

# Shore Lines of the Northfield church of Christ

February 1, 2026

2535 Shore Road Northfield, New Jersey 08225 (609-646-1181)

Email: [northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.northfieldchurchofchrist.com](http://www.northfieldchurchofchrist.com)

[Youtube Channel Link: \(Click Here\)](#)



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## LINKS FOR ARTICLES/STREAMING

[Gospel Broadcasting Network](#)

[Christian Courier Articles](#)

[Church of Christ Articles Blog](#)

[Bible Talk TV](#)

[In Search of the Lord's Way TV Ministry](#)

## Sunday Morning Bible Study @ 9:30AM

*"Seeing Jesus In The Old Testament" Lesson 6*

## Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 10:30AM

*Men please meet @ 10:20AM before services!*

## Sunday Spanish Speaking Services @ 1:30PM.

## Sunday Evening Youtube Service @ 6:00PM

## Monday Dinner & Bible Study @ the Seim's

*Cancelled this Monday due to the inclement weather*

## Wednesday Night Zoom Bible study @ 6:30PM

*This week studying Lesson 8... 1 Timothy 4:7-16*

*(Get an invite from [northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldchurchofchrist@gmail.com))*

[GBN Link: Answering The Error](#)

[GBN Video... The Truth about drinking](#)

[GBN Video... Should Christians use gender preferred Pronouns](#)

## **FROM THE BACK PEW!**

*How Are You Going To Win... If You Are Not Right Within!  
Without Spiritual Growth... Numerical Growth Won't Happen!*

Last Lord's Day in-service worship was canceled due to bad weather. What did your worship service look like? Did you follow the steps that GOD gives us in the Bible, or did you just say worshipping GOD was canceled? Did you worship just as if you were in the building? Did you take communion, sing a song or songs, prayer, preaching/teaching, giving? I know there is one you might not have been able to do, but those that you could, did you? Were you having breakfast, doing laundry, on the phone, or doing anything that distracted you from worshipping GOD *"in spirit and in truth"*? **John 4:24**.

*"Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." (Galatians 6:7), "For where two or three are gathered together in My name I am there in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20). We cannot treat GOD with contempt and disregard HIS commands without consequences.*

# Maybe We Should Start Evangelizing the Unconverted In Our Own Churches

by Brad Harrub December 28, 2025

In many congregations across America, we've become experts at spotting "*the lost*" out there in the world—those who don't look like us, don't worship like us, or don't speak our religious language. We talk often about evangelizing our neighbors, coworkers, and communities. But maybe... just maybe... it's time we take a sobering, honest look inward. Because the mission field might actually be sitting in our pews every single Sunday. For decades we've cultivated generations of "*Christians*" who know how to clock in for that one hour on Sunday morning. They grew up in the church building. Their parents were faithful. Their grandfather may have been an elder or deacon. Their family name carries weight in that congregation. And for them, Christianity has become more of a heritage than a personal conviction.

We have third and fourth-generation "*Christians*" who know how to take the Lord's Supper, bow their head during prayer, and find Acts 2:38 with record speed—but who, outside of that single hour on Sunday morning, are firmly anchored in the world. They talk like the world. Act like the world. And enjoy earthly pleasures like the world.

Let's be blunt: we have unconverted people sitting in the church building every week.

And the worst part? We keep pretending they're spiritually alive just because their family history and they still "*clock in*" for an hour each week.

## ***“But My Parents Are Faithful...”***

Somewhere along the way we allowed Satan to convince people that faith can be inherited, like a family recipe or a piece of land passed down through the generations. But Scripture shatters that lie:

*“The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father...” (Ezekiel 18:20).*

Your parents' faith does not save you. Your grandfather's eldership does not cleanse your sins. Your family legacy will not stand with you on Judgment Day.

Christianity is not genetic. It's not hereditary. It's a personal surrender to Jesus Christ. It's a lifestyle, not an hour.

Yet many in our pews rest easy in spiritual autopilot. As long as they maintain the image—show up, sit down, stay quiet—they think everything is fine. But there's no prayer life. No Bible reading. No holiness. No conviction. No repentance. No transformation. No fruit. Just a familiar routine. Just religious muscle memory.

## ***The Fruit Test Doesn't Lie:***

Jesus didn't say, "*You will know them by their family legacy.*" He said: "*You will know them by their fruits.*" (Matthew 7:16).

And frankly, the fruit tells the truth. We have members who don't pray unless someone hands them a microphone. We have young adults who have never once opened their Bible outside of a worship assembly. We have teens who know more lyrics from worldly artists than Scripture from the New Testament. We have adults who know every stat from their favorite sports teams but cannot quote five passages about salvation. All while confidently calling themselves "*Christians*" simply because they were raised in the building.

Some of these folks have been in church their entire lives, but spiritually they have never left the starting line. Often they don't sing. They have never been broken over sin, never surrendered

to Christ, never truly repented, never grown, never served, never been transformed.

They are churchgoers—not disciples. Spectators—not soldiers. Fans—not followers.

