

## Family Information

### Clothing Closet

Prom season is right around the corner. We would like to offer prom-style dresses in the Clothing Closet during this season. The Clothing Closet is asking for/accepting donations of: somewhat-current style dresses, dress shoes, costume jewelry. You may bring these items to the Clothing Closet on Wed. evening or see Pam Culler, Tanya Milnor, Donna Rollie or Robbie McVicker.

### Hospitalized

Clyde Rollie is in Mt. Carmel East Hospital. Please be praying for him.

### PRAYER REQUEST

**Joan Mauersberg** has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Please be praying for her.

**John Lindsay** requests prayers for his sister Mona. Her son Tommy passed away. Tommy left behind a wife and 2 small children. His sister is devastated and needs God's strength during this difficult time.

**Paula & Jim Robbins** request prayers for their nephew, Jacob Parsons. He left for deployment with his Army Reserve unit. Please pray for his spiritual strength and safety.

## Calendar

### May

12	Congregational Work Day
13	Mothers Day
13	Single Sisters Lunch
19	Armed Forces Day
27	Canoeing
28	Memorial Day
30	Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30

### 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 May

**Invitation/ Responses: Jim Robbins**  
**Foyer Duty: Joshua Evans**  
**Greeters: Art and Kythrie Silva**

### Communion Servers

Jake Bowman	Jack Evans
Josh Evans	Michael Evans
Mike Evans	John Lindsay
Tim McVicker	Paul Silva

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$4112	\$5465
<b>Designated:</b>	\$150	\$244

### 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:** 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

## A Firm Place To Stand

### (Lessons From Marsh Birds)

*I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. - Psalm 40:1-2*

We face many dilemmas and decisions and fears in this world; we are surrounded by confusion and noise, so we want a firm place to stand, something to trust, something to hold on to. Yet tangible things that seem to be firm can be miry pits, for relying on human reasoning and human strength can lead us astray. Instead, when we wait on God, he gives us a firm place to stand; he gives us the sure foundation of Jesus and the gift of his Spirit to reassure us.

Marshes are distinctive places surrounded with reeds, with the water's surface covered with vegetation. They also have some remarkable birds that cannot protect themselves against danger, so God gives each of them a firm place to stand - and these can be unusual places.

The American Bittern makes its home among the reeds; it is camouflaged with brown feathers, yet its loud call and its large beak often give it away. But when it is surprised or confused, the bittern simply raises its beak in the air and looks directly above - then suddenly its beak looks like a reed, and the bittern becomes almost impossible to spot, even from a few inches away.

*He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him. - Psalm 40:3*

God gives the bittern a firm place to stand, in plain sight of its foes. Likewise, sometimes God calls us simply to look above, to make difficult decisions trusting in his truths, to endure tough times trusting in God's unfailing love, instead of trusting in human ways.

The Purple Gallinule is a beautiful bird, too vivid to be able to hide, and they have large, spindly feet that make it awkward for them to fly or swim. Yet when cornered, God gives it an unexpectedly firm place to stand. Since their feet distribute their body weight so efficiently, this bird can actually walk across a pond, just by stepping on lily pads or other floating plants. *Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare. - Psalm 40:5*

Many are the wondrous things God has done, and many are the profound truths he wants to teach us. The purple gallinule reminds us that sometimes we must abandon preconceptions or plans or ways that seemed firm, and open our minds to God and let him show us the next lily pad on the path ahead. For indeed, God's wonders are far too many to declare.

- Mark Garner



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## Studying Scriptures With . . .

From time to time, we're talking with some of our brothers and sisters about the scriptures they've been reading. Today, we are talking with **Franklin Agyei**.

**Q:** Hello, Franklin! What scriptures have you been studying?

**Franklin:** I've been reading Philippians. It's been very helpful to think about Philippians 2:6-11; it is almost beyond our understanding how Jesus humbled himself and came down to earth to save us, even though we were sinful. I've also been thinking about the next verse, *Therefore . . . work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill to his good purpose (Philippians 2:12-13)*. It is easier to do things with the strength of God; and God strengthens us because he cares for us, not because we are righteous.

**Q:** Those are some good thoughts. Since we are on that verse, what does it mean to you, to *work out your salvation with fear and trembling*?

**Franklin:** It is a different kind of fear. Instead of running away from God, to humble ourselves before God, humble ourselves even to the ground. We are not living for ourselves anymore, so it means to live in respect and admiration for God.

**Q:** That is a very good way of describing what that scripture means. You said there is another verse you've especially liked?

**Franklin:** Yes, in the next chapter, Paul says, *Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal . . . I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it . . . I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward (Philippians 3:12-14)*. We have not yet arrived, and there really is nothing lasting in this world. I want to be in heaven!

Thank you, Franklin!  
(Franklin Agyei with Mark G., May 2018)

## GRADUATION SUNDAY



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN -  
JOIN US ON SUNDAY, JUNE 10TH TO HONOR OUR GRADUATES  
We need at least 15-20 pictures for H.S. and 2 for college graduates  
All pictures are due by May 20th.



COMING SOON...  
VBS WEEK - June 18 - 20th  
Camp Week - July 15 - 21



## From The Northland Archives

*This poem appeared in the Northland Church of Christ bulletin on April 23, 2000. It was written by Maude Prince, who was a part of the Northland congregation for many years, until she passed away in 2010. Maude taught children's classes for over 30 years; and when her family cleaned her house, they collected over 40 Bibles. Maude's husband Gene was also an elder at Northland for many years.*

### A Poem About 'Trash'

We hear the word 'trash' used just about every other day.

But it isn't always used in the same particular way.

Some speak of the 'trash' lying along a road or street.

Others talk about the 'trash' they had a chance to meet.

But one thing I have noticed as we travel along life's way,

We will stop and pick up some 'trash' we see and take it to our house that day.

Then we will avoid the other 'trash',

Making it widely known that we don't want to have anything to do with them,

In a harsh and bitter tone.

But one thing we need to remember.

It isn't the 'trash' we see,

"In as much as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me" (Matthew 25:45)

- Maude Prince, April 2000

*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me . . . Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."*  
Matthew 25:40, 25:45