

Family Information

Fall Picnic This Saturday (September 30)

Our Fall Picnic with the Ghana congregation will be this Saturday, September 30 at Blendon Woods Park.

Willow Brook Event This Saturday (September 30)

This Saturday September 30, Willow Brook will hold its annual "Leaves & Lattes" 5K run/walk race event at Glacier Ridge Metro Park (in Plain City) at 9:00 AM. 100% of the proceeds will go to the Willow Brook Christian Ministers Fund, for retired churches of Christ ministers and their spouses in need. See Karen Susenna for more details, as well as sign-up information.

Outreach Meeting Schedule Change

The Outreach Team will now be meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The next Outreach Meeting will now be on Thursday, October 5, at 6:30 PM. See Caleb if you have any questions.

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.

Fall Fest On October 22

This year's Fall Fest will be on Sunday, October 22. More details will be coming soon.

Worship Time At Willow Brook On October 29

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

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, resumes meeting this week) - 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 (On-Line) - Women's Bible study "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. The current study is on 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.

Prayers

Our sister Gretchen Estep passed away this past Wednesday, and she will be missed by many of us. Please keep her family in your prayers. Visitation will be from 4 to 6 PM, and the funeral service at 6 PM, **on Saturday, September 30** both at Newcomer Funeral Home, 3047 E. Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus OH 43231.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$	\$4339
Designated:	\$	\$532

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

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

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

This Same Jesus

After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. - Acts 1:3

After Jesus endured the agonies of the cross, he rose from the grave, and he appeared to many of those who believed in him. He continued teaching them, for he knew that he would soon return to the side of our Heavenly Father; our Savior encouraged them to let God guide them instead of following human speculations or human thinking - *They gathered around him and asked him, Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel. He said to them: It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. - Acts 1:6-8*

English writer Cynewulf (most likely he lived in the 800s AD; little is known about his personal life) is best-known for his poems, though only a few of them still exist. In one poem, Cynewulf wrote about this scene in Acts 1, as Jesus prepared to ascend to heaven. In the poem he depicts Jesus first encouraging them, "Be glad in heart. I will never turn away but will always keep loving you and give you power and dwell with you, always and forever."

For indeed Jesus dwells with each of us, and nothing can separate us from God's un-failing love as we walk by faith. As Jesus ascends to heaven, God sends two angels to reassure his followers - *After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. - Acts 1:9-10*

As these faithful believers face the future without Jesus' physical presence, Cynewulf describes the angels' arrival, "They saw the Lord ascend into the heights, the divine Son from the ground . . . They saw two radiant angels . . . They called from the heights in wondrous words."

In the poem, the angels remind them to put their faith in God and in his promises, instead of trusting in human strength and ability, "Let us entreat the Father for refuge, implore the Son of God and the merciful Spirit," and "Help came to us, that led to salvation in the harbor, the spiritual Son of God . . . let us fix our hope in that harbor, which for us the Ruler of the skies, holy in the heights, opened." And this same Jesus died and rose for us as well - *They said, why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven. - Acts 1:11*

This same Jesus is alive today; his promises are trustworthy, yesterday and today and forever.

- Mark Garner



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Afterwards

Light after darkness, gain after loss,
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
Home after wandering, praise after tears.

Near after distant, gleam after gloom,
Love after loneliness, life after tomb;
After long agony, rapture of bliss -
Right was the pathway leading to this.

- Frances Ridley Havergal, 1836-1879

Tell Me

While to Bethlehem we are going,
Tell me now, to cheer the road,
Tell me why this lovely Infant
Quitted His divine abode.

Why did He, the Lord Eternal,
Mortal pilgrim deign to be;
He who fashioned for His glory,
Boundless immortality?

From that world to bring to this
Peace, which of all earthly blisses,
Is the brightest, purest bliss.

- Violante do Céu, 1607-1693

Portuguese poet Violante do Céu began writing poetry when she was 12, and she became one of the most popular writers in Portugal in the 1600s. Many of her poems are still in print; this one was translated into English in the 1800s as part of a collection of Portuguese writings.

One Sacrifice For Sins

By one sacrifice for all time, Jesus has made it possible for everyone to come to God with a humble heart and receive forgiveness of all our sins, an eternal home with God, and much more. This week, Jeff McVicker writes about the Levitical sacrifices and what they can teach us today.

A Shadow Of Jesus' Sacrifice

I always thought of the Old Testament sacrifices as those messy, bloody rituals the Israelites were required to do to atone for their sins. I was extremely grateful they no longer applied to me. I knew that God told Abraham to slay and offer his only son Isaac as a Burnt Offering, but I didn't fully understand what God was wanting Abraham to grasp, or what I was to learn. That was until I found the book "Levitical Sacrificial System" by Gerald Paden (Mike Paden's father).

As I picked up the book, I prepared myself for a dry theological list of rules hoping that I would find some useful bits of insightful information. I optimistically started reading the introduction and before I knew it, I was finishing chapter two. It has helped me to gain a much deeper understanding of how the sacrificial system applies to my life, and how God fulfilled this requirement for us in His Son Jesus.

The sacrificial system of the Jews was a "shadow" of what God would do for all mankind in His son Jesus. Each of the sacrifices has a unique process, a purpose, and a unique attitude the worshiper was to have toward God. Sacrifices of the law of Moses were basically gifts to God. It was man offering to his God a present out of his desire to please Him and to seek His favor. All these sacrifices, God would later fulfill for us today in His son Jesus.

The word "present" (in English) is a verb when it defines the action of offering a gift to someone, and it becomes a noun when it defines the object that was given. The worshiper offering the sacrifice was seen as presenting himself and his animal as a present to God.

There are three sacrifices known as the worship sacrifices or the "sweet savor" offerings, to express an individual's devotion to God. The animals or grains offered were burned to transfer to God in the form of incense. The victim was not seen as being destroyed or even burned; it was seen as being converted into a curl of smoke that was being transferred directly to God for his pleasure.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

We ourselves should allow the fires of our zeal and consecration for God to ascend to Him in the fulfillment of the great burnt offering sacrifice described in the book of Leviticus. As Paul states in Romans, instead of living for ourselves we should present ourselves not as a burnt sacrifice but as a living sacrifice thus being a "sweet savor" offering to God in the way we live our lives.

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

- Jeff McVicker