

# Navigator

Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Psalm 143:8b

## Approaching God With Boldness

The early church was a praying church. One need not travel far in the book of Acts to see a church on its knees in radical dependence upon God. Praying together as a group of believers was simply commonplace for first century Christians. And one of the things that drove their prayers was the persecution that they were facing as followers of Jesus Christ.

As chapter 12 of the book of Acts rolls around, the delusional King Herod Agrippa I has joined in the persecution against Christians. Much to the Jews delight Herod has the Apostle James executed (Acts 12:2) and imprisons Peter with the intent of having him executed after the Passover (12:3-4). As Peter was in prison he was chained between two guards with two posted outside the door of his cell to guard the entrance. Luke, the author of the book of Acts, goes into great detail to show that there was no human possibility of escape.

But while Peter, the main apostolic leader of the early church, is imprisoned what was the church doing? Were they getting together a group of high profile lawyers searching for the first century version of Johnny Cochran? Were they plotting and planning a massive jail-break to free their embattled leader? Were they petitioning King Herod for Peter's release? Not at all. Instead, they were petitioning the true King of kings; the church was praying.

The Bible says, "constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church" (12:5). The word translated "constant" is best understood as earnest or intense prayer. So they were not just coming together for some cake and cookies and desert with a little time of prayer afterwards; they were fervent in their prayer. They realized that the situation that they were in was far greater than their capacity to resolve it, so they prayed. The early church recognized their need for prayer because they recognized their need for God.

The Bible does not tell us exactly what the church was praying for on Peter's behalf. Some may have been praying "safe" prayers. Things like, "God comfort Peter in this his time of need" or "God help the church as we get ready to deal with the loss of our leader"

**Nothing will change the content of one's prayer life like truly knowing God.**



Pastor Matt

or even "God please allow Peter to get to witness to some of the guards before he is executed." And these are good and proper and right things to pray for.

But I believe that as the church was praying for Peter it was praying bold prayers. I believe that they were praying things like, "God deliver Peter from prison and rescue him with your mighty hand" and "God in a supernatural display of Your awesome power and might save Peter from his enemies in such a way that there will be no denying how great and powerful You are." I think they prayed boldly. And I think they did so because they truly understood the awesome character of God. Nothing will change the content of one's prayer life like truly knowing God.

So as Peter slept between his captors the church prayed. And an angel of the Lord miraculously appeared to Peter, freed him from his bonds, and led him past the guards and out of the prison (12:7-11). The newly freed Apostle then rushed to the house of Mary where he knew that some believers had gathered to pray. A girl named Rhoda came to answer the door and upon hearing that it was Peter she declared the good news to the praying saints gathered there that Peter is free (12:13-14).

Then those at the prayer meeting responded by basically saying, "Rhoda, you're out of your mind! Peter is not outside the door, he is locked up in prison and about to be executed! Leave us alone, can't you see that we are praying for a miracle here! Now you be a good Christian and get back over here and pray for God to rescue him!" Does this ever sound like us? How often is it true of us that in our unbelief we expect so little from God as a result of prayer that we are utterly shocked when He answers us? What we really need to do is simply open our eyes and see that the answer to our prayers may be staring us in the face and knocking on our door.

Pray realizing how dependant you are upon God. Be constant and intense in your prayers. Pray bold prayers in full realization of who God is. And when the answer to your prayers knocks on the door, open it up and rejoice at the goodness of God!



# Children's Ministries—K4T

Helping Children Become God-Focused Believers Through Essential Christian Truth

## Staff

Pastor	Matthew Boyd 293-2841
Youth Pastor	Shannon Pharaoh 329-0159
Worship Leader	Chris Myhre 644-6421
Treasurer	Kim Flick 536-4643
Men's Ministry	Robert Kohler 324-3545
Women's Ministry	Mandy Auclair 324-3668
Education Leader	Kevin Bickel 324-2654
Children's Leader	Gina Bickel 324-2654
Nursery	Laurena Parish 324-2517
Webmaster	Greg Peasall 837-6003 webmaster@nrfellowship.org
Bulletin	Jolleen Kohler 324-3545 thekohlerfive@msn.com <i>Have bulletin items to Jolleen by Wednesday</i>

## Leadership

### Elders

Matthew Boyd	293-2841 pastor@nrfellowship.com
Travis Flick	536-4643 tkflick1@netzero.com
Rich Henry	736-5025 rich_henry3@hotmail.com

### Deacons

Kevin Bickel	324-2654 whispermtn@yahoo.com
Jeff Hanni	539-4079
Chris Myhre	644-6421 ccmyhre@msn.com
Brian Parish	358-1671

## Schedule see calendar for more!

### Sunday

8:15 a.m.	First Service
9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
10:30 a.m.	Second Service

### Tuesday

6:30 p.m.	Youth Ministry at NorthRidge Fellowship
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### Tuesday/Thursday

6:00 a.m.	Prayer and Devotions at Jolly Bean
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## Kids 4 Truth News Update!!

