



NORTHSIDE CHURCH
DISCIPLESHIP

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE
NORTHSIDE CHURCH · FALL 2019



NORTHSIDE CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

2799 Northside Drive NW · Atlanta, Georgia 30305
www.NorthsideUMC.org · 404.355.6475

GROW AS A DISCIPLE

Welcome to Northside Church's Discipleship Guide. We pray that this will be a resource that helps you chart the path toward becoming the disciple God has called you to be.

Chances are, if you are reading this booklet, you are looking for your next step in faith. We believe that the most faithful way to determine God's will in your life is to be in relationship with God and other Christians. If you want to experience the width, height, and breadth of God's love, then you need to be in a community that pushes you. We all need to be challenged to do what is right and venture into uncharted territory to see how God's Holy Spirit will sustain us in the unknown.

Use this guide to find that next step.

In this guide you will find a list of opportunities for you and your family. You will see all the different ways that we engage discipleship here at Northside. There are

different styles of groups. There are groups for different demographics. There are groups at different times. There are groups in different places. No matter what you are looking for, you can find it here.

It is time for you to take that step. Find your place here at Northside to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Questions? Curiosities? Need helping finding the right group? Just ask!

Rev. Jeff Rogers, *Associate Pastor*
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James Johnson, *Director of Adult Discipleship*
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 6** **Class Styles**
Understanding Each Group Type
- 8** **Sunday Morning Schedule**
Worship & Discipleship for All Ages
- 10** **Weekday Schedule**
Overview of Discipleship for Adults
- 12** **Table**
Small Groups Program
- 14** **Sunday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 18** **Second Floor (Main)**
Building Map
- 20** **Third Floor**
Building Map
- 22** **Monday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 26** **Tuesday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 28** **Wednesday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 32** **Thursday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 34** **Friday Groups**
Descriptions & Details
- 36** **Saturday Groups**
Descriptions & Details

Childcare is available as noted on pages 22–36. On Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, it is complimentary and drop-in friendly. Weekday childcare is offered Monday–Thursday, and reservations are required at PMO@NorthsideUMC.org. For fee structure and registration, visit www.NorthsideUMC.org/pmo.

CLASS STYLES



Lecture

This is a class for people who are looking to LEARN. There is a teacher in the front who is prepared and qualified to teach a curriculum-based lesson. Of course, there will be questions and conversation, but the focus is to grow in knowledge about our faith.



Discussion-Driven

This is a class for people who are looking to CONNECT with God and each other. There will be a leader of the group, but they function more like a facilitator. A lesson will be planned, but it will take shape according to the shared experiences of those in attendance. There will be more fellowship and talking through the practical application of faith in your everyday life.



Hybrid

This is a combination of lecture and discussion-driven classes. These groups have adapted their model from previous experiences and found ways that allow their groups to LEARN and CONNECT. Although these look different, you can expect to hear an abbreviated lecture/lesson and break into discussion.



Fellowship

Building relationships with each other provides the space for deeper conversation. We have some groups that recognize the value in simply coming together for fellowship. If you are looking to meet good people from your church before you dive into deeper topics, then we encourage you to check out a fellowship group.

Sunday Mornings

8:30–9:30AM

Traditional Worship
Infant–Preschool Nursery Care

9:00–9:40AM

Infant–Preschool Nursery Care
Kindergarten–5th Grade WOW Worship
6th–12th Grade Sunday School
IBAC Confirmation Class

- Arise Young Adult Sunday School
- Adult Sunday School

9:45–10:45AM

Contemporary Worship
Infant–Young 3s Nursery Care
Preschool and Elementary Sunday School Groups

- Adult Lecture Series
- Wesley Friendship Adult Sunday School
- Northside Bible Sunday School
- Genesis Adult Sunday School

11:00AM–12:00PM

Traditional Worship
Infant–Young 3s Nursery Care
Preschool and Elementary Faith & Fellowship
Middle and High School Discipleship Groups

- Adult Sunday School

Weekdays

Mondays

- 7:45AM Men's Small Group
- 9:30AM Adult Lecture Series
- 12:00PM Disciple III Bible Study
- 1:00PM Women's Book Study
- 7:00PM Disciple I Bible Study
- 7:00PM Disciple II Bible Study
- 7:00PM Disciple III Bible Study
- 7:00PM Disciple IV Bible Study

