

Family Information

Bob And Judy Graham Send Off

Please join our Northland Family as we have a farewell Potluck following Worship Service **TODAY**. 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

Church Picnic

Saturday, Sept. 8th 4 p.m. - Join us for food and fun at the Blendon Woods Sycamore Shelter. Paper goods and hot grills provided. Bring your own meat and a dish to share! Hope to see you there!

Calendar

August

26 Bob And Judy Sendoff Picnic
29 Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30am

September

3 Labor Day
5 Singing At Willow Brook Home, 10:30
7 TGIF Movie Night, The Masked Saint
8 Congregational Fall Picnic, Sycamore Shelter 4pm
9 Single Sisters Lunch
9 Autumn Bible Classes Begin
9 Grandparents Day
21-22 Happy Hills Camping
22 Fall Begins
23 Services At Willow Brook

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:	\$5631	\$5291
Designated:	\$205	\$254

Caesar's & God's

(With One Of Abraham Lincoln's Early Cases)

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words . . . Teacher, they said, we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth . . . Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?
- Matthew 22:15-17

Though the Pharisees tried to trap Jesus, he patiently answers their question. How even more gracious Jesus is when we humbly ask him to explain things to us. We have so many questions, and often we're not sure even what to ask. God is so understanding as he helps us to look at things more deeply, just as Jesus uses their question to teach us something more important - *Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, . . . Show me the coin used for paying the tax. They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, Whose image is this? And whose inscription? Caesar's, they replied. Then he said to them, So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.* - Matthew 22:18-21

Jesus' answer is both profound and clear: let Caesar have Caesar's things, and give God what truly belongs to him. To Caesar belong the world's gold and its glitter and its fame. To God instead belong our hearts and our souls and our minds and our spirits. The world's 'money' is temporary, just a fallible medium of exchange; money exists because of the flaws of human nature, and there is not nearly enough in the world to fulfill human desires.

Yet God has more than enough of the love and mercy and guidance that our spirits and souls really need. God gives us *the incomparable riches of his grace (Ephesians 2:7), his compassions never fail (Lamentations 3:22), and How precious to me are your thoughts, God . . . Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand (Psalm 139:17-18).*

When Abraham Lincoln was a young lawyer, a wealthy man wanted him to sue a poor man who owed him \$5 (a fair sum at the time). Lincoln explained that he had a solid case, but that the minimum fee for filing the lawsuit would be \$10. This demanding client blustered, insisting on suing. So Lincoln took his \$10; he went to see the debtor, gave him \$5 to repay the debt, and gave him another \$5 to help him get a new start. Likewise, Jesus understands what it is like to live in Caesar's heartless, unforgiving world; so God gives us what we need, as a gift of grace and a gift of his love. So Jesus tells us to use Caesar's money as needed, help someone with it when we can, and when Caesar demands his money, give it back to him. We can be grateful for our earthly possessions without putting our self-worth in them.

Jesus especially calls us to give God what belongs to God. Set aside our preconceptions, and open our minds to God so he can teach us what really matters to him. Give our hearts to God, and put our times and our souls and our spirits into God's caring hands.

- Mark Garner



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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 **Gloria Kyeremateng**.

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

Gloria: I've been reading in Isaiah 40. Isaiah 40:28-31 has been very encouraging; and it is helping me to trust in God - *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 (Isaiah 40:28)*. It reminds me to ask God for help whenever I'm tired or when I don't know what to do.

Q: Very good thoughts to study. What else have you learned from this scripture?

Gloria: It takes humility to realize that we can't do something by ourselves, and to ask God for strength and guidance, so it encourages me that, *his understanding no one can fathom*. Everyone gets tired, yet - *He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak (Isaiah 40:29)*. I've been thinking about all the things God has gotten me and my family through, when I didn't even know what would happen. It also helps me to realize that God has never left us.

Q: Very true, and that can also give us hope for the future.

Gloria: Yes, and it has encouraged me to look back and see how far God has brought us. Also, this is helping me through the long days at work - *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 40:30-31)*. Young people seem strong, but they too get worn out. Strength comes from God, so it encourages me to lean on God and let him carry me.

Thank you, Gloria!

(Gloria Kyeremateng with Mark G., August 2018)



From The Northland Archives

This article appeared in the Northland bulletin on March 23, 1986, and it was written by Bill Hulteen. Bill was a member at Northland for several years in the 1980s; at various times he helped with the college students, teens, and young adults.

The Cost Of The Kingdom

Many of us live our lives hoping one day to have a great treasure. Perhaps winning a sweepstakes or receiving an inheritance is in the back of our minds. Some may toy with ideas or inventions that will revolutionize our society. Others may be planning their treasures through savings or investments, or see their prize in their families and close friends. Regardless of our mode of investment they are seems to be an intrinsic interest in obtaining our treasures. But what does God teach us about our quest for His treasure?

In Matthew 13:44 we're told that the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. Throughout the gospels we find the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God used interchangeably . . . During this period of time there were no banks per se. So people would often bury their valuables secretly on their property. If someone were to die before revealing the whereabouts of their treasure it was lost to those who might otherwise have inherited it. For the man in this parable it seems that his life was radically impacted by his discovery for he sold all that he had to secure it.

In verses 46 and 47 we read a second parable about the kingdom of heaven. Here we are told it is like a pearl of great value that a merchant had been searching for and that when he found it he too sold all he had to buy it. Today many are searching diligently for the kingdom; that pearl of great value . . . multitudes have settled for pearls of much lesser value. Although many lesser pearls of salvation are offered today, only one is of great value Ephesians 4:4-5) and those who find it give up every lesser one for it. The merchant knew what he was getting.

Both the man in the field and the merchant found their treasures, one serendipitously and the other by seeking. Though different in their discovery they shared the ability to recognize the great value of their prizes and both give up everything they had for it. In the same way we must be able to recognize the great value and cost of our salvation regardless of how we've come across it.

- Bill Hulteen, March 1986 (abridged)

This article is also from the Northland archives. It appeared in the Northland bulletin on February 18, 1990, and it was written by Betty Hinty. Betty was baptized at Northland in 1985, and was a member here through the early 1990s.

Prayer Is The Answer

Prayer is the answer to every problem in life. It puts us in tune with divine wisdom which knows how to adjust everything perfectly. So often we do not pray in certain situations, because from our standpoint the outlook is hopeless; but nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is so entangled that it cannot be remedied. No human relationship is too strained for God to bring about reconciliation and understanding. No habit so deep-rooted that it cannot be overcome. No one is so weak that he cannot be strong. No one is so ill that he cannot be healed. No mind is so dull that it cannot be made brilliant. Whatever we need, if we trust God, He will supply it. If anything is causing worry or anxiety, let us stop rehearsing the difficulty and trust God for healing, love and power.

- Betty Hinty, February 1990