

Family Information

Wednesday Outreach Meeting This Week

There will be an Outreach Meeting this Wednesday, September 6, at 6:30 PM. The Outreach Team is currently meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. See Caleb if you have any questions.

Willow Brook Schedule

The next two times that Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time at 2:00 PM at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road) are September 17 and October 29.

Women's Prayer Group Schedule

The women's prayer group will not meet this Monday (September 4), and it will resume meeting next week (September 11). See Peggy Kaiser if you have any questions.

What's The Point Of Jeremiah?

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 Jeremiah?" 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.

Sunday Afternoon Class Schedule

The Sunday afternoon Bible class is taking a break this week and next week (September 3 and September 10), and it will resume on September 17.

Combined Worship Next Sunday

There will be a combined time of worship with the Ghana congregation next Sunday evening, September 10, from 6:00-7:30 PM. Songs, Scriptures, and prayers will be done in English and Twi. Afterwards there will be a time of fellowship and snacks, and everyone is welcome to bring a dessert or small plate food to share.

More Autumn Events

Two more events are planned for this Autumn. Our Fall Picnic with the Ghana congregation will be Saturday, September 30 at Blendon Woods Park. There will be a flyer soon with more information. Also, Fall Fest will be on Sunday, October 22.

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, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Luis Valdez

On Line Bible Studies

Current Mid-Week Studies

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

Mondays at 6:30 PM (On-Line) - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser. Note that the group isn't meeting this Monday (September 4), and will resume next week.

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM (On-Line) - Women's Bible study "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. This week (on September 5), the class will begin a study of 1 Peter, using the workbook "Living Stones" by Casandra Martin. 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.

Group Trip On October 7

The group trip to the Ark Encounter has been rescheduled for Saturday October 7. More details will be coming soon; see Mike or Leisha Evans if you have any questions.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5262	\$4355
Designated:	\$75	\$532



4581 Cleveland Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43231
(614) 410-5860

Website
ncocfamily.com

September 3 2023
Volume 32, Number 36

The Lord Is Our Rock And Savior

David sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies . . . He said: The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer. . . He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior. - 2 Samuel 22:1-3

The Lord is our Rock of truth and mercy and understanding; our Heavenly Father is our refuge from this world's confusion and ruthlessness. God is near with us all, he hears us whenever we call on him humbly, and he has saved us from the accuser's snares and this world's empty ways - *I called to the Lord . . . and have been saved from my enemies. - 2 Samuel 22:4*

The Sally Lightfoot crab gets its name from its agility and acrobatic feats. These small creatures (about 3-5 inches) live on seaside rocks and lava flows along the Pacific coast of Mexico, Central America, and South America; they are surrounded by dangers, so God protects them in numerous ways. When they are young, they are dark brown, gray, and black, giving them ideal camouflage. Similarly, our Heavenly Father protects us from dangers he knows we couldn't face.

When Sally Lightfoot crabs are full-grown, they become a mixture of bright orange, blue, yellow, and red (their scientific name is *grapsus grapsus*; a couple similar species are sometimes called Sally Lightfoots). Adult Sally Lightfoots are easy to spot, yet they are so quick and so resourceful that when healthy, they are very difficult to catch, either by predators or humans. Likewise, God also equips us to meet the spiritual foes we face, and he reaches from on high to protect us - *He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me. . . from my foes, who were too strong for me. - 2 Samuel 22:17-18*

The Sally Lightfoot crab's strong legs have pointed tips, ideal for footing on rocks and lava beds, allowing them to jump or to move quickly in any direction, and also enabling them to withstand the frequent buffeting of waves. Likewise, when we put our faith in God, he enables us to withstand this world's distractions and harshness; he strengthens us inwardly and helps us stand - *It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he causes me to stand on the heights. - 2 Samuel 22:33-34*

Sally Lightfoot crabs are so light and quick that they can even scurry across open water for short distances. Also, if they lose a leg, they can regenerate it. Similarly, God provides us with many resources as we walk by faith in Jesus; and when we stay close with him, he teaches us his ways - *As for God, his way is perfect . . . For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? - 2 Samuel 22:31-32*

The Lord alone is God; truly, there is no other Rock besides him.

- Mark Garner

O What A Blessing

O what a blessing, how can I express it?
Out of the fullness of rapture I sing,
Now by the Father received and adopted,
I am a child and an heir of a king.

O the unsearchable riches He giveth,
Riches increasing from day unto day;
Treasures in value all others excelling,
Treasures that will never rust nor decay.

- Frances Jane Crosby, 1820-1915

We Sing A Loving Jesus

We sing a loving Jesus,
Who left His throne above,
And came on earth to ransom
The children of his love;
It is an oft-told story,
And yet we love to tell
How Christ, the King of glory,
Once deigned with man to dwell.

We sing a mighty Jesus,
Whose voice could raise the dead,
The sightless eyes he opened,
The famished souls he fed;
Thou camest to deliver
Mankind from sin and shame;
Redeemer and life giver,
We praise Thy holy name.

We sing a coming Jesus,
The time is drawing near,
When Christ with all His angels
In glory shall appear;
Lord, save us, we entreat Thee,
In this Thy day of grace,
That we may gladly meet Thee
And see Thee face to face.

- Sarah Doudney, 1841-1926

British writer Sarah Doudney had her first poem published when she was 15, and she became well-known in Britain for her short stories, poetry, and novels. Her writings were often published in Canada and in the U.S. as well.

Treasures In Heaven

In Matthew 6, Jesus tells us of treasures in heaven, and he calls us to set our hearts on these things. This week, Micah Evans writes about how God helps us focus our hearts on him.

A Ready & Willing Vessel

Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. - 2 Timothy 2:21

I heard a song recently with a lyric that really struck me. It said "the church can be full of members, but empty of conversions." The song went on to describe what it looks like when a church is brimming with bodies, but missing eager and receptive hearts.

This struck me, because it got me thinking of the state of my own heart. Am I merely a body in a pew? Or am I a ready and willing vessel, filled with the Spirit and looking to carry out God's Will for me in the work of His church?

It can be so easy to feel satisfied by our ability to get to church on time every Sunday (. . . admittedly, our family is not usually checking off that box!), our long list of children's events we've coordinated or volunteered for, or the number of prayer meetings and conferences we've attended. This is when we start storing up treasures on earth, instead of in Heaven.

These things are all worthwhile, of course, but God also has a much higher calling for us as Christians. The above verse from 2 Timothy points to our calling to be set apart, ready and willing to be used by God for His work.

When we fully die to self, truly handing our lives over to God, He is able to do things through us that only He can do. Galatians 2:20 reminds us of this:

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. - Galatians 2:20

I pray that you'll join me as I examine the state of my heart, asking where I can better live out God's Word in order to point the world to Him. Let's focus on storing up our treasures in Heaven, and making every part of our lives just a road sign to direct the way for others walking the road to eternity in Heaven as well.

- Micah Evans