

# North Main

2025 | February Newsletter



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## Gossip: Destroyer of Trust

by Pastor Brandon

Pastor Matthew Mitchell's book, *Resisting Gossip*, defines gossip as "bearing bad news behind someone's back out of a bad heart" (Mitchell, 23). In his research for the book, he quotes the writer of Proverbs in the Old Testament as evidence of the destructive nature of gossip. Both Proverbs 18:8 and 26:22 state: "*The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.*" But what makes gossip a choice morsel? What makes it so enticing and "tasty?" It's the difference between junk food and healthy food.

Mitchell explains, "'choice morsels' are tasty things we want to devour quickly. They are the best, most attractive, most addictive things to eat. They are like a bowl of potato chips left on the kitchen counter. ... What happens if you eat the whole bowl before supper all by yourself? Unless you have the constitution of an ox, you're probably going to feel sick" (Mitchell, 22). This is what gossip is like. It looks good, it sounds good, it may even taste good, but in the end, it always leaves us feeling sick and guilty.

Gossip has no beneficial value. It may feel good or sound good in the moment, but it always leaves us empty. Not to mention the effect it has on others and the one toward whom the gossip is directed. The pain and the breakdown of trust are devastating. Like a wildfire burning through acres of land leaving only ash and destruction in its wake, so gossip leaves a barren wasteland of destruction in relationships, groups, and communities. James in his letter to the church in the New Testament attests to the fact that the tongue is a very dangerous thing. He writes, "*among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.*"

This month, we will be considering the devastating effects of gossip on faithfulness and trust within relationships by learning to recognize what it is, resisting it, responding to it appropriately, and putting an end to it. Mitchell reminds us as believers that we are to "flow in a different direction than those in the world" (151), and this includes the way we talk and what we say about others. The end of gossip is the beginning of trust.



# February Sermons

Feb 2 - Recognizing Gossip Proverbs 18:8, 26:22  
Key Point: "Gossip is the junk food of speech."

Feb 9 - Resisting Gossip Ephesians 4:21-32  
Key Point: "Resisting gossip requires loving confrontation."

Feb 16 - Responding to Gossip Psalm 140  
Key Point: "Responding to gossip means first going to the LORD in prayer."

Feb 23 - Putting An End To Gossip James 1:19-21; 4:11-12  
Key Point: "The one who refuses to engage in gossip is faithful and trustworthy."

## Wednesday <sup>Nights</sup> @

"Developing Completely Committed Followers of Christ"

Register for your class at [northmaincog.org/wednesday](http://northmaincog.org/wednesday)

- Parenting in Community
- Multiply: Discipleship
- Joshua - Louie Giglio
- Financial Peace University
- Invitation to Solitude and Silence
- A Common Sense Approach to Revelation



**MEN'S GROUP**  
KNOW. GROW. GO



**SATURDAYS @8:30AM**  
Group open to all men.  
Contact Jeff Myers at 724-504-5656 with any questions.

### Saturdays @ 8:30am

Group open to all men. Pursue Jesus with other believers in community. Find grace, forgiveness, prayer, and accountability in the community of other believers. Contact Jeff Myers at 724-504-5656.



**REALITY TOUR** CANDLE, Inc.

Community Drug Prevention For Today's Environment  
See Beyond The Next 10 Minutes

**REGISTER AT**  
[WWW.REALITYTOUR.ORG](http://WWW.REALITYTOUR.ORG)

### February 24th @ 6pm

Reality Tour is an inclusive drug prevention program developed by a parent for parents where you and your child will learn coping skills and hear real experiences that will be remembered for years.



# EVENTS



# northmaincog.org/events



## Winter Weather Policy

If Butler Area School District cancels school or evening activities due to inclement weather, then all activities at North Main will be canceled that day.

# 02

## Connection Luncheon

@12:00pm

Join us on February 2nd for our Connection Luncheon! Anyone new to North Main eats for free, so make sure to invite a friend!

Cost: \$6/adult \$4/child and a max of \$20/household.

