

Family Information

Thoughts to Consider

- 1) How have I been representing Christ during this pandemic?
- 2) What Scriptures speak about peace?
- 3) How can I encourage another Northland Brother or Sister?

May Challenge: Each week of this month, find someone you've wronged and offer an apology.

On-Line Sunday Bible Class

The Sunday afternoon on-line Bible will continue until we're able to resume assembling safely on Sundays. The current study is "God Is Not Far", based on Acts 17:16-33. The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Leon will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM. Next week, a new series on John 6 will begin.

More On-Line Studies

Sunday Evenings 5:30-6:30 PM - Bible Study led by Jim Robbins. Contact him for details.

Every Other Friday at 7:00 PM; next meeting on May 15 - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

Tuesday, May 19 - Devotional and Prayer with Jeff McVicker (re-scheduled from May 12). Contact him for details.

Calendar

From The Elders & Minister

All assemblies on church property continue to be canceled for the time being.

We continue to prayerfully discern the right time to gather again and how exactly we will do that, and as soon as we figure out the best way and best date, we will let everyone know. As church leadership, we very much miss you, but your safety and the safety of those we minister to are of great concern to us.

Caleb's weekly sermons continue to be uploaded on Sunday mornings to Northland's web site, Facebook, YouTube, and RightNow Media.

We have some prepackaged communion supplies that we could distribute. If that's something you'd like mailed or brought to your doorstep, please let us know.

You can continue your weekly offerings and contributions. You can mail this in at any time to the church address or you can go to our website and click the "Donate Now" button.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$3727	\$4687
Designated:	\$25	\$101



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Mother's Day

Special days and festivals to honor mothers have been practiced by various people since ancient times, but you history buffs know that the first public Mother's Day celebration in the United States was held in Grafton, West Virginia in 1908. Since that time mothers have been given innumerable cards, flowers, candies, restaurant meals, and other gifts in their honor. As well-deserved and much appreciated as these honors have been, I'd like to draw your attention to what I believe to be the greatest honor ever given to motherhood.

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands..." (Isaiah 49:15-16a) "As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you..." (Isaiah 66:13)

Think of the qualities we associate with motherhood: tenderness, gentleness, patience, compassion, protectiveness, absolutely-will-never-give-up-on-you love. God's message to us is: "I am just like that, and even more so. I look upon you just like an ideal mother looks upon her child."

But don't the scriptures usually refer to God as masculine? Didn't Jesus refer to God as Father and Abba (the Aramaic equivalent of "Daddy")? Yes, all those things are true. It is also true that God says he is like a mother in his regard for us. All the ideal qualities we associate with mothers, even those that we in our human state consider feminine, originate in God. He assures us that the level of tenderness, devotion, patience and comfort that we feel more likely to receive from our mother, versus our father, is exactly what we can expect to receive from our God. What could be more worthy of honor?

So, to my fellow mothers, lets stay focused on the unique privilege we have been given to manifest these qualities of God's character in our families. And to all of us, let's honor our mothers today! As we do that, let's remember the origin of those qualities we all admire, and be thankful.

- Paula Robbins

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, Luis Valdez

Thou Hast Redeemed Me

*I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name;
thou art Mine. - Isaiah 43:1*

Over my spirit, silently musing,
Came a sweet message, peaceful, divine;
Tranquilly stealing, slowly repeating,
I have redeemed thee, and thou art Mine.

Rich are the blessings Thou art bestowing,
Bountiful Shepherd, Savior divine;
I shall not weary, walking beside Thee,
Thou hast redeemed me, my life is Thine.

Green are the pastures, cool are the waters,
Where at the noontide oft I recline;
How shall I thank Thee, how shall I praise Thee?
Thou hast redeemed me, my life is Thine.

Thou hast redeemed me, wonderful Savior,
Under Thy watch-care still I would be;
Tenderly fold me, lovingly hold me;
Hiding forever my soul in Thee.

- Frances Jane Crosby, 1884



The Lord Sustains Us & Answers Us

(With Scenes From A Classic Children's Book)

*You, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.
I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain. - Psalm 3:3-4*

The Lord lives on high, yet he is near both in good times and in bad times, and he answers us when we call on him in truth. Our Heavenly Father may remind us of the many ways he sustains us and cares for us each step, he may help us understand his profound, eternal truths, or he may simply comfort us by reassuring us that he always understands our fears and sorrows - *I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side. - Psalm 3:5-6*

P.D. Eastman's classic children's book "Are You My Mother?" is a simple yet memorable story of a baby bird trying to find his mother. The story reminds us of the care and reassurance our mothers and our families gave us when we needed them, and it is also a reminder of our ongoing need for God's care, his grace, and his guidance.

The story begins when a mother bird realizes that her egg is about to hatch, so she makes a quick trip to gather food for the newborn. The egg hatches before she returns, and the baby bird instinctively looks for his mother, tumbles out of the nest, and begins looking for her. He asks several different animals, then a boat and a plane, whether they are his mother.

These things could not have been the young bird's mother; likewise, human nature often looks for purpose and security in things that cannot give us the lasting hope and meaning and understanding that our souls need. God himself gives us life and breath and everything else, and from Jesus comes deliverance and salvation and redemption and reconciliation - *Arise, Lord! Deliver me, my God . . . From the Lord comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people. - Psalm 3:7-8*

Eventually the little bird comes to a power shovel at an excavation site; he hops onto its bucket and says, "Here I am, mother". The power shovel's exhaust stack then emits a 'snort', and the baby bird exclaims, "Oh, you are not my mother. You are a Snort. I have to get out of here." Suddenly the 'Snort' raises the bucket and begins to move, carrying the bird.

The baby bird is frightened, yet the power shovel is just taking him back to his own nest, where his mother appears just then. Similarly, even in confusing or fearful times, when we continue to walk by faith in Jesus, God will sustain us each step, he can bring us back to the path when we stumble, and he gives our souls the peace of knowing that our Creator rejoices in being with us - *In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. - Psalm 4:8*

When the baby bird sees his mother smiling at him and offering him food, then he knows that this truly is his mother. Similarly, when we let God open the eyes of our hearts, we will see all of the ways he cares for us and everything he does to bring us close to him, and we too can know that he truly is our God who made us and whose love endures forever.

-- Mark Garner