

## Family Information

### Food Pantry

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

### Hospitalized

Ivana Osei-Sarpong is in Children's hospital.

### Area Wide Worship

It's that time again! The chance for all of us to get together to encourage one another and praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and God the Father! Please spread the word to your friends and announce in your home congregations about the combined worship of central Ohio churches of Christ coming up on Sunday evening, January 30, 2005. This event will be eagerly hosted by the Alum Creek Church in Lewis Center and will begin at 6:00 pm. A time of fellowship will be enjoyed afterwards and refreshments will be served. The congregation at Alum Creek looks forward to

having you all over to 'our house' for a wonderful evening of fellowship, praise and encouragement! Directions are easy and can be found on our website at [alumcreek.org](http://alumcreek.org). Mark this on your calendars and invite as many as you would like. See you there!

The Alum Creek congregation is located at:  
6256 South Old State Road  
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

### Church Billboard Messages

Under same management for over 2000 years.  
Life has many choices. Eternity has two. What's yours?  
We were going to waste, but God recycled us.  
A stiff neck usually supports an empty head.  
When we forget ourselves, we do things that will be remembered.  
-Pulpit Helps

### 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	\$4368
Average	\$6887

Russia	\$250
Average	\$271

Youth	\$245
Average	\$215

### Attendance

Sunday Class	170
Sunday Worship	278
Weds	135
Life Groups	99

### 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](http://northlandchurchofchrist.com)

### January

30 Services At Willowbrook, 2 p.m.  
31 Area Wide Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.  
At Alum Creek Church In Lewis Center

### February

2 50's Plus Meeting  
6 Deacons Meeting 8:00 a.m.  
6 All Groups Meet At Building  
6 S.G. Leaders Meeting 4:30 p.m.  
10 Christian Women's Fellowship  
16 50's Plus Meeting  
20 50's Plus "Eat Out Sunday"  
21 President's Day

# N O R T H L A N D Messenger

Volume 14, Number 4

January 23, 2005

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

## Ideals

Courage to face tomorrow,  
Love that is clean and pure,  
Faith that clings to simple things,  
Hope that is strong and sure;  
Strength when the storm clouds gather,  
A heart that will soon forgive...  
This is the gold your heart will hold,  
These are the things that live!

Oh, for a spot that slumbers  
Warm in the evening sun;  
Oh, for a gate where dear ones wait  
After the race is run;  
Oh, for a peace-filled garden  
With roots in the good brown loam...  
Behind each hill they call me still,  
The sun-splashed walls of home!

Songs you sang in the twilight,  
The warm sweet smell of the land,  
A love-filled face by the fireplace,  
The touch of a loving hand;  
A kiss from the lips of someone  
That no other lips can give...  
This is the gold your heart will hold,  
These are the things that live!  
The Lord's Way

"The days are coming,"  
declares the  
LORD,  
"when I will  
fulfill the gracious  
promise."





**Devote Yourselves To Prayer ...**

The Apostle Paul gives the above admonition to the Colossians as he begins the final chapter of his letter to them. That was good advice to those at Colosse, and it's good advice for us. We at Northland have seen God answer our prayers over and over... in recent years, and in recent months. As we journey through 2005 and the years that follow (if that is God's will), the elders plan to place an increased emphasis on prayer, including prayer during our public worship. At the same time we want to continue to improve our worship services whose focus must remain Jesus Christ. In addition, we want visitors to our worship to catch a vision of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to leave the auditorium knowing that they've been with God and His people. To these ends we plan to adopt the following changes in our Sunday morning worship and related activities beginning the first Sunday in February:

- We will add an "Elder's Prayer". Each week a designated elder will pray for our country, its leaders, our congregation, missions, and for those who have specifically requested prayers for themselves, family members, and friends.
- Those wishing to be prayed for during the Elder's Prayer and by the congregation will need to make their prayer requests known prior to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning through one of several mechanisms;
  - ⇒ Filling out a green Prayer Request card (or just a 3x5 card) and giving it to the designated elder leading the next Elder's Prayer.
  - ⇒ Calling the church office at (614) 475-0161 by noon on Friday.

When submitting such a request, please include pertinent information such as name, address, phone number, hospital name, and room number as applicable.

