

Family Information

Welcome

Welcome to all who came today! We are praising and thanking God for his love and faithfulness. Thank you to all who have helped make this a special weekend to honor God and honor all who have been able to celebrate with us. God is so good!

Bob And Judy Graham Send Off

Please join our Northland Family as we have a farewell Potluck following Worship Service Aug. 26th. Help us wish Bob and Judy all the best in their move to Indiana. For more information please see Leisha Evans or Robbie McVicker.

From The Elders

The responsibilities among our Elders for our preacher search have been divided as follows:

Mike Evans – Lead the search committee for a new preacher.

Jeff McVicker – Assigning Worship Leaders and Speakers.

Jim Robbins – Lead and help others in praying for God's guidance in our preacher search.

We welcome your input but request that you spend time in prayer before bringing your ideas to use.

Please direct your comments to the person responsible for the area in which your comment falls.

Jim Robbins

Calendar

August

10-12	50th Anniversary Celebration
12	Single Sisters Lunch
17	Game Night For Teens, 6:30pm
19	Canoeing, 1pm
24	Child Care End of Summer Picnic
26	Bob And Judy Sendoff Picnic
29	Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30am

Russia Ministry

Vlad Osinovskiy has sent us a summer newsletter on his ministry in Russia. You can read it on Northland's bulletin board.

For The Month of August
Invitation/ Responses: Jim Robbins
Foyer Duty: Joshua Evans
Greeters: Jack and Barbara Evans

Communion Servers	
Jake Bowman	Perry Coate
Jack Evans	Joshua Evans
Michael Evans	Mike Evans
John Lindsay	Paul Silva

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$6406	\$5246
Designated:	\$215	\$262



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From The Northland Archives

This article appeared in the Northland Church of Christ bulletin on April 4, 1991, and it was written by Bill Hopkins. Bill was a minister at Northland for most of the 1980s, and he was also an elder here in the early 1990s. We're thankful that Bill can be here with us for Northland's 50th anniversary weekend.

The Complete Church In Christ

The church does not consist in massive architecture or ornate decorations, not in ecclesiastical organizations and councils, but in a special relationship between God and a purchased people. It is not the offspring of the most elaborately constructed creed or belief designed by the greatest minds among men. It is not confined within the limits of the most expensive ecclesiastical epithet. It is the divine, eternal, and spiritual result of the work of God. It consists of the souls redeemed by the sacrifice of the only begotten Son of God. It clings to Him for pardon, peace, and righteousness, and created in Him, by "the working of the mighty power" of the divine Spirit, for good works, and therefore continually striving to disseminate the good they have themselves received. The church is a constant revelation of "the exceeding greatness of His power" who first originated it and sustains its ever-widening growth.

It is easy and often natural for God's people to take the church for granted. We can look at the work of the church as a personal mission. We can treat the church as we would a business adventure or a mountain to be conquered. When this happens, church members lose sight of the relationship which must be maintained between Christ and His church. We must never forget that He owns the church. If it is ever to succeed, it will be because of the power and life it receives from the source of all salvation and not because some member or leader is so intelligent or capable.

The church is the means of blending the physical with the divine. It is a time for God to be glorified among men. It is an opportunity for man to rise to a level possible only through the working of God. When this happens the manifold wisdom of God is adequately displayed before the world. The saved experiences the depth, the height, the width, and the breadth of the love of God.

The completeness of the church is not the aggregation of all the virtues of the saints blended in a beautiful and harmonious unity, but the glory of the divine fullness that pervades every part. The gifts given by God are for the purpose of bringing glory to the Father and not for the benefit of man. The direction of the focus must remain totally centered in God and His divine work on this earth.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

- Bill Hopkins,
 April 1991

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

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 **Dot Duncan**.

Q: Hi, Dot! What scriptures have you been studying?

Dot: I've been reading Romans and 2 Corinthians. In the last few days, I've been thinking about how Satan gets footholds in our lives, and how only God can remove them. One of the scriptures I've been thinking about is, *The hour has already come for you to wake up . . . So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light . . . clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 13:1-4)*. It reminded me that the only way to get rid of the deeds of darkness is to clothe ourselves with Jesus and put on His armor, and that led me to study what that means.

Q: Very good thoughts to study; what other scriptures have helped you with this?