K4T is starting soon! We are very excited about what the Lord is doing in the lives of our young people. God has blessed us here at NorthRidge Fellowship with many children and it is our responsibility to cultivate a passion within them to know and love God and to love others. We want our children to be fearless and faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

Please be in prayer about how the Lord can use you to minister to our young people. If you would like to help with this ministry or if you have any questions about K4T please contact me.

In His Service,  
Gina Bickel  
324-2654

## Teacher Training

Wednesday, September 3rd - 7pm to 9pm

## First Night of K4T

September 10th - 6:15pm to 7:45pm

## What the Kids Will Be Learning This Year

God's Law  
Jesus Christ  
God's Gift- Salvation  
God's Purpose for His Children  
God's Work- Past and Present  
God's Plan for the Future

## Age Groups

Level One - Discoverers - 4 and 5 year olds  
Level Two - Developers - 1st and 2nd graders  
Level Three - Detectives - 3rd and 4th graders  
Level Four - Defenders - 5th and 6th graders

## Ongoing Children's Ministries

**Sunday School** 9:30am-10:20am, **Bible Builders** During the 10:30 Worship Service

# H<sub>2</sub>O YOUTH MINISTRY

## JOHN 4:13-14

## SONFEST

I would ask for everyone to pray for the Youth Ministry while we are at SonFest August 1-3. Specifically, I would ask for prayers of safety, and for everyone going to have a closer walk with Christ. I would also ask for prayers for God to raise up leaders among our youth ministry. We have a very young group of youth and I know God has great things in store for this youth ministry.

**Parents' Night Out** is going to be on August 22. I would like to encourage parents to take advantage of this ministry that the youth are providing. It is a time for the parents to get away for a little while and relax, and know that their kids are being well taken care of.

Shannon Pharaoh

# Meet Kelly Arndt

*Every month you will be introduced to a fellow attendee at NorthRidge Fellowship.*

## **Where were you born and raised?**

I was born in Havre, which is in north-central Montana, about 50 miles south of the Canadian Border.

## **Who are (or have been) the most influential people in your life?**

Super Grover! Just kidding-as for my influences now I would have to say they are the leaders in our church. I feel fortunate and blessed to attend a church that strongly follows the Bible.

## **What is your favorite passage and/or book of the Bible?**

“Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.”  
Jeremiah 6:16 NIV

## **Aside from the Bible, what are your favorite books?**

*The Cross and the Switchblade, The Outsiders and Charlie.*

## **If you were stranded on an island, what four foods would you most want to have?**

Steak with fresh tomatoes, seasoned noodles, cheesecake, and fried rice.

## **Who in the Bible do you most identify with?**

I can most relate to Moses in his early walk when God asked him to go back to Egypt and set His people free. I sometimes feel like I can't do what the Lord is wanting me to do and that He is asking the wrong person or that I will not be able to accomplish what He expects me to do.

## **What are the four most interesting places you have been to?**

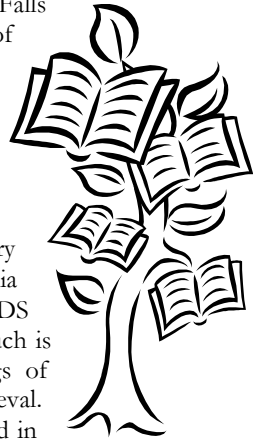
London, England; Louisville, Kentucky; Boston, Massachusetts; San Diego, California.

## **How did you come to know Christ?**

I wanted my children to grow up with morals and to know who Jesus is and the only way this would happen was if we started going to church and set an example. That was several years ago and as I learned more about Jesus I realized that I could not fix or live my life until I accepted the Lord and followed His Word.

## Helpful Resources Regarding Mormonism

The recent construction of the Mormon Temple in Twin Falls stands as a reminder to us of the strong presence of Mormonism in the Magic Valley. To help us answer questions about Mormon theology or to simply have a better idea of how to best share the gospel message with our Mormon neighbors, friends, and family members, we asked Mickie Kelly to list some resources he finds valuable.



