

Family Information

Ladies Retreat

Renew and Refresh Northland Ladies Retreat will be Friday, May 4th 6 p.m. thru Saturday May 5th 1 p.m. at the Heartland Retreat Center, Marengo, OH. \$66 fee covers 3 meals and an overnight stay! \$33 deposit due by March 25th. Total payment (\$66) due by April 15th. There will be a registration booth in the lobby during the month of March. See Lynn Paden or Robbie McVicker for more details.

"Area Wide Worship April 29th 6 pm at Northland"

It is our turn to host our brothers and sisters for the Area Wide Worship this Month! We hope you can join the Family Worship & Fellowship by attending and bringing food to share. Please sign up on the Church Bulleting Board to see how you can help. This is a great opportunity to experience a glimpse of heaven and to bring a friend."

Prayers

Prepare our hearts Lord for Renewal and Refreshment at the Northland Ladies Retreat, May 4-5.

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

- Isaiah 40: 28-31

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	7:30 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

Calendar

April

17	Tax Day
20	TGIF Dinner
20	Youth Movie/Game Night At Michael & Micah Evans House
26	Take Your Son or Daughter To Work Day
27	TGIF Meeting 6:30 pm
27-29	Fort Hill Spring Teen Retreat
29	Services At Willow Brook
29	Area Wide Worship At Northland

Church Camp

Church camp registration fee- The price is \$190. If paid by May 15th, you get a \$20 discount, for a total of \$170, camp is July 15-21.

For The Month of April

Invitation/ Responses: Jeff McVicker

Foyer Duty: Jack Evans

Greeters: Perry and Jenny Coate

Communion Servers

Franklin Agyei	Patrick Boateng
Bill Davis	Yaw Odoom
David Ricketts	Phil Stafa
Yaw Tiekou	Randy Yates

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4771	\$5377
Designated:	\$115	\$251



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These Three Remain

These Three Remain (Thinking Like Hercule Poirot)

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing - 1 Corinthians 13:1-2

Seeking the truth can be difficult in this world. There are many confident-sounding experts, people who pretend to have all the answers, people who claim to be doing something great, yet most of this is just noise without meaning. Instead, what matters to God is that we walk by faith and put our hope in his unfailing love - *Love is patient, love is kind . . . Love never fails. - 1 Corinthians 13:4, 13:8*

Walking in the grace and love of Jesus takes patience, it takes hope in unseen things, it takes humbly letting God teach us how to walk in step with his Spirit. Yet God's words and his love and his understanding never fail. Agatha Christie's fictional detective Hercule Poirot (approximate pronunciation: 'air-kyool pwa-rho') faced an array of master criminals who used devious schemes to pull off their crimes. He explained his approach as using 'the little grey cells'; that out of complexity, he looked for simple truths. Poirot's assistant, the loyal but perpetually-confused Captain Hastings, often became impatient and urged Poirot to take action; yet Poirot relied on an understanding of human nature.

On one case, as strange clues kept piling up, a police inspector said in despair, 'this case keeps getting more complicated every moment.' To this Poirot replied, 'Oui, and that means that the solution must be very simple.' After contemplation, he realized that the criminal had deliberately planted several false clues, and thus as a result a legitimate clue had been misinterpreted; so indeed the solution then became simple.

Likewise, our earthly eyes see only the surface of things, and we see many false 'clues'; yet when we open our hearts and minds, even now God can show us reflections of eternity, and he promises us that someday we will see him face to face - *For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. - 1 Corinthians 13:12*

On another case, Poirot deduced that one of the suspects had disguised herself as two different women - one a plain-looking nurse, the other one a good-looking socialite. The case was soon solved, yet his assistant Hastings was unsettled; and he asked Poirot, 'If you can't trust what your eyes see, then where are you?' Poirot simply replied, 'At the beginning of wisdom.' Likewise, when we look past the world's distractions and its appearances and its false hopes, we can see what remains - *And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love (1 Corinthians 13:13).*

- Mark Garner

We will be having a Sermon series on men's roles as Dads, Husbands, and in the church. Women please fill out this questionnaire on how you see men's roles in each of these categories.

Husbands

Fathers

In the church

If you feel you need more room to write, please feel free to add more on a separate page and put your answers in the box in the foyer marked "Men"

From The Northland Archives

This article appeared in the Northland Church of Christ bulletin on January 14, 2001. It was written by Linda Chivington. Linda, her husband Kevin, and their children were fixtures at Northland during the 1990s and the early 2000's. This article was originally part of a series on parents and children, yet many of these thoughts are also appropriate for all of our relationships.

Tying Heartstrings

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. -Ephesians 6:4

The precious, unseen bonds of love, honor and trust in a family are strings that keep us firmly tied together. These strengthen when we share solid, bonding experiences together. Sharing special talks, trips or events add to their number. These strings can be cut, though, and the effects quite damaging.

What can do this damage? Perhaps selfishness, indifference, pride or reckless insensitivity could. Have you seen that blank, distant look in your child's eyes after a confrontation? I don't mean manipulative pouting, but genuine heartache. Perhaps you teased him recklessly about something on his heart or came down too hard on childish, but not sinful, behavior. I know that I've done this. I've seen that look and it's heartbreaking. If you have older children who verbalize this pain, they may say that you 'don't understand them' or 'don't really care'. These strings have been left untied.

We must be aware of when these delicate springs break and make every effort to constantly tie new ones. If you sense a breach in the relationship, talk to the child one-on-one. Confess your failure to God and to your child and demonstrate your godly sorrow. What an example for them in humility! Young children, especially, are quick to forgive when asked. Older children may be a little suspicious initially, so you must continue rebuilding to show your sincerity. You'll need to earn their confidence again. How tragic it would be to repeatedly ignore the severed strings and lose so precious a thing as our child's confidence and trust.

Smile at your children. Look them in the eyes. Play and do things together. Listen. Stop and observe their Lego castles or English reports. Don't leave severed strings hanging . . .

Think down the road always and the open hearts that God will need in our children as they grow up to be his servants. If we leave them embittered with us, we are running great risk with their willingness to obey their Heavenly Father.

May God grant us a gentle and receptive heart to see you when we sin or fail in our relationships with our family, and the humility to do the right thing.

*- Linda Chivington
(abridged), January 2001*