away from our personal comfort zones, while constantly moving in a direction that makes each believer abundantly bold in Love, Compassion, Caring, and Commitment. Always striving to see the "Great Commission" lived out in each member's life. Diligently focused in seeing that our discipleship process helps to guide and facilitate such direction in our lives. Making sure that the Bible is the cornerstone and guiding light of all we teach, preach, and reach with.

When we ensure that all we do is focused on these 3 objectives, we can be sure that talents, resources, and monies are used in a way that builds and glorifies our Father's Kingdom. I'm looking forward to a great and vibrant year with you all; my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor Brad





Vacation Bible School  
June 13-17

Training – April 14th





Members of our Spanish Ministry gave out hot dogs and other goodies at Trunk or Treat

## Spanish Ministry Update

2015 was a wonderful year for myself and my family. We had the privilege of getting to know so many amazing people who love the Lord and are passionate to serve Him. The staff at Del Norte is just awesome and I'm so humbled to be able to work with them, as we attempt to further God's kingdom.

As for the Hispanic ministry, I thank the Lord for the opportunity He has given me to lead it. I have to admit that it has been challenging. We have seen some ups and downs, but I also know that no great work comes without difficulty. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and probably more up and downs, but it's ok because I know that God is in control.

I'm looking forward to 2016 because I know God has a lot of plans for the Hispanic ministry. I believe that God can do great things through us if we just let Him, and that is my continual prayer!

Again, I am so grateful to be part of this loving family called Del Norte and look forward to what God has in store for us in 2016! Many blessings!!!!

Your Servant,  
Roy Rosales

Spanish Worship Service  
Sundays at 11:00am

Spanish Bible Study  
Sundays at 9:45am  
Wednesdays at 6:30pm



# WAR ROOM


We are planning another "Movie Night" at Del Norte Baptist Church. The recently-released Christian film, War Room will be out on video and we intend to show it on Wednesday, January 6th at the Conference Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a nursery provided at the main building for the little ones who are too young to enjoy the movie. We will also be serving popcorn.

Invite your friends for this event. There is a well-done presentation of the gospel in the film.

The WAR ROOM Bible Study is a Five Session event based on the film of the same name. We will begin offering this study on Wednesday, January 20th and on Sunday, January 24th.

## Essentials Class



This two night seminar will be offered on Sunday, January 10th & 14th from 4:00 pm – 6:15 pm. The class is open to anyone who wants to know more about our church. This class is the basic introduction to our church family. It is designed to explain who & what we are as a church. You will learn our beliefs, why we are here, how we impact our community, and how we are structured as a church. The Text for this class is provided at no cost.

## HAUNTED: DEAD OR ALIVE OR THE MYSTERIOUS CASE OF HANGER MANSION WHERE THE DEAD REST IN PIECES

Our 13th Annual Dinner Theater will be presented on,  
February 5, 6, 12, and 13. 6:30 p.m. in the Del Norte Conference Center

Tickets will go on sale Sunday, January 3rd, after both of the morning worship services. The cost is \$17.50 per ticket for Dinner and a Show. You may also purchase tickets in the Church Office during the week.



## Children's Ministry Update

Another year has sped by and I am still so thankful for having the privilege of serving with such a loving staff at a church so generous with their time and talents!

We ended 2015 with Sole 2 Soul and Christmas Camp, both of which are a blessing to the community and our own church family.

This year for Sole 2 Soul we gave away 90 pairs of shoes to families from Governor Bent, The New Mexico Baptist Children's Home and to Noon Day Ministries here in Albuquerque.

On Friday night December 11th the church was bustling with activity at our annual Christmas Camp for children 6months thru 6th grade. It was an action packed evening of games and crafts and food! This year we had about 80 participants and a great time was had by all. What I love most about this event, typically held the week following Sole 2 soul, is that we get to share the Gospel message through the story of the birth of Jesus with kids who may not have a chance to hear it!!

As we wrap up 2015 I am so excited about moving into a new year with fresh ideas, new families to get to know and deepening existing relationships.

Keep Jesus first this holiday season and into the New Year.

