

KOINONIA

A scenic view of a village nestled in a valley, surrounded by mountains, with a lake in the foreground reflecting the scene. The village features a prominent church with a tall spire. The mountains are covered in dense green forests, and the sky is a clear, pale blue. The water in the lake is calm, reflecting the surrounding landscape and the sky. In the foreground, a wooden railing is visible on the left side, suggesting the viewer is looking out from a pier or dock.

S U M M E R 2 0 1 7

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.

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 Adam Nash, or email koinonia@dnbc.org. We would love to have you join us!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 21: WAK at Tingley Beach

June 21: Alaska Mission Trip Report

June 24 - 28: Youth Centrifuge Camp

June 27: Kids Community Impact

July 12: WAK at the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History

July 17 - 21: Missions Camp

July 24-28: Children's Music Camp

July 28: Children's Music Camp Concert

August 2: WAK Swimming Party

August 18: Volunteer's Banquet

August 19: Children's Ministries Kickoff

September 1 - 4: Labor Day Campout

September 6: ESL, Bible Drill, and TeamKid Resume

October 20-21: Women's Ministry Retreat



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

As I sit at my desk and write this article we are in the midst of VBS. I love VBS. I love seeing all these many children running around laughing, playing games, making crafts, and most of all learning about Jesus. My heart is renewed and strengthened by seeing the many volunteers that come together to make it all happen. But VBS is just one of many opportunities our church family is taking part in. We have numerous missions/out-reaches taking place.

We have college and adults doing mission work in Alaska, our Youth are going to Mission-fuge at Glorieta, We have one going to Hungary. I, with some others in our church and association, are doing evangelism in Brazil, and then we also have a group going to Puerto Rico as well. Not to mention all the local opportunities that are taking place along with some new ones.

One is our newer and stronger partnership with Governor Bent School. Hannah, our children's minister, has worked diligently to see our church play an even stronger role with both students and faculty. In doing so, we are looking at starting a food backpack ministry to help those kids that have "no" food on the weekends. This is what our food drive for VBS is helping with this year. What a blessing it will be to those young boys and girls knowing they no longer have to go hungry.

I believe this only compliments what we are already doing with our Baptist Children's Home in meeting the needs of children. Our youth went out just a few days ago to help one of our widows with some yard work as well. How wonderful to see our children and youth step up and get involved with helping others. Another ministry that I am praying about is one through our Baptist Foundation that helps support retired and widowed ministers. I will speak more on this when I have some more detailed information.

One of my passions is to see a church live out James 1:27; and I'm so encouraged to serve in a church that is doing so. Yes, DNBC is in a time of blessing and growth, but I soundly believe it is due to the fact that God has each of us on target to do His will. Stay focused and faithful, my church family, and as always "Enjoy the Journey!"

In His grip, by His grace
Pastor Brad



WE

at DNBC are looking forward to a summer of fun and family but first about what's past. The Young Lives Ablaze Conference this year that the Baptist Convention of New Mexico put together was a great time for

learning more about the Gospel through an amazing chemistry show that highlighted the glory of God's creation and sparked some great discussion between teachers and kids! The follow up Sunday school class for 3rd-6th graders continued the discussion and allowed some kids who weren't able to attend the conference to get in on the conversation. One of my favorite questions was how being a Christian can help you be a better friend. I love being able to talk to our young ladies and gentlemen about the practical application of living a life for Jesus!!

We also finished out the year for Bible Drill with an impressive display of knowledge in both the local and state drills. Special congratulations to Nahia Turrieta for achieving a perfect score in the State drill and earning herself an all-expense paid camp this summer! Great job Nahia!

NOW TO THE FUTURE:

The summer will be filled with chances for kids and their families to be out in the community together and a chance to make a difference.

Wednesday AM Kids (WAK) schedule will be as follows:

June 21st Tingley Beach –VBS Follow-up (inviting kids' families from VBS to meet up with DNBC families to keep up the connections that often start during VBS)

July 12th National Museum of Nuclear Science and History

August 2nd Swimming-Pool/Spray Park (To Be Determined)

Please let me know if your family would like to come to one, or all, of the events so I can be ready and inform the venues if we are going to be a large group. FYI, this year WAK is free!

In addition to WAK we are adding a Community Impact Project to the schedule for 2nd-6th Graders. June 27th (Tuesday) we will meet at the Albuquerque Christian Children's Home off Coors and Montano to work on their campus doing whatever odd jobs they line up for the kids and giving them a chance to talk to and play with other kids who deal with very different struggles than most of us are used to. I think this chance to help other kids in their city in such a direct way will touch their hearts and bless the kids as well bring Glory to God!

Thank you for the privilege to serve,
Hannah B.



An Update From Ira

Summer is here, and another school year has come to a close. This past fall, winter and spring we observed so many blessings that I can only scratch the surface in this brief summary article. The worship ministry at Del Norte Baptist Church offers so many ways God's people can be drawn to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Some of the highlights are singled out below.

