

Family Information

Next Missions Group Meeting

The next Missions Group meeting will be held on Wednesday February 23 at 6:30 PM. Contact Jeff McVicker if you have questions.

Sunday Evening Worship Has Resumed

Sunday evening worship has resumed meeting at the new time of 4:00 PM. See Mike Paden or Jeff McVicker for further information.

Contribution Statements For 2021

Contribution statements for 2021 are available in the church office. Please see Pam Estep or Glenn Culler to pick up your statement.

Words Of Wisdom

When with bold telescopes I survey the old and newly discovered stars and planets, when with excellent microscopes I discern the unimitable subtlety of nature's curious workmanship; and when, in a word, . . . I study the book of nature I find myself oftentimes reduced to exclaim with the Psalmist, How manifold are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

- Robert Boyle (chemist & physicist),
1627-1691

For three things I thank God every day of my life: thanks that he has vouchsafed me knowledge of his works; deep thanks that he has set in my darkness the lamp of faith; deep, deepest thanks that I have another life to look forward to--a life joyous with light and flowers and heavenly song.

- Helen Keller,
1880-1968

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 on Colossians. 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:	\$3971	\$4309
Designated:	\$5	\$26

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.

Without Turning Aside

Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. - Joshua 23:6

We are weak, yet when we fix our eyes on Jesus, God strengthens us and he guides us through this world's fears, uproars, and temptations, without turning aside. Our Heavenly Father calls us not to trust in this world's ways and idols, and to hold fast to him and the message of Jesus - *Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them . . . But you are to hold fast to the Lord your God. - Joshua 23:7-8*

In ancient Greek mythology there was a feared strait; on one side was Scylla, a six-headed monster that would crush ships against the rocks and devour their crews, and on the other side was Charybdis, another monster that made a whirlpool so strong that if a ship even touched the edge, it would inevitably be destroyed with all aboard.

The shores were too close to avoid both perils, yet ship after ship tried to go through, either out of pride or impatience. Almost all were completely destroyed, and of the rest only a handful of sailors survived. Similarly, human ability and human strength cannot protect us from the whirlpools of this world's ways and from the jagged rocks of this world's thinking.

In "The Odyssey", when out of desperation Odysseus decides he must risk the strait's dangers, he has the ship go somewhat closer to Scylla, in the hope that some of his crew might survive, since encountering Charybdis meant certain doom. Several sailors are lost to Scylla and the ship is damaged, yet they can continue.

When we ourselves are in difficult situations, our Father in heaven patiently reminds us to avoid following this world's hollow ways, and to put all our trust and hope in him, so that above all he can protect our souls and our relationship with him - *So be very careful to love the Lord your God. But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you . . . they will become snares and traps for you. - Joshua 23:11-13*

One ship does go through unharmed, when the 'goddesses' Athena and Hera tell Jason and the crew of the "Argo" to go through the strait. Athena and Hera escort them past the roars of Charybdis and the snarls of Scylla, asking the sailors to trust them without changing course. Likewise, God promises us that when we follow his paths instead of pursuing this world's false hopes, he will protect our souls and our spirits, and he will carry us every step - *You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed. - Joshua 23:14*

Truly God's promises are trustworthy, and his compassion endures forever.

- Mark Garner



4581 Cleveland Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43231
(614) 410-5860

Website
ncocfamily.org

February 13, 2022
Volume 31, Number 7

Leave It There

If the world from you withhold
Of its silver and its gold,
And you have to get along with meager fare,
Just remember, in His Word,
How He feeds the little bird;
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

If your body suffers pain
And your health you can't regain,
And your soul is almost sinking in despair,
Jesus knows the pain you feel,
He can save and He can heal;
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

When your enemies assail
And your heart begins to fail,
Don't forget that God in Heaven answers prayer;
He will make a way for you
And will lead you safely through.
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Leave it there, leave it there,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.
If you trust and never doubt,
He will surely bring you out.
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

- Charles A. Tindley, 1851-1933

This is one of many hymns written by Charles Tindley; he wrote it in 1906, based on a number of scriptures he often used to comfort the fearful or discouraged.



Renewed Inwardly Day By Day

This week, Donna Smith writes about the many ways God renews and rejuvenates us.

God's Gift Box

For my birthday this year I received several gifts relating to selfcare, renewal, and rejuvenation. It seemed my friends were concerned because this birthday was one which society views as a milestone birthday. Anyway, one of the gifts I received had a theme: Healing From The Inside Out. This gift consisted of things to motivate you to remain hydrated, get moving, incorporate whole foods into your diet, and try new things. After recently reviewing the packing slip from the gift, I decided to imagine a selfcare, renewal and rejuvenation box from the Father. How would it be different? Would there be any similarities?

Due to time and space constraints, I could only list some of the things in my birthday box. Likewise, I could not list all the things I could picture in God's box. It's comforting to know that His gifts and resources are numerous. However, I will only concentrate on four.

1) Prayer-- Whenever, like the disciples in Mark 4:38, I feel like asking "Teacher, carest thou not that we perish?" I go to God in prayer. (1Thessalonians 5:17 says pray continually, Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.", Romans 12:12 "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation be constant in prayer.") I am grateful for this privilege and avenue of communication. When life's storms seem so frightening, prayer anchors the soul.

2) Fellowship—Often when I feel like giving up, I will go to my mailbox or phone, and find I've received an encouraging text, card, or some other correspondence from a brother or sister. (Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.) Often, when my heart grows faint, I can find someone in the body who has experienced the same trial and triumphed. As a result, they can offer advice and comfort. (2 Corinthians 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.)

3) Rest—Since I read in Psalm 121:4 that God does not sleep or slumber, I can rest physically with the confidence of knowing He is in control. In Matthew 11:28 Jesus said we can come to him if we're weary and burdened, and he would give us rest. Through his death burial and resurrection, he provided a way to wipe out my burden of sin and make me a new creation. Therefore, according to Acts 3:19, I am refreshed.

4) Living Hope--- In 1Peter 1:3-4 We are assured that through Jesus Christ we have a living hope and a future inheritance that can neither perish spoil or fade. Knowing where you are headed removes some of the stress from life. It also helps one to be able to press on toward the goal.

I could continue my list with things like Bible study and meditation, service, love, praise, laughter, etc. However, you see that the list would be quite lengthy. According to James 1:17, every good and perfect gift comes from God. Those gifts in my birthday box were also from Him. Even though I sometimes forget and become anxious, God has provided numerous ways to be refreshed, encouraged and renewed regardless of life's circumstances.

- Donna Smith