

## Family Information

### Food Pantry

The food Pantry is in need of the following: **jelly**, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pancake mix, pancake syrup, powdered milk (in 1 qt packages).

### Holiday Schedule

**Sunday** January 2nd—There will be no classes and no Jr. worship, regular worship at 10:30

### Bible

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay, said his father. So, son, what does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy. It stands for... **BASIC INFORMATION BEFORE LEAVING EARTH.**"

### Errors In The Bulletin

Have you found errors in the bulletin? If so, surely they were no worse than the following. After the death of a deacon in the church, his wife was mortified to read in the bulletin this announcement: "Deacon Brown has gone home to roost." Upon calling the preacher she was assured it was an error and that it would be corrected the next issue. The announcement should have read: "Deacon Brown goes home to rest." Anxiously the distressed widow waited for the next week's bulletin and hurried to see the correction which read: "Deacon Brown goes home to roast." Errors are often made in publications. Please have the grace to overlook such in this bulletin. Your editor, his wife, and the church secretary will try to make it as free of errors as possible.

-Reprinted from Coshocton Ohio Church of Christ  
January 24, 1964

### Communion Servers For January

### For The Month Of January

**Announcements:** Chivington  
**Visitors Table:**  
**Greeter:** Lindsay  
**Foyer Duty:** J Evans

## Northland Life Groups

| Location         | Contact Ph.    | Leader        | Type                   | Meets                             |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Butlers Home     | (614) 890-7721 | Tom Barnhardt | Spiritual Grwth/Seeker | 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6 pm.     |
| Browns Home      | (614) 885-1988 | Perry Coate   | Spiritual Growth       | Every other Monday at 7:30 pm.    |
| Church Building  | (614) 475-0161 | Roy Estep     | Personal Support       | 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th Weds 10:30 am. |
| Smiths Home      | (614) 898-7987 | Billie Thorne | Personal Support       | Every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm.   |
| Chivingtons Home | (614) 823-5596 | Kevin C.      | Young Adult            | 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6 pm.     |
| McDaniel Home    | (614) 785-1321 | Jason M.      | Young Married          | 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 7 pm.     |
| Northland Annex  | (614) 523-3734 | Troy Blair    | Teens                  | 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 5:30 pm.  |
| Allen Home       | (614) 764-8542 | Wilbur Allen  | Spiritual Growth       | 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6:00 pm   |

### Elders:

Wilbur Allen  
Tom Barnhardt  
Frank Chappell  
Roy Estep  
Ray Thorne

### Evangelists:

Ron Adams  
Tom Barnhardt

### Youth

### Minister:

Troy Blair

### Deacons:

Brian Arnold  
John Bradley  
Lynn Champney  
Kevin Chivington  
Darrell Estep  
Jack Evans  
Mike Evans  
Lou Lawrence  
John Lindsay  
Jack Mauersberg  
Beryl McMasters  
Mark Morris

### Contributions

Last Week \$5632  
Average \$5632

Russia \$120  
Average \$220

Youth \$115  
Average \$222

### Attendance

Sunday Class 144  
Sunday Worship 222  
Weds 135

### Services

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

northlandchurchofchrist.com

### January

- 2 No Bible Classes  
10:30 Worship, But No Junior Worship
- 5 50's Plus Meeting
- 13 Christian Women's Fellowship Meeting
- 16 50's Plus "Eat Out Sunday"
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 19 50's Plus Meeting

N O R T H L A N D

Messenger

Volume 14, Number 1

January 2, 2005

Northland Church of Christ  
4581 Cleveland Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43231  
(614) 475-0161

## The Acceptable Year Of The Lord

*The spirit of the lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach glad tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bid up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord... (Isaiah 61:1-2, KJV)*

The church, if it is true to its guidelines, must preach the acceptable year of the Lord. You know the acceptable year of the Lord is the year that is acceptable to God because it fulfills the demands of his kingdom. Some people reading this passage feel that it's talking about some period beyond history, but I say to you this morning that the acceptable year of the Lord can be this year. And the church is called to preach it.

The acceptable year of the Lord is any year when men decide to do right. The acceptable year of the Lord is any year when men will stop lying and cheating. The acceptable year of the Lord is any year when men will stop throwing away the precious lives that God has given them in riotous living.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will learn to live together as brothers.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will keep their theology abreast with their technology. The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will keep the ends for which they live abreast with the means by which they live. The acceptable year of the Lord is the year when men will keep their morality abreast with their mentality.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when all of the leaders of the world will sit down at the conference table and realize that unless mankind puts an end to war, war will put an end to mankind. The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; and nations will not rise up against nations, neither will they study war anymore.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will allow justice to roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will do unto others as they will have others do unto themselves.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men will love their enemies, bless them that curse them, pray for them that spitefully use them.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when men discover that out of one blood God made all men to dwell upon the face of the earth.

The acceptable year of the Lord is that year when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess the name of Jesus. And everywhere men will cry out, "Hallelujah, hallelujah! The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever. Hallelujah, hallelujah!"

The acceptable year of the Lord is God's year.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (excerpts from a sermon given in Atlanta in 1966)



A New Year Message  
From Our Minister

Ron Shares His Thoughts For 2005,  
See Page Two



# RON’S REFLECTIONS....

## NORTHLAND A PLACE TO BELONG – A PLACE TO BECOME

One of the lessons I’m learning slowly is that I don’t have to understand why or how or even when God does what He does; all I have to do is trust Him in order to experience His peace. The same principle is true in church growth.

