

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

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.

Calendar

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, we're beginning a new series this week: "In Jesus We Have Been Brought Near" (based on Ephesians 2). 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.

More On-Line Studies

Every other Friday at 7:00 PM, next session October 16 - 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.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4216	\$4727
Designated:	\$0	\$70



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

Website
ncocfamily.org

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Does It Seem Like Nothing?

(With More Thoughts From Florence Nightingale)

Ask them, Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? - Haggai 2:2-3

In Haggai's time, the returning exiles built a modest temple instead of the lavish building of former times. It seemed to human eyes like nothing, yet God promised that he can take what seems like nothing to earthly eyes and use it to show his compassion and his splendor. We too are called to put our hope in unseen things, and to value grace and forgiveness in a world full of anger and harshness. A kind word or a prayer may seem like nothing amidst this world's loudness and chaos, yet the Lord is with us and he strengthens us not with worldly things, rather he strengthens our hearts with his grace and his truths, and he sustains us every step - *But now be strong . . . For I am with you, declares the Lord Almighty. - Haggai 2:4*

When Florence Nightingale started working as a nurse, English hospitals were known for highly unsanitary conditions, the neglect of patients, and the lack of training for nurses. Yet where everyone else saw despair and disappointment, Florence saw the chance to show God's compassion. As a teenager, Nightingale came to know Jesus, and she saw how our Heavenly Father shows us his care and understanding in many ways that most people don't notice.

As Nightingale wrote, "A child will fall on its knees at the sight of a pink hawthorn in full flower . . . to praise God for it." Moreover, Jesus brings a new covenant to those who walk in his light, and he gives us precious gifts that may seem like nothing to this world, including the gift of his Spirit who lives among us and reassures us of God's presence - *This is what I covenanted with you . . . And my Spirit remains among you. - Haggai 2:5*

Nightingale simply did little things that no one else did at the time - regularly washing her hands, improving cleanliness in patients' rooms, arranging for better lighting and airing for her patients. At first, only the patients noticed; yet as other nurses and doctors noticed how helpful these things were, they began practicing them, beginning a gradual transformation of the medical profession. As Florence said, "Far the greatest things grow by God's hand out of the smallest . . . for it is wonderful how often in such matters the mustard-seed germinates and roots itself." She appreciated things that others didn't notice, so she simply planted 'mustard seeds' and let God nurture them. And what the Lord says about the temple in Haggai's time is true for us too -

The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house, says the Lord Almighty. And in this place I will grant peace. - Haggai 2:9

God has now brought the greater glory of Jesus, who came to meet the deepest needs of our souls, and who gives lasting peace and enduring hope to those who open our hearts and minds to God.

- Mark Garner

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

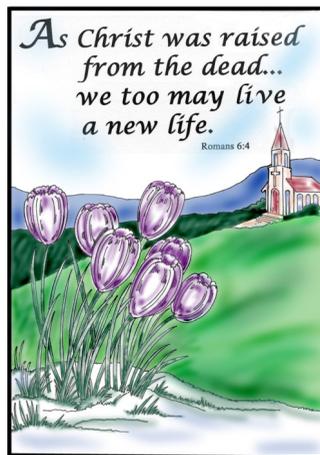
Minister: Caleb Dillinger
Elders: Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins
Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos, Luis Valdez

Jesus, Thy Mercies Are Untold

Jesus, Thy mercies are untold
Through each returning day;
Thy love exceeds a thousand fold
Whatever we can say.

That love which in Thy passion drained
For us Thy precious blood;
That love whereby the saints have gained
The vision of their God.

- Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153



Redemption

O wonderful words of the Gospel!
O wonderful message they bring,
Proclaiming a blessed redemption
Thro' Jesus, our Savior and king.

He came from the throne of His glory,
And left the bright mansions above,
The world to redeem from its bondage;
So great His compassion and love.

Believe, oh, believe, in His mercy
That flows like a fountain so free;
Believe, and receive the redemption
He offers to you and to me.

- Frances Crosby, 1887

The Way & The Truth & The Life

Jesus is the Way and the truth and the life, as well as many more things. John 15 also tells us that Jesus is the Vine, and he calls us to remain in him - this week, Karen Susenna writes about what it means to her to abide in Jesus.

Abide In Him

I came to the Lord God; I accepted His invitation to become part of His family. He saved me, not through work I had done, but through belief in his Son. Now that we are part of His family, God asks us to Abide in Him (John 15:4). I believe that is the second invitation from God. First, He invites us to Come, then He invites us to Abide. In the midst of all the Christian busyness, had I really accepted his invitation to Abide? And if not, why not? Three thoughts came to mind.

Sometimes I feel it's a chore or a burden to spend time with God. I see it as something on my to-do list to fit in prior to me going about my day – and that is not abiding. Then came another thought. I don't abide because I don't feel worthy. How can I come to a God who is holy and feel at ease in his presence given my sin? And, lastly, I was afraid of what I might find when I truly connected with the Living God. Would I find His wrath? His love? Might I learn something about myself that I didn't want to hear? What exactly would I find when I truly accepted His invitation to abide in Him?

Had I started to see time with God as a chore because I was so focused on proving my worth thru good works, rather than my good works coming as a result of abiding in Him? What an honor to realize that He chose me and has a plan for me to produce eternal fruit.

John 15: 16: You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.

If I truly believe that He is Father, Creator, Savior and Comforter, then I want to remain in Him. I want to make my home in Him. I want to abide in Him.

Had I questioned my worth because I had not fully realized that Jesus paid for my sins and continually wipes them away day by day? What an honor to realize the Advocate I have in Jesus.

1 John 2:1-2: We have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world.

If I truly understand my position in Christ, then I want to remain in Him. I want to make my home in Him. I want to abide in Him.

Had I become fearful of what the Lord might reveal to me in a close walk with Him? What an honor to be able to know the Father, communicate with Him and share myself with Him.

Hebrews 4:15-16: Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

If I truly grasp that He not only wants to answer prayers, but He wants me, then I want to remain in Him. I want to make my home in Him. I want to abide in Him.

Simply tell the Lord "Yes, I accept your invitation to abide in You." He will show you how.

- Karen Susenna