

Family Information

Wednesday Service Meeting This Week

There will be a service meeting this Wednesday, June 1 at 6:30 PM. The first Wednesday of every month will be devoted to children's ministry, including Sunday ministry and our Child Care. See Jeff or Caleb for additional information.

Graduation Party

Join us for a celebration in honor of Anna Silva, Buckeye Valley High School Class of 2022. The open house party will be on Saturday, June 11th, 2:00 - 6:00 PM in room E41-42.

Children's Classes

We now have children's classes for ages 2-10 during worship (each of them will begin after the Lord's Supper). See Mike Evans for further details.

Camp Weeks

July 17th through July 23rd is Northland's camp week with Bill Hopkins at Fort Hill. Sign up as soon as possible to receive a discount. July 24th through 30th is Northland's 2nd camp week with Nick Strawser at NWO-CYC. Sign up as soon as possible to receive a discount. Both weeks are in need of staff. If you can help out in any way for either week, contact Josh Evans.

On Line Bible Studies

Current On-Line Studies

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

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. The current study is in Philippians. Contact Karen 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: | \$3417 | \$4573 |
| Designated: | \$80 | \$51 |

| Service Times | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Sunday Morning Bible Study | 9:00 AM |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 10:00 AM |
| Sunday Spanish Worship | 10:00 AM |
| Sunday Ghana Worship | 12:00 PM |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 4:00 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: Luis Valdez

For sessions that are currently meeting on-line, see the announcements above.



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Rivers Flowing On Barren Heights

The poor and needy search for water, but there is none . . . But I the Lord will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. - Isaiah 41:17

The poor in spirit search for water, yet this world's ways hold only false hopes and empty promises; but our Heavenly Father has not forsaken us, for the Lord our God has answered our deepest needs through Jesus. Through him, rivers of living water flow through this world's barren heights, God's grace overflows to those who walk in the light of his Son, and he leads us to springs in this world's parched ground - *I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs. - Isaiah 41:18*

While writer Madeleine L'Engle (1918-2007) is usually remembered for her stories for young adults and children, she also wrote several volumes of poems, many of them dealing with God, his love, and the contrast between God's nature and ours. In one of her poems, L'Engle writes, "In flesh's solitude I count it blest That only you, my Lord, can see my heart With passion's darkness tearing it apart with storms of self and tempests of unrest. But your love breaks through . . ."

God's love alone can break through the gloom of this world's harshness, our Heavenly Father's truths alone can break through the fog of this world's empty teachings. As Madeleine's poem continues, "In Dayspring all our fragments; body, mind, And spirit join, unite against the night. Healed by your love, corruption and decay Are turned, and whole, we greet the light of day."

The Lord plants cedars of grace in this desert, so that we may consider that his hand has done it; our Holy One puts junipers of truth in this wasteland so that we may understand his incomparable understanding and his unfailing compassion - *I will put in the desert the cedar and the acacia . . . I will set junipers in the wasteland . . . so that people may see and know, may consider and understand, that the hand of the Lord has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it. - Isaiah 41:19-20*

Our Father in heaven does more things for us than we could count, and his vastness and splendor are far greater than we imagine; as another of Madeleine L'Engle's poems expresses her awe and praise for God, "Immanent eminence wholly transcendent permanent, in firmament holy, resplendent . . .". And Jesus has come; he was in very nature God, he is our Alpha and our Omega, he brings good news that gives our souls lasting hope and peace and meaning - *I was the first to tell Zion, Look, here they are. I gave to Jerusalem a messenger of good news. - Isaiah 41:27*

The Son of God came from heaven to live among us, and he brings eternal life to those who believe his message and hold fast to him.

- Mark Garner

Look Upon Us, Blessed Lord

Look upon us, blessed Lord,
Take our wandering thoughts and guide us;
We have come to hear Thy Word,
With Thy teaching now provide us,
That, from earth's distractions turning,
We Thy message may be learning.

Brightness of the Father's face,
Light of light, from God proceeding,
Make us ready in this place;
Ear and heart await Thy leading.
Fill with life and inspiration
Every prayer and meditation.

- Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684

At different times, German writer and minister Tobias Clausnitzer also served as an army chaplain and as a government official, and he wrote the words to about a dozen hymns. This hymn was translated into English by Irish archaeologist Robert A. S. Macalister (1870-1950), who helped collect and translate material for hymnals.

My Savior's Footsteps

In the pathway of my journey
I see steps that lead to God;
They're the footsteps of my Savior,
Showing me the path He trod.

Thou hast borne my every burden,
Borne death's anguish on the tree;
All this hast Thou meekly suffered
E'en for my iniquity.

Thou hast lived on earth for others,
Spent Thy life for us in love;
Thus would I my life be spending
Till I meet Thee, Lord, above.

- Amanda R. Meusch, 1871-1908

Writer Amanda Meusch wrote the words to several dozen hymns, as well as writing and translating for hymnals in other languages.

God Gives Us Hope & A Future

In Jeremiah 29, God reassures the exiles in Babylon that he is near, that he cares for them, and that he will give them hope and a future. This week, Micah Evans writes about the paths God has in mind for us, both in circumstances we expected and in circumstances we didn't expect.

Strategy or Tragedy

Sometimes, God has plans for us that we saw coming. A new job we interviewed for, a new house we searched for, a marriage we intentionally pursued.

On the contrary, sometimes God has plans we not only didn't see coming, but ones that we didn't ask for because they aren't exactly what we would have liked for ourselves.

There is so much of my current station in life that I prayed for and hoped for, and planned on. But there is also much that I never saw coming. Some of those things are welcome, as the overflowing blessings that I never even thought to ask God for. While others are not so welcome at first thought, like disagreements with others, loss, and other challenges that come with our messy humanness.

However, God uses it all. There's not one millisecond of my life that has surprised God, or that He hasn't orchestrated for His good as Romans 8:28 says: "We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." God doesn't send us bad things, but when they inevitably happen to us on this earth, He knows what to do with them.

This is comforting to know that no matter what celebrating or suffering I do in this life, it's all for His glory. My great-grandmother Hazel Finch and I used to make plans for how we would spend our time together and we would say, "If you don't have a strategy, you'll end up with a tragedy." So I thank God that He always has a strategy for us.

- Micah Evans