

Family Information

Food Pantry

The food Pantry is in need of the following: jelly, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pancake mix, pancake syrup, hot cereal, coffee, tea, saltine crackers.

Mother/Daughter Brunch - There will be a Mother/Daughter Brunch on March 19th from 10-11 a.m. in the annex. See Jackie McDaniel for more information.

Thank You - Thank you so very much to all my brothers and sisters at Northland for the cards, calls, expressions of sympathy and prayers at the passing of my father. Your support has been very comforting and encouraging. A special thank you to those of the Praise Team who came and sang at my father's funeral. I know he was very pleased as he very much wanted singers at his funeral. I, along with many others, thought you sang beautifully! My church family has been a tremendous help through this time!

In Christian Love, Lloyd Snyder, Jr.

Sisters, I would like to invite all of you to an opportunity to explore ideas and things we can do to encourage and build up one another. Brenda Allen will be our hostess on March 14th at 7 pm at 1982 Melrose Ave. This will be a time to discuss ideas and activities that we as single sisters can do with other groups as well as within our own family at Northland so that we can support, encourage and edify one another. Please let me know your thoughts and feelings. Also please let Brenda or myself know if you plan on attending on March 14th. I also need help in contacting single sisters who do not have emails or whose email I do not have. Thanks, Tina Marie.

The Cvelbars have a changing table for anyone who has need of one. Please see Doug or Jen Cvelbar for details.

Communion Servers For March

James Asante
Patrick Boateng
Jonas Bosompen
Alex Opoku
Micheal Ayiku
Stephen Boateng
Agabus Opoku
Francis Tekyi

For The Month Of March

Announcements: Mark Garner
Visitors Table: Allen
Greeter: Chivington
Foyer Duty:

Northland Life Groups

Location	Contact Ph.	Leader	Meets
Thorne Home	(614) 818-5454	Ray Thorne	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6 pm
Butler Home	(614) 890-7721	Tom Barnhardt	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6 pm.
Coate Home	(614) 885-1988	Perry Coate	Every other Monday at 7:30 pm.
Church Building	(614) 475-0161	Roy Estep	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th Weds 10:30 am.
Church Building	(614) 475-0161	Roy Estep	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 5:30 pm
Smith Home	(614) 898-7987	Billie Thorne	Every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
Chivington Home	(614) 823-5596	Kevin Chivington	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 6 pm.
McDaniel Home	(614) 785-1321	Jason McDaniel	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 7 pm.
Various Homes	(614) 523-2258	Troy Blair	2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday at 5:30 pm.
Allen Home	(614) 764-8542	Wilbur Allen	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 \$7437 Average \$6577 Russia \$341 Average \$278 Youth \$245 Average \$219 Attendance Sunday Class 136 Sunday Worship 151 Weds 259 Life Groups 80	March 16 50's Plus Meeting 19 Mother/Daughter Brunch 10-11 a.m. In The Annex 20 50's Plus "Eat Out Sunday" 24 COCS Grandparent's Day 26 Children's Easter Celebration 27 Easter
Services Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening LifeGroup 5:30 p.m. (Communion Served) Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.			

northlandchurchofchrist.com

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

Equal And Opposite Pressure

For if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. - Romans 8:13-14

If you were to climb into a submarine you might think that, as long as it held watertight, you could glide on down to the bottom of the ocean. Sadly, if you tried to do this you'd soon discover how mistaken you are. Submarines can only go so deep before the pressure of the water crushes them like an empty soft drink can crumpled by your hand. Indeed, a number of years ago submarine called the Thresher went down too deep. The water pressure rose to the point that the submarines heavy steel bulkheads were crushed. The sub was torn apart, leaving pieces of debris scattered across the ocean floor for searchers to find.

If you want to go down really deep you need a specially designed research vessel shielded by heavy steel armor. Now imagine you jumped into one of these heavily clad research vessels and headed down to the ocean depths. Guess what you'd find? Fish. Fish! Fish with skin just millimeters thick.

How is it that fish with just a thin skin covering can survive the pressure of such great depths, where a submarine with thick steel plates cannot?

The answer is quite simple: fish have equal and opposite pressure inside them. Submarines do not.

When confronting the pressures of sin some Christians try to become like a submarine, shielding themselves from the outside world, strapping themselves into a narrow space where they are safe from external pressures. They make rules which are designed to reinforce them against temptation. But unfortunately, the deeper into life we go the more inadequate this approach will be. The external pressure will just become too great.

This is why we need to be like the fish, to develop positive pressure inside ourselves. Rather than simply resisting the outward pressure of temptation we need to combat it by building up positive spiritual pressure within, replacing the values the world would impose with the Spirit developed character of Christ.