**Greetings** everyone from your Church Planting Missionary in Payson, Utah. When it comes to books and other media trying to inform and educate the public about the claims of LDS teachings, there is no short supply. I am amazed at how much is out there. Perform a Google search on “False Teachings of Mormonism” and you will be busy for hours from your retrieval. However, it can be overwhelming with all that's out there and in some cases not all that is said is true, though I have found that to be seldom.

For me, I have found the best resources are those that come through known reputable ministries to the LDS, the reason being that many of these folks were former Mormons and typically studied themselves out. The sources they cite and recommend are safe and accurate.

Some of my favorites are:

**www.mrm.org (Mormonism Research Ministry)** run by Bill McKeever. Bill is not a former Mormon but he has been studying LDS claims since 1979. He also surrounds himself with staff who were former LDS, all of which you can read about on their web site listed above.

**www.hismin.com** run by Dennis and Rauni Higley. I really enjoy them and have met them personally along with Bill McKeever. In fact I learned of Bill through them, an example of safe resourcing. Dennis and Rauni were 6th-generation LDS and studied themselves out and into Christ—all by the Sovereign hand of God of course. They are great folks!

**www.lhvm.org (Living Hope Ministries)** video series. Great DVDs that have shaken the very core of the LDS foundations. I watch these on occasion just to keep fresh with what I have learned.

**Mormon Scrap Book** by Daniel G. Thompson. It lays out the teachings of Mormonism and then educates Christians on how to deal with them one by one.

**Mormons Answered Verse By Verse** by David Reed and John Farkas. This resource will highlight the blatant “proof texts” that Mormons like to use in the Bible and then systemically show their errors. Honestly, it is astonishing to see the violence they do to the Word of God!

Lastly let me say that the #1 resource that absolutely will dumbfound and shake any Mormon to their core is.....**The Bible!** If all God's people would only study their Bibles as much as they talk about their Bibles, LDS teachings would never make it off the ground and missionaries would have no leg to stand on. Remember the analogy of how anti-counterfeiters are trained by the government. We must know our Bibles like the back of our hands!!! Let this be your ultimate resource for handling the claims of Mormonism.

2 Timothy 2:15 (King James Version) “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

I hope that these things help you as much as they have me. Our problem in contending with Mormon teachings is not a lack of facts, but rather getting them to listen to those facts. I believe only by prayer and intercession will God open their “ears to hear”.

In Christ, Mickie Kelly

*Mickie Kelly is the pastor at Crossings Church, a church plant in Spanish Fork area of Utah. You can find out more about Crossings Church online at [www.crossingschurchsbcc.org](http://www.crossingschurchsbcc.org).*

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

8:15 a.m. First Service  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Second Service

### Sunday Services

www.nrlfellowship.org  
314 West Ave J  
Jerome, ID 83338



Place  
Stamp  
Here

### To The Ends of the Earth



# Being Placed in the path of the lost

One Sunday evening some ladies were on their way to have their favorite coffee and have a weekly Ladies Bible study. As we headed off we chatted about our day. If you would have told us that by discussing our Ladies Study in a bookstore’s coffeeshouse we could make an impact, my reply would have been, “Okay, we may have people stare as we pray and maybe listen a little, but actually impact someone? Not so likely.” Why would God want to use someone like me? What do I have to offer?

As we arrived we ordered our drinks and looked around for a place to sit. There were people scattered around and two lone tables looked like a good spot to sit. So we scooted our tables together and opened our books. We all bowed our heads and we prayed for a fruitful study and that God would guide our words and that we would be His shining light to this lost world. I shared with the group one of my favorite verses we have been studying: Isaiah 61:3b, “So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD for the display of His splendor.”

If you would have told me that we were going to meet a man that was hostile to God’s Word and be given an opportunity to show him God’s love, to be honest I would have told you that it wasn’t something God would call any of us to do that night. Why would God use a Ladies Bible Study to reach a man? Well, that is exactly what happened!

As we were discussing, this man came over and looked at one of our ladies and said that he knew her from somewhere. They knew each other from High School youth group days. As he proclaimed that he no longer believed in God and His Word, this wonderful lady looked at him and said that she was sorry that he felt the way he did

and that he should be reading his Bible. With a loving look upon her face she said, “I will be praying for you” even though he asked her not to. As he left she looked at me and was amazed at what she had just done. She had held her ground and at the same time shown him God’s love.

