

Family Information

Northland Upcoming Events

Northland 50th Anniversary

2018 will be a great year of celebrating 50 years of God's faithfulness! Everyone is invited to share pictures, any historical Northland Family data and your favorite Northland memories with the "Northland 50th Facebook" and/or with the 50th historical committee. Please pray that our 50th Anniversary year will be a blessing to many and an amazing year of gratitude to our Faithful Loving Lord! Thank you for all your help church family! Vicki Cowans and Robbie McVicker"

Hospitalized

Clyde Rollie is in Grant Hospital, Critical Care Unit room 332. Please continue to pray for him.

Contribution Envelopes

The contribution envelopes for 2018 are available on the table in the foyer. If you don't have envelopes and would like a set, please see Pam Estep or Glenn Culler.

Area Wide Worship

The Area Wide Worship is **TODAY**, January 7th at 6 p.m. at Spring Road.

Calendar

January

7	Morning Prayer Time
7	Area Wide Worship @ Spring Road
14	Single Sisters Lunch
27	Snow Tubing @ Mad River Mountain

For The Month of January

Invitation/ Responses: Jeff McVicker
Foyer Duty: Jack Evans
Greeters: Art and Kythrie Silva

Communion Servers

Patrick Boateng	Perry Coate
Jimi Foster	James Milnor
Yaw Odoom	Phil Stafa
Yaw Tiekou	Randy Yates

Contribution

Last Week	Average YTD
------------------	--------------------

General:	\$6588	\$5623
Designated:	\$260	\$363

Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Ghana Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Ghana Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Spanish Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Evening	7:00 pm

Evangelist: Bobby Graham

Elders: Steve Carver, Roy Estep, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins

Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva

Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos

Believing Six Impossible Things...

Why Should We Consider It Incredible That God Raises The Dead? (Or, Believing Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast)

When his accusers got up to speak, they did not charge him with any of the crimes I had expected. Instead, they had some points of dispute with him about their own religion and about a dead man named Jesus who Paul claimed was alive. I was at a loss how to investigate such matters.- Acts 25:18-20

When governor Festus has to handle Paul's case, he gives this puzzled report to the King. For indeed, earthly minds are at a loss how to investigate the message of Jesus and him crucified and raised from the dead. Human logic is baffled by Jesus' good news of grace and redemption. Yet 'deep speaks to deep', and God's words speak deep truths of deep things to our spirits.

God lives forever, God is love, and he gives us life and breath, so why should we consider it incredible that he will give eternal life to those who believe in Jesus and follow him -

Now it is because of my hope in what God has promised our ancestors that I am on trial today. This is the promise our twelve tribes are hoping to see fulfilled . . . King Agrippa, it is because of this hope that these Jews are accusing me. Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?- Acts 26:6-8

God has made very clear the purposes of his heart, his desire to give us the grace and understanding we need, so that we should not consider it incredible that Jesus laid down his life so that we may know our God.

In Lewis Carroll's "Through The Looking Glass", when the Queen recites some amazing facts, Alice insists 'one can't believe impossible things.' Yet the Queen says, 'I daresay you haven't had much practice . . . Sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.'

There are indeed far more than six things in the Scriptures that worldly minds consider to be impossible; and even Paul admits that he too once found them unbelievable, until he *saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me (Acts 26:13)*. Likewise, God calls us to fix our eyes on eternal things, so that the light and truth of Jesus may fill our hearts.

When we begin to doubt that God is near or that he cares for us, then, as the Queen would advise Alice, 'Try again: draw a long breath, and shut your eyes.' This does not mean to exert our will power to convince ourselves, rather it means to ask God to clear our minds, to shut out the world's distractions and its noise, so that God can reassure our spirits about what is real and true.

God makes sprouts of truth come up in this desolate wasteland, and he makes blossoms of grace appear in unexpected places, so that we may believe that he can raise us from the miry pit of spiritual death.

God has made many promises that are fulfilled in Jesus, so that we may consider and know that his love is from everlasting to everlasting with those who walk by faith.

