

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), hot cereal.

Offering Envelopes

The 2005 offering envelopes are available on the table in the foyer. If you do not have envelopes and would like to have them, see Brian Arnold or Pam Estep.

Hospitalized

Ivana Osei-Sarpong is in Children's hospital. Please take a couple of minutes this week to remember her in prayer and shower her with encouragement cards.
Hicle Estep is back at Willowbrook. Please continue to pray for her.

Honduras

There is a meeting for all those planning on going to Honduras on 1/23/05 at the Spring Road C of C at 3 p.m. If you are planning on going, please let Troy know so that preparations can be made for the meeting.

Reminder

Please do not take food and drinks into the auditorium. Thank you for your cooperation. Darrell Estep

Winterfest

The final Winterfest payment is due 1/16/05. This is shaping up to be an exciting rally.

Communion Servers For January

John Appiah	James Asiedu
Jonas Bosompen	Steve Carver
Steve Fuller	Alex Apoku
Agabus Poku	Stephen Simms

For The Month Of January

Announcements: Chivington
Visitors Table: Adams
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) 523-2258	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	\$6282
Average	\$8147

Russia	\$257
Average	\$282

Youth	\$175
Average	\$200

Attendance

Sunday Class	170
Sunday Worship	278
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.

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January

13 Christian Women's Fellowship Meeting
16 50's Plus "Eat Out Sunday"
17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
19 50's Plus Meeting
30 Services At Willowbrook, 2 p.m.
31 Area Wide Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.
At Alum Creek Church In Lewis Center

N O R T H L A N D

Messenger

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January 16, 2005

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

Healing The Brokenhearted

Sunday after Sunday, week after week, people come to God's church with broken hearts. They need a word of hope. And the church has an answer – if it doesn't, it isn't a church. The church must say in substance that broken-heartedness is a fact of life. Don't try to escape when you come to that experience. Don't try to repress it. Don't end up in cynicism. Don't get mean when you come to that experience. The church must say to men and women that Good Friday is a fact of life. The church must say to people that failure is a fact of life. Some people are only conditioned to success. They are only conditioned to fulfillment. Then when the trials and the burdens of life unfold, they can't stand up with it. But the church must tell men that Good Friday's as much a fact of life as Easter; failure is as much a fact of life as success; disappointment is as much a fact of life as fulfillment. And the church must tell men to take your burden, take your grief and look at it, don't run from it. Say that this is my grief and I must bear it. Look at it hard enough and say, "How can I transform this liability into an asset?"

This is the power that God gives you. He doesn't say that you're going to escape disappointment; he doesn't say that you're going to escape trials and tribulations. But what religion does say is this: that if you have faith in God, that God has the power to give you a kind of inner equilibrium through your pain. So let not your heart be troubled. "If ye believe in God, ye believe also in me." Another voice rings out, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden." As if to say, "Come unto me, all ye that are burdened down. Come unto me, all ye that are frustrated. Come unto me, all ye with clouds of anxiety floating in your mental skies. Come unto me, all ye that are broke down. Come unto me, all ye that are laden with heavy ladens, and I will give you rest." And the rest that God gives is the rest that passeth all understanding. The world doesn't understand that kind of rest, because it's a rest that makes it possible for you to stand up amid outer storms, and yet you maintain inner calm. If the church is true to its guidelines, it heals the brokenhearted.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

(excerpts from a sermon given in Atlanta in 1966)

"Love one another as
I have loved you."



YESTERDAY IS GONE

Yesterday is gone:
Each minute was spent;
It's time to move on,
Who knows where it went?
We know it is past,
It could never last...
It is gone and so
Like it we must go
Somewhere and somehow
Not worry about
"Was" or "is" – just now –
And overcome doubt
And just live and do
And work our way through
To a better land
Where we'll someday stand
With the good and blest
Free from grief and pain
O! Sweet land of rest!
O! The crown we'll gain!
There is no appeal –
You can't make a deal-
The flesh will lie cold-
True for young and ole-
So, weep if you must,
Shed a thousand tears;
Only in Him trust

