



CODY MOORE
Student Pastor

Dear Church Family,

As we are in the Advent season, there's no better way to get into the spirit of Christmas than by embracing the joy, laughter, and heartwarming lessons from one of our favorite holiday films: **Elf**. This classic movie, full of wisdom and humor, offers us a unique perspective on how to live out the message of Christmas. Let's take a look at some of Buddy the Elf's most memorable quotes and see how they might inspire us this season.

1. "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." — Buddy the Elf

Buddy reminds us that Christmas isn't just about quiet reflection — it's about sharing the joy of Christ's

birth with everyone we meet! Whether through our church carol services, friendly greetings, or acts of kindness, let's make this a season of loud and joyful celebration. Let your heart sing and spread the cheer wherever you go!

2. "You sit on a throne of lies!" — Buddy the Elf

While this line is humorously aimed at a mall Santa, it's a good reminder for us to keep our Christmas celebrations authentic. In the midst of all the holiday hustle and bustle, let's make sure we're focused on what truly matters — the truth of God's love revealed in the birth of Jesus. Let's be honest about the season's meaning and avoid distractions that try to pull us away from the heart of the celebration.

3. "We elves try to stick to the four main food groups: candy, candy canes, candy corns, and syrup." — Buddy the Elf

While Buddy's "food groups" are humorous and a bit over-the-top, they do give us a chance to reflect on the balance we need in our lives. While it's tempting to indulge in the sweets and treats of the season, let's also nourish our spirits through prayer, worship, and fellowship. Just as Buddy focuses on the essentials for elves, we too must focus on what truly sustains us — God's Word and His presence.

4. "Smiling's my favorite." — Buddy the Elf

Finally, Buddy's infectious smile reminds us that a simple smile can spread warmth and light wherever we go. Christmas is a time when a smile can go a long way in lifting someone's spirits. Let's remember to smile — at our neighbors, at our family members, and at the stranger we meet. It's a small act that can reflect the love of Christ to the world.

This Christmas, let's embrace the childlike wonder and joy that Buddy the Elf embodies. Let's make a joyful noise, share love freely, and remember that everyone has a place in God's story. In the midst of all the Christmas chaos, let's find time to focus on the real meaning of the season: the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who came to bring light, love, and hope to the world.

May this Christmas season be full of laughter, joy, and a renewed sense of wonder as we celebrate the greatest gift of all.

With Christmas Cheer,

AT A GLANCE

Sunday December 22	9:30a Churchwide Breakfast 10:45a Worship Service No Evening Activities
Tuesday December 24	Office Closed
Wednesday December 25	Office Closed- Merry Christmas!
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Sunday December 29	10:45a Worship Service 10:45a Kids' Worship (after the music) No Sunday Evening Activities
Tuesday December 31	12:00p Office Closes at Noon
Wednesday January 1	Office Closed- Happy New Year!

STOPS ON THE JOURNEY

ALL CALENDAR ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



LOTTIE MOON OFFERING

The Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions runs through December 31. All money collected goes directly to international missions. Northside's goal is \$22,000, and \$4,330 has been received so far. Please designate your gift as "Lottie Moon" when you give in person and online at nbcvictoria.org.



FOCUS AND THRIVE WOMEN'S RETREAT

Less than 2 weeks left to register for the Focus and Thrive Women's Retreat! The retreat will be February 21-22, 2025, here at Northside Baptist Church. This event is open to all women in the Crossroads area. The cost is \$45, which includes 3 meals, a shirt, and other event goodies. Registration closes and full payment is due by December 31, 2024. Register today at nbcvictoria.org/events.



NEW YEAR KICK-OFF AND FELLOWSHIP

Save the date for January 5 at 5pm as we have a New Year Kick-Off and Fellowship. We will have dinner, trivia, fellowship, and look to the new year ahead at Northside. More details to come!



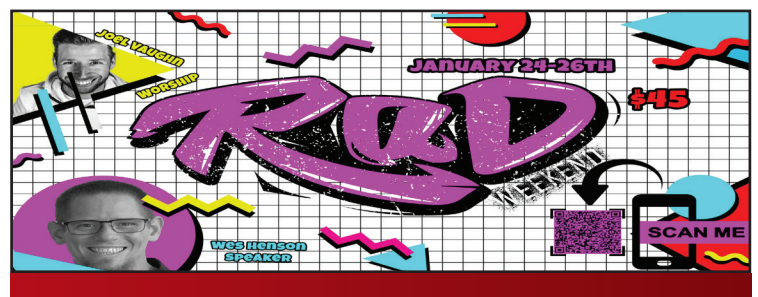
CHURCHWIDE CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

On December 22, we will all come together for the Churchwide Christmas Breakfast at 9:30am; there will not be Sunday Morning Bible Study this day. Regular Worship Service will follow at 10:45am. Join us as we fellowship and celebrate the Christmas season together.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Annual Christmas Eve Service will be December 24 at 5pm in the Worship Center. Help keep Christ in Christmas by worshipping with us in this special candlelight service.



RAD WEEKEND

RAD Weekend is January 24-26, 2025 for 6th-12th graders. Registration is open on the website! If you would be interested in being a host home, co-host, or helping that weekend, contact Cody at codymoore@nbcvictoria.org or 361-578-1568.

:::SHORTLINES:::

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Please note the upcoming events and schedule changes at Northside this holiday season.

December 22- Churchwide Christmas Breakfast @ 9:30am

Worship @ 10:45AM

December 24- Office Closed

Christmas Eve Service @ 5pm

December 25- Office Closed

No Wednesday Evening Activities

December 29- No Sunday Morning Bible Study; Worship @10:45AM

December 31- Office Closes at Noon

January 1- Office Closed

No Wednesday Evening Activities

WORSHIP GUIDE AND NEWSLETTER UPDATE

We have changed the format of our Sunday worship guide to hopefully be better stewards of the gifts God has given Northside. In January, we will also be changing our Newsletter format. Every week members will receive an email with a copy of the Worship Guide attached and any other important announcements highlighted. We hope these changes will allow for better communication and use of our resources. If you need to update your email address with us, please call the church office at 361-578-1568.

KIDS' CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers for Kids' Church on 12/29. We need two adult helpers each week. There is no preparation necessary, just helping watch the kids. The goal is to have enough volunteers in a rotation so that each individual is needed only once per quarter. Check out the online sign-up at nbcvictoria.org/events.

THE RECORD SPEAKS

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN

Received December 8	
Budget Receipts	16,279.12
Designated & Other:	2,347.94
Total Weekly Receipts:	18,627.06

Received December 15	
Budget Receipts	49,073.50
Designated & Other:	3,103.31
Total Weekly Receipts:	52,176.81

Year-to-Date Need:	202,865.39
Year-to-Date Received:	197,980.20

BIBLE STUDY

December 8	260
December 15	255

WORSHIP

December	395
December 15	393



NORTH SIDE
STAFF

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STEPHEN SUMMERS Worship Pastor
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CODY MOORE Student Pastor
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— Journey ♥ together —

WOMEN'S RETREAT
FEB 21-22, 2025

REGISTRATION
OPENS: 9/8/24
CLOSES: 12/31/24

REGISTER AT:
NBCVICTORIA.ORG/EVENTS

COST: \$45

OPEN TO ALL LADIES IN THE
CROSSROADS AREA.

SCAN QR
TO
REGISTER!





**FOCUS
&
THRIVE
2025**

**LESS
THAN 2
WEEKS
LEFT!**

IN
FOCUS