First, our Children's Choirs were exceptional. Caryn Coppedge, Sonja Nelson, and Jennifer Pinkston, along with their faithful assistants, were masterful in teaching our children how to worship God. They were taught life-long lessons on how to put on the "armor of God." They heard the clear message that Christ was born a human, lived a perfect life, and still, He was willing to die for each and every human ever born. The Children presented two complete programs, as well participating in a few Sunday morning services, for our church and we were blessed tremendously.

Second, several of our "youth" participated in our first Guitar Class. For the past 12 months we have met, extremely regularly, twice a week to learn how to play acoustic, electric, and bass guitar; as well as two lessons on playing the drum set. The students have advanced in their playing abilities and are ready to help lead worship for the rest of their lives.

Third, our orchestra has gained several new members, and each one is a great asset to the program. The orchestra, which has never sounded better, leads worship each Sunday during the 8:30 AM Worship Service.

Fourth, the Celebration Choir presented two complete worship services for us. The choir delivered strong messages of Christ's love and many people responded. Some of the people who heard the message rededicated their lives and at least one person, at each presentation, asked Jesus to be their Lord and Savior.

I am so honored to a part of the planning, preparation, and presentation of the worship experiences here at Del Norte. My prayer is that the Lord would move in the hearts, minds, and souls of all those who join us each week. Pray with me that our music and worship program will continue to be successful in one thing: proclaiming the message that God loves everyone and wants to be an integral part of their lives. May the Lord bless and keep each of us as we strive to be all we can for Him.



An Update From Adam

Summer – the time of relaxation, vacation, and fun in the sun! Well, I'm not so sure about the first two, but the student ministry will definitely be living into that last part during our mission and camp experience.

Our summer is kicking off with the college mission trip to Alaska. This trip will be June 10th – 17th. We have 9 people from our church headed to the Last Frontier, and we are truly excited about what God is going to do through

each of them during our time there. Will there be some fun times? Of course! We will have a chance to go hiking and sightseeing briefly. However, the majority of our time will be spent serving the people of Anchorage. This will be done in a variety of ways, two of which will include working in a homeless shelter and ministering at a local park. We have a great group going, and we are all looking forward to getting there and allowing God to work through us!

A week after we get back from Alaska, the youth ministry will be leaving for XFUGE Camp in Glorieta. The youth will be there June 24th – 28th. XFUGE Camps is a combination of CentriFUGE and Mission FUGE Camps. The students will have the opportunity to be disciplined daily through various Bible studies, study an area of interest through their track time, and go out to apply all this through mission work. This is something that I am, personally, really excited about. FUGE Camps have had a huge impact in both my life and my wife's life. It was at CentriFUGE that I received my calling into ministry, and my wife received her calling to missions while at MFUGE.

Needless to say, the rest of the summer will be filled with fun activities, reaching out to our neighbors and lots of sun (we are in Albuquerque after all). We are already bathing this time in prayer for how God will move in the lives of the youth, and we invite you to join us.



SQUARE PEG IN A ROUND HOLE

Did you ever feel like you don't fit in? I have experienced that awkward sensation a few times in my life. It is an uncomfortable feeling. The thought may have gone through your head, as it has for me, "Do I leave or do I tough it out and stay?"

Earlier in my life I usually chose to stay rather than risk being questioned as to why I was leaving. This resulted in me being miserable through the entire event.

Later in life I would most often make the decision to leave and be honest but polite by saying, "I'm sorry but this is just not the place for me."

When it comes to Sunday school it is my hope and goal that there is NO ONE who feels like a Square Peg in a Round Hole. I really want everyone to find their place in a Bible study class at Del Norte Baptist. With "that" in mind, there will be a NEW CLASS starting on July 2nd, 2017.

There is a little bit of a void in our organization for those people who feel like they do not quite fit in the College age class or any of the other adult classes.

Jody and Jennifer Clark will be leading this new class. The "target" audience is those folks who fall into the "20 Something" age range. It does not matter if you are married or single, if you have children or not. If you fit that criteria and are not currently attending a Bible study class...or if you are attending but feel like the Square Peg in your class, then please come and try this class on for size. They meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings in Room 206. Be there or Be Square!

It is my hope to start one or two more classes before the end of the 2017 year. If you know of another "Target Audience" that is being overlooked please let me know.

Kevin Warner, Growth Pastor

**3rd Annual
DNBC Special Blessings Women's Retreat**

*Believe
in
Miracles*

WHERE: Glorieta
WHEN: October 20th and 21st
WHO: All women
WHY: Fun, Fellowship, Adventure, maybe a Miracle?

**Do you have a Miracle or know of a Miracle?
Submit your story to: womensministrydnbc@gmail.com**

An Update From Roy

I'm so excited as we approach summer. We, as the Hispanic group at Del Norte, have many planes for evangelism and are praying God would use these to be glorified in them and through them. We are really looking forward to that.

