

Dear Friends,

Over the past few weeks, there has been an increase in the number of national personalities, including politicians and journalists, charged with inappropriate behavior. In response, I have struggled with tension in my emotions. On the one hand, I feel happy for justice to win and for the victims to begin the healing process. On the other hand, I sense that anyone, including myself, is only one decision away from making a mistake. I have to remind myself that I am not judge and jury for those who made a poor choice in a moment of weakness. Theodore Roosevelt made a great statement about behavior when he said, "I care not what others think of what I do, but I care very much about what I think of what I do! That is character!" A person cannot escape the outcome of their choices.

Daniel was a great example of a politician who made good choices. Daniel was one of the top three political figures in his country. Not only was he intelligent, but he was also a person of integrity. When the ruling authorities tried to find a scandal with which to entrap, they could not find anything (Daniel 6:4). He had an "excellent spirit" and he was honest and careful (v. 4). As followers of Christ, we need God's Spirit to help us be this same way—faithful in our work, our relationships, and to God.

*Jesus, too often we are weak, and we come up short of your plan for our lives. People get hurt in the process by our decisions. I pray for strength in our community to live honorably and display godly character in our decisions and actions. In Jesus name, Amen.*

On another note, we are anticipating a meaningful and joyful Christmas Pursuit service tonight! Students will be using a variety of artistic expressions to celebrate and reflect on the Christmas season and story of Jesus' birth. This is one of our campus' favorite events every year, and all are welcome – children, too!

We would like to thank those that donated gifts to be given away at the service tonight. We received generous contributions from local businesses including PCC, Metropolitan Market, Zoka Coffee, Woods Coffee, Little Brother, and our own faculty and staff. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to bless our students this Christmas!

Butterfield Chapel opens at 8pm, and the service begins at 8:30pm.



#### **COMING UP THIS WEEK**

**Mon, Dec 4** | Chapel: Micah Lorenz | Butterfield Chapel Balcony, 10 & 11:20am

**Mon, Dec 4** | Christmas Pursuit | Butterfield Chapel, 8:30pm

**Wed, Dec 6** | Chapel: Following Jesus Panel | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

**Wed, Dec 6** | IMarch for Immigration\* | HSC Patio, 3:15pm **\*Spiritual Life Credit Offered**

**Fri, Dec 8** | Graduation Chapel\* | Butterfield Chapel, 10:40am **\*One-chapel schedule**

***Missions applications for all spring break and summer missions trips are due to the Campus Ministries office by 5pm today, or can be emailed to [globalmissions@northwestu.edu](mailto:globalmissions@northwestu.edu). An application is attached.***



Brenda and I wish you all a very merry Christmas!

**Phil Rasmussen**

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