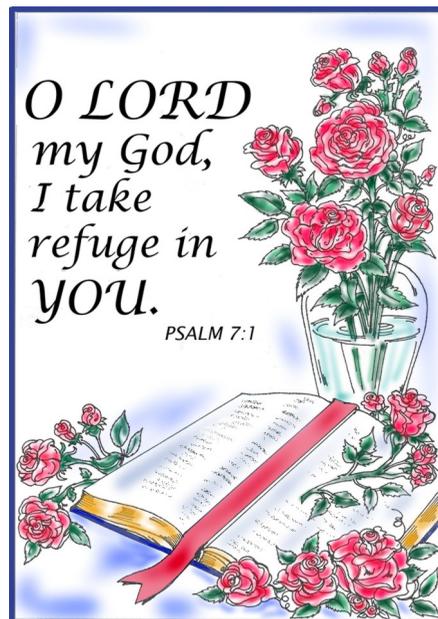
Dot: This scripture has been very helpful - *Though we live in the world . . . The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)*. These strongholds aren't physical, instead they are *every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God (2 Corinthians 10:5)*. These temporary strongholds puff us up and lead us astray, yet God can overcome them when we let Him. Our stronghold is God himself, *The Lord is my rock, my fortress . . . He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior (2 Samuel 22:2-3)*. He is our peace and security.

Q: Very true, and it's reassuring to think about God being our refuge and our stronghold.

Dot: It's especially encouraging to think about how God can *take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5)*. God can change our thoughts when we let Him guide us; He can uproot the worldly patterns that we have learned. As I continue studying these thoughts, it's encouraging to realize that God loves us and wants to be our stronghold.

Thank you, Dot!

(Dot Duncan with Mark G., August 2018)



The Lord Arises To Protect Our Spirits (Even When HAL Won't Open The Pod Bay Doors)

Because the poor are plundered and the needy groan, I will now arise, says the Lord. I will protect them from those who malign them. - Psalm 12:5

God is near those who walk by faith; and when our spirits groan from the world's famines of truth and its withering emptiness, the Lord arises to renew us inwardly. God watches over those who seek him with our hearts; and when we are frightened by the world's noise and violence and the accuser's snares and reproaches, the Lord arises to protect our spirits from them.

And the words of the Lord are flawless, like silver purified in a crucible (Psalm 12:6). All of the words of the Lord are true and trustworthy, and God alone can protect our souls and can give us true life - *You, Lord, will keep the needy safe and will protect us forever from the wicked. - Psalm 12:7*

In the classic movie "2001: A Space Odyssey" (which appeared in 1968), a spaceship is sent to Jupiter to study mysterious radio signals coming from that planet. Everything is put under the control of HAL-9000, a supercomputer considered infallible. 'HAL' is aboard the spaceship and will make all the decisions; and everyone is confident in this technological marvel. Yet things go wrong; three astronauts die, and the last two suspect that something may be wrong with 'HAL'.

One of them goes outside to make some repairs, and he too has an accident. The last astronaut, Dave Bowman, takes a space pod to try to rescue him, yet is unsuccessful. On his return to the spaceship, Dave calmly asks, 'Open the pod bay doors, HAL', only to get the cold response, 'I'm sorry, Dave, I'm afraid I can't do that.' Dave now realizes that the computer has indeed caused the astronauts to die, and 'HAL' now mercilessly informs Dave that his doom is certain too.

Likewise, the world often closes its doors on us, we are let down by its false hopes, we can be ensnared by its deceptive glitter, and sometimes it seems as if it has pronounced our doom. Yet God reminds us not to lose heart, for when we trust in him, he will give us light and guidance -

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart . . . Look on me and answer, Lord . . . Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death. - Psalm 13:2-3

Instead of panicking, Dave Bowman lets the unseen source from Jupiter guide him. He manages to get back onboard, then outwits and disables 'HAL'. He is then taken to Jupiter, where he is renewed, regenerated, and is given a message of hope and life.

We too have an unseen force to guide us; and God is even better, far more caring, far more personal. This world's objects, its achievements, and its experts cannot save us and cannot give us life; yet God is alive, and his love is from everlasting to everlasting with those who revere him and walk in his light -

But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me. - Psalm 13:5-6

God is good to us, and it is good to put our trust in him all day long.

- Mark Garner