- Prayer requests that are known by Friday will be displayed on the screen along with other announcements before and after services. They will also be printed and made available for distribution or pick-up Sunday morning. We also hope to soon have a monitor in the foyer for displaying such information.
- The public invitation time after the sermon will be reserved for personal spiritual responses such as public repentance, requests for spiritual strength, and baptisms.
- Those who have other types of prayer requests, including those already made known prior to services, will be invited to join two elders in the room across from the church office where they will pray for and with them about their specific needs.

We seek your cooperation in implementing these changes next month, and are open to suggestions regarding other ways to improve both our congregational and individual prayer lives.

The Elders

**Youth Announcements**

**Teens** - 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. **There** will be a Super Bowl party and devotional at the Yates residence on 2/6/05 from 4-9 p.m. Guys bring soda, gals bring a snack. **The** next NYM Café is scheduled for 2/4/05 from 8:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. **The** teens are leaving at 4 p.m. Friday for Focus. We will return Saturday around 6:30 p.m. **High** School Hang Out is on 1/30/05. Parents should pick up their students after Area Wide Worship at Alum Creek. **No** F.O.G. next week, 1/30/05. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Area Wide Worship at Alum Creek. **Due** to schedule conflicts we will not be attending the Rochester College Preview Day this month. The next one is 4/15/05. Please let Troy know if you wish to attend. **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.

**MOUNT ZION & MOUNT ESAU  
THE BOOK OF OBADIAH**

**Week Four  
Edom's Pride (Obadiah 1:2-4)**

Much of the book of Obadiah details the reasons why God has passed judgment on Edom, and indicates the certainty of Edom's fall. Through time, the brotherly rivalry that began with Jacob and Esau developed into a hostility between the neighboring nations that descended from them. The Edomites, secure in their mountain strongholds, did not face nearly so many crises and upheavals as Israel endured over the centuries. The Edomites became proud, complacent, and opportunistic - and these qualities would eventually lead to their downfall.

Obadiah first asserts that Edom will fall in spite of its pride (1:2-4). He tells Edom that it has been deceived by "the pride of your heart". This is a failing that we can understand all too readily, since we are all vulnerable to the temptation of pride. Because of its seemingly secure position "in the clefts of the rocks", the Edomites developed a sense of false security, deluding themselves into thinking that they were invulnerable.

As with all who trust in worldly strengths, the day came when Edom's weakness and vulnerability would be exposed in drastic fashion. While pride was not the only reason for Edom's fall (in verses 10-14, God gives an even bigger reason for his judgment on them), there is little question that it contributed to all of the other sins for which they were eventually judged. Any sin is dangerous in itself, because it can pull us away from God if it is not checked. But a sin combined with pride is especially dangerous, since pride makes it more difficult to resist other sins, and more difficult to repent of those other sins. Therefore, the prophet says with certainty that Edom will be brought down.

Pride is, of course, one of the most common of human failings. Believers and unbelievers alike are tempted to be prideful. We can take pride in our abilities, our accomplishments, our family backgrounds, our social status, and many other things. Further, as the nation of Edom illustrates, whole groups of humans may become prideful. Just as whole nations can take undue pride in themselves, so also groups of Christians can become prideful about what they are or about what they have accomplished together. Therefore the prophet's warning is one that we should always take to heart, since pride can blind anyone at any time.

We can also learn another lesson from Edom's pride. One of the reasons for their false sense of confidence was that they had undergone fewer trials than Israel had. But instead of being thankful and humble, they became boastful. It is, unfortunately, human nature to boast over the fallen, and to give ourselves credit when we avoid the misfortunes that others face. As Christians, we should always realize that we need God's protection all of the time. When he allows us to face trials, we should learn from them and draw closer to God. When he delivers us from trials, we should give thanks humbly to God, and should have compassion on those who are less fortunate.

- Mark Garner

**Be Continually In Prayer**

**Jack Mauersberg** is at home with pneumonia. Please be praying for him. No visits at this time please.

**George Wooster** was hospitalized the first week of January after having a tia/stroke. He is home now and feeling better. His address is 1811 Liberty St., Durham, NC 27703.