

North Main

2025 | May Newsletter



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Respectable Sins

by Pastor Brandon

We too often categorize sin into “really bad” and “not so bad” categories. Sins like sexual immorality, murder, and stealing would fall into the category of “really bad,” whereas sins like jealousy, selfishness, and pride tend to fall into the “not so bad” category. But why do we do this? Why do we rank sins differently? If all sin separates us from GOD, then why do some diminish the severity of some over others?

Over the next two months at North Main, we will be exploring the “lesser” sins that seem “not so bad” in order to see their damaging effects on relationships, the body of Christ, and the individual. Here is a list of the “respectable sins” we will be covering: *selfishness, jealousy, judgmentalism, anger, anxiety, and worldliness*.

I’m guessing that as you read the previous list, you may have grimaced. You might have even been frustrated or offended. Maybe, just maybe, you are in disagreement with some of the things on that list. However, I assure you that these things are contrary to faith and a life lived in submission to Christ and His teachings. Though no one is perfect, it’s important to remember that we are works in progress. Though we might not be tempted by the so-called

“bigger” sins, most of us struggle with some of the “smaller” ones. And sadly, those “smaller” sins can be just as damaging as the “really bad” sins because they hold sway and control over us like painful, irritating splinters in our flesh, affecting our day-to-day life and our relationships.

Let’s consider one of the more common “not so bad” sins: *Anxiety*. Anxiety and fear are directly tied to distrust. One of the main reasons that anxiety is a problem is that it causes us to doubt GOD’s ability to come through for us.

Many, many people deal with anxiety, so much so that it has become a large part of the medical industry in the United States. Anti-anxiety medications are being prescribed more and more as anxiety disorders are on the rise (full disclosure, I struggle with this too!). But should we categorize anxiety as a sin? Jerry Bridges, in his book entitled *Respectable Sins*, writes, “When you or I say to someone, ‘Don’t be anxious’ or ‘Don’t be afraid,’ we are simply trying to encourage the person, or admonish in a helpful way. But when Jesus (or Paul or Peter, who were writing under divine inspiration) says to us, ‘Don’t be anxious,’ it has the force of a moral command. In other words, it is the moral will of GOD that we not be anxious” (Bridges, 58).

I encourage you to lean into this new series with a willingness to learn and grow. Though it may hit close to home for most of us, I believe dealing with these things is important to living an abundant life in Christ.

May Sermons

5/4 - Selfishness (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

Key Point: "Selfishness is the root of all sinful behavior."

5/11 - The Influence of a Godly Mom (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17)

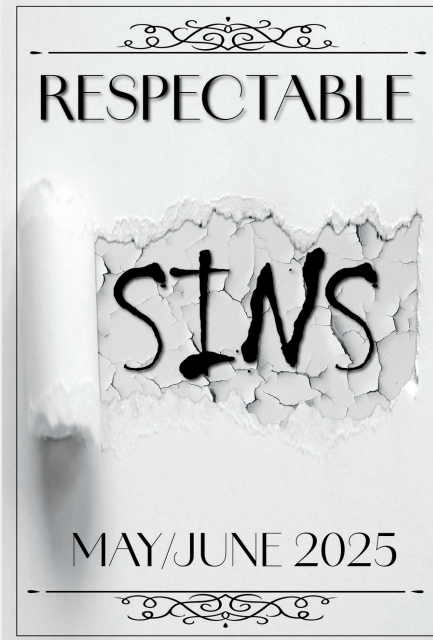
Key Point: "The influence of a Godly mom can change the course of a child's life."

5/18 - Jealousy (Acts 13:38-52)

Key Point: "Sinful jealousy is the result of fear of losing our position."

5/25 - Judgmentalism (Matthew 7:1-5)

Key Point: "Sinful judgmentalism is a result of personal preference rather than a passion for righteous behavior."



Check out our webpage about our new system!



We are excited to announce that we have started using One Church Software, an online church engagement tool that will help us stay better connected as a church! This will replace the Elexio platform we have been using.

With this tool you will have access to our various ministry areas, whether that's connecting with groups or volunteering teams, learning about church events, watching sermons and much more. When you have a few minutes we encourage you to head over to the web page, follow the instructions and get logged in.

northmaincog.org/my-north-main

2025 Mission Trip **UGANDA**

September 15-27, 2025

Pick up a Missions Trip Application Packet at the Welcome Center.