Blessing to each and every one of you  
In Christ's Service,

Hannah









# Music Ministry Update

## **What a great series of worship events:**

The children's choirs did a fabulous job presenting the story of the Christ child on Sunday night, December 6. The Christmas season seems to become official after experiencing this program each year.

The worship services on Dec. 13 were well attended, in spite of the heavy snow. The Spirit of the Lord was clearly with us.

Sunday, December 20, the Celebration Choir and Orchestra presented a musical entitled "Come Messiah King." The choir, orchestra, soloists, narrators, and dancers were outstanding. Once again the clear message was that the Messiah, Savior of the world, was born.

The Christmas Eve Service is always a special time. It provides just a brief moment for our congregation to express to God how much we appreciate the gift of salvation, through His perfect Gift, Jesus Christ.

## **2016**

The new year is here. I do love new beginnings. I hope you will find a renewed, or new, interest in something spiritual. Some ideas are: begin a daily prayer time, Bible reading or study, join and become active in one of our many ministries here at the church, add good foods to your diet, be nice to your sister, etc.

Together, Del Norte Baptist can begin this year by committing to give all we have toward the cause of Christ. I look forward to and am very excited to see what God has in store for His children who meet together at 5800 Montgomery Blvd.

As always, please contact me if I can be of assistance, in any way.  
Ira Pinkston, Worship Pastor









# 2016 Deacon Body



Adam Bergstrasser



Bill Williams



Brad Miller



Charlie Key



Erik Dawson



Henry Acton





Hugh McLean



Michael Hickman



Mike DuBerry



Pat Gore



Richard Nunez



Roy Crawford



Scott Burchiel



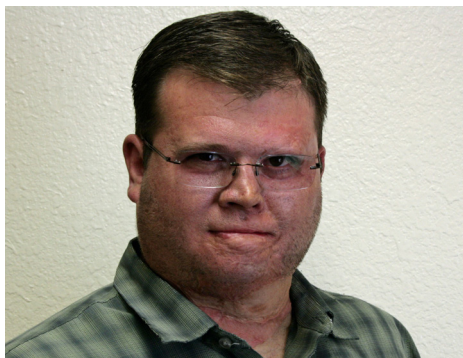
Stu Gorelick



Terry Bofman



Tom Swaims



Wade Peck



Wayne Hughes





# P R E D E S T I N E D -

By Richelle Gilsdorf

For the past few months in college Bible study, we've been reading through the book of Romans. Over a number of weeks now, I've been reading Romans 8 multiple times, slowly plowing through verses and checking my understanding. Something about this chapter kept tugging at me, as if there was an important message I wasn't hearing. Well, today I finally heard it.

Sometimes when I consider the sin in my life, I'm overwhelmed. No one in our lives (except God) really perceives how filthy we are, how offensive to the holiness of God. We've learned so many tricks as Christians to cover and hide our sins, to cloak the ugliness of our lives so that we might not feel so ashamed of it, so pained by it. We pretend our little daily sins aren't so bad because we just feel overwhelmed by the struggle to conquer them. It's too much to believe that we'll ever set aside those deeply-ingrained, sinful inclinations and habits. They feel as much a part of us as our flesh and bones.

So instead we throw ourselves on the mercy and grace of God, believing that His grace is sufficient to overlook our filth and mistakes, and just continue with our little daily sins and habits, trying our best to avoid the "big" sins—the ones other people would easily notice and condemn us for. And it's true—God's grace is enough to overcome our inadequacies, our inability to ever meet the standard of His holiness. But settling for a sinful, beaten-down, hopeless existence in this life—just chugging along, getting by, until we can be with Jesus in heaven—is never the response God intended for us when He sent Jesus to die in our place. That enormous act of grace was not so that we could be satisfied and resigned to our sinful inclinations, awaiting better days in heaven; rather, it was to give us a second chance, a new outlook and hope for the here and now.

God used Paul's words in Romans 8 to reveal that hope, that promise to me. I used to read Romans 8:13 and feel an overwhelming burden—the sense that I was being told to do something I could never hope to accomplish. The verse reads, "For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to



death the deeds of the body, you will live” (ESV). I know that verse specifies “by the Spirit,” but I still felt the burden of work to become a perfect being was wholly on me, and I knew that standard was impossible. Thus, that verse became so discouraging to me: it consistently made me feel small and weak, resigned to always have those daily little sins I just can’t seem to overcome. What is “by the Spirit” supposed to mean anyway?

