

## Family Information

### Prayer and Fasting

To petition the Lord for guidance and help in the selection of our new evangelist the Elders request the church participate in a time of prayer and fasting beginning on September 27. If you are able, please join us as we ask for God's help.

### School Supply Drive

We are collecting donations of school supplies at this time. We are especially in need of: Binders, ear buds, pencils, packs of paper, high lighters, and expo markers. There will be a collection bin this Wednesday night at church. It will be there until the end of October. See Rebecca Evans if you have any questions. Thanks

### Pulpit Minister

We are pleased to have Dan and Kim Collier with us this weekend. Dan is interviewing for the minister position.

Dan and Kim currently attend Northridge Church of Christ in Dayton, where Dan serves as Pulpit Minister. Dan has served as Pulpit Minister in various churches since 1980. He also has 13 years of experience in counseling, and 7 in staff development. Dan holds a Bachelor's degree in Theology, 2 Master's degrees in Theology and Counseling, and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology. Dan enjoys serving at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp during the summer, and also has experience working with youth in activities such as youth rallies. Dan is committed to community service.

Dan will be speaking to the congregation during the 10:30 service. Please stick around after services to get to know the Colliers.

## Calendar

### September

23 Services At Willow Brook

### October

3 Singing At Willow Brook Home 10:30am  
 8 Columbus Day  
 13 Bonfire For The Teens 4:30pm  
 At The Silva's  
 4:30pm  
 14 Single Sister Lunch  
 21 Fall Festival  
 31 Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30am

**For The Month of September**  
**Invitation/ Responses: Mike Evans**  
**Foyer Duty: Jack Evans**  
**Greeters: Pam and Darrell Estep**

Communion Servers  
 James Allison      John Allison  
 Glenn Culler        David Estep  
 William Nixon       Leon Norwood  
 Frank Rynearson    Art Silva

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$5583	\$5250
<b>Designated:</b>	\$260	\$245

### 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

## What We Have Heard....

### What We Have Heard From The Beginning (Henry Ford & The Saltshaker)

*As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. And this is what he promised us—eternal life. - 1 John 2:24-25*

In the beginning was the Word; from the beginning the message of Jesus drew us near to God and taught us about God. From the beginning the cross healed us and reconciled us with God, and God has continued meeting the deepest needs of our spirits. From the beginning God has promised eternal life to those who believe in Jesus and follow him in faith.

Yet over time, it can be easy to lose sight of what really matters to God, and it can be easy to forget how reassuring are the eternal blessings that God has promised us. Moreover, we are surrounded by many loud and assertive voices that can lead us astray. So God calls to remain in the grace of Jesus, let his words remain in us, and let his Spirit guide us instead of human reasoning.

The message of Jesus has never changed, but we often don't notice how the world distorts it, so God reminds us to keep reflecting on his words, to *hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)* so his Spirit may help us know what is real and true and good - *I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you . . . as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him. - 1 John 2:26-27*

When Henry Ford considered hiring someone to work in his automobile factory, he would take them to lunch. Ford would order soup for both of them, and would have the server bring a saltshaker and a pepper mill. Ford waited to see whether they would taste the soup first, or whether they would use the salt or pepper without even tasting it - he did this because he wanted his employees to learn to approach situations without a lot of preconceptions and assumptions.

Likewise, God calls us to remember what Jesus has done for us, ponder his message anew each day, to *Taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8)*. The message of Jesus doesn't need lots of 'salt and pepper'; it doesn't need us to embellish it with human eloquence nor with human plans. Instead of talking about worldly ideas, consider - *What great love the Father has lavished upon us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are. - 1 John 3:1*

God's thoughts are far higher than ours, and his words hold deep truths for us to contemplate. God waits patiently for us to let him clear away the world's distractions and noise, so that he may tell us more of eternal things and of his unfailing love for us.

- 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 **Vickie Cage**.

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

**Vickie:** I've been reading Matthew 7, and recently I've been thinking about what it means to build 'on the Rock' of God and to trust in his love. Jesus tells us that we can choose either to build with our *foundation on the rock* (Matthew 7:25) or we can be like the person who *built his house on sand* (Matthew 7:26).