Contact Pastor Dave Wilson at DaveW@northmaincog.org or 724-332-7821 for questions or more details.

May 18th registration deadline



Thank you to everyone who sponsored a Children of Promise kid! We had 14 new kids adopted.



**Gather with us in the church Worship Center.
Everyone is welcome and invited.**

Dinner will be offered at 6pm and children 5th grade and younger will have the option to go to kids church if you wish.

Please have them dropped off by 6:30pm.

If you're planning on coming to dinner or taking your child (5th grade or younger) down to Driven Minis, **please RSVP online on our Events Page or at our Welcome Center.**



EVENTS



northmaincog.org/events

24

Youth Dodgeball

@6:00pm

All students 6th-12th grade are welcome to join us in the Gym at 6pm. Parents are invited too!

25

Graduation Sunday



We will be celebrating our 2025 High School & College Graduates on Sunday, June 1st during the morning service. Please register your graduates by completing the digital form. **Contact Family Life Pastor Melissa Hickman at MelissaH@northmaincog.org.**

28

Wednesday Nights @NM

@6:00pm

Wednesday May 28th is the last WN@NM until fall! There will be no dinner, groups, kids, or youth ministry over the summer.

31

Women's Ice Cream Hike

@9:00am

All women 18+ are invited to a 5-mile hike on the Moraine Glacier Loop. Meet at Davis Hollow Marina at 9am: N Shore Dr, Portersville, PA 16051. Afterwards, we will reward ourselves with some ice cream at Shmily's: 1136 New Castle Rd, Prospect, PA 16052. **Please email Beth Marino to rsvp so we know you'll be joining us. bamjeep8@yahoo.com**



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Brocures available at the Welcome Center



SENIOR HIGH CAMP
(9th-12th Grade)
June 15-20, 2025

JUNIOR HIGH CAMP
(6th-8th Grade)
June 22-27, 2025

ELEMENTARY CAMP
(3rd-5th Grade)
June 29-July 3, 2025

HOW TO REGISTER

whitehallcamp.org/w-pa-youth-camp

- Visit the website above.
- Select North Main Street Church of God as your church*
- Fill out your campers information.
- Complete the rest of the registration and do NOT pay Whitehall.

**if you do not select North Main, you will be responsible for the full camp payment and will pay upon registration*

HOW TO PAY

northmaincog.org/give

- Check: Make checks payable to NMCOG with Whitehall Camp in the memo.
- Online: visit northmaincog.org/give and input the correct amount with "Whitehall Camp" in the notes section.

Early Bird (Before May 19th)

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| \$255 Sr/Jr | \$215 Elementary |
| Your Cost: \$170 | Your Cost: \$145 |

Regular Rate (After May 19th):

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| \$280 Sr/Jr | \$240 Elementary |
| Your Cost: \$195 | Your Cost: \$170 |

Youth Pastor, Joey Vegerano

724-332-7817

JoeyV@northmaincog.org



North Main Street Church of God
1201 North Main Street Ext
Butler, PA 16001-1537



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www.northmaincog.org



Sundays at 10:30am



724-285-4214



info@northmaincog.org

CONNECTION LUNCHEON

May 4th, 2025

Smoked Burgers, Mac & Cheese,
Homemade Potato Salad and
Salted Caramel Brownies.

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

May Community Partnerships Highlight



Whitehall Camp and Conference Center is a Christ-centered, year-round campground located on 150 acres nestled in the rolling hills of Western Pennsylvania. They are directly affiliated with the Church of God (Anderson, IN) and operate as the main gathering place for nearly 62 Church of God Congregations spread throughout Pennsylvania. While the campground is directly connected to the Church of God, our programming is open and available for anyone to attend (regardless of denominational affiliation)!

There are camps available for all students ages K-12 coming up in June and July. You can find more information at www.whitehallcamp.org.

Currently, Whitehall is in need of older counselors for both boys and girls for all summer camps, with the greatest need being for the boys. Check out the website above for more information and if you're able to counsel for one of the camps or would like more information on what counselors do, please reach out to Whitehall or email Community Partnerships Pastor Christy Pittman at ChristyP@northmaincog.org