Recently, though, the Holy Spirit finally gave me clarity about this verse, finally opened my eyes to the truth and hope in this passage. If we continue reading through verses 29-30, we hear, “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified” (ESV). To understand the logic of Paul’s argument here, it helps to read verse 30 first. Those of us whom He has “predestined” for justification (i.e., salvation), He has also predestined to be “conformed to the image of his Son.” As we know, God initiates the love relationship with us first—we don’t choose Him without Him first choosing us. Ultimately, this means our omniscient God “foreknew” those who would be “called” (chosen by Him) to be “justified” (saved from the punishment we deserve for our sins). Now, look at verse 29 again: “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...” (ESV).

Bam. There’s our hope. There’s a beautiful promise in those verses that we miss if we don’t read it carefully. If you are a believer—if you have been saved and have accepted Jesus Christ as the lord of your life—you WILL be sanctified. There is no “if” or “maybe” or “hopefully” about it. What does that mean? It means you WILL be conformed to the likeness of Jesus Himself! How? The answer lies in that verse that caused me such anxiety, verse 13: “... but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” Verse 11 explains, “If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you” (ESV). How can the Holy Spirit conform us to the image of Christ? By the same power that raised Jesus from the dead! That same Spirit is the one dwelling within our bodies from the moment we accept Jesus as Lord. And as Lord, Jesus’s Spirit is the one to whom we give our allegiance and our obedience. He has the say in our lives. He is our King, our Master. He is also our Teacher.

I don’t have the step-by-step process of how the Holy Spirit sanctifies us (makes us more like Jesus, holy and perfect). I do know that if we submit ourselves to the leadership and guidance of His Spirit, it will happen—God has promised it. Think of that word “predestined.” As Christians, we might have positive or negative associations with that word, but forget those attachments for a moment and just ponder the literal definition. It has the word “destined” right within it. As believers and followers of Christ, we are destined to be conformed to His likeness, to be considered “brothers” with Christ. There is

no question that it will happen if we are truly following Christ, if we are truly submitted to His authority. It is our destiny. And our “destiny” refers to our life’s conclusion, our “end”, so to speak. Conformation to the image of Christ is the trajectory of our redeemed and saved existence—it is the inevitable direction in which our lives are headed if we are in fact saved. Sanctification—becoming holy like Christ—is the trajectory of our Christian walk. We’ll never be perfect in this life—only Jesus was that. But we have a sure hope, a beautiful promise, of being perfect, wholly sanctified, when we get to spend eternity with Christ.

Much of what I’ve said might feel like a far-off dream, a long-distance promise with no present application. That’s simply not true. Look at verse 31 now: “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” (ESV). And verse 37: “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us” (ESV). And the end of verse 11: “... he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.” These are all assurances that sanctification will happen by the Spirit of God who already dwells within us. If this promise had no present meaning or application, why would the Spirit dwell in us

***As believers and followers of Christ, we are destined to be conformed to His likeness, to be considered “brothers” with Christ.***

now? By submitting ourselves to the Spirit’s leading now, in this life, we are slowly becoming more conformed to the likeness of Christ. “And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:27-28, ESV).

Read Romans 8 for yourself (read all of Romans, really). There is hope to overcome those sins that seem to haunt your every waking hour—those subtle, quiet sins that perhaps only you and God know about. Those are the very sins, the very inclinations that the Spirit can purge from our lives. In Jesus we already have victory over every sin (1 Corinthians 15:57, 1 John 5:4). It is our choice whether we will take hold of and live in victory.

I’ll leave you with the choice Paul made on the matter: “Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:12-14, ESV).



# DEL NORTE

Del Norte Baptist Church  
5800 Montgomery Blvd. NE,  
Albuquerque, NM

## **Sunday Worship Service Times**

Traditional Service: 8:30 am  
Contemporary Service: 11:00am  
Spanish Service: 11:00am

## **Contact**

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