I often hear from visitors that they really love the environment at Del Norte, primarily the love from all the members. In fact, that's why most of them have decided to make Del Norte their spiritual home. I love that! It motivates me to press on and continue to move forward working harder than ever. Praise God for all that He is doing!

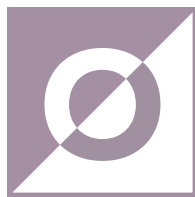
Many blessings!

Your servant,
Roy Rosales



BEAUTIFUL CONTRADICTIONS

BY RICHELLE GILSDORF



One thing I've learned about God over the years is that he works in contradictions—"mysterious ways," as we've always been told. He uses lowly fishermen to be the voices of his gospel to the world. He chooses the "chief of sinners" to first bring the good news to those outside the Jewish culture and faith. He—the most holy, the most powerful, the most intelligent being in existence—positions himself on a cross to die an excruciating and humiliating death so that his selfish, broken, adulterous creations could escape the punishment they had earned time and time again, and one day wear crowns in his kingdom and dwell with him forever.

Praise God that he works in contradictions!

Sometimes those contradictions come in the form of practical instruction, pressing us to step out in faith and trust our God that he knows what he's doing. For example, in the book of James, we read "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you" (4:10, ESV). From the previous verses, we know James is speaking out against quarreling and infighting between believers, calling them back to obedience to God. Beginning in verse 7, he states, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Hum-

ble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you” (4:7-10, ESV).

When Michael Hickman first presented these verses to us in Sunday school, I couldn’t help but flinch at James’s tone. He calls these believers “sinners” and “double-minded”; he scolds them to “be wretched” and “weep.” So often in church we hear sermons and lessons on finding joy in the Lord, but this message seems to call us to a completely opposite mindset. But the point of this passage is not to be wretched and weep for the sake of appearing humble; rather, James is calling believers to fully recognize the stench and abomination of their sin and behavior, and to let that realization take its full effect in their hearts.

The result of such understanding would be the wretchedness and mourning and weeping he describes. We would cease laughing in the midst of our sin, and rather mourn; we would no longer be filled with joy, but with a sense of despair. Our attention would turn from our comfort and the pleasure we find in our sins... to the offense and dishonor our sins were giving to God. And in that moment of full

But time and again in life we realize that our methods and strategies for overcoming our weaknesses and failures—our sins—will never bring us the peace and security for which we long. Rather, we always find ourselves once more at the feet of God, seeking what he tells us over and over can only be found in him: true, eternal security and joy and peace. Only in him will we find healing from the proclivities that drive us back to our sins again and again, and only in him can we be exalted over our former selves. We must come to a place of understanding that on our own and by our own methods we CANNOT overcome our sins—we cannot be exalted to a better spiritual existence.

There, once again, is a beautiful contradiction God uses: only the truly humble will find themselves exalted. We will not overcome our sinfulness in a state of pride and self-reliance, nor without recognizing the heinous offense of our sins. Only in submission to God, his instruction, the leading of his spirit, can we overcome our persistent, pernicious proclivities and sinful desires. Only in submission and intimacy with God can we find true security, lasting peace, and abundant joy.

PRAISE GOD THAT HE WORKS IN CONTRADICTIONS!

understanding, we would find ourselves on our knees before a holy and perfect God, pleading for his mercy and forgiveness, casting aside our pride and false sense of security to once more find peace and true joy in God’s presence and pleasure. That humility would then put us in the only position in which we could ever experience the eternal security and healthy esteem we’d hoped our sins would grant us.

That is, after all, why we sin. In our limited understanding of the world, we believe that we can achieve lasting security, peace, and joy in serving ourselves and what the world promises us will be fulfilling. For example, we believe we can achieve financial stability—despite a lack of self-control with money—by reading self-help and budgeting books, by consulting the best financial advisors, by following the advice of the latest self-made millionaires. Yet our lack of self-control with money will time and again bring those strategies to naught, because they are worldly solutions to a spiritual problem.

In our rugged individualism as Americans, we believe we can overcome by our own strength.

Paul—perhaps one of the most beautiful contradictions God used—understood this truth deeply: “Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin” (Romans 7:24-25, ESV). Therefore, we must “put no confidence in the flesh” (Philippians 3:3, ESV), i.e., our own strength and abilities, and rather humble ourselves before God and fall wholly on his mercy and grace, which he freely gives.

God’s ways are not our ways—praise him for that! I thank him that he works in beautiful contradictions, in unexpected and mysterious ways. We must trust that if he calls us to humble ourselves by recognizing the gravity of our sins, it is for our eternal good. Let us continue to kneel at the feet of our beautifully mysterious and gracious King, and humble ourselves, trusting that he will exalt us in the ways we never could on our own.



DEL NORTE

Del Norte Baptist Church
5800 Montgomery Blvd. NE,
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Sunday Worship Service Times

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

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