ON THE MENU: Shepherd's Pie, Salad, Dinner Rolls, Ice Cream Sundae Bar and Drinks.

# 15

## Women's Hike

@9:30am

Women 18 years and older are welcome to join us Saturday, February 15th at 9:30am. We will be hiking The Ernst/Bean Trail in Meadville, PA.

Meeting place: 18701 Smock Hwy Meadville, PA 16335.

This will be a very easy to moderate out and back 6 to 8 mile hike that will take approximately 3 to 4 hours. Please wear comfortable shoes since this will be on a paved biking trail. Be sure to dress for the weather & bring plenty of water & snacks. Please email [bamjeep8@yahoo.com](mailto:bamjeep8@yahoo.com) to RSVP. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a leash at all times.

# 28

## Churchwide Game Night

@6:30pm

Churchwide Game Night open to all ages, if you're under 16 you must have a parent/guardian with you. Please bring a snack or drink to share & your favorite game if you wish. We'll have some games available.

**WINTER BLAST 2025**

**Jr/Sr High** February 7-9, 2025      **Elementary** February 14-16, 2025

## REGISTRATION



- Select North Main Street Church of God as your church.
- Select Mailing Payment/Money Order for payment info.

## PAYMENT



Early Bird (Before Jan 24th) Cost: \$105      Regular Rate (After Jan 20th): \$120  
 Your Cost: \$70 (NM Pays: \$35)      Your Cost: \$85 (NM Pays: \$35)

### What you need to bring:

- WARM clothes for outdoor activities!
- Sled, tube, snowboard or you can use one of ours
- Bedding for a twin bed (sleeping bag, blankets, pillow)
- Personal care items (soap, towels, toothbrush, etc.)
- Clothing (please bring modest, comfortable clothes)
- Your BIBLE, a notebook, and a pen!

## Youth Pastor, Joey Vegerano



724-332-7817



JoeyV@northmaincog.org





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Butler, PA 16001-1537



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[www.northmaincog.org](http://www.northmaincog.org)



Sundays at 10:30am



724-285-4214



[info@northmaincog.org](mailto:info@northmaincog.org)

## CONNECTION LUNCHEON

Sunday, February 2nd, 2025



- Shepherds Pie
- Salad
- Fresh Baked rolls
- Sundae Bar

Cost: \$6/Adult, \$4/child or maximum of \$20/household

Join us February 2nd for our Connection Luncheon! Make sure you invite a friend, newcomers to North Main eat for free.

# Isaiah 117 Community Partnership Highlight

Isaiah 117 House provides physical and emotional support in a safe and loving home for children awaiting placement. When children are removed from their homes out of concern for their safety, they are usually brought to a child welfare services office to await placement. This wait can be a few hours to several days. These children often have nothing with them and are scared, lonely, hungry, and in dirty clothing. Isaiah 117 provides a comforting home where these children instead can be brought to wait – a place that is safe with friendly and loving volunteers who provide clean clothes, smiles, toys, and snuggly blankets. This space allows children to receive the comfort and care they need while child welfare staff can do the necessary paperwork and identify a good placement. The mission of Isaiah 117 House is threefold: reduce trauma for children awaiting placement lighten the load for child welfare services ease the transition for foster families.

## Upcoming Events for Isaiah 117

**2/6**

We would like to invite you to join us for quarterly Connection Meetings. At these meetings, we will share updates, welcome new volunteers, and more!

**2/9**

Please join us on February 9th at 3pm for the Butler County Isaiah 117 House's official ribbon cutting ceremony! It is because of incredible friends like you that we will finally be able to open our doors to the foster children in our community.

**2/14**

Please join us for a night of celebration, including dinner & desserts, dancing, a silent auction & raffle, and more! The perfect Valentine's Day plans... all for an amazing cause! Grab your tickets before it's too late!

**Questions? Email: [ButlerPA@Isaiah117house.com](mailto:ButlerPA@Isaiah117house.com)**