

Family Information

Wednesday Service Meeting This Week
There will be a service meeting this Wednesday, November 2 at 6:30 PM. The first Wednesday of every month will be devoted to children's ministry. See Jeff or Caleb for additional information.

Potluck Next Sunday For Pam & Darrell Estep
Next Sunday, November 6th, immediately following worship service there will be a potluck in the fellowship room (rooms E41 & E42), to honor Pam and Darrell Estep for the many years they have served our congregation. Paper goods and drinks will be provided. Please bring food to share - there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Sympathy
We want to express our sympathy to William Nixon at the death of his brother, Mark Nixon. The funeral was on Saturday, October 29.

More November Events
In addition to the Potluck, two more events are planned for next month. On Sunday, November 13, there will be a meeting after the morning assembly to discuss putting up a new sign in front of the church building. Then, on Sunday, November 20, there will be an evening combined time of worship with the Ghana congregation. Details will be coming soon.

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 .

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

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

On Line Bible Studies

New Small Groups
If you would be interested in joining a new small group (either being part of one or hosting one) beginning either later this fall or this winter, please see Caleb or one of the elders. Let us also know how often you would be interested in meeting or hosting (once per month, every other week, or every week). We're hoping to start one or two groups before the end of the year.

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.

Update On New Web Site
Until the end of this year, both of Northland's web sites will be continually updated by Jack Evans and Becca Strawser. After January 1 the new site, ncocfamily.com, will replace the current site, ncocfamily.org, and after that if you enter the old site address you will be automatically redirected to the new one.

	Contribution	
	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$3853	\$4361
Designated:	75	\$45



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ncocfamily.org

October 30 2022
Volume 31, Number 44

God Gives Us More Grace

He . . . longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us. But he gives us more grace.
- James 4:5-6

Our Father in heaven made each of us and he has planted his seed within us, and he longs for each of us to seek him and reach out for him so that we may find him. Our Heavenly Father knows that we are easily distracted and that we easily become confused, so he gives us grace, more grace, and even more grace. God simply calls us to trust in him and approach him with a soft and humble heart - *That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.* - James 4:6-7

German writer and teacher Matilda of Magdeburg (1207-1282) had grown up in a prosperous family, yet in her twenties she knew that something was missing. As she studied the scriptures, she began to see God's hand at work everywhere. As she says about the day she decided to turn to Jesus, "The day of my spiritual awakening was the day I saw and knew I saw all things in God and God in all things."

Matilda (who is also known as Mechthild, a medieval variant of Matilda) wrote in everyday German, instead of in Latin, because she also saw God's desire for everyone to seek him with their hearts (her writings are among the earliest known religious works written in German). For indeed God opens the door whenever we knock, and we find him when we seek him - *Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts.* - James 4:8

Many of Matilda's writings are about God's desire for us to know him and for us to let him make us one with him, as well as the ways that only God can meet the deepest needs of our spirits. In one of her poems she writes, "A fish cannot drown in water, A bird does not fall in air . . . Each creature God made must live in its own true nature; How could I resist my nature, That lives for oneness with God?"

Matilda of Magdeburg also often wrote of God's unfailing compassion and care. In another poem she wrote, "And God said to the soul: I desired you before the world began. I desire you now As you desire me. And where the desires of two come together There love is perfected." For God rejoices in being with us, and he eagerly lifts up those who walk humbly in the light of Jesus - *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.* - James 4:10

Our Heavenly Father is so mindful of us, and his compassion will endure forever.

- Mark Garner

Listen To My Cry, Lord

Listen to my cry, Lord;
hear my humble prayer.
When my soul is troubled,
keep me in your care.

From the earth's far corners
you will hear my cry.
Set me on your rock, Lord,
higher rock than I.

In your tent forever
may my dwelling be;
with your wings of mercy
gently shelter me.

All my cries you've answered,
kept me safe from shame.
I am richly blest with
those who fear your name.

Bless with life forever
your anointed king.
Through the generations
may he always reign.

- Henrietta Ten Harmsel, 1921-2012

Writer, college teacher, and translator Henrietta Ten Harmsel was the Chair of the English Department at a college for 25 years, and she also translated numerous works from Dutch into English.

God Can Count The Hairs Of Our Heads

Rather than feeling lost and unimportant and meaningless, set against galaxies which go beyond the reach of the furthest telescopes, I feel that my life has meaning . . . I feel a soaring in my heart that the God who could create all this — and out of nothing — can still count the hairs of my head.

- Madeleine L'Engle,
1918-2007

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, Don Milnor writes about the ways that God's words can anchor us.

God’s Word Is . . .
(Psalm 119)

God’s word anchors us in so many ways. Psalm 119 does a rather thorough job of describing how important the word is, and many of the benefits thereof. Here are just some of them:

Youth struggling with staying pure is hardly something new to our time and culture:
v. 9 – *How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.*

It’s actually worth being afflicted to learn to obey God’s word:
v. 67 – *Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.*
v. 71 – *It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.*

God’s word is worth much more than the wealth of this world:
v. 72 – *The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.*

God’s word can keep us from perishing:
v. 92 – *If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.*

I don’t have a Ph.D., but I read God’s word. It’s much more valuable:
vv. 97-100 – *Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statues. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.*

How many man-made laws or philosophies qualify as being these things?
v. 103 – *How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*
v. 142 – *Your righteousness is everlasting and your law is true.*
v. 172 – *May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous.*

We are so blessed to have God’s word so easily available to us. We can just pick up a copy of his word in our native language, in paper or electronically, with not much cost, or concern about persecution, while others have to risk their lives, travel far, or study a non-native language to learn God’s word. Let us take full advantage of his word in our lives, reading it, and doing it (James 1:22-25).

– Don Milnor