

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Covid Update: A couple weeks ago we received significant feedback that indicated as a church family we needed to slow down transitioning to "post-pandemic" mode. The elders and Caleb met, prayed, and came to a conclusion. We first want to start with a minimum two week notice before making any changes. This will allow opportunities for church members to share any concerns, and it allows the elders time to reevaluate any decisions. We also realize that the importance of face coverings is among the most controversial subjects in our society, inside and outside the church. Our goal is to bring souls to Jesus, not get sidetracked in controversy. So for now, no changes to face masks will be made. We do however think there are some safety precautions that can be reduced. Our first safety measure to change will start Sunday April 4th (Easter Sunday): we will no longer do the closing dismissal process. Services will end with the closing prayer by the elder. Our building is thankfully quite large, so those who would like to fellowship outside or leave upon the closing prayer are still able to do so, but this change opens extra space for people to talk inside and spread out.

Please continue to practice safety and caution. When we meet in person, we will maintain all safety features until otherwise noted: mandatory face masks throughout the service, seating in every other pew, service approximately 1 hour, starting at 10:00 a.m., and dismissal by sections, starting in the back. For further guidelines and details, please check with the elders.

On Line Bible Studies

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is, "Treasure In Jars Of Clay" (based on 2 Corinthians 4). The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Leon will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM, and everyone is welcome to join.

More On-Line Studies

Every other Friday at 7:00 PM, next session April 2 - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

Wednesday evenings after 7:00 PM - Pre-recorded Instagram Devotional by Caleb Dillinger will be available. Contact him for details.

Mondays at 7:00 PM - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser. Contact her for details. If you aren't able to join, you can e-mail prayer requests to Peggy.

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM - Women's Bible study, "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. Contact her for more details.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$3517	\$4721
Designated:	\$5	\$131
Scholarship Fund Current Balance	\$ 350	

Adjusted Service Times

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12:00 PM Sunday Ghana Worship
3:00 PM Sunday Spanish worship

*Classes and devotionals are
Currently meeting on-line*

Minister: Caleb Dillinger
Elders: Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins
Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos, Luis Valdez

Praise The Greatness Of Our God

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. - Deuteronomy 32:3-4

The Lord is our Rock of truth and grace and salvation, his ways are far higher than ours, and it is good to praise his splendor and his understanding and his compassion. God's creations tell us of his care and his greatness, his faithfulness endures forever, and it is good to be near our Heavenly Father.

Poet Anne Brontë (1820-1849), the younger sister of novelists Charlotte and Emily Brontë, often wrote poems about God and about our walk with him. In one of Anne's poems, she contrasts God's ways and his nature with human nature and frailty. The poem begins, "Eternal Power, of earth and air! Unseen, yet seen in all around, Remote, but dwelling everywhere, Though silent, heard in every sound."

For indeed God is everywhere; he is unseen by earthly eyes yet seen with the eyes of our hearts, he is unheard by worldly ears yet he speaks to our spirits with each word. Moreover, he has made us his own children, part of his own family - *For the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance. - Deuteronomy 32:9*

In Anne Brontë's poem, she writes of our weaknesses and how easily we can be distracted, yet she is comforted by knowing that we belong to God: "Oh, help me, God! For Thou alone Canst my distracted soul relieve; Forsake it not: it is Thine own, Though weak, yet longing to believe." When God found us, we were weak and spiritually helpless, yet he pours out his care on those who seek him with a humble heart, and he rejoices in being with those who walk by faith in Jesus - *In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye. - Deuteronomy 32:10*

In her poem, Anne writes about the spiritual comfort and reassurance that it gives us when we depend on God and let him guide us, "And all the blessed words He said Will strength and holy joy impart: A shield of safety o'er my head, A spring of comfort in my heart." This world is full of empty promises and false hopes, yet God's words and his promises are trustworthy, and he carries us each step - . . . *like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft. The Lord alone led him . . . and fed him with the fruit of the fields. - Deuteronomy 32:11-13*

Our Father in heaven nourishes our spirits with the bounty of his heavenly pasture, and he renews us with streams of living water. There is no one like God.

- Mark Garner



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From The Northland Archives

This article was written by former Northland member Mike Foley, and it appeared in the Northland bulletin on December 8, 1985. Last month, Mike passed away at age 59 in Indiana, where he had been living. Mike was a member at Northland for most of the 1980s; he taught numerous small groups, and for a couple years he worked full-time for the church, primarily with the young adults.

Patience

"The end of the matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride." (Ecclesiastes 7:8)

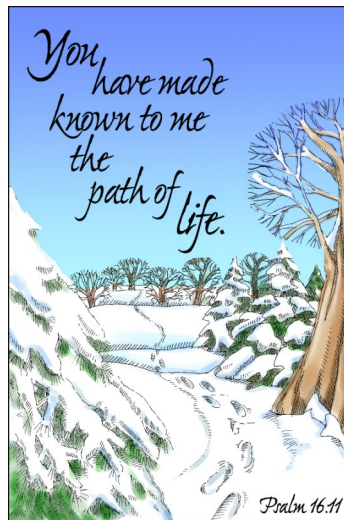
Throughout the scriptures we are taught to be patient people. In Galatians 5:22 patience is listed as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit living in us. Certainly we should take some time to consider what it means to be patient.

The dictionary defines the word patient as follows: 1) bearing or enduring pain, trouble etc. without complaining or losing self-control, 2) refusing to be provoked or angered; as by an insult; forbearing; tolerant, 3) calmly tolerating delay, confusion, inefficiency, etc., 4) able to wait calmly for something desired, 5) steady, diligent, persevering.

. . . If we truly make it our goal each day to be patient people, it can make radical differences in our lives. Numerous situations occur each day . . . where we are called to simply be patient. Of course we all know that at times it is difficult to keep from reacting, or being provoked, or losing self-control, but we must really strive for the freedom we have in Christ to exhibit patience.

A classic example of patience can be seen in Jesus, as he handled the accusers of the woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11). In the face of a tense situation in which men were provoking him, and trying hard to cause him to lose his composure, he bent down and wrote on the ground, probably taking this time to think and pray, and finally stood up to give his brilliant and completely self-controlled reply. As we face various situation when we are tempted to lose patience let us, like Jesus, take the time . . . so that we might demonstrate patience always.

- Mike Foley,
December 1985 (abridged)



He Is All In All To Me

There is constant joy abiding
In Christ my Lord and king;
Of His love that passeth knowledge
My heart and tongue shall sing.

He is all in all to me,
And my song of songs shall be,
Hallelujah, O my Savior,
I am trusting only Thee.

When my path is veiled in shadows,
And clouds above me roll,
I can smile amid the tempest,
His glory fills my soul.

I can see His bow of promise
Through tears and trials deep;
I can hear His voice like music,
That lulls my care to sleep.

I shall yet behold and praise Him,
And dwell in perfect peace
In the golden land of beauty,
Where cloud and wave shall cease.

- Frances Crosby, 1896

My Savior, On The Word Of Truth

My Savior, on the word of truth
In earnest hope I live;
I ask for all the precious things
Thy boundless love can give.
I look for many a lesser light
About my path to shine;
But chiefly long to walk with Thee,
And only trust in Thine.

In holy expectation held,
Thy strength my heart shall stay,
For Thy right hand will never let
My trust be cast away.
Yea, Thou hast kept me near Thy feet,
In many a deadly strife,
By the stronghold of hope in Thee,
The hope of endless life.

- Anna Waring, 1823-1910