

Family Information

Elders' Statement

Two weeks ago, the elders read a statement to the congregation about the current situation. It is also on the Northland web site, and you can read it by clicking on the virus icon on the home page. Please read it if you haven't previously heard it or read it.

From The Elders & Minister

Last week we sent a survey asking how you were doing during this pandemic season. You can very easily fill it out by accessing this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8B6W9VT>

Here again are the precautions we are currently taking with the building worship time:

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 check with the elders.

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

Calendar

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is, "We Wait In Hope For The Lord" (based on Psalm 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. Everyone is welcome to join. Next week, we'll begin a new series, based on John 9.

More On-Line Studies

Every other Friday at 7:00 PM, next session September 11 - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

Wednesday evenings after 7:00 PM - Pre-recorded Instagram Devotional by Caleb Dillinger will be available. Contact him for details.

Mondays at 7:00 PM - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser. Contact her for details. If you aren't able to join, you can e-mail prayer requests to Peggy.

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

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$2796	\$4800
Designated:	\$30	\$72



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August 30, 2020
 Volume 29, Number 35

Listen To The Lord...

Listen To The Lord, & Come Near Him

Listen to me, Jacob, Israel, whom I have called: I am he; I am the first and I am the last. My own hand laid the foundations of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens. - Isaiah 48:12-13

God is the first and the last; he knows each of us by name, and the hand of our Heavenly Father spread out the vast heavens. God formed this earth and he gives life to every living thing; he is near with us all and he patiently calls us to listen to him, to come near him, and let him unfold his words to us - *Come near me and listen to this: From the first announcement I have not spoken in secret; at the time it happens, I am there. - Isaiah 48:16*

As a young woman, future hymnist Sarah Flower Adams (1805-1848) was both talented and athletic. As a teenager, she set a mountain-climbing record and she began a literary career, later also becoming a popular Shakespearean actress. Yet Adams began to be plagued by illnesses, beginning with tuberculosis; and in her thirties, she could no longer pursue many of her interests. Sarah's older sister, Eliza Flower, was a music composer who was devoted to following Jesus, and she helped Sarah learn more about God's care. Sarah began to put her faith in God, and Eliza suggested that they begin writing hymns together, with Sarah writing the words and Eliza composing the music. They would go on to write several dozen hymns about God and his care.

For it is God who teaches us what is best for us; it is our caring Father in heaven who guides us on paths that are good for our spirits - *This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. - Isaiah 48:17*

The best-known hymn that Sarah Adams wrote with her sister is "Nearer, My God, To Thee" (today it is often sung with a different tune that was written later). In it, Sarah writes "Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee. Even though it be a cross that raiseth me, Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee." As Sarah's physical health continued to weaken, she remained widely known for her good spirits, as she was reassured by the thought of being near with God.

As God gave Sarah a sense of well-being like the steady waves of the sea, when we walk by faith in Jesus and let his cross lift us up, God will give us too the peace that flows like a river - *If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea. - Isaiah 48:17-18*

God is always there when we turn to him; and when we put our trust in him, he renews us inwardly, he nourishes our spirits, and he upholds us every step.

- Mark Garner

Come & Be With Jesus

My soul, she beats her wings
And pants to fly away
Up to immortal things
In the heavenly day:
Yet she flags and almost faints;
Can such be meant for me? –
Come and see, say the Saints.
Saith Jesus: Come and see.
Say the Saints: His pleasures please us
Before God and the Lamb.
Come and taste My sweets, saith Jesus:
Be with Me where I am.

- Christina Rossetti, 1875

The Firstfruits

We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit . . . - Romans 8:23

As the wave-sheaf was the first of the harvest, so the spiritual life, and all the graces which adorn that life, are the first operations of the Spirit of God in our souls.

The first fruits were the pledge of the harvest. As soon as the Israelite had plucked the first handful of ripe ears, he looked forward with glad anticipation to the time when the wagon should creak beneath the sheaves. So, brethren, when God gives us things which are pure, lovely, and of good report, as the work of the Holy Spirit, these are to us the forecast of the coming glory.

The first fruits were always holy to the Lord, and our new nature, with all its powers, is a consecrated thing. The new life is not ours, that we should ascribe its excellence to our own merit; it is Christ's image and creation, and is ordained for His glory.

But the first fruits were not the harvest, and the works of the Spirit in us at this moment are not the consummation – the perfection is yet to come. We must not boast that we have attained, and so reckon the wave-sheaf to be all the produce of the year: we must hunger and thirst after righteousness, and pant for the day of full redemption.

Dear reader, open your mouth wide, and God will fill it.

- Charles Haddon Spurgeon,
1834-1892

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 always be with us, and he will be our guide. This week, two of Northland's members tell us some of the scriptures that have been helpful and comforting to them during the uncertainty that all of us have been facing.

One of the scriptures that has been very comforting to me during this time that we are in is James 1:17; though everything around us is changing, God never changes as the scripture says, *He does not change like shifting shadows*. And because He doesn't change, Malachi 3:6 says *I the Lord do not change*. *So you . . . are not destroyed*. He remains the same and His years will never end. He is the same today, yesterday and forevermore. As Wendy Speake writes in her devotional, "In the beginning God was there, He is here now, and He already holds each tomorrow. You can be certain of this: in the midst of uncertain times, He is certain."

God holds everything in his hands and He is going to see us through these hard times. There is nothing new to Him and He will never leave us or forsake us, as He has promised. These are some of the scriptures that have been keeping me going.

- Linda Kyeremateng

Currently, I've got a post-it note on my bathroom mirror. It says, Philippians 4:5, *The Lord is near*.

I find this scripture particularly comforting. I've just written down the last part of the verse. It is short and easy to bring to mind. The scripture goes on to say bring your petitions to God and he will give you peace. I've just posted the first part. I think because I like the thought that God wants to be with us, near us. He wants to have a relationship with us. Just that simple idea helps me feel his presence and reminds me that he is in control even with all the messy world around us. The Lord is near.

- Kythrie Silva

