

Family Information

Camp Weeks

Fort Hill is coming up from July 16-22, and Nick Strawser's week at NWOCYC is from June 11-17. If you are interested to come as staff, or if you have kids who want to come, please let Josh Evans know.

Women's Prayer Group Schedule

For the month of May (only), the women's prayer group will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM (instead of on Mondays), for May 10 through May 31. The same on-line access code will be used. See Peggy Kaiser if you have any questions.

What's The Point Of Proverbs?

The next installment of the monthly series on the books of Scripture is now available in the racks in the foyer. This month, Caleb and Mark have each written one page on "What's The Point Of Proverbs?" The entire series is being posted to Northland's web site (ncocfamily.com) - under "Resources" there is a link that will take you to the series.

Spring Picnic May 20

A church picnic with the Ghana congregation will be held on Saturday, May 20 at Blendon Woods Metro Park, from 4:30-9:00 PM. The location will be the Sycamore Picnic Area (our usual spot).

Wednesday Outreach Meeting Schedule

The next Outreach Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 7, at 6:30 PM. For now, the Outreach Team will meet once per month, on the first Wednesday of each month. See Jeff or Caleb if you have any questions.

Room Reservations

While Ashley is on Maternity Leave, if you have any need to reserve a room in the church building while she is out, please fill out one of the reservation forms in the hallway (or e-mail Caleb for the form) and give it to an elder, and they will update the reservation list.

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 AM
Sunday Spanish Worship 10:00 AM
Sunday Ghana Worship 12:00 PM
Sunday Evening Worship 4:00 PM

For sessions that are currently meeting on-line, see the announcements above.

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: Luis Valdez

On Line Bible Studies

Current On-Line Studies

First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him or Leisha for details and updates.

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM (new schedule for May 10 through May 31 only) - 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. The current study is in Acts. Contact Karen for more details.

Children's Classes

We currently have children's classes for ages 2-10 during worship (each of them begins after the Lord's Supper). See Mike Evans for further details. The children's education program needs helpers for all age groups. See Lynn Paden or Emily Graham if you can help.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5716	\$4560
Designated:	\$300	\$58



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May 7 2023
Volume 32, Number 19

Clothed With Jesus

If the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise. - Galatians 3:18

Our Heavenly Father has given us an eternal inheritance that comes by faith in the good news of Jesus, a priceless inheritance based on God's promises and his words and his grace, instead of based on law or regulations or human strength. Since law could not bring life or lasting hope, Jesus came to bring redemption and hope to those who believe in him and walk in his light - *Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. - Galatians 3:21*

Frogs are born as tadpoles, which have a completely different form than adult frogs. Tadpoles start with long tails and no legs; and they have gills and get oxygen only from water, so they are completely aquatic. Yet as they grow, they undergo a process of change (metamorphosis) so they become adult frogs, ready to live both on land and in water. Likewise, God calls us to believe in his Son and walk by faith in him, so that he may cleanse and transform and renew us inwardly - . . . *so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. - Galatians 3:22*

As tadpoles undergo metamorphosis, their tails gradually disappear as they develop strong legs, and their gills disappear and are replaced with lungs. Similarly, when we turn to God, he begins to transform us into the image of Jesus; he helps us set aside any worldly ways and worldly thinking, as he fills our minds with his words and as he fills our hearts with his Spirit.

For when we opened our hearts to Jesus and put our faith in his message instead of in our human abilities, God made us his sons and daughters, and he has clothed us with Jesus and with new garments of his own righteousness - *So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. - Galatians 3:26-27*

Adult frogs also develop the large eyes characteristic of them; the size and position of their eyes give frogs the ability to see in almost any direction, so that they can spot food or danger or other frogs. Similarly, as God builds us up, he helps us develop spiritual eyesight, the ability to look beyond this world's appearances; and our Heavenly Father teaches us how he sees things. For God has made us all part of the body of Jesus - *You are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. - Galatians 3:28-29*

And he has made us heirs of the promise of eternal life with him.

- Mark Garner

From Death Unto Life

Till I learned to love Thy name,
Lord, Thy grace denying,
I was lost in sin and shame,
Dying, dying, dying.
This is now my constant theme,
This my favorite story.
Jesus' blood avails for me,
Glory, glory, glory!

Nothing could the world impart,
Darkness held no morrow;
In my soul and in my heart,
Sorrow, sorrow, sorrow.
This is now my constant theme,
This my favorite story.
Jesus' blood avails for me,
Glory, glory, glory!

When I learned to love Thy name,
O Thou meek and lowly,
Rapture kindled to a flame,
Holy, holy, holy.
Hallelujah, grace is free,
I will tell the story.
Jesus' blood has made me free,
Glory, glory, glory!

Henceforth shall creation ring
With salvation's story,
Till I rise with Thee to sing,
Glory, glory, glory.
Hallelujah, grace is free,
I will tell the story.
Jesus' blood has made me free,
Glory, glory, glory!

- Alice Cary, 1820-1871

Poet Alice Cary began having her poems published in a local newspaper when she was in her teens, and her poems soon afterwards were published in national periodicals as well as being published abroad. Her younger sister Phoebe was also a well-known poet.

Rebuilding The Ruins

As God promised to rebuild the Israelites' ruins (for example, in Isaiah 61 and Amos 9), God can rebuild the ruins in our souls when we humbly turn to him and trust in the message of Jesus. This week, Leon Norwood writes about the hope we can always have from God's promises and his compassion.

From Ruin to Prosperity - A Lesson from the Prophet Amos

Do you ever watch or listen to news broadcasts that leave you feeling like America has seen its best days and will never again return to the status of greatness it formerly had? Well, you're not alone. Many suggest that God has begun to judge this nation due in part to our rebellion and disobedience to God. Thus, we may even rationalize that ruin is inevitable and those blessings we once took for granted are forever gone with the past.

The nation of Israel often found itself admonished by the prophets due to their chronic disobedience and rebellion against God. In chapter nine of the book of Amos, the prophet Amos is commanded by God to confront the Israelites with the Mosaic law, particularly its blessings, and curses, as outlined in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. But while the prophets announced judgment on the disobedient Israelites, they repeatedly told the people that God's judgment would not mean the abandonment of Israel. In the future, God would raise up a righteous remnant so that His covenant promises with Israel's forefathers might be fulfilled. That remnant is called the church.

Under God's inspiration, the prophet Amos ends chapter 9 on a note of high hope, looking forward to a day of great prosperity and the restoration of Israel.

"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, And all the hills shall flow with it. I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. I will plant them in their land, And no longer shall they be pulled up From the land I have given them," Says the Lord your God. (Amos 9:13-15)

What matters here is that God's love and mercy are everywhere in the universe from top to bottom, and are utterly dependable and permanent. The same God who demands change also promises to make change possible. *"A harvest is appointed when I would restore the fortunes of my people when I would heal Israel" (Hosea 6:11-7:1)*. Thus, we as children of promise carry a fundamental optimism that God is active in the world to change it for the better. Despite the apparent triumph of the wicked, God is ultimately in charge, and *"the kingdom shall be the Lord's" (Obadiah 21)*. Despite the calamity the people are bringing upon themselves, God is at work to restore the goodness of life and work that he intended from the beginning. *"He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8.)*

- Leon Norwood