- Verse A Week Club
(Adapted, original source unknown)



The people walking
in darkness have
seen a great light
Isaiah 9:2

“BEFORE ORDAINED”

As I was considering the other evening what an unfinished work of God I am, the re-re-re-discovery of Psalm 138:8 filled me with awe – and deep gratitude. These words, you see, contain a simple, plain-spoken promise of God, which all who are among His children can take to heart: *“The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me...”*

That’s it. Every time I mess up, despite my good intentions (for try as I may, the edifice of my life I seek to build for God’s glory keeps coming unglued, my efforts to askew), God has pledged that He will perfect that which concerns me. All praise to Him – for He can do that which I cannot. He can and He will. That is His Word, which stands written and cannot be unwritten, whether in this world or the next.

Of course, this verse is not God’s only word on the subject. Hebrews 12:2 asserts that Jesus is *“the author and finisher of our faith.”*

But the Bible also tells us that God is much more deeply involved in us than simply in tidying up our messes and completing our projects. First of all, we learn in Ephesians 1:4, that *“He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”* So it was no accident that we who have chosen Jesus Christ as our portion should love Him – He had already chosen us!

And not only did our Creator choose us – He even chose the works which He created us to do for Him: *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them!”* (Eph. 2:10).

I hope you, dear reader, find that as great a comfort as I do. Can God fail? Never! The Bible assures us that His word will not return unto Him void. What He sets Himself to do will take place, even more surely than that the sun will rise tomorrow.

So if we who are His children sometimes suffer doubts, if our plans misfire, and even if we stumble, He will be there to pick us up, to guide us back to His path – to perfect that which concerns us.

Eternity will not be long enough by half to sing His praises!

Ted Kyle, in Pulpit Helps

Youth Announcements

Teens - F.O.G. this week is at the Bradley Home. F.O.G. next week is at the Morris home.

There will be a lock-in on 3/18/05 from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. OVC will be providing food and some fun.

30 Hour Famine make up is 3/17/05.

THE ALPHA & THE OMEGA AN INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

Week Three: Some Key Themes in Revelation

In presenting God to us as the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, Revelation teaches a number of key principles that are especially important. Perhaps the most important is its promise of the assured triumph of the gospel, a promise which it supports by illustrating both God's absolute power and the assurance of God's judgment. Revelation also highlights some important recurring themes about life, death, and hope. It exhorts and challenges believers to pursue and value the permanent, the eternal, and the spiritual, rather than the temporary, the earthly, and the fleshly or physical.

The many symbols and images in Revelation are intended primarily to help us to learn these ideas, by making them vivid and memorable. Just as Jesus taught parables to help his disciples to remember and understand spiritual principles, so also Revelation uses graphic and sometimes shocking images to help us to understand God's power, his judgment, and similar themes. Revelation is not written in a secret code. The early Christians were not afraid to let anyone know what they taught and believed - both the Bible and other early Christian writings confirm this. Nor did the Holy Spirit wish to make his meaning difficult to understand. The images and symbols do not always have a specific physical meaning, and when they do, this can usually be discerned by looking at Scripture itself.

A great many of the images and symbols are intended to reinforce our appreciation of God's absolute power, wisdom, and authority. These in turn should re-assure us of God's inevitable eternal triumph. The various seals, trumpets, and bowls that John sees may unleash both "good" things and "bad" things from an earthly point of view, but all of them demonstrate God's absolute power and control over his creation. Revelation convinces us that it is foolish and dangerous to oppose God, and it also guarantees those who obey God that their perseverance and suffering will not be in vain. We can be absolutely certain that, at the appropriate time, God will call to account everyone who has ever lived.

Revelation also teaches us to put everything in perspective. Our lives in this world are short, and this world itself is temporary. It is what will happen after we die that will matter the most. John's vision allows us to look at all things from a heavenly viewpoint, so that we can see how small and insignificant we and our earthly affairs look from heaven's point of view. The sweeping events that John describes in images and symbols are an effective way of reminding us that there is a far greater reality than what we can see and sense in this physical world. We ought therefore to put our hope in the eternal and the spiritual, for those are the things that we can keep when this world and its desires pass away forever.

Most of the other themes and lessons of Revelation flow from these key ideas. If you keep them in mind as you study the book, it will help make many of the teachings and symbols clearer. Next time, we shall start studying the text of Revelation, beginning with the first chapter.

- Mark Garner

Be Continually In Prayer

Please pray for Carrie Izard who was seriously injured in an automobile accident in Lexington, SC. The Izard's are friends of Ron and Beverley Adams.

A visitor to the Food Pantry this past Wednesday requests prayers for her daughter who has cancer and was given only weeks to live