And sadly, their weak spiritual lives don't just stagnate their own souls... they often become dead weight for the congregation.

## ***Unconverted Members Drag Churches Down:***

Let's be honest—lukewarm members are not neutral. They don't remain quietly in the background. They affect the whole body.

- They weaken the atmosphere of worship.
- They dilute the church's spiritual identity.
- They resist change, growth, or anything that pressures them toward deeper commitment.
- They discourage the zealous by making real Christianity seem "fanatical" or "extreme."
- They normalize complacency.
- They influence new converts to adopt a watered-down version of discipleship.
- They create generational cycles of spiritual apathy.

Their spiritual laziness becomes contagious—and suddenly you have a church full of people who call Jesus "*Lord*" but do not obey His commands (**Luke 6:46**).

Satan doesn't mind people warming pews. He just doesn't want them warming hearts.

## ***The Early Church Didn't Assume People Were Saved:***

In Acts 8, Simon the Sorcerer was baptized. He was in the church. He participated. But...his heart was not right with God (**Acts 8:21**).

Paul warned entire congregations about false brothers among them (**Galatians 2:4**). John warned about those who "*went out from us, but were not of us*" (**1 John 2:19**).

The early church didn't take outward appearances at face value. They looked deeper—at hearts, fruit, and faithfulness. Maybe we need to do the same.

## ***It's Time to Preach the Gospel—To the Church:***

We cannot assume the people sitting in front of us every Sunday understand the gospel. We cannot assume they've truly obeyed it. We cannot assume they've truly repented. We cannot assume that baptism was anything more than peer pressure or family expectation.

It may be that our greatest evangelistic need right now...is inside our own church buildings.

Because if people have been sitting in the pews for 10, 20, or even 40 years but have never truly surrendered to Christ—it is not time to comfort them. It is time to confront them.

Not out of anger. Not out of pride. But out of deep, urgent love for their souls.

## ***The Call to Wake Up:***

If this describes you—God is calling you to wake up.

*“Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” (Ephesians 5:14)*

Your family's faith won't save you. Your Sunday attendance won't save you. Your reputation won't save you. Only Jesus Christ can. So come out of the world, take up your cross and follow Him!

Examine your heart. Examine your priorities. Examine your fruit.

Because a church full of unconverted members is not a church full of hope—it's a church full of mission opportunities. And maybe the first people we need to evangelize... are the ones sitting near us in a pew.

## Serving Today

**Bible Class:** Bro. Ron Clevenger  
**Streaming/Audio:** Russell Weems  
**Song Leader:** Bro. Lee Christensen

## Worship Order

**Call to Worship (Himno)**

**Announcements...** Bro. Russell Weems

**Opening Prayer (Oracion)...** Bro. Ron Clevenger

**Hymn (Himno)**

**Lord's Supper (Santa Cena)...** Bro. Bill Shurig

**Hymn (Himno)**

**Reading-** Proverbs 28:9; 2 Timothy 4:3-4 (*Bro. William White*)

**Sermon-** *The Privilege Of Prayer* (*Mark Seim*)

**Invitational Hymn (Himno)**

**Closing Hymn (Himno)**

**Closing Prayer (Oracion)...** Bro. Andy Figueroa

## Congregational Notes

- We want all members to know our plans when the inclement weather strikes around the Sunday worship or Bible class time. It is our plan to cancel assemblies only in extreme circumstances. When services/classes are canceled we will send out email notifications that are on file and we will post notifications on our Facebook Page & Church Website.
- Sign-UP to be a greeter.
- Volunteer To Be A Teacher For Our Youth.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Annual Congregation Meeting- after services Sunday, 22-February.
- Trip To Sight & Sound... "Joshua" April 11th, 2026.
- Next Ladies get together will be Saturday, April 18th. No details yet.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

*Proverbs 22:9*

Bill Wills: (609)547-9408 or Javier Perez: (609)553-3990.

### Items Needed.

Women items: \***Underwear (Medium)**\*, socks.

Men items: \***Underwear (Large)**\*, clothing (pants), socks.

Toiletries: Tooth brushes, toothpaste, mouth wash...

Food items: Tuna packs & snacks individually wrapped.

## **FOOD NEEDED FOR THE PANTRY!**

*1 Timothy 5:8; 2 Corinthians 9:7*

### **\*\*\* Black & Red Beans/White Rice/Cereal \*\*\***

*Money donations are gladly accepted to help purchase food to stock the pantry!*

Oatmeal (Regular or Instant), Box Cereals, Grits (Regular or Instant), Tuna Fish (In the packets), Beans/Peas (Dry good bags), Mash Potatos (Box/packets), Corn Meal, Flour, Cooking oil, Pasta, Sauce, Sardines, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Mac & Cheese, Soups, Canned fruits.

## **PRAYER REQUEST**

- Prayers for the family of *Dave Peters* who passed away Sunday 18-Jan in Florida.
- *Dalene White*... recovering from fractured shoulder.
- *Deb R. R.*... health issues.
- *Debbie Shurig*... praying for her health.
- *Melida*... multiple health issues.
- *Teri Clevenger*... chronic back pain.
- *Natalie Weems*... continuing health issues.
- *Tim Height*... health issues.
- *Elsie Thompson*... suffering from dementia.

