

Family Information

Food Pantry

The food Pantry is in need of the following: jelly, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pancake mix, pancake syrup, hot cereal, tea, saltine crackers, canned spaghetti O's and canned pasta.

PLEASE NOTE

Our goal on this page is to give you the information you need to take full advantage of the resources and activities at Northland. TO DO THIS WE NEED YOUR HELP!! Please give information on activities to Jack Evans or Mark Garner, at least two weeks before the activity is to occur. Do not assume the activity can be inserted to the bulletin at the last minute or that we will get the information just because the Elders, evangelists or deacons know about the activities.

MARCH MADNESS MUNCHIES!!!!

The Christian Women's Fellowship invites all the ladies from Northland to join us for an evening of fellowship on Monday March 21 at 6:30 pm in the patio room of Don Pablos on 161. We will have time of sharing by one of our sisters. For details see Lora Bradley or Francis Tibbs. Bring a friend and join us!

Communion Servers For March

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

Northland Banquet

Mark your calendars for the Northland Banquet, Saturday May 21st at the Westerville Community Center. See Don or Lora if you are interested in being a part of the entertainment.

Easter Egg Hunt and Resurrection Celebration

Children 2-10 years old are invited to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt and Resurrection Celebration on Saturday, March 26 in the Northland Annex from 10:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Bring your favorite Easter basket and make plans to join us for a morning of Easter Egg hunting, games and a Resurrection Celebration! Please sign up in the foyer after services today or next Sunday, March 20 or contact Lora Bradley or Lisa Blair if you plan to attend. This event is being sponsored by the Northland teens.

Wedding

William and Karen Chavis announce the wedding of Ashli Sharee McKeon and Joseph Michael Hensel at the Northland Church of Christ on April 2, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to the wedding. The reception is by invitation only.

For The Month Of March

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

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	\$5481
Average	\$6477
Russia	\$381
Average	\$288
Youth	\$270
Average	\$223

Attendance

Sunday Class	136
Sunday Worship	140
Weds	212
Life Groups	83

March

- 20 50's Plus "Eat Out Sunday"
- 24 COCS Grandparent's Day
- 26 Children's Easter Celebration
- 27 Easter

April

- 1 OVC Spring Encounter
- 1 C.O.C.S. Spring Break
- 1 NYM Cafe
- 3 Deacons' Meeting 8:00 am
- 3 L.G. Leaders 4:30 pm
- 3 Day Light Savings Time Begins
- 3 All Groups At Building 5:30 pm
- 6 50's Plus Meeting
- 14 Christian Women's Fellowship
- 15 Rochester College Preview Day
- 17 50's Plus Eat Out Sunday"
- 20 50's Plus Meeting

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

Selling A Home

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. - Matthew 6:33

Recently we passed by a beautiful old white frame house nestled among stately old oak trees and a well-kept yard. Flower boxes and a swing on the long front porch made that old house appear happy and loved. One could almost smell the odor of fresh-baked bread and hear the laughter of happy children. Into these thoughts came the intrusion of a sign out front proclaiming, "Home for Sale."

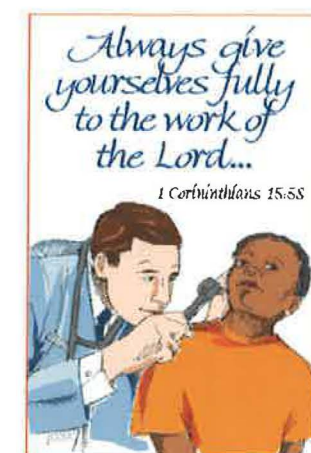
I began to think, "How can we sell a home? Can a home really be sold? How can one put a price on memories? Can mere money buy the sharing of events? Is there a possible means of financial evaluation of love of parents and children, the shared conversations of mealtime with family, the good books read and the sorrows experienced together? What price tag can be put on the spiritual teaching and godly examples in a Christian home? All these things make up homes. Do we really sell homes or just houses?

These thoughts continued to nag at my mind and I've concluded that we really are selling our homes today, even many whose owners are members of God's family. We are selling our homes to the god of the world, who will use his power to destroy them. We sell our homes through materialism, leaving the Lord out while putting "making money" first.

Our children must be taught at home to "seek first the kingdom", having love and concern for others. They must be taught at home the work and worth of the church and what it means to be a part of it. Home is the place to begin to learn the Word of God and how to live it. It is the duty of the home to provide wholesome entertainment and activities rather than expecting the church to oversee such. We cannot expect our homes to survive on four hours of "church-going" per week.