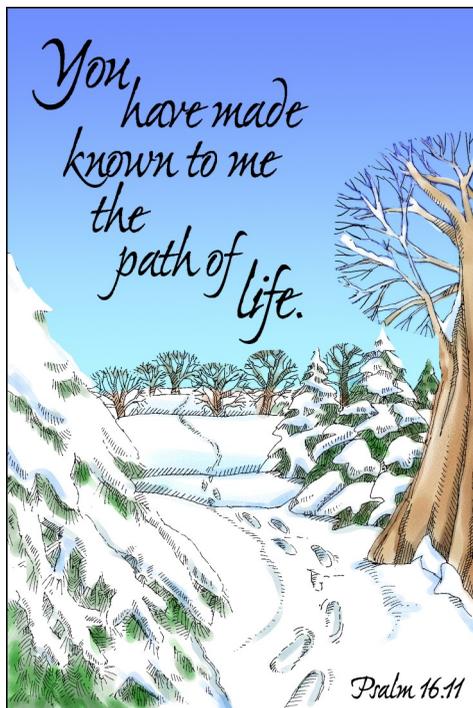
**Q:** That's a very good topic to study. What have you learned about what this foundation means?

**Vickie:** So far, I've learned that it means to love God and to have faith in him; I've been looking also at Hebrews 11 - *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance in what we do not see* (Hebrews 11:1). I always need to deal with shyness, and thinking of these scriptures helps me to be mindful of others needs, have helped me to serve, and to do things by faith that I know that I couldn't have done on my own. As Matthew 7 teaches us, when God is our foundation, he helps us to be resilient in the face of storms.

**Q:** Very good thoughts. Has anything in Matthew 7 especially stood out to you?

**Vickie:** I've liked thinking about this part - *The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock* (Matthew 7:25). It has encouraged me to lean on God, and as Jesus says, to be someone who *hears these words of mind and puts them into practice* (Matthew 7:24). I've been very concerned about my family and their needs, and these scriptures are helping me not to be over-anxious. It has comforted me during these 'storms' and reassures me that God won't leave me.

Thank you, Vickie!  
(Vickie Cage with Mark G.)



## From The Northland Archives

*This article appeared in the Northland Church of Christ bulletin on December 7, 1986. It was written by Becky Lacy, who was a member at Northland from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s. Becky went through some very difficult times, and in this article she talks about how God helped her get through them (we also reprinted another of Becky's articles earlier this year).*

### A Poem

Take courage my friend, in the darkest time, at the lowest point-  
In life can be found life's richest blessings.  
Suffering and sorrow can lean to a deeper joy.  
Overcoming a trial in one's own time - gives one new strength to go on.  
The stormy circumstance holds great worth in it.  
By weathering life's difficulties - blessings can be more deeply appreciated.  
It's okay to cry, or yell, to grieve.  
It's okay to feel sad. Let yourself feel them.  
Then also hold onto the memory of a friend who cares  
A beautiful day, good times, accomplishments.  
These too can carry you through.  
When you can let someone listen - that can lessen the pain.  
In God's lessons there are storms.  
In the changing seasons - trees live through storms  
So you can also with patience.  
Believe in the value of life in the roughest times  
People care for you, I do.  
- Rebecca Ellen Lacy, December 1986

*This is also from the Northland archives. It is an excerpt from an article written by Charlie Yates, and it appeared in the Northland bulletin on September 12, 1993. Charlie was baptized at Northland in 1988, and was a member here through the mid-2000s. Charlie also served as an elder at Northland from 2001-2004.*

### Loving One Another

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself. - Matthew 22:37-39*

As Jesus spoke these words he knew, in all his infinite knowledge, that this 'love stuff' would be the most difficult teaching modern-day Christians would have to deal with. And, sure enough, that big fat heart of hours fights us every day to keep from changing. We can change our habits and actions relatively easily with a disciplined, matter-of-fact approach but our natures are very hard to change by our own power.

Ah! That is the key phrase - by our own power. Certain things in our life are too difficult for us to overcome by our own power. They have been ingrained in us by society, our family and friends, and countless other inputs. But, through the Holy Spirit, we can change to become more like Christ . . . It may not be easy, but we can love, with the help of the Holy Spirit. Let's begin now to let God have his way.

- Charlie Yates, September 1993