As the graveyard nears...
And it ever nears,
As months pass to years...
Sure as you now are:
The Reaper's not far...
We know we will die,
Just where-we know not:
It's no use to try
To o'ercome our lot:
The grave ever nears...
The months turns to years...
The body gives out,
Of that there's no doubt...
One thing matters then:
Are we forgiven?
Are we freed from sin?
Will we find heaven?
The grave ever nears...
The months turn to years...
The body gives out,
Of that there's no doubt...
Yesterday is gone;
Each minute was spent;
It's time to move on,
Who knows where it went?
The Lord's Way

Youth Announcements

High School Hang Out will be this Sunday, 1/16/05.
F.O.G. for 1/16/05 will be at the home of Brian, Sandy and Evan Arnold from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
F.O.G. on 1/23/05 will be at the home of Tom, Polly and Kalee Barnhardt from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
We will be leaving for Focus in Parkersburg, WV at 4:00 pm promptly. We will be returning on Saturday around 10:00 pm. We will be staying in the homes of local church members.
The final Winterfest payment is due 1/16/05. This is shaping up to be an exciting rally.

MOUNT ZION & MOUNT ESAU THE BOOK OF OBADIAH

Week Three Historical Background to Obadiah

Obadiah is one of a handful of Old Testament books for which a definite date cannot be established beyond any doubt. Most likely, though, it was written sometime after 586 BC, when Babylon invaded and conquered Jerusalem, and before 553, when Babylon invaded and conquered the kingdom of Edom. Understanding the historical setting can help us better to learn and apply the lessons that Obadiah teaches.

On a technical note, commentators have proposed several different dates for Obadiah, based on many different ideas. Some of these theories, though, do not assume that the Bible is infallible. Since we know that the historical details in the Bible are completely accurate, there are then two main possibilities for the date of Obadiah. Since it was written in the aftermath of an attack on Jerusalem (verses 10-14), in which Edom turned against God's people, this indicates either a date sometime after 850 BC or a date sometime after 586 BC, with the latter by far more likely.

Edom's rebellion in about 850 BC or 845 BC is described in 2 Kings 8:20-22 and 2 Chronicles 21:8-17, and some commentators think that Obadiah could have been written soon afterwards. The main support for this theory is that the books of the "Minor" Prophets were originally arranged in a more-or-less chronological order, so that Obadiah could have been from the same general time period as Amos and Jonah. But this arrangement is not a rule, just a general trend. And, since there is no evidence from the Bible or from history that Edom's behavior in the crisis of 850 BC matches Obadiah 1:10-14, the book of Obadiah is probably not from this time period.

On the other hand, Obadiah's description corresponds very closely with events involved in the conquest of Jerusalem by Babylon in 586 BC. In fact, the whole prophecy fits very well into the era just after this event, making it the most likely date for the book, and the one most commonly accepted by commentators. There are also many similarities between Obadiah and Jeremiah 49:7-18, which suggests that God gave both prophets a similar message near the same time. Obadiah would thus have been written not many years before the fall of Edom in 553 BC, which again supports this possible date. In this case, Obadiah's message was probably associated with Amos due to the books sharing some similar themes, and thus Obadiah was placed just after Amos, despite being written in a different era.

All of this is significant first of all because it shows how completely and carefully God fulfills both his promises and his warnings. There are also some lessons for us in the history of Edom. Though Edom was a brother nation to Israel, they rarely acted like a brother, often resenting and sometimes attacking Israel without provocation. Although God was patient with the Edomites for many centuries, eventually he brought Edom down. So too, for a time we may have to endure many attacks in this world from the enemies of God. God is being patient with them, to give them the chance to repent. But we can be assured that eventually they, like Edom, will be judged. We should thus bear their persecutions with faith and patience, hoping that they will indeed repent, so that they will not have to be condemned after all.

- Mark Garner

Be Continually In Prayer

Joey Fischer - Please pray for my Uncle Chris. He is moving to Pennsylvania.

Darren Long requests prayers to deal with anger.

Nick Butler - Continue to pray for Nick that he might be home again.

Dave & Kristin Maynard - Pray for Dave's sister, Linda Beltz. She will start chemotherapy this month.

Mike & Leisha Evans - Pray for Carol McKnight, the grandmother of 2 children that Leisha babysits for. She had quadruple bypass surgery. Also remember her husband and children.