

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Thank you for your continued patience as we seek the right times to resume certain church activities. At least for the time being, we'll continue to just meet for Sunday mornings and maintain the same precautions that are currently in place.

The worship service time will be 10:00 a.m. Facemasks will be required. If you do not bring your own, one will be provided for you. The facemasks are to be worn at all times during the service apart from taking the cup and bread during the Lord's Supper. We will have individual cups with bread on top packed and ready for each of you as you come into the foyer. Instead of a collection/contribution time, we will have a contribution plate where you can leave your contribution. Bulletins will not be printed. They will be on our website.

Each family must sit together, and there has to be 6 feet or more distance from the next person or family. Once service is finished, we will dismiss starting from the back and working towards the front, going section by sections. Please do not gather around in the foyer. Our Ghana brothers and sisters will be starting worship at 12:00 p.m., so please leave the parking lot by 11:40 a.m. to honor the space for their time of worship.

For further guidelines and details, please see previous bulletins.

Calendar

Special Help Contribution

The elders are aware of a special opportunity to help a young member of the congregation who is in need of financial assistance. Our goal is to raise \$1000 by the end of August. If you can help please mark the contribution as "Special Help" on the envelope. If you have any questions please see one of the elders.

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In this week's Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, we'll start a new series, "Whoever Has Ears, Let Them Hear" (based on Matthew 13). The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Mark will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join. (For this week only, there is a different link and password to join the study - contact Mark or Jim Robbins if needed.)

More On-Line Studies

Every other Friday at 7:00 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

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

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM - Instagram Devotional by Caleb Dillinger. Contact him for details.

(Jim Robbins's Sunday evening Bible Study is temporarily postponed, while Jim recovers from knee replacement surgery.)

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4730	\$4845
Designated:	\$20	\$79

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: 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



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Walking In The Way Of The Lord

(& A Tour With "The Little Prince")

The path of the righteous is level; you, the Upright One, make the way of the righteous smooth. Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you.
- Isaiah 26:7-8

In this life, we will often walk on paths of uncertainty, full of confusion and fears, yet when we walk in step with God's Spirit, the Upright One will reassure us that he is near, and he will calm our anxious hearts with his boundless truths. We may face sorrows and disappointments, yet when we walk in the way of the Lord, he will guide us and comfort us and help us each step. God patiently calls us to seek him with our hearts and to trust in him, for we need him every moment, and his compassion and understanding are far greater than earthly minds can imagine - *Your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.* - Isaiah 26:8

In Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's fantasy story "The Little Prince", before the prince comes to planet Earth, he first visits six planets (or asteroids) closer to his own home planet. Each of them has only one single occupant; they are a metaphor for the ways each of us can live in our own little world, and they show how meaningless life becomes when we don't look beyond ourselves. On the first planet, the only resident is a king, on the next planet is a vain man, then a drunkard, then a businessman, then a lamplighter, and finally a geographer. Each of them has become pre-occupied with themselves, so on each planet the Little Prince learns something about human nature. Likewise, God uses many things in this life to remind us of our need for him, for from the Lord alone comes lasting hope and meaning and peace - *My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you.* - Isaiah 26:9

On the first three planets, the Little Prince endures the king's bossiness and the boasts of the vain man, then sees the ruin the drunkard has fallen into. Their empty lives help the prince learn the significance of looking beyond our own desires and ambitions. Similarly, God calls us to open our minds and hearts to him, so that he can teach us what is good for our souls - *When your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness.* - Isaiah 26:9

On the next three planets, the residents are working diligently, yet the businessman won't even pause, the lamplighter has come to view his job as an interminable, wearying chore, and the geographer endlessly writes facts without leaving his desk. These examples help the Little Prince learn to see things from a broader perspective. Likewise, when we focus on God himself, and let him guide us in our daily lives, he can give us peace and meaning - *Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us . . . your name alone do we honor.*
- Isaiah 26:12-13

Truly it is good to honor and praise our Heavenly Father.

- Mark Garner

His Little Ones

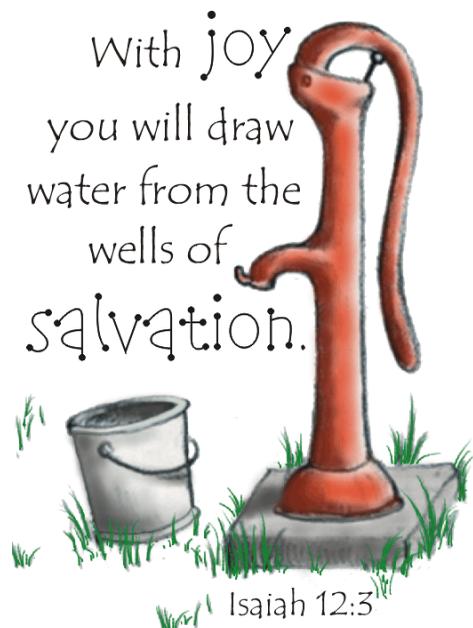
Yes, His little ones He holdeth,
With His own, with His own right hand,
Teaching, teaching them so gently
Just to learn, just to learn to stand.

Yes, His little ones He guardeth
With a watchful, a watchful eye,
Warning them when danger cometh,
Standing ever, yes, ever nigh.

Yes, His little ones He biddeth
With His tender, His tender voice,
Fear thou not, for I am with thee,
So be glad, and rejoice, rejoice.

- Cecilia Havergal, 1880

(Cecilia's aunt, Frances R. Havergal, wrote several dozen hymns, including "I Gave My Life For Thee", "O Savior, Precious Savior", and "Take My Life & Let It Be".)



The Lord Will Be Our Guide

We never know what a new day or a new week may hold, yet the Lord our living God will be our guide. Whatever tomorrow may bring, our Heavenly Father will be with us and will guide us each step. This summer, some of Northland's members are writing about what this means to them. This week, Steve Carver writes about the difference this makes when we face this world's problems.

When The Rain Comes Down

One of my favorite childhood songs was titled, "Don't Let The Rain Come Down". It was a silly song about a crooked man who had a crooked house . . . in fact everything he had was crooked. One of the lines in the chorus of the song goes, "Don't let the rain come down, my roof's got a hole in it and I might drown".

As silly as this song is, it has relevance to our everyday lives, because it is human nature to try to build "houses" around our lives that protect us from the storms of life. But no matter how securely we try to build our houses, worry, anxieties, and problems leak through holes in our roofs and trouble our lives. These holes can be the consequences of our own actions, that of others, or just the vagaries of life. We seek guidance to help us patch these holes through advice from friends, self-help books, and even professionals. We devise or adopt "Rules to Live By" that are designed to patch current holes and deflect future ones. Sometimes our actions are successful, but most often the fixes are only temporary and usually do little to avoid future roof ruptures. As Paul says in Romans 7:24-25, taken only slightly out of context, "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

So, how did Paul patch the holes in the roof of his life? He didn't, he couldn't! After his conversion, Paul was exposed to a level of physical turmoil that few of us can imagine, including imprisonments, whippings, beatings, stonings, and shipwrecks. How did Paul find the peace that transcends all understanding that he describes in Philippians 4:7? By building the foundation of his life on Christ (Matthew 7:24-25) and by loving God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength and loving his fellow man (Mark 12:29-31). This agape love is an active love that goes beyond just an emotional attachment and puts its object first, even ahead of itself.

God's purpose is not so much to fix our roof rips as we follow him, though he does, "No temptation (Greek: or test, trial) has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it" (1 Corinthians 10:13), but to give us a sense of the joy and peace that is ours in following him: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7). And this is just a foretaste of what is to come!

- Steve Carver