

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Next Phase of Covid Adjustments: We still have a lot of adjustments to plan this summer - Bible class, Wednesday activities, church events, communion supplies, etc. At least for the month of June, all those will continue "as-is". We'll re-assess come end of June what to start doing for July.

Graduation Party

There is a graduation party for Jimi Foster on Friday, July 9 at 4:00 PM, at 8480 Columbus Road, Mount Vernon OH 43050. Please RSVP by July 2, either by calling or texting 740-358-3776.

Summer Camp Week

Our camp week is July 19th through July 25th at Fort Hill. Camp registration: Cost is currently \$190.00 if paid 2 weeks before camp, and \$200 at camp. Josh Evans is putting together a list of staff and campers coming to camp this year. Please let Josh know if you plan on attending or are interested.

On Line Bible Studies

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is, "Praise The Lord, Our Souls" (based on Psalm 103). 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 - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. 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.

Contact Caleb Dillinger if you would like to have free access to RightNow Media, a digital collection of faith-based videos.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4394	\$4582
Designated:	\$5	\$84

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



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The Lord Calls Us By Name, And...

The Lord Calls Us By Name, & We Are His

*Now, this is what the Lord says— he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel . . . - Isaiah 43:1*

This is what the Lord says: he created each of us with his unfailing care and limitless understanding; he formed each of us and he knows everything about us. This is what our Heavenly Father says: he knows each of us by name, each of us is unique and special to him, and he knows our flaws and he knows our weaknesses and he knows what we need, and he cares for us - . . . *Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. - Isaiah 43:1*

Lungfish are freshwater fish that live in environments where other fish couldn't survive, places like shallow ponds, streams, and marshes that often dry up or become very shallow. God gives these remarkable creatures both gills and lungs, so that they will have a way to obtain oxygen either from water or from air, regardless of how their surroundings change around them. Similarly, circumstances in this world change constantly, and each day we face its distractions and false hopes. Yet our Father in heaven does not change; he is always with us, and when we put our trust in God and in his words he gives us what we need when we face this world's droughts and also when we face the floods of its futile thinking so that they won't sweep us away - *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. - Isaiah 43:2*

Most lungfish handle dry spells by burrowing into mud, producing a protective 'cocoon' to preserve moisture with airholes to allow access to air, while the lungfish slows down its metabolism (called estivation, similar to hibernation). Similarly, in this world we often face 'dry spells', times when we are fearful and there is little to feed our souls, yet God protects our hearts from the heat of the world's emptiness and harshness, and he nourishes our spirits with his words.

Each species of lungfish lives in slightly different habitats. Queensland (Australia) lungfish can live for a few days during dry spells, while West African lungfish often endure long dry seasons, so they can breathe air for a year or more when needed. Then, as South American lungfish grow, they gradually stop using their gills and become increasingly dependent on their lungs for oxygen. Just as God is mindful of each of these creatures and provides them with what they need in their environments, he knows what each of us faces; and he will guide us and give us what we need each step when we walk by faith in Jesus, for our Father in heaven loves each of us dearly - *For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior . . . you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you. - Isaiah 43:3-4*

Who are we, that the Creator of the universe knows each of us by name, and he rejoices in pouring out his care and his blessings and his compassion on us.

- Mark Garner

Praises To Him Who Built The Hills

Praises to Him who built the hills;
Praises to Him the streams who fills;
Praises to Him who lights each star
That sparkles in the blue afar.

Praises to Him who makes the morn,
And bids it glow with beams new-born;
Who draws the shadows of the night,
Like curtains, o'er our wearied sight.

Praises to Him whose love has given,
In Christ His Son, the Life of heaven;
Who for our darkness gives us light,
And turns to day our deepest night.

Praises to Him, in grace who came,
To bear our woe, and sin, and shame;
Who lived to die, who died to rise,
The God-accepted sacrifice.

Praises to Him the chain who broke,
Opened the prison, burst the yoke,
Sent forth its captives, glad and free,
Heirs of an endless liberty.

Praises to Him who sheds abroad
Within our hearts the love of God;
The Spirit of all truth and peace,
Fountain of joy and holiness!

- Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889



As The Mountains Surround Jerusalem . . .

Psalm 125 uses this image of the ways that God surrounds us and protects us and guides us. This week, Dot Duncan writes about the ways that our Heavenly Father surrounds and protects us now and forever.

The Lord Surrounds His People Both Now & Forevermore

Psalm 125:2 - As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people both now and forevermore (NIV).

The latter part of this scripture speaks volumes about God’s care and protection for His people. God purposefully chose to geographically place mountains on all sides of Jerusalem. These natural formations supplied physical protection for the Israelites from their enemies. Not only did the Israelites enjoy the physical protection of the mountains, but also the presence of God, the creator of the mountains.

A question that someone may ask is "How does the Lord surround His people today?" I believe God protects us daily from physical harm and meets our basic needs. Most importantly, I believe He protects us spiritually through His Holy Spirit. *John 14:16-17 - And I will ask the Father and He will give you another comforter (counselor, helper, intercessor...) that He may remain with you forever. The spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not know.... But you know and recognize him, because he lives with you [constantly] and will be in you (AMB).*

1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not discern and understand that you [the whole church at Corinth] are God's temple (His sanctuary), that God's Spirit has His permanent dwelling in you [to be at home in you collectively as a church and, also individually]? (AMB)

2 Corinthians 6:16 - What agreement [can there be between] a temple of God and idols? We are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them, and will walk in and among them and I will be their God and they shall be my people. (AMB)

The Holy Spirit will live in us forever. Unlike the mountains that change over time, the Holy Spirit will never change. Just as God strategically placed the mountains around Jerusalem because He loved His people and wanted to protect them; in the same way, He purposefully placed His Holy Spirit in each believer because He loves us and wants to protect us until Christ returns.

- Dot Duncan