

## Family Information

### New Church Staff

On October 21, Pam and Darrell Estep will both be retiring after many years of working for the congregation. Ashley Dillinger will become the new church secretary, and Art Silva will take over as the custodian for the building and grounds. Each of these positions will be part-time. See one of the elders for further information.

### Potluck For Pam & Darrell Estep

Please mark your calendars for Sunday November 6th, for a Potluck immediately following services in the fellowship hall (rooms E41 & E42). We will be gathering to honor Pam and Darrell Estep for the many years they have served our congregation.

### Next Wednesday Service Meeting

The next service meeting will be on Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 PM. The third Wednesday of every month will be focused on outreach opportunities, meaning anything to do with non-Northland members. See Jeff or Caleb for additional information.

### Fall Fest

Fall Fest is being planned for Sunday evening, October 23, from 5:30-7:00 PM. If you're willing to help, please see Emily Graham, Josh Evans, or Vicki Cowans.

### Preview Of New Web Site

In the near future, Northland's new web site will be at ncocfamily.com, which will replace the current site, ncocfamily.org, soon. You can get a preview of the new site at ncocfamily.com, as Jack Evans and Becca Strawser continue transferring material from the old site. If you see any errors, broken links, or misinformation, please notify Jack Evans (jevans@ncocfamily.org).

## On Line Bible Studies

### New Small Group

If you would be interested in joining a new small group (either being part of one or hosting one) this fall or winter, please see the elders or Caleb.

### 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 Acts. Contact Karen for more details.

### Children's Classes

We currently have children's classes for ages 2-10 during worship (each of them begins after the Lord's Supper). See Mike Evans for further details. The children's education program needs helpers for all age groups. See Lynn Paden or Emily Graham if you can help.

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$5067	\$4362
<b>Designated:</b>		\$44

**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.

## The Door Will Be Opened

*Enter through the narrow gate . . . small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. - Matthew 7:13-14*

We were wandering sheep who couldn't find the path, so Jesus had compassion on us, and he came to show us the Way. We were confused sheep who didn't even know the right questions to ask, so the Son of God came from heaven full of truth and grace. Jesus came to give redemption and salvation and new life to those who seek God with a humble heart - *Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find.* - Matthew 7:7

When Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) was young, she excelled in school yet she constantly battled illness. As a teenager, she devoted the rest of her life to following Jesus, and she became known as "The Little Flower" because of the many ways she helped and comforted others. In her short life, she also wrote numerous poems, essays, letters, and prayers.

In one of Thérèse's writings, she reassures the fearful about God's eagerness to be with us in spite of our flaws and weaknesses, "Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you - for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart . . . go without fear to receive the Jesus of peace and love."

She then adds that our Heavenly Father simply asks us to open our hearts and minds to him, so that he can live within us, "The guest of our soul knows our misery; He comes to find an empty tent within us - that is all He asks." For God made each of us in the hope that we would reach out for him and find him, and he opens the door to those who seek him in truth - *Knock and the door will be opened to you.* - Matthew 7:7

In of Thérèse of Lisieux's poems, she speaks of the comfort that God's presence and the message of Jesus give us amidst this world's trials, "To bear my exile now, within this world of tears, The holy tender glance of Christ, my Lord, I need. That glance, surcharged with love, consoles me through the years; His loveliness displays foretaste of heaven indeed."

She also writes of the hope and joy that knowing Jesus gives us, "On me my Jesus smiles, when toward Him I aspire, The trial of my faith then weighs no more on me. That love-glance of my God, that smile of holy fire, Oh, this is heaven for me!" For when we are aware of our Heavenly Father's presence and are aware of his hand upholding us and guiding us, this is a small preview of heaven.

*For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. - Matthew 7:8*

Jesus has opened the way to God's presence, so that we may come near and may have the enduring peace and hope that come from him.

- Mark Garner



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### **All Glory, Laud And Honor**

All glory, laud and honor,  
To Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the king of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and Blessèd One.

The company of angels  
Are praising Thee on High,  
And mortal men and all things  
Created make reply.

- *Theodulf of Orléans, AD 750 (approx.) - 821*

*Writer and teacher Theodulf of Orléans was born in Spain.  
King Charles I of France (who is known in history as Charlemagne) brought him to Orléans,  
France to help with the church, and he later became one of Charles's advisers.*

### **He Who Clothes The Lily Fair**

He who clothes the lily fair,  
Sends the raiment that I wear,  
He who feeds the bird and bee,  
Also cares for me.

He who notes the sparrow's fall,  
He who hears the raven's call,  
Loves his creatures great and small,  
He will care for me.

He who made the land and sea,  
He will care for me.  
On him I'll rely,  
He'll my wants supply.

- *Martha Mills Newton, 1861-1947*

*This is an excerpt from one of several dozen hymns written by poet and music teacher Martha Newton.*

### ***An Anchor For The Soul***

*Jesus and his message of salvation and redemption give us an anchor for our souls as we endure this world's uncertainties and fears. This week, Renée Jackson writes about the certain hope that Jesus' message gives us, and the many ways it can help us.*

### **An Anchor For The Soul**

The author of Hebrews was writing to people who were facing hardships and persecution because of their Christian faith. A few were tempted to abandon Christ and return to Judaism. In Hebrews chapter 6, he is urging them to persevere by putting their focus on Jesus Christ and the salvation that He has provided.

He uses a metaphor of an anchor. But instead of going down into the ocean, this anchor goes up into the heavens. The certain hope of our salvation is an anchor to steady our souls while we wait on God in present storms.

The main reason a ship needs an anchor is to ride out storms so that it is not blown off course or into rocks or something nearby. Even in a safe harbor, a ship needs an anchor so that it will not drift, hit something and sink. Weather in the storms of life or in the harbor during the calm times of our life, we all need an anchor for our souls so that we do not destroy our lives.

Abraham was an anchored man who endured because he believed God's promise for his life. He was able to put his hope on all God said would occur. It is God's promises we must put our hope and attention on, our anchor.

We face many types of storms that threaten to rob us of hope in Christ: storms of false doctrine that can blow us off course (Ephesians 4:14), storms of doubt when we may question our Christian faith (1 Corinthians 15:1-19), storms of difficult trials where we may wonder why God is allowing the trials (Romans 8:29-39), and storms of defeat where we may sin and dishonor our Lord and Savior (Luke 22:32).

As Christians living in a world that Paul describes as "having no hope and without God," in Ephesians 2:12, we should stand out as people of hope. We know how the story ends, that we're on the winning side. We have a high priest within the veil. He has promised to save all who take refuge in Him. The certain hope of our salvation is the anchor God has given to us to steady our souls, even in times of storm.

*Hebrews 10:23 - "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."*

- *Renée Jackson*