Tuesdays

- 12:00PM Men's Small Group at Lunch
- 6:30PM Adult Lecture Series
- 6:30PM Women's Banquet Bible Study

Wednesdays

- 7:20AM Men's Lecture Series
- 8:15AM Women's Spiritual Growth Group

- 9:30AM Women's Banquet Bible Study
- 10:30AM Adult Lecture Series
- 11:30AM Men's Lunch Group
- 5:45PM Men's Small Group
- 6:00PM Disciple I Bible Study
- 6:00PM Adult Lecture Series
- 6:30PM Women's Book Study

Thursdays

- 7:00AM Women's Bible Study
- 7:15AM Men's Group Study
- 10:30AM Women's Book Study

Fridays

- 7:45AM Men's Small Group
- 10:30AM Women's Book Study

Saturdays

- 8:00AM Men's Hiking Group

 Lecture Style

 Discussion-Driven

 Hybrid

 Fellowship

Table is a new small groups program at Northside, based on John Wesley's "class meeting" model. It's purpose and design is to grow folks as disciples of Jesus Christ through fellowship and relationship, care and concern, prayer and sacrament.

Table is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ and his model for building the Church, with the conviction that nothing is more essential to our faith than our relationship with Christ, and that relationship is felt most clearly in relationship with others. We grow as disciples as we are bound together in the unity of relationship. As Paul says in Ephesians 4:4-6: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Who: Each group is made up of 10-15 folks looking to further their walk as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Each group will be led by two leaders sharing the responsibilities of facilitating and hosting the group.

What: Group meetings will consist of the members taking part in four elements: fellowship, Scripture, prayer, and Sacrament.

When & Where: Table will launch Sunday, September 8, 2019 with a Big Table meeting at Northside, to include fellowship, music, word, and sacrament. These Big Table meetings will happen each semester on September 8, 2019 and January 12, 2020. Individual Table Groups will meet once a week at a time and place determined by the group leaders.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/table

Table Groups

SUNDAYS

ARISE

Young Adult Sunday School

9:00AM | Board Room | Led by Caitlin Tripp & Brian Walker

A Sunday school class designed for singles and couples in their 20s and 30s, Arise is the perfect place to connect with fellow disciples through fellowship and discussion, engage Scripture and the world in which we live, and learn what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

Adult Sunday School

9:00AM | Room 362

A NEW Sunday school class designed for singles and couples in their 30s and 40s, this is the perfect place to get connected, discuss, and learn as we explore the contours of Scripture and how best to be a Christian in the world today.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

Paradox & Paradise: The Parables of Jesus

Adult Lecture Series

9:45AM | Chapel | Led by James Johnson

Jesus was a healer and a savior, the Messiah and the King, but he was also a teacher. Most often, he used the paradoxical language of parables to teach about the paradise that is the Kingdom of God. We are kicking off our new Sunday Lecture Series with a dive into these parables, exploring the depths and importance of Jesus' teaching for us today.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

Wesley Friendship

Adult Sunday School

9:45AM | Room 331B

Taking seriously Wesley's teaching that Christians should grow in faithful friendship with one another, this class tackles issues and questions of the faith by turning to the Bible for answers that stand the test of time.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

SUNDAYS

Northside Bible

■ *Adult Sunday School*

9:45AM | Room 335

Northside's longest-running class, and consisting of her greatest generation, this Sunday school offering is an edifying time of hymns, learning, and fellowship.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

Genesis

■ *Adult Sunday School*

9:45AM | Board Room

Genesis is an Adult Sunday School focused on growing closer to God through discipleship, learning, fellowship, and prayer.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