## **FRIENDS & RELATIVES**

- Debi R-R's sister *Isabel* and her son *Tory* dealing with major health issues.
- Terri's daughter *Becca*'s doctor's are monitoring her thyroid.
- *Gwendolyn*, William Whites mothers roommate, health issues.
- *Tito Montalvo* (Deb Shurig's brother) needs prayers for health and good judgment in his life.
- *Rhina* attends Spanish speaking service, prayers for her health.
- *Gary Smalls*, (Ruth Stevens Son-in-law) health issues. *Michelle* (Ruth's daughter) is undergoing dialysis.
- From the Weems; *Carolynne Searle*- Stroke & loss of vision in one eye, *Anthony Castagna*- personal issues, *Paul Huber* (stepdad) health issues, *Gina Palmer*- lung cancer.
- *Rob Mar* (Linda's Meredith's cousin), *Barbara Keenan* (Linda's sister) *Ryan Keenan* (Linda's nephew) for spiritual strength & health, *Jack Keenan* (Linda's B.I.L.) suffering from cancer.

## God's Plan for Saving Man

**Divine Love:** John 3:16

**God's Grace:** Ephesians 2:8

**Christ's Blood:** Romans 5:9

**Holy Spirit's Word:** 1 Corinthians 2:12-13

**Sinner's Faith:** Acts 16:31

**Sinner's Repentance:** Luke 13:3

**Sinner's Confession:** Romans 10:10

**Sinner's Baptism:** Acts 22:16

**Christian's Love:** Matthew 22:37

**Christian's Work:** James 2:24

**Christian's Hope:** Romans 8:24

**Christian's Endurance:** Revelation 2:10

# January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	29 ■ 7:00 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	30 ■ 6:30 PM ***NO ZOOM Bible Class***	31 ■ <b>New Year's Day</b>	1 ■ <b>New Year's Day</b>	2	3
4 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	5 ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	6 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	7	8	9 ■ 11:00 AM Womens Luncheon	10
11 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	12 ■ 8:00 AM Elder Pest Control ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	13 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	14 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	15 ■ 6:30 PM Church Budget Meeting	16	17
18 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	19 ■ <b>Martin Lut...ing Jr. Day</b> ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	20 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	21	22	23	24
25 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	26 ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	27 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	28	29	30	31

# February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	2 ■ 6:30 PM ***Monday Night Study at the Seims is cancelled due to the weather***	3	4 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	5	6	7
8 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	9 ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	10 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	11 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	12	13 ■ <b>Valentine's Day</b>	14
15 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	16 ■ <b>President's Day</b> ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	17 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	18 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	19	20	21
22 ■ 9:30 AM Sunday AM Bible Class ■ 10:30 AM Sunday AM Worship ■ 12:00 PM Annual Meeting Congregational Meeting ■ 1:30 PM Spanish Speaking Services	23 ■ 6:30 PM Monday Night Study at the Seims	24 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	25 ■ 6:30 PM ZOOM Bible Class	26	27	28

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### ***THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER***

Proverbs 28:9; 2 Timothy 4:3-4

**Introduction...** In the previous lesson, "The Power of Prayer," we saw what prayer can provide from God, those being, forgiveness, peace, strength, wisdom, boldness, opportunity, healing, and tranquility. This morning we will look at those to whom prayer is a privilege.

#### **I. For Whom Prayer Is Not A Privilege**

- (A) Those who do not heed God's word (Proverbs 28:9)
  - (1) 2 Timothy 4:3-4
- (B) For those whose sins separate them from God (Isaiah 59:1-2)
  - (1) Romans 6:23
- (C) For those who fail to treat others justly (Psalms 41:13)
  - (1) Matthew 5:23-24; Matthew 18:21-35
- (D) Those who pray without faith (Hebrews 11:6)
  - (1) James 1:5-8

#### **II. For Whom Prayer Is A Privilege**

- (A) The sinner seeking truth and righteousness like Cornelius
  - (1) Acts 10:1-2; 11:14
  - (2) Acts 10:4,31; 11:14
  - (3) Acts 9:11; 22:16
  - (4) Matthew 5:6; 7:7-8; 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- (B) The Christian with Jesus as their High Priest (Hebrews 2:17-18)
  - (1) Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:25
  - (2) 1 John 2:1; 1 Timothy 2:5
  - (3) Romans 8:34
  - (4) Galatians 3:26-27

**Conclusion...** The ears of the Lord are open to the prayers of the righteous. If we desire the privilege of prayer, then we must either; (a) Be a faithful child of God through obedience to Jesus Christ. (b) Be a sinner with a good and noble heart, seeking after truth and righteousness. The sinner hungering and thirsting for righteousness will be filled; how much more the child of God when he or she experiences "*The privilege of prayer*" in all its fullness.

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**Notes:**