

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 Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current study is "The Bread Of Life", based on John 6:25-69. The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Phil will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM.

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 - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

Every other Tuesday, next meeting June 2 at 7:00 PM - Devotional and Prayer with Jeff McVicker. Contact him for details.

Besides the weekly sermons, Caleb is also having live devotionals on Sundays at 10:30 AM and on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. See him for details.

Calendar

From The Elders & Minister:

All assemblies on church property continue to be canceled for the time being. We're meeting again at the end of the month to see if God has made the path more clear.

When we re-open, church activities and practices will also be resumed in phases. For some undetermined period of time, the only activity at the church building will be Sunday morning worship and Wednesday evening Food pantry. We'll continue to utilize Zoom through the month of June to provide space for classes and devotionals. Whenever we return to collective worship, it will be with additional precautions and safety measures. Please keep us in your prayers as we seek out wisdom from our Heavenly Father.

The Northland Child Care is planning on re-opening Monday, June 1. Please pray for the director, the teachers, the board, and the children.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4019	\$4677
Designated:	\$25	\$93

The Good Shepherd

(& More "Furry Logic")

The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep . . . and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out . . . and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. - John 10:2-4

Jesus is our true Shepherd, who calls each of us by name; he is our good Shepherd, who came from heaven full of truth and grace and compassion and understanding. The Lamb of God is a trustworthy Shepherd for all of our times; and Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Our good Shepherd comes to give us life and hope and guidance, he protects us from spiritual foes that we could not face on our own, and he takes us to God's heavenly pasture where nourishment for our spirits is always abundant - *I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. - John 10:9-10*

Some of Jane Seabrook's "Furry Logic" animal paintings and quotations can give us a look at the dilemmas and anxieties of daily life. In one of them, a wary doe gives us a knowing look along with the caption, "If you can keep your head while all about you are losing theirs - it's quite possible you haven't grasped the situation." The doe is cautious and alert, though not panic-stricken.

This deer realizes that there will always be hazards around her, just as during our lives in this world we will face both earthly troubles and spiritual perils. Once we have 'grasped the situation', God will help us realize our need for him instead of depending on ourselves. Moreover, our heavenly Shepherd will never abandon us, for Jesus will be with us every step - *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. - John 10:11-12*

In another of Seabrook's paintings, an anxious tarsier (a small mammal similar to a lemur) is clutching at a branch with the caption, "I live in my own little world. But it's okay - they know me here." Each of us is dear to God, and each of us has our own way of handling things and each of us has burdens and hopes and fears that no one else can fully know, except for our Father in heaven. For God knows each of us far better than we know ourselves - *I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. - John 10:14-15*

We are never alone, for God is near us all and his Spirit lives in us; our good Shepherd knows us and we know that he is our Lord and our Savior, our Alpha and our Omega.

- 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	7:00 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 Art Very Near

Dear Father, help me with the love
That castest out my fear!
Teach me to lean on Thee and feel
That thou art very near.
That no temptation is unseen,
No childish grief too small,
Since Thou, with patience infinite,
Dost soothe and comfort all.

- Louisa May Alcott, 1846



God, Thou Art Love

If I forget,
Yet God remembers! If these hands of mine
Cease from their clinging, yet the hands divine
Hold me so firmly that I cannot fall;
And if sometimes I am too tired to call
For Him to help me, then He reads the prayer
Unspoken in my heart, and lifts my care.

God, Thou art love! I build my faith on that.
I know Thee who has kept my path, and made
Light for me in the darkness, tempering sorrow
So that it reached me like a solemn joy;
It were too strange that I should doubt Thy love.

- Robert Browning, 1812-1889

The Lord Himself Is Our Rock Eternal

This world is full of uncertainty, yet the Lord himself is our Rock eternal. This week, Nancy Rynearson writes about what it means to her to know that God is always ready to help us and guide us.

O God, You Are My God

One morning, Norma and I went to the church building to grade correspondence courses that were sent from the prison. While there she mentioned that she reads her Bible first thing every morning (as she always has, I might add). My mind went many places when she said that. First it went to: *O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is. - Psalm 63:1 (KJV)*

As a new Christian with only the KJV, I took this very literally. To me ‘early’ meant early in the morning. When I got an NIV I was surprised to see Psalm 63 read ‘earnestly I seek you.’ I remember thinking, it’s good to seek God earnestly. It seemed to me a better translation but every time I would read it I would wonder why or how could two so different words (early and earnestly) come from the same Hebrew word. Over the years I’ve gotten a new appreciation for seeking God early.

- Seeking God early in the morning as Norma does gets your day off to the best possible start. While it won’t guarantee a perfect day, with God’s help we’ll be better able to handle whatever comes along.

- Seeking God early in life helps us avoid many snares and pits set by the enemy. At a young age Daniel, Joseph and David all resolved to follow God. We know their stories and no matter what life dealt them they stayed true to God. When we resolve to follow God we aren’t burdened by a lot of decisions because they are already made.

- Seeking God early in our plans, decision-making and circumstances is vital if we want what we do to be in line with God’s will for us. Seeking Him shouldn’t be the last resort when all else fails. We need to seek His council early in everything. May we be so eager to earnestly seek God that we don’t put it off; We don’t let the concerns of life get in the way. May we seek Him with passion and resolve early in life as well as early each and every day.

David wrote Psalm 63 while in the Desert of Judah fleeing Jerusalem and his son. Absalom’s plot to take over his father’s throne seemed to be working. It was a troubling time for David, yet his faith sustained him. David’s circumstances kept him from going to the sanctuary so he worshipped God there in the wilderness.

Circumstances have made our Sunday mornings very different but we can still worship the Lord Our God and earnestly/early seek Him. David pledged his allegiance to his God. “O God you are my God.” That should be our pledge, too. The pledge includes relationship, expectations and responsibility. And circumstances will not change that ...

Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. - Psalm 63:3-4

- Nancy Rynearson