Someday I am going to preach a sermon on words or phrases we’ll never hear God say. One of the words is Oops. God never has to say, “Oops,” because He never makes a mistake. Everything that happens in the life of Northland fits into God’s plan. He uses every situation, even the problems to challenge, groom, test, and filter us so as to work out His purpose for Northland. The question to ask is, are we in tune with God?

Northland is on the brink of something great. We must trust God –get out of the boat – and walk on water as He leads us. Do you have that kind of faith?

Would you indulge me and let me share my dream for Northland? It is a faith dream. A faith dream is a dream bigger than our recourses and can only come about by the power of God.

I see a church, a community of people, where everyone can discover that they matter to God. Where all people can come as they are and experience God’s grace, love, forgiveness, healing, and hope.

I see a church that will go to the residents in Columbus with the Good News of Jesus Christ, transforming each person from the reality of eternal separation from God to the assurance and promise of abundant life with God.

I see a community of communities – a place for everyone to belong. A place for everyone to become what God wants. Communities of every size meeting specific needs, united in God’s purpose and experiencing the reality of living together in God’s family.

I see a church that meets the needs of the whole person with facilities and ministries for physical needs, emotional needs, educational needs, and spiritual needs.

I see a church of a 1,000 people reaching out to others, caring for each other, expressing awesome worship to God, and serving Columbus and the world. I see a “highway of help” from Columbus to points of need locally and globally.

I see a church campus of flexible facilities:

- A main campus with excellent buildings and spaces creating an atmosphere that will enhance every experience – including a 1500 seat worship center.
- Multiple classrooms equipped with the latest technology, and a conference center.
- An athletic facility to support a strategic sports program. A food court and playground.
- A retreat center in a beautiful, natural setting.

I see a church that never stops dreaming. Taking bold steps of faith in response to God’s leading, believing that He will do “even MORE THAN WE ASK OR IMAGINE, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21)

I believe the year 2005 will be an awesome year for Northland. I’m excited!! I want you to be excited also. So! How is your faith dream?

Love to all, Ron Adams  
(If I could only get use to the snow)

# MOUNT ZION & MOUNT ESAU THE BOOK OF OBADIAH

## Week One: Obadiah's Message (Obadiah 1:1)

Obadiah, the shortest book in the Old Testament, is rarely studied by Christians. Yet, while its prophecies were fulfilled by events that took place long before the birth of Jesus, its message still has important things to say to us. Obadiah's prophecy concerns the nation of Edom, which was inhabited by the descendants of Esau, the brother of Jacob. The relationship between these two brothers is significant to us in several ways.

In one sense, the book of Obadiah consists of a simple message of destruction for the nation of Edom, one of Israel's neighbors. With eloquence and brevity, the prophet spells out the reasons for God's judgment on Edom, and he also indicates what is going to happen. When we appreciate the background to the book, though, we can see that the lessons taught by Obadiah are still applicable in several ways that are of importance to Christians.

Obadiah wastes no time in declaring the "bottom line" of his vision (1:1). We know little about the prophet himself. His name, which means "servant of the Lord" was a very common one in ancient Israel. There are numerous Obadias in the Old Testament, but the prophet Obadiah is most likely not the same man as any of the others.

The prophet announces at once that he has a message from the Lord, who has decided to summon the nations, and to prepare them to do battle against the nation of Edom. That is, God is about to use the surrounding nations as instruments of judgment on Edom. Soon the prophet will explain why God has made this decision. But it is noteworthy that he tells them what he will do before explaining it. The Edomites are not weak but well-meaning sinners, who need patience and a chance to change. Rather, they have allowed their hearts to become hard, despite being given many chances, and all that God can do now is to use them as an example to others.

Next time, we shall take a look at some background information to the book of Obadiah. The book itself can be broken down as follows: first, Obadiah introduces his message against Edom (1:1), and then the prophet criticizes the Edomites for their pride (1:2-4). Obadiah next stresses the absolute certainty of God's judgment (1:5-9). He then details the sins that Edom has committed against Israel, since these sins were the biggest reason for God's judgment on the Edomites (1:10-15). The prophet then shifts his emphasis, assuring God's people of their deliverance (1:16-18), and concluding with the promise that "the kingdom will be the Lord's" (1:19-21).

In giving these messages, Obadiah uses the image of Mount Zion, corresponding to Israel, and he contrasts this with the image of Mount Edom, corresponding to the nation of Edom. From our perspective as Christians, these images can also be seen figuratively, as parallels of the church and the world, and this gives Obadiah's prophecies additional significance.

- Mark Garner

(Answers to last week’s final trivia puzzle—Clue answers: (i) Asia, (ii) Siloam, (iii) Hosanna, (iv) Apollos, (v) Italian, (vi) Israel. Trivia Answer: ISAIAH.)

## Be Continually In Prayer

**Lauren Chivington** - Pray for a family that recently had their house burned down.

**Doug Cvelbar** - Pray for my friend and co-worker Venu Surepeddi who had dental surgery.

**Nancy Rynearson** - Pray for my 13 year old grandson, Kirby Segal, who has Bells Palsy.