

## Family Information

### Sermon Series Title

*Nevertheless, I Rejoice*

### Sermon Passage

*Philippians 3*

### Thoughts to Consider This Week

- 1) Why do you think the Bible repeats the same messages (joy, peace, hope, love, etc)?
- 2) How much pride to you place in your own accomplishments?
- 3) How important is your faith in Jesus?

### September Challenge

**Look for 3 blessings throughout your week.**

### Are Wide Worship

**Sunday September 29th 6:00 pm** is our Northland Church Family's turn to host the Area Wide Worship 5th Sunday Event! Mark your calendar and pray for this great uplifting opportunity! Please bring food to share. Sandwiches, fruit trays, veggie trays and desserts are welcome!! Please sign up on the bulletin board.

### Congratulations

Michael and Micah Evans are the proud parents of a baby boy. Milo was born September 16th. He weighed 7 lb. 13 oz. and was 20 in. long.

### Sympathy

We want to express our sympathy to Perry Coate and family at the death of his mother. Marcena passed away Tuesday The funeral was yesterday.

### Prayer Request

Morris Stacey, Lisa Stacey's husband, had back surgery yesterday. Please be praying for his recovery.

### 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

## Calendar

### September

- 28 Leaves & Latte 5K Run  
29 Area Wide Worship At Northland

### October

- 2 Singing At Willow Brook Home 10:30 am  
4 Teen Game Night At Church  
4 TGIF At Church  
13 Single Sisters Lunch  
18 TGIF At Church  
20 Fall Festival  
30 Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30 am

### For The Month of September

#### Invitation/ Responses:

**Foyer Duty:** Jack Evans

**Greeters:** Pam and Darrell Estep

**Announcements:** Art Silva

### Communion Servers

<b>James Allison</b>	<b>John Allison</b>
<b>Glenn Culler</b>	<b>Dave Estep</b>
<b>John Lindsay</b>	<b>Gary McMasters</b>
<b>James Milnor</b>	<b>Art Silva</b>

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$3965	\$5148
<b>Designated:</b>	\$100	\$166



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

Website  
ncocfamily.org

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## In A Peaceful Dwelling Place

(With More Thoughts From Julian Of Norwich)

*The fortress will be abandoned, the noisy city deserted; citadel and watchtower will become a wasteland forever . . . till the Spirit is poured on us from on high, and the desert becomes a fertile field, and the fertile field seems like a forest.  
- Isaiah 32:14-15*

This world boasts of its accomplishments, it loudly promotes its theories and methods, and it constantly tries to persuade us to follow its ways, yet all of these are storms of fertility and wastelands of emptiness. We cannot find lasting meaning until we turn to Jesus with a humble heart and let God cleanse us and sanctify us and pour out his Spirit on us.

We are surrounded by earthly experts noisily telling us that they have found the answers to everything, yet these are false hopes that lead people astray. Our lives are empty unless we open our hearts to God and let him fill them with the grace and truth of Jesus. Only God can replace the barrenness of earthly thinking with the fullness of his presence, only he can replace the stains of worldly ways with clean garments of his own righteousness and salvation - *The Lord's justice will dwell in the desert, his righteousness live in the fertile field. The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.* - Isaiah 32:16-17

Julian of Norwich lived in England in the 1300s and early 1400s, a time of plague and riots and many other fears. She also endured the loss of many people dear to her, yet she became a source of considerable comfort and guidance to others, and her writings tell us of her love for God and of her love for others.

Julian only asked God to give her the precious gift of himself, as she wrote, "God, of your goodness, give me yourself; you are enough for me, and anything less that I could ask for would not do you full honor. And if I ask anything that is less, I shall always lack something, but in you alone I have everything." She lived in troubled and confusing times, yet she found rest in being with God, a peaceful dwelling place for our spirits -

*My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.* - Isaiah 32:18

Julian understood that earthly things cannot bring us lasting rest, yet God can bring undisturbed rest for our souls, as she wrote, "For this is the cause why we be not all in ease of heart and soul: that we seek here rest in those things that are so little, wherein is no rest, and know not our God that is All-mighty, All-wise, All-good. For He is the Very Rest."

- Mark Garner

## My Shepherd Is The Living Lord

My shepherd is the living Lord;  
Now shall my wants be well supplied;  
His providence and holy Word  
Become my safety and my guide.

In pastures where salvation grows  
He makes me feed, He makes me rest;  
There living water gently flows,  
And all the food divinely blest.

My wandering feet His ways mistake,  
But He restores my soul to peace,  
And leads me for His mercy's sake  
In the fair paths of righteousness.

Surely the mercies of the Lord  
Attend His household all their days;  
There will I dwell to hear His Word,  
To seek His face, and sing His praise.

- Isaac Watts, 1719

Christ

the POWER of  
GOD and the  
WISDOM of

God

1 Corinthians 1:24

## From The Northland Archives

*This article was written by Emily Graham, and it appeared in the Northland bulletin on August 31, 2014. Emily came to Northland with her family in the late 1980s, and Emily was baptized in 1998. This is another of the articles that she has written for the bulletin over the years.*

### Love & Free Will

Have you ever been mad at God? Have you ever been so hurt that you wonder why God lets us have free will? After all, free will allows us to hurt each other and make bad choices, such as remaining separated from God.

I came to God one day very hurt and angry. I remembered that people like Job and David, vented to God their hurts and frustrations and God listened. Like them, my pride had gotten hold of me, and I felt I knew better than God. If God cared, couldn't He prevent the hurt I felt. He was powerful enough to protect me. So I told Him so. I asked Him, "Why did you create free will so that we hurt each other, and You?! Why couldn't You just make us all love you and each other, and then we'd all be happy and together?"

I didn't expect an answer. I then read 1 John 4:11-12, 4:16-17, "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us. ...And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus."

This Scripture gave me the tip of the iceberg to my question. God is love. One of the best ways He loves us, is through us. We cannot love one another without free will, so He cannot share His love through us without free will.

In an old TV show, a woman obtained the ability to control people, to take away their freewill. She had a crush on a guy, so she made him love her. She enjoyed the "perfect relationship" for a time, but then realized his love wasn't real. She realized that if he wasn't choosing to love her, there was no point, and she released him. Once released, he was no longer in love with her, but he appreciated and respected her for giving him his freewill back.

Like Job, God did answer me. He gently humbled me and showed me that He knows best. It is impossible for love to exist if there is no free will. He reminded me of His love too. After all, He didn't spare His own perfect Son from suffering. God loved His Son, yet not only did He let Jesus suffer, He desired for Him to suffer. The purpose of Jesus' suffering was to love me. Paul said, "I want to know Christ-yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings . . ." I don't understand much about suffering, but as I experience it, I can learn more about Christ and His suffering. And I do know that, " . . . God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Amen.

- Emily Graham