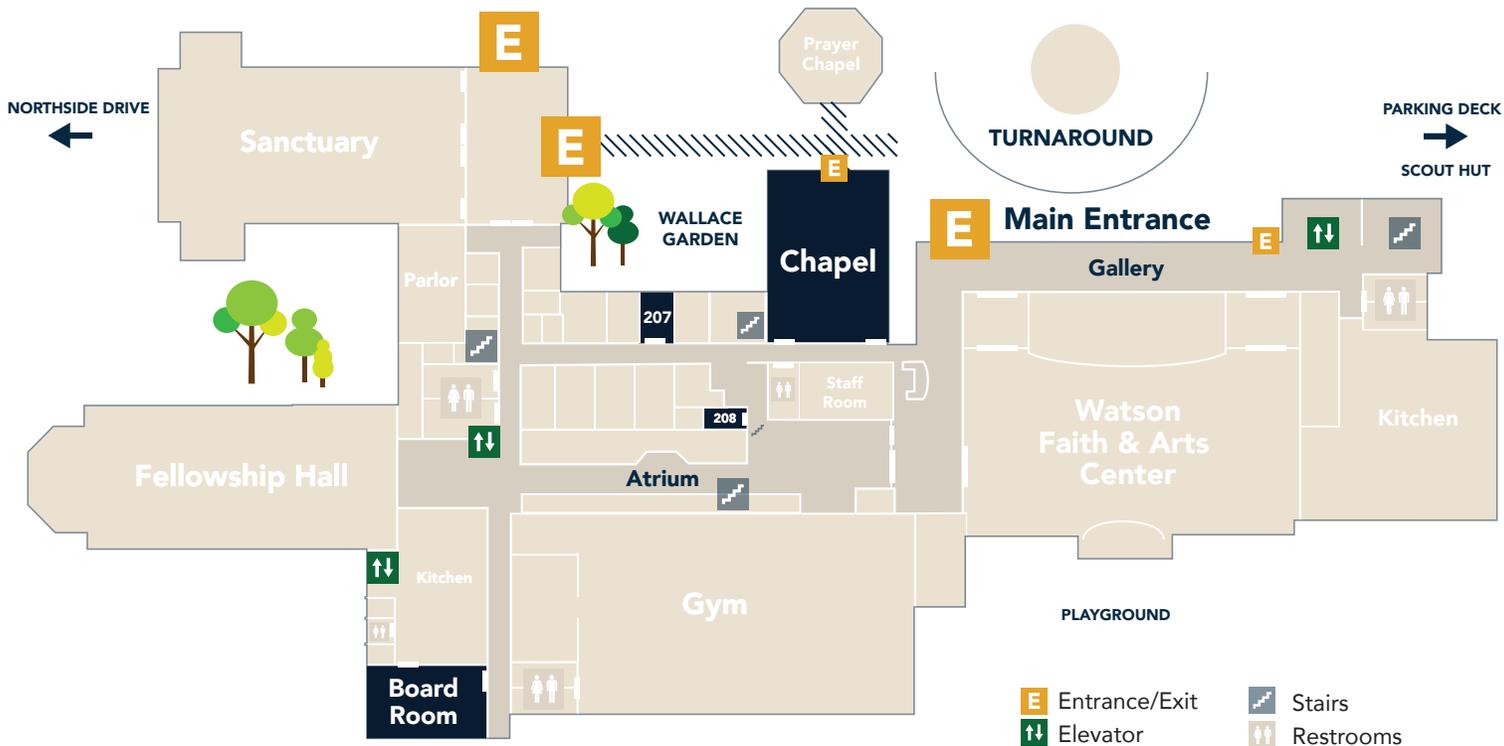
Christ and Culture in Dialogue

■ *Adult Sunday School*

11:00AM | Board Room

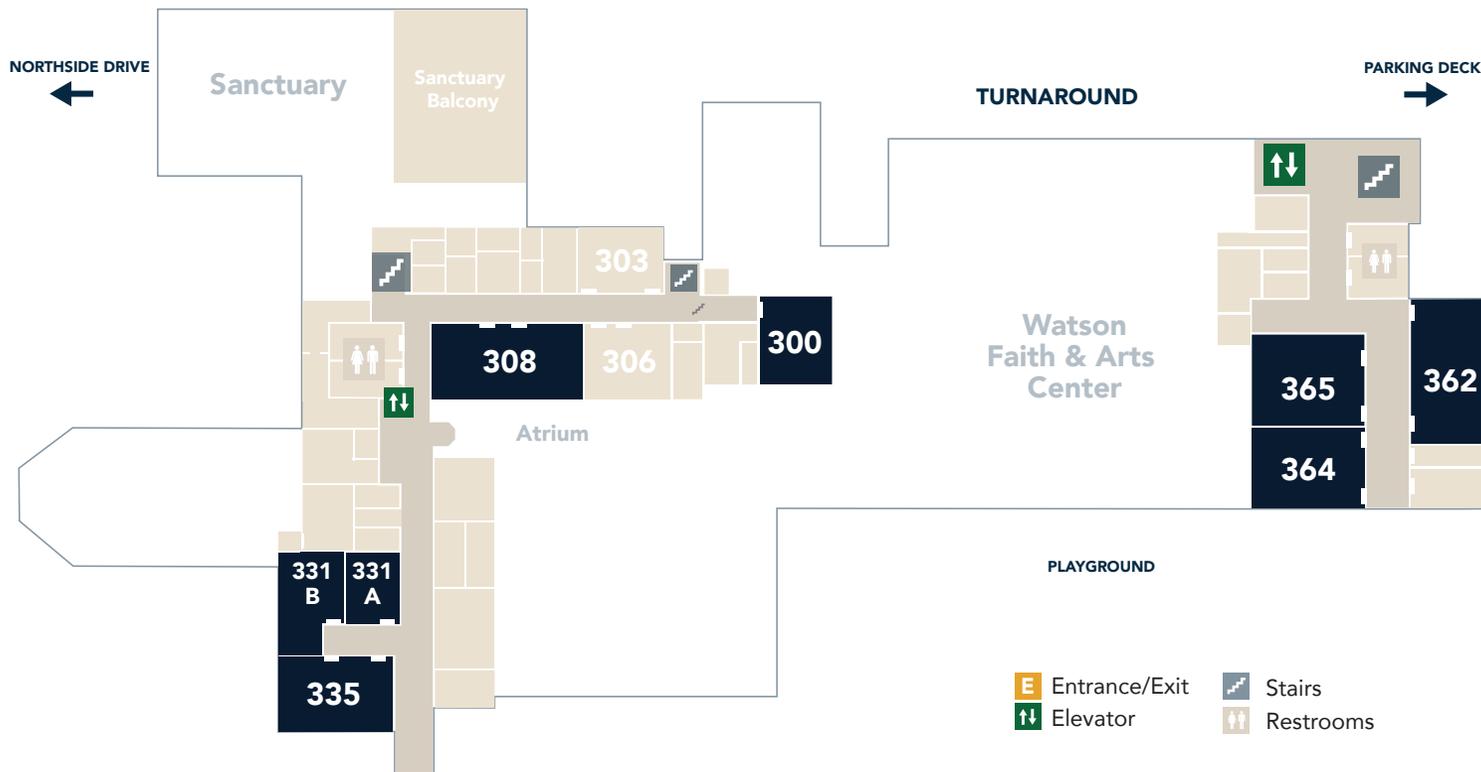
As disciples we are called to be IN the world, but not OF the world. What does that even mean? Folks have been trying to unravel that mystery for two thousand years—and it's time we join the conversation. Join us as we take on the BIG NEWS of the week, the NEWEST technology we can't live without, and the existential crisis of being human in the world today—all from a Christian perspective.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available



Main Floor

Sunday Morning Children's Programming: Nursery, preschool, and elementary drop-off is on the First Floor near the Ark. Take either the elevator or stairs near the Fellowship Hall to the First Floor, and you will find the check-in area.



Third Floor

■ **Men's Small Group**

7:45AM | Scout Hut | Led by John Winford

Start your week with a relaxed discussion of faith geared toward support and relationship-building with other men of common interest, understanding, and beliefs. Geared for ages 25–45.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: JWinford@Lee-Associates.com

John Wesley: The Life and Work

■ **Adult Lecture Series**

9:30AM | Room 362 | Led by James Johnson

What does it mean to be Methodist? What do we believe about God, Jesus, and the Church? What is the nature of Grace and Holiness? All of these questions, and many more, can be answered by turning to the theological founder of our tradition: John Wesley. Join us as we dive into Wesley's life, work, and thought, seeking a better understanding of who we are and what we believe as Methodists in the world today.

Drop-In Friendly • Register for Childcare

Disciple III: Remember Who You Are

■ **Adult Bible Study**

12:00PM | Room 362 | Led by Rev. Catherine Boothe Olson

Remember Who You Are, covering The Prophets and the Letters of Paul, is the third study in the Disciple program. The driving idea in this study is the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. The prophets and Paul are continually calling hearers and readers back to their God and to a sense of who they are as a people "set apart."

