

Family Information

Wednesday Service Meeting Schedule

The next service meeting will be on Wednesday, August 3 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.

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.

The children's education program needs helpers for all age groups. The classes already have teachers, so this is a good opportunity for training. These positions are staggered so that no one needs to serve for extended periods. See Lynn Paden or Emily Graham if you can help.

Family Fun Friday

Northland's Family Fun Friday will take place on August 5th. If it rains that Friday, the activities will be held indoors. If you'd like to participate or have questions, see Caleb.

Work Day Next Month

There will be a work/clean-up day on Saturday, August 20th. If it rains, then the following Saturday, August 27th, will be the backup date. See Mike Evans for further information.

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:	\$3788	\$4512
Designated:	\$	\$41

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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God's Fullness Dwelled In Jesus

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. - Colossians 1:15-16

Jesus is the image of our Heavenly Father, and in him we see God's understanding and compassion and mercy. Through him all things were created, and throughout God's creation we see his wisdom and care and mindfulness. In Jesus all things hold together, and in him we find a hope and peace and meaning that nothing in this world could have provided - He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. - Colossians 1:17-18

English physicist and chemist Michael Faraday (1791-1867) is remembered for his many scientific discoveries, particularly in electromagnetism. He was also known for his faith in God; as one of his biographers says, "a strong sense of the unity of God and nature pervaded Faraday's life and work." As Michael expressed this, "The book of nature which we have to read is written by the finger of God."

Faraday's family was impoverished, so as a boy he ran errands for a book-binder and bookseller, and later he became an apprentice to his employer. This gave him the chance to read about his main interests, science and God. This helped him see the hand of God in everything he studied, as he writes, "I rise from the contemplation more than ever impressed with the wisdom, the beneficence, and grandeur, beyond our language to express, of the Great (Creator) of us all."

And it has pleased our Father in heaven to have all his fullness dwell in his Son, who came to lay down his life on the cross to bring us reconciliation and redemption - For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. - Colossians 1:19-20

Michael Faraday writes about the assurance and comfort this gives us, "Since peace is alone the gift of God, and as it is He who gives it, why should we be afraid? His unspeakable gift in His beloved Son is the ground of no doubtful hope." Michael was often asked what he thought heaven would be like; instead of speculating, he answered "I shall be with Christ, and that is enough." For Jesus lives forever; and in Jesus, God meets all of our deepest needs - Now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation - if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. - Colossians 1:22-23

And God gives eternal life to those who put all our faith and trust in his Son, and hold fast to him.

- Mark Garner

Father, We Thank Thee

Father, we thank Thee for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the world so fair.

Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To love Thee better day by day.

- Rebecca J. Weston, 1835-1895

Schoolteacher Rebecca Weston wrote this for one of her classes. After teaching for about 20 years, she became one of the pioneers in starting kindergarten classes in the U.S.

O God Of Love, To Thee We Bow

O God of love, to Thee we bow,
And pray for these before Thee now,
That, closely knit in holy vow,
They may be in Thee one.

When days are filled with pure delight,
When paths are plain and skies are bright,
Walking by faith and not by sight,
May they be in Thee one.

When stormy winds fulfill Thy will,
And all their good seems turned to ill,
Then, trusting Thee completely, still
May they be in Thee one.

Whate’er in life shall be their share
Of quickening joy or burdening care,
In power to do and grace to bear,
May they be in Thee one.

William Vaughan Jenkins, 1868–1920

British accountant William Jenkins helped organized Bible classes, collected material for hymnals, and also spent several years at a missionary site.

Jesus, Our Good Shepherd

Jesus is often described as our good Shepherd, for all of the ways he cares for us, guides us, and protects us. This week, Renée Jackson writes about the many needs our Shepherd meets for us.

The Lord Is Our Shepherd, We Shall Not Want

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." Psalm 23:1 This is a familiar passage of scripture to most of us, and we probably can recite the entire chapter of Psalm 23. In this passage and throughout the New Testament we learn (1) the Lord is the good shepherd, He gave His life for His sheep, and (2) His sheep know His voice and follow Him.

To know He is a good shepherd we must know the nature of sheep. Sheep have a natural tendency to wander off and get lost. Sheep are basically helpless and cannot survive long without the guidance of a shepherd. They are totally dependent on the shepherd for their care. Sheep are difficult to train, cannot escape their predators and have no claws, sharp hooves or other defenses. Sheep will not lie down when they are hungry and will not drink from fast-flowing streams. The sheep hear the voice of the shepherd and follow him, just as we listen to our Shepherd, Jesus Christ. *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27.* By not listening to the Shepherd's voice, we can be easily led astray by others to our own destruction.

Like sheep, we sometimes wander off and get lost. *"We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way." Isaiah 53:6.* Jesus is THE good shepherd who is righteous and protects, guides and nurtures His flock. Shepherds were often in danger, sometimes giving their lives to protect their sheep. Likewise, Jesus gave His life on the cross as "The Good Shepherd" for us. *"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down my life for the sheep." John 10:14-15*

Like sheep, we, too, need a shepherd. When we agree to be sheep under the Lord's loving care, He will abundantly supply what we need. That truth encourages me and helps me to live well each day. The provisions in Psalm 23 are: I shall not want for: Rest - for He makes me to lie down in green pastures, Peace - for He leads me beside the still waters, Forgiveness - for He restores my soul, Guidance - for He leads me in the paths of righteousness, Companionship - for You are with me, Comfort - for your rod and your staff comfort me, Provision - for You prepare a table before me, Joy - You anoint my head with oil and my cup runs over, Everything in time - for goodness and mercy shall follow me and Everything in eternity - for I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

- Renée Jackson