It is high time we wake up and quit selling our homes. My home is not for sale! Hopefully, neither is yours. If not, seek earnestly to buy it back!

- Martha Bentley, Verse A Week Club



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N O R T H L A N D
Messenger

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PERFECT LOVE

You have heard that it was said ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Matthew 5:43-44

The life of righteousness is essentially the holy expression of divine love. Three characteristics of this perfect love will stand out in the verses before us.

It is a dutiful love. *“Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you”* (v.44). The word “bless” means “to speak well of,” or “to eulogize;” so that even when we are tempted to say evil of our enemies, the dutifulness of divine love expels the hatred with a perfect love. Indeed, in practical terms, instead of hating, we should seek to perform the good deeds for our enemies and to pray for them which despitefully use us.

It is a “disinterested” love. *“That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust”* (v. 45). There are two things that characterize a disinterested or indiscriminant love: it is a love which is infinite. Our capacity may be limited, but still there should be a quality about our love which is supernatural and spiritual. Secondly, such love is impartial, for there is no discrimination in divine love.

It is a distinctive love. *“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect”* (v. 48). To be thus perfect is surely to live under the motivation of a perfect love. John reminds us that *“there is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear...”* (1 John 4:18). It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to beget in us and express through us this perfect love (see Rom. 5:5 and Eph. 5:18); to know this perfect love is to be able to give and forgive. How this was gloriously demonstrated in the life and ministry of our blessed Lord! Surely, the greatest need in the Christian church today is for a new baptism of perfect love.

“May the love of Jesus fill me,
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self-abasing,
This is victory.”
(Kate B. Wilkinson)

David & Stephen Olford

Youth Announcements

F.O.G. tonight will be at the Morris home.

THE ALPHA & THE OMEGA
AN INTRODUCTION TO REVELATION

Week Four: John & the Seven Churches (Revelation 1:1-11)

The apostle John begins the book of Revelation by introducing himself, describing his purpose in writing, and indicating the original recipients to whom he will send his book. From the very beginning, John emphasizes some of the important spiritual themes that will dominate the rest of the book. Everything in he book of Revelation confronts and refutes any religion or philosophy - even if it calls itself "Christian" - that emphasizes earthly goals and values above the eternal and the spiritual.

John opens the book with a brief exhortation (1:1-3), in which he assures his readers that what he is writing came by revelation from God. John wrote Revelation very late in his life, most likely in the last decade of the first century AD. At the time, he was the last surviving apostle, and was quite likely the last direct link to the life of Jesus. His status was such that, in the shorter epistles of 2 John and 3 John, he needed only to refer to himself as "the elder" for his readers to know his identity. Yet even this near-legendary figure of the church is not willing to present his visions on his own authority. Rather, he stresses that he received them from God, and he calls his readers to hear them and to take heart, saying that "the time is near".

As he opens the main body of the book, John then offers praise to God, addressing his readers in epistle form (1:4-8). Notice how many of the central themes of Christianity that the apostle includes in these few verses: Jesus' lordship, his resurrection, his sacrifice for our sins, and his future coming. The tone is majestic and respectful, even awed, in speaking of the Lord. Here too, John uses for the first time the phrase "the Alpha and the Omega" (the first and the last) to describe God. The apostle wants his readers to appreciate God’s absolute majesty, power, wisdom, and authority.

John now shares his personal situation, as well as a little more detail about the book’s original recipients (1:9-11). Although John lived to an old age, his life was filled with the same kinds of trials, sufferings, and persecutions that so many of the early believers had to endure. Not long before writing Revelation, he had been banished by the Roman emperor Domitian to the island of Patmos, because of "crimes" having to do with being a Christian. While there, John was given the visions that are described in the book.

John also lists by city the seven congregations to whom his book will initially be sent. Earlier (verse 4), he had indicated that they were in the Roman province of Asia (which is not at all the same area as the continent that we call Asia today), and now he lists the seven cities. John addresses the book to seven churches in the region where he himself was active in ministry, because these visions were not for the distant future, but for Christians there and then who needed encouragement. So too, not just the book of Revelation, but all of God’s word, is meant to be of great use to us every day. None of it was written for scholars or for professors or for debaters. Revelation, like the other 65 books of the Bible, was written for you and me.

- Mark Garner

Be Continually In Prayer

Francis Tibbs - Pray for her sister-in-law at the loss of her nephew. Also pray for her job situation and that of her co-workers.

Ivana Osei-Sarpong - Pray that God will restore her health.

Clyde and Donna Rowlands - Pray for their children that they will turn to the Lord.

Cleveland Reed - Pray for his smoking problems and pray for his ex-wife and children.