

## Family Information

### 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"

### Mark Your Calendars

The Ohio Valley Lectureship, April 8th-11th.  
The Superlative of Christ - Study in Colossians

### Belated Celebration

Belated celebration for Hilary and Hugo! We will be having a party to celebrate the arrival of baby Hugo Johnson on Saturday, February 3rd at 3pm at the Chivington's home! All ladies are welcome to attend. If you plan on attending or have any questions, please contact Courtney Brown at [301-693-8654](tel:301-693-8654).

### Jesus Loves The Little Children

In our loving and serving body here at Northland, we have many beautiful opportunities to care for the children God has given us. One way is to support our children's Bible classes, by sharing in teaching needs, preparing class materials, and serving on planning teams. We are embarking on a new curriculum for our children and hope to have help to provide a God-filled experience. Please see Art Silva if you can help in any of these areas for our children's classes.

Another great opportunity is with our Child Care ministry. Northland chose to minister to God's children through this work. Lately, the body has been interacting more with this mission, and there will be new ways to serve. Please see Jeff McVicker or Tara Bell for more information on these plans and to participate in a Child Care support team.

## Calendar

### January

14 Single Sisters Lunch  
27 Snow Tubing @ Mad River Mountain  
31 50's Plus at Willow Brook Village

### February

2 TGIF Child Care, Movie Night, 6:30 pm  
4 Congregational Devo 9:00 am  
Combined Classes  
7 Singing At Willow Brook Home, 10:30 am  
11 Services At Willow Brook  
11 Single Sisters Lunch  
16-18 Winterfest At Gatlinburg  
23 TGIF Meeting 6:30 pm  
25 Combined Worship 9:00 am

### Contribution Envelopes

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

### 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
<b>General:</b>	\$5446	\$5446
<b>Designated:</b>	\$863	\$863

### 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



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## The Three Dimensions...

### The Three Dimensions Of A Complete Life

Many, many centuries ago, there was a man by the name of John who found himself in prison out on a lonely, obscure island called Patmos. And I've been in prison just enough to know that it's a lonely experience. And when you are incarcerated in such a situation, you are deprived of almost every freedom, but the freedom to think, the freedom to pray, the freedom to reflect and to meditate.

And while John was out on this lonely island in prison, he lifted his vision to high heaven and he saw, descending out of heaven, a new heaven and a new earth. Over in the twenty-first chapter of the book of Revelation, it opens by saying, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. And I John saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven."

And one of the greatest glories of this new city of God that John saw was its completeness. It was not up on one side and down on the other, but it was complete in all three of its dimensions. And so in this same chapter as we looked down to the sixteenth verse, John says, "The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal."

In other words, this new city of God, this new city of ideal humanity is not an unbalanced entity, but is complete on all sides. Now I think John is saying something here in all of the symbolism of this text and the symbolism of this chapter. He's saying at bottom that life as it should be and life at its best is a life that is complete on all sides.

And there are three dimensions of any complete life to which we can fitly give the words of this text: length, breadth, and height. Now the length of life as we shall use it here is the inward concern for one's own welfare. In other words, it is that inward concern that causes one to push forward, to achieve his own goals and ambitions. The breadth of life as we shall use it here is the outward concern for the welfare of others. And the height of life is the upward reach for God. Now you got to have all three of these to have a complete life . . .

And when you get all three of these together, you can walk and never get weary. You can look up and see the morning stars singing together, and the sons of God shouting for joy.

- Martin Luther King, Jr.  
(excerpts from a sermon in 1967)

## *Be Continually In Prayer For ...*

**Ellen Ward** who lives with multiple sclerosis every day.  
**Joan Mauersberg**  
**Patricia Stevens**  
**Tammy Chatfield**

## *Announcements*

January 27, 2018 Snow Tubing - Mad River Mountain

### **Winterfest 2018- Pre-Event Lesson** **“God Is For You” Romans 8:31-39**

#### **“IF”**

- If you were to inhabit the world of any video game, which game and which person would you be?
- If your house was on fire and you had time to grab only three things, what would those things be?
- If you were a Major League Baseball player, what would your “walk-up song” be?
- If you just learned that you had 24 hours to live, what would you do?
- If you were given one hour and an unlimited amount of money to spend in any store in the world, which store would you choose?
- If you could enact one law in this country that doesn't currently exist, what would it be?
- If you could possess one superhero power, what would it be?
- If you could keep only one of your five senses, which one would it be?
- If you could have any person from any time in history call you for advice, and they were to listen to what you said, who would you want that person to be?
- If you were to be recognized by posterity for one thing, what would you like to be known for?
- If you could have personally witnessed one event in history, what would you want to have seen?
- If you could have had the starring role in one film already made, which movie would you pick?
- If you could change one thing in the world right now, what would you change?
- If you had to eliminate a single type of animal forever, which would you choose?
  - \* What if...the Creator of the universe was your supportive Dad?
  - \* What if...your Maker was in control of the entire world?
  - \* What if...the Most Powerful Being in the cosmos always had your back?
  - \* What if...God loved you more than you can comprehend?
  - \* What if you really believed this and lived your life accordingly?

The Good News....the GREAT News is it is all true! The reality is that your Heavenly Father controls the whole world and He loves you perfectly! How awesome is that??

## **Come To Jesus, & Have Life** **(Why Is Everyone Afraid Of The Toad?)**

*You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. - John 5:39-40*

Jesus said this to some religious leaders, appealing to them to come to him so he could give them life. Jesus was sad for them, since they did study the scriptures with considerable effort, yet they didn't understand them; they were more interested in learning facts and rules, than they were with learning about the love, peace, and grace that God wanted to give them. They forgot that -

*The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you - they are full of the Spirit and life. - John 6:63*

In studying other languages, you will often run across words that look similar to English words, yet that have a very different meaning. One of many such words is the German word for death, 'der Tod', which literally means, 'the death.' This word once came up in a class on German Literature, when each of us was asked to read, translate, and comment on a couple sentences.

One line said, 'Everyone fears (the) death'; and one of our classmates let his attention wander when he came to the word Tod, and mistranslated it, 'Everyone fears the toad.' We felt badly for him, for we each had made similar mistakes. But then, we couldn't help bursting out laughing when the professor said, 'Tell us, now, why is everyone so afraid of this toad?'

In the same way, sometimes when we read scripture, our attention wavers and what we read becomes mere words, and we don't stop to think about what they say. Everything in God's Word is meant to give us life and hope, not to burden us with rules or methods. The scriptures tell us who God is and what Jesus has done for us. God's words reassure us that he sent his Son to give eternal life to those who honor him and follow him -

*For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. - John 5:21-23*

God's teachings are meant to speak to our spirits. Don't be 'afraid of the toad', that is, don't be afraid to look at scripture more deeply, don't be afraid if you don't understand it at first. Don't be afraid to stop and pray for God to help you understand his words. Just come to Jesus and listen to his voice -

*Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. - John 5:24-25*

For he wants to raise us from spiritual death to give us the eternal life of being with God. A time indeed has come, for Jesus has come to be the Way and the truth and our life for those who walk in his light.

- Mark Garner