- Mark Garner



4581 Cleveland Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43231
(614) 410-5860

Website
 ncofamily.org

January 7, 2018
 Volume 27, Number 1

Thoughts On Things To Come

The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.- 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

While the Bible is one of the most poetical of books, though its language is unutterably sublime, yet we must remark how constantly it is true to nature. There is no straining of a fact, no glossing over a truth. However dark may be the subject, while it lights it up with brilliance, yet it does not deny the gloom connected with it . . . Who has not rejoiced and whose heart has not been lifted up, or filled with a holy fire, while he has read such sentences as these, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound, the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed . . . then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:52, 15:54).

Yet with all that majestic language, with all that bold flight of eloquence, he does not deny that death is a gloomy thing. Even his very figures imply it. He does not laugh at it, he does not say, "Oh, it is nothing to die." He describes death as a monster. He speaks of it as having a sting. He tells us wherein the strength of that sting lies and even in the exclamation of triumph he imputes that victory not to unaided flesh, but he says, "Thanks be to God which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- Charles Haddon Spurgeon, 1855

Announcements

There will be no Sunday night Bible study (Bible Study 2:42) - January 7th (Area Wide Worship)
We will be meeting again at 6:30 p.m. starting January 14th. A great way to start off the New Year by committing to a small group Bible study.



January 27, 2018 Snow Tubing - Mad River Mountain

Don't Mark Your Mistakes

On New Year's Day, 1929, Georgia Tech played UCLA in the Rose Bowl. In that game a young man named Roy Riegels recovered a fumble for UCLA. Picking up the loose ball, he lost his sense of direction and ran sixty-five yards toward the wrong goal line. One of his teammates ran him down and tackled him just before he scored for the opposing team.

The strange play came in the first half. At half-time the UCLA players filed off the field and into the dressing room. As others sat down on the benches and the floor, Riegels put a blanket around his shoulders, sat down in a corner, and put his face in his hands.

A football coach usually has a great deal to say to his team during halftime. That day Coach Price was quiet. When the timekeeper came in and announced that there were three minutes before playing time, Coach Price looked at the team and said, "Men, the same team that played the first half will start the second." The players got up and started out, all but Riegels. He didn't budge. The coach looked back and called to him. Riegels didn't move. Coach Price went over to where Riegels sat and said, "Roy, didn't you hear me? The same team that played the first half will start the second." Roy Riegels looked up, his cheeks wet with tears. "Coach," he said, "I can't do it. I've ruined you. I've ruined the university's reputation. I've ruined myself. I can't face that crowd out there." Coach Price reached out, put his hand on Riegels' shoulder, and said, "Roy, get up and go on back. The game is only half over."

Riegels finally did get up. He went onto the field, and the fans saw him play hard and play well. All of us have run a long way in the wrong direction at times. But remember, because of God's mercy, the game is only half over.

"If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared" (Psalm 130:3-4).

The Shadow of the Cross

What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings. - Philippians 3:7-10

O Christ! who once has seen Thy visioned beauty -
He counts all gain but loss,
And other things are naught if he may win Thee
And share with Thee Thy Cross

And he on whom its shadow once has fallen,
Walks quietly and apart;
He holds the master-key of joy and sorrow
That opens every heart.

The burdened souls that pass him on the highway
Turn back to take his hand,
And murmur low, with tear-wet eyes of anguish,
"You know - you understand."

And yet no other can his heart interpret,
His life is hidden, lone;
A holy seal is set upon his forehead,
And he is not his own.

O Cross of Christ! on me thy shade is resting,
Thy sacred marks I bear;
Earth holds for me no more of grief or gladness,
No anxious thought nor care;

Only henceforth, the bliss and pain commingled
Of sharing woes divine,
Of knowing I am called to eat His portion,
To drink His bitter wine.

Keep me forever, Lord, beneath that shadow,
Lest, haply, I should lose
My life for something less than Thy sweet service,
Or one dear pang refuse.

- Annie Johnson Flint, 1866-1932

(Answer to last week's puzzle: *If the Lord is God, follow him.* - 1 KINGS 18:21)