

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Next Phase of Covid Adjustments: We still have a lot of adjustments to plan this summer - Bible class, Wednesday activities, church events, communion supplies, etc.

Here are the continued precautions we are taking: 1) Face coverings are now optional. We will continue to provide face masks for those who desire them. 2) Regarding 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, head to the table on the left. 3) We will have a contribution plate alongside the communion table as well as immediately inside the auditorium near the doors. 4) There will be no invitation song. In place of the invitation, An Elder will be at a table in the foyer for you to come to and submit any prayer requests. These prayer requests will be prayed over after our final song.

Guest Speaker

Bob Turner, preacher for the White Station Church of Christ in Memphis, TN, will be speaking this morning.

Church Camp

Church camp starts TODAY for Northland at Fort Hill. Please keep everyone in your prayers for a safe week with good weather. If you know someone at camp, Cards of encouragement are always welcome. The address is: Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp, 13500 Fort Hill Rd. Hillsboro Ohio, 45133.

On Line Bible Studies

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is, "That Grace May Overflow" (based on Romans 5 & 6). The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Steve will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM, and everyone is welcome to join.

More On-Line Studies

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

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM - Women's Bible study, "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. Contact her for more details.

Contact Caleb Dillinger if you would like to have free access to RightNow Media, a digital collection of faith-based videos.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$3306	\$4559
Designated:	\$55	\$86

Adjusted Service Times

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12:00 PM Sunday Ghana Worship
3:00 PM Sunday Spanish worship

*Classes and devotionals are
Currently meeting on-line*

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: Luis Valdez



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Water For The Thirsty....

Water For The Thirsty, Food For The Fugitives

Someone calls to me from Seir, Watchman, what is left of the night? Watchman, what is left of the night? - Isaiah 21:11

As we endure this world's long nights of futility and harshness, we often ask when the morning will come; as we face this world's false hopes and loudness, we often long for the dawn when we may see things more clearly. Yet in this world, there will always be another morning and another night, times when one problem goes away yet is quickly replaced with new ones, as the prophet reminds us - *The watchman replies, Morning is coming, but also the night. - Isaiah 21:12*

Mudskippers are unusual fish 6-12 inches long that (like lungfish) live in environments where other fish wouldn't be able to survive. Mudskippers live in brackish water, in intertidal places like coastal mudflats, where every day tides cause their habitats to dry up and then refill. Because of their unusual environment, God equips mudskippers differently than he does with lungfish.

In our earthly lives, we too will constantly face similar patterns, times of peace followed by times of fear, times of hope followed by times of disappointment; for each of us understands so little and each of us needs our Heavenly Father to pour out his grace and compassion on us each moment. This world's appearances and circumstances change constantly, yet God and his word and the message of Jesus remain the same forever, and God will reassure us whenever we ask him - *If you would ask, then ask; and come back yet again. - Isaiah 21:12*

Our Creator gives mudskippers especially large gill chambers, so that they can retain more than enough water to supply them with oxygen during low tides and also to keep their skin moist. Likewise, God sustains us with his words, and he gives us his Spirit who reassures us that our Heavenly Father is with us as we endure this world's many dry spells.

Moreover, God enables mudskippers to be active when water has ebbed away, by giving them strong, flexible pectoral fins that can propel them for short distances along the ground (and giving them their name). The mudskipper can even eat when it is out of a fish's usual element. Similarly, when we realize that this world's ways cannot satisfy the thirst of our souls, that we are exiles and refugees from this world's empty thinking, God often helps us see the depths of his care - *You caravans of Dedanites . . . bring water for the thirsty; you who live in Tema, bring food for the fugitives. - Isaiah 21:13-14*

God nourishes us with the living bread of Jesus amidst this world's spiritual famine, and he renews us with the water of life in this desert. Our Father in heaven is mindful of every fish and bird and mammal and reptile he has made, and each of us is worth more to God than many animals.

- Mark Garner

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise:
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

- Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)

This hymn was set to music adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven's 9th symphony.



Let heaven and
earth praise him, the
seas and all that
move in them...

Psalm 69:34

As The Mountains Surround Jerusalem . . .

Psalm 125 uses this image of the ways our Heavenly Father surrounds us and protects us and guides us. This week, Paula Robbins writes about the ways God protects us from subtle dangers.

Protection from All Evil

Psalm 125 assures us that our good God protects us from and makes us immovable in the face of evil (Psalm 125:1-3). We eagerly seek his protection from evil people, accidents, hardship, and illness. It is typically easy for us to recognize these obvious threats. But are there threats that are easier for us to ignore? Threats that may be very familiar to us rather than coming from some evil entity that's "out there"? What is the nature of these more subtle threats?

In the words of Pogo, one of my favorite cartoon characters and philosophers: "We have met the enemy and he is us". It is easy for us to recognize our need for protection from external threats. It is often more difficult to recognize how much we need God to protect us from our own fallen nature. God's protection from all these threats rests on our trust in him (Psalm 125:1), which includes our willingness to seek and cooperate with his work in our lives.

God provides this protection in several ways. One is in warning us of the limitations of our fallen nature (Proverbs 16:25; Jeremiah 17:9) and the need to guard our hearts against evil (Proverbs 4:23; I Thessalonians 3:3). God also directs us to learn his truth from the Scriptures (Psalm 119:105; I Timothy 3:16) and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us understand and absorb those truths (John 16:13; Ephesians 6:17). God calls us to be transformed by rejecting our fleshly, worldly nature and allowing him to renew our minds (Romans 12:2). He promises that the Holy Spirit will work in our lives to change our fallen nature, making it continually more like his own holy nature (II Corinthians 3:17-18). He uses other believers to direct our attention to him, to refine us, and to point out our spiritual "blind spots" (Proverbs 27:17; I Thessalonians 4:18, 5:11; Hebrews 10:24-25) and expects us to do the same for others.

God certainly protects us from all threats that can cause us any type of harm, including ourselves!

- Paula Robbins