

Family Information

Graduation Party

You are invited to come celebrate Abby Coate graduating from high school. Open house Friday, May 31st from 6-9 PM. 447 Quince Ct. Westerville, 43081

Northland VBS

Northlands VBS week will be here soon. If you would like to help, or have any questions, see Josh Evans.

A couple of reminders:

Our theme verse: Psalm 147:5 "Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure."

Theme: My God is so Big!

VBS is June 24-26. The 27th is a potluck day for the neighborhood and their families.



Calendar

May

27 Memorial Day
29 Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30am

June

5 Singing At Willow Brook Home
9 Single Sisters Lunch
16 Father's Day
22 Set Up Day For VBS
24-27 Vacation Bible School
31 Services At Willow Brook
31 Area Wide Worship At Alum Creek

For The Month of May
Invitation/ Responses: Jim Robbins
Foyer Duty: Josh Evans
Greeters: Art and Kythrie Silva
Announcements: Art Silva

Communion Servers

Jake Bowman	Jack Evans
Josh Evans	Michael Evans
Mike Evans	Bobby Graham Jr.
William Nixon	Paul Silva

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5254	\$5503
Designated:	\$285	\$180



4581 Cleveland Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43231
(614) 410-5860

Website
ncocfamily.org

May 26, 2019
Volume 28, Number 21

It Is God Who Makes Us Stand Firm

(How Squirrels Keep Their Balance)

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. - 2 Corinthians 1:21

When we face troubled times that make us fearful, God makes our hearts stand firm when we walk by faith in Jesus. When we face confusing times when it is difficult to maintain our balance, it is God who steadies us and guides us and sustains us each step. When we are discouraged, when nothing seems to go right for us, it is God who comforts us with his presence and calms our spirits with his words - *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles. - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4*

Many species of squirrels live in trees, and they are known for their remarkable agility. They can race across tiny branches and scamper up and down trees; they can keep their balance even when it seems as if there is nothing firm to stand on and nothing steady to hold onto. Part of this is the feet that God gives them. Their claws are small, yet sharp and sturdy, ideal for providing firm footing for every one of their rapid steps. Moreover, God gives squirrels remarkable ankles that allow them to pivot their feet up to 180 degrees, enabling them to scurry down trees headfirst.

Likewise, God has given us his Word, a foothold for our spirits as we face the world's uproars and noise, a foundation to keep us anchored to spiritual reality, a promise of our eternal inheritance, an assurance of unseen things, a reminder that God and his purposes will never change - *No matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. - 2 Corinthians 1:8-10*

The other key to squirrels' balance is their long, bushy tails. As squirrels move, their tails can flicker back-and-forth with amazing speed, making expert adjustments so that squirrels can continually shift their weight to maintain their balance, seemingly defying gravity.

Similarly, God shows us his unfailing care for us by giving us the gift of his Spirit so that we can keep our spiritual balance, a Counselor who helps us understand God's teachings, a Comforter as we face the world's changing circumstances, the Spirit of truth who reminds us to look beyond the appearances and contemplate God's splendor and kindness and understanding - *He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. - 2 Corinthians 1:21-22*

God is our Father of compassion, and all of his promises are Yes in Jesus; he is the God of all comfort, and he has prepared a place for us in his heavenly dwelling where we will live with him forever.

- Mark Garner

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	7:00 pm

Minister: Caleb Dillinger
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

The Father Of Mercies

Let us return with a full assurance to that Father of mercies, who is always ready to receive us affectionately. Let us renounce, let us generously renounce, for the love of Him, all that is not Himself; He deserves infinitely more. Let us think of Him perpetually. Let us put all our trust in Him. I doubt not but we shall soon find the effects of it in receiving the abundance of his grace, with which we can do all things, and without which we can do nothing but sin.

We cannot escape the dangers which abound in life without the actual and continual help of God: let us then pray to Him for it continually. How can we pray to Him without being with Him? How can we be with Him but in thinking of Him often? And how can we often think of Him, but by a holy habit which we should form of it? . . .

We must know before we can love. In order to know God, we must often think of Him; and when we come to love Him, we shall then also think of Him often, for our heart will be with our treasure.

- Brother Lawrence
(1611-1691)

“Create
in me a
clean heart,
O God,
and put a
new and right
spirit
within me.”
Psalm 51:10

There Is No One Like The Lord, Our God

This spring, some of Northland's members have been writing about some of God's qualities that are beyond us to understand fully, aspects of God's nature that are 'too wonderful' for us to grasp completely. This week, Dot Duncan writes about the Word of Jesus.

Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly

Jesus realized the power of the word early in His life. In Luke 2:41-52, at the age of twelve, He was left behind in Jerusalem. However, He was not doing what typical 12 years would do. His parents found Him in the temple court sitting among the teachers, listening and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His intelligence, answers and replies.

Approximately eighteen years later in Luke 4:1-15, we see Jesus skillfully using the knowledge and wisdom of God's word in a battle against Satan. Take notice, He did not use any special powers in His struggle against Satan, He used the Scripture. The very same weapon God has made available to all of us (Ephesians 6:17).

For many years I have overlooked the power of the written Word and urgency of studying it daily. My mother passed away in November 2017. As I sorted her possessions, I came across many spiral notebooks, some dated in the 1980's. My mother read the Bible and recorded her thoughts daily. For over 30 years, mom never missed her daily time with God. When did she stop? When her health began to fail, and she could no longer write. Then prayer became her connection to God, until she became too weak to pray.

Then, I remembered: *Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish . . . with gratitude in your hearts to God.*

The word let means to permit or allow. To dwell means to reside or occupy. Spiritually speaking, we want the word of God to settle down in us just as it did in Jesus. Why? Because it provides protection from our enemy Satan and communion with God. How much? Richly - plentiful or generously. When? As we teach, correct and sing with God's grace in my hearts.

How can we practically let the Word of Christ dwell in us? By studying the Scripture. There are many methods for studying the Bible. Not any are without fault. No matter what method you choose, never forget you have the Holy Spirit living in you (I Corinthians 6:19) to help. It requires commitment to develop the habit.

My prayer is that each one of us will let the word of Christ dwell in us generously.

- Dot Duncan
May 2019