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple

Falling Upward

■ **Women's Book Study**

1:00PM | Sue Allen's Home | Led by Sue Allen

Offering us a fresh view of spirituality over a lifetime, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr shares a counterintuitive message: those who have fallen, failed, or "gone down" are the ones who grow "up" into the fullness of God. What looks like falling down can largely be experienced as "falling upward," as our rich spiritual growth transforms painful loss into abundant gain.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples

■ Adult Bible Study

7:00PM | Room 362 | Led by Scott Toberman

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study is a thirty-four week overview of the entire Bible. This study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. Disciple draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple

Disciple II: Into the Word Into the World

■ Adult Bible Study

7:00PM | Room 365 | Led by Jill McKenzie

Into the Word Into the World is the second study in the Disciple program, with a focus on Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts. Participants are encouraged to practice spiritual disciplines arising out of Scripture for the purpose of changing habits and transforming lives. The study also emphasizes the rhythm of coming to God and going for God, of being in the Word and in the world.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple

Disciple III: Remember Who You Are

■ Adult Bible Study

7:00PM | Room 364 | Led by Steve McKenzie

Remember Who You Are, covering The Prophets and the Letters of Paul, is the third study in the Disciple program. The driving idea in this study is the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. The prophets and Paul are continually calling hearers and readers back to their God and to a sense of who they are as a people "set apart."

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple

Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life

■ Adult Bible Study

7:00PM | Board Room | Led by Jerry Landers

Under the Tree of Life is the final study in the Disciple program, concentrating on Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and Revelation. Present through the entire study is the sense of living toward completion—toward the climax of the message and the promise, extravagantly pictured in Revelation.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple

■ **Men's Small Group at Lunch**

12:00PM | Room 364 | Led by Allen Morrison

Each week during lunch, we spend time in fellowship and discuss an ever-changing variety of subjects, both biblical and cultural, that better equip us for life as Christian men. Open to all ages.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: AllenM@NorthsideUMC.org

What Is This Sin Stuff? (And How Do I Wash It Off?)

■ **Adult Lecture Series**

6:30PM | Chapel | Led by James Johnson

We don't spend a lot of time these days talking about Sin—its nature and character, and how it affects us and the world around us. What is Sin? What are sins? Is there a difference? What power does Sin have in our lives? And, most importantly, how are we saved and sanctified from this active force that is hunting us? Come join us as we explore these questions and many more, trying to understand the central ideas of Sin and Salvation in our faith.

Drop-In Friendly

Elijah

■ **Evening Women's Banquet Bible Study**

6:30PM | Room 308 | Led by Jean Young

Using *Elijah* by Melissa Spoelstra, we will examine the life of the prophet Elijah, an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God in the midst of the highs and lows of life. Learn some of the spiritual stamina secrets that helped Elijah hold on and persevere in faith, including habits related to prayer, choices, soul care, surrender, mentoring, and leaving a lasting legacy.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

The Curious Case of John's Gospel

■ *Men's Bible Study*

7:20AM | Room 364 | Led by James Johnson

The fourth gospel of the New Testament is a beautiful and peculiar little book, and in some ways, completely different from Matthew, Mark, and Luke. What was John up to? Why did he choose this unique way of telling the story of Jesus? Join us as we put John into conversation with the other three gospels, as well as with other voices in the Old and New Testaments.

Drop-In Friendly

■ *Last Wednesday Women's Spiritual Growth Group*

8:15AM | Sue Allen's Home | Led by Sue Allen

Utilizing sacred readings, sandtray symbols, journaling time, and collaborative conversation, month by month we will explore two key questions. What is God shedding in me? What is God growing? As a small group, we will track our spiritual growth over the semester, sensing more keenly the subtle movement of God in our everyday lives.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

Elijah

■ *Women's Banquet Bible Study*

9:30AM | Room 335

Using *Elijah* by Melissa Spoelstra, we will examine the life of the prophet Elijah, an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God in the midst of the highs and lows of life. Learn some of the spiritual stamina secrets that helped Elijah hold on and persevere in faith, including habits related to prayer, choices, soul care, surrender, mentoring, and leaving a lasting legacy.

Register for Class & Childcare: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

The Curious Case of John's Gospel

■ *Adult Lecture Series*

10:30AM | Chapel | Led by James Johnson

See previous for description.