As we continued our study we could not help but notice that this man was still listening to us. We continued our discussion and made sure that we read all our Bible verses out loud, so that this man could hear. As he approached us again I prayed silently and asked God for guidance. As he rambled on about his beliefs, I sought what God wanted me to do. So, I politely interrupted him and asked him his name. I told him that we all would be praying for him and that we loved him. As he walked away I said, “God loves you, too.” At that he said, “Pretend I wasn’t even here.” How could we? God placed us in his lost path and had given us words to speak to him. God hasn’t forgotten him and neither should we. I turned to the ladies and we bowed our heads and we prayed.

As we finished our study the man continued to listen and sat there until almost the very end of our study. Who knows what he took from what we were discussing; only God does. I don’t know why God chose that place and time to bring this man to us ladies, but I know that He provided for our every need. He guided our words and gave us love for this lost soul. John 13:35 says, “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” God is so gracious and loving. Thank You, LORD for using five ordinary ladies to do Your work and to share the love that You have so willing bestowed upon us. We love You, LORD.

Mandy Auclair

# AUGUST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Scrapbook/Craft night will resume in September.

Men's LEAD Bible Study is meeting every Wednesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Wok and Grill in Twin Falls.

Join with your fellow NorthRidge family at the Jolly Bean in Jerome every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 6:00 to 7:00. We will have a short devotion and a time of prayer. Everyone is welcome!

**BE PRAYING** for the contacts made during the Jerome parade and fair. Pray that the Bibles and the waters are used to spread the Gospel.

Contact Robert Kohler if you know of community service needs that NorthRidge can help with. The men will be meeting every third Saturday to reach out and serve the community.

Luau coming up in September! All adults welcome. Look for more information in your bulletin.

**HEY KIDS!** Stump Mrs. Brockway! Ask her a question about the Bible. If she doesn't know the answer, you'll get a *great* prize!

## New Sunday Morning Studies



**Hebrews**  
Chris Myhre

**How to be a discipling mother**  
Sabrina Bennett

**Putting on the whole armor of God**  
Rich Henry

**Bible Studies begin at**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Coffee is provided!**



# Inward Joy From God's Strength

Lately many in our congregation have been undergoing trials and tribulations. Perhaps you are tired of more bills than money, of no one understanding you, family problems, or having a serious health problem. This is not unusual. Recently I have noticed that many distractions have diminished my joy in the Lord. I was looking in the book of Nehemiah (about our building project), and it led to my reviewing joy.

## Reading God's Word will bring us joy!

What is the joy of the Lord that Christians are supposed to have? The spiritual gift of joy is listed as the second gift, following love. "For the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23. How can we be expected to be joyful at these times? But James 1:2-3 says "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

Webster's definition of joy: "1) to experience great pleasure or delight: REJOICE, 2) the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires: DELIGHT

Joy can be described in many ways. Joy isn't just a smile or a laugh. It isn't happiness. Happiness is from the root word for

happening, and is usually transient. Joy is something that is deep inside of us and doesn't leave quickly. When we have the joy of the Lord, we'll know it and so will others. Since joy is given by God and something that He wants us to have, we need to be joyful!

## Its truths are *encouraging* to all believers.

Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"

If we can't find reasons to be joyful, our attitude and perspective must change. God gives us blessings every day. We should be able to see them and thank God for them. We should also ask for God's blessings including joy, for God's Word says in James 4:2, "Yet you have not because you do not ask." Ask for joy!

1 John 1:4 "And these things we write to you that your joy may be full."

Reading God's Word will bring us joy! The Bible is full of ordinary people who did extraordinary things through the power of God. Its truths are encouraging to all believers. How can we not be joyful when we see how much God loves us and what His plans are for each one of us?

"...Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10.

C.H. Spurgeon said in one of his sermons, "A joyous man is to all intents and purposes a strong man. He is strong in a calm restful manner. Whatever happens he is not ruffled or disturbed. He is not afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. The man full of joy within is quiet; he bides his time and croucheth in the fullness of his strength. Such a man, though he is humble, is firm and steadfast; he is not carried away with every wind, or bowed by every breeze, he knows what he knows, and holds what he holds...His strength is not pretentious but real. The happiness arising from communion with God breeds in him no boastfulness; he does not talk of what he can do, but he does it; he does not say what he could bear, but he bears all that comes ... God grant us the inward joy which arises from real strength and is so linked with it as to be in part its cause."

As each of us continue in this life, not knowing what tomorrow may bring, we will find this joy, and its partner, peace, from looking inward and upward, because these gifts are spiritual. A man with this joy will be exhibiting his unity with Christ that others will undoubtedly notice.

May all of you strive to fill your lives with the joy of the Lord.

Rich Henry