Drop-In Friendly • Register for Childcare

■ *Second Wednesdays Men's Lunch*

11:30AM | Landmark Diner | Led by Stanley Coker

Meet us for lunch each second Wednesday at the Landmark Diner, located at the intersection of Roswell and Piedmont roads. We discuss matters of mutual interest, particularly what's happening at Northside. Ages 55 and up.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: StanleyCoker@Yahoo.com

■ **Men's Small Group**

5:45PM | Room 365 | Led by Windham Pridgen

Men's Ministry is launching a new small group that will focus on winning as men through Christ and how faith applies to life as we seek to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

Contact: Windham.Pridgen@gmail.com

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples

■ **Adult Bible Study**

6:00PM | Room 362 | Led by Rev. Jeff Rogers

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study is a thirty-four week overview of the entire Bible. This study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. Disciple draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/disciple • Childcare Available

Essentials of the Faith: The Bible

■ **Adult Lecture Series**

6:00PM | Chapel | Led by James Johnson

In this series, we will be exploring those elements of our Christian identity that are fundamental and central to our faith, including our theology, history, and practice. We begin this fall by engaging the primary source of our thought and knowledge about God and Christ, the Bible. What is the Bible? How was it formed? What does it mean? Come join the exploration with us!

Drop-In Friendly • Childcare Available

The Miracles of Jesus

■ **Women's Book Study**

6:30PM | Room 364 | Led by Jane Jones & Lynn Sumlin

In *The Miracles of Jesus—Finding Jesus in Desperate Moments*, Jessica LaGrone leads us in a captivating exploration of the miracles of Jesus, helping us to see that our weakness is an invitation for God to work powerfully in our lives and reminding us that we need God on our best days just as much as we do on our worst.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

The Armor of God

■ Women's The Well Bible Study

7:00AM | Room 300 | Led by Lila McAlpin

All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you—unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you. But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. The Enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. *The Armor of God* by Priscilla Shirer is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

■ Men's Group Study

7:15AM | Watson Faith & Arts Center

Led by David P. Smith

This large-group study focuses on study, fellowship, and developing relationships. We spend 15 minutes in Scripture and Bible study, followed by 30 minutes of breakout table discussions. All ages welcome.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: ProShop@Comast.net

Gift from the Sea & With God Weather Life

■ Women's Book Study

10:30AM | Room 308 | Led by Sue Allen

We'll take a deep dive into Anne Morrow Lindbergh's beloved classic, *Gift From The Sea*, as we explore together the transformational seasons of a woman's life. After painting the common landscape of our everyday lives, we will begin to embrace the invitation to develop a conversational "with God" life as we read *With God Weather Life* by Sue Allen. We will be strengthened by sharing our personal stories of how God has shaped us through unexpected times of brokenness.

Register for Class & Childcare: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

■ **Men's Small Group**

7:45AM | Scout Hut | Led by Peyton McWhirter

Need an extra boost on Friday? Dive into an interactive, biblically driven discussion with an application tailored for men with young families to use in their everyday lives. An email is sent on Thursdays with a blog/topic to review before the meeting.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: PMM@McWRealty.com

Falling Upward

■ **Women's Book Study**

10:30AM | Sue Allen's Home | Led by Sue Allen

Offering us a fresh view of spirituality over a lifetime, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr shares a counterintuitive message: those who have fallen, failed, or "gone down" are the ones who grow "up" into the fullness of God. What looks like falling down can largely be experienced as "falling upward," as our rich spiritual growth transforms painful loss into abundant gain.

Register: www.NorthsideUMC.org/womensclasses

Mountain Men

☐ *Men's Hiking Group (Quarterly)*

8:00AM | Atlanta Area Trails | Led by Anthony Giardino

Want to unplug, hike in the woods, and enjoy lunch with fellow men from the church? We meet quarterly for a 6-9 mile hike in the Atlanta or North Georgia area (roughly within a one-hour driving radius of the church). No prior hiking experience is required.

Drop-In Friendly • Contact: AEGiardino@gmail.com

**"WHOEVER WANTS TO BE
MY DISCIPLE MUST DENY
THEMSELVES AND TAKE UP
THEIR CROSS DAILY AND
FOLLOW ME."**

LUKE 9:23