

Family Information

Men's Lunch On January 21

The next Northland brothers' lunch will be on Sunday January 21, a half hour after morning worship. It will be at Smokey Bones, 3939 Morse Crossing. See Jeff if you have any questions.

Worship At Willow Brook On January 21

Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time on January 21 at 2:00 PM at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road). Everyone is welcome to come.

Updated Clothing Closet Schedule

The Clothing Closet be open, by appointment only, on Wednesday January 17, Wednesday February 28, and Wednesday March 20, from 6:30-8:00 PM. For appointments, please call 614-918-7925. Please let Robbie, Pam, or Vicki know if you are available to help.

Women's Winter "Just A Little Walk With Jesus"

Northland sisters will meet at the church building on Saturdays January 27, February 24, and March 23 from 10 AM to Noon for a short devotional, prayer, breakfast snacks, fellowship, and the chance to walk laps together around the building. See Robbie for more information.

Next Outreach Meeting On Sunday February 4

The next Outreach Meeting will be Sunday February 4, after the morning worship assembly. See Caleb if you have any questions.

What's The Point Of Hosea?

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 Hosea?"

Clothing Closet - Current Needs

The closet clothing now needs winter coats (of all sizes), gloves, winter hats, and scarves. There is a Donation Box located in the church foyer. Thank you for anything you can donate.

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, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Luis Valdez

Midweek Bible Studies

Sunday Afternoon Class Schedule

The Sunday afternoon class is currently taking a break, and it will resume meeting later this winter. See Mike Paden if you have any questions.

New Wednesday Bible Study

Beginning this Wednesday January 10, a Bible study organized by Jeff McVicker will meet in the meeting room just off the foyer, starting at 6:30 PM. See Jeff for more details.

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 (Virtual) - 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 (Virtual) - 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.

Sunday 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 2023
General:	\$4,212	\$4,711
Designated:	\$0	\$413



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January 7, 2024
Volume 33, Number 1

Look At The Birds Of The Air

The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. - Matthew 6:22

Our Heavenly Father often reminds us to fix our eyes on Jesus, and to keep our minds and hearts open to God's words and the message of Jesus. Amidst this world's chaos and noise, it can be easy to become fearful or discouraged, so God reminds us that his blessings will never fade away -

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? - Matthew 6:25

Sandpipers are a large family of birds (over 80 species) found on every continent except Antarctica. Sandpipers are small to medium-sized (most from 5-12 inches) and are usually light (some weigh under an ounce), and their habitats include coastlines, riverbanks, and lakeshores. They have similar diets, usually including seeds, insects, and other small invertebrates, so God gives them highly sensitive nerves on the tip of their bills, helping them to find unseen food, even at night.

Each of them is also designed for its own particular habitat; their bills take many different shapes, depending on where they live and on their feeding habits. All sandpipers' appearances are patterns or streaks of various shades of brown with some gray, black, and yellow; yet each of them has its own distinctive (and often sublime) plumage to blend in with its own surroundings. God pours out his care and understanding on these small birds, and truly we are even more valuable to him -

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? - Matthew 6:26

Most sandpipers have lengthy seasonal migrations, usually several thousand miles, so they are ideally designed for long-distance flight. They have thin legs and bills, and for small birds they have large wingspans; all of this enables them to make full use of air currents as they encounter them. Like some other birds, they also learn to navigate by the stars and the earth's magnetic field.

When sandpipers set out for their lengthy migrations, they don't know what they may face, yet our Creator has prepared them for their journeys. Similarly, our Heavenly Father gently reminds us not to worry about things that we can't control, and trust in him instead -

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. - Matthew 6:34

We can never know what tomorrow may hold; yet whatever we may face, Jesus will always be with us, and he will guide us and uphold us and comfort us each step.

- Mark Garner, January 2024

The Heavens Declare Their Maker's Name

The heavens declare their Maker's glorious name;
The spacious firmament's extended frame,
And all the shining wonders it displays,
Proclaim the God, and teach the world his praise.
Each rising day repeats instructive songs,
And closing night the wondrous theme prolongs:
Nor speech nor language wants the sacred strain;
'Tis nature's harmony, nor tuned in vain.
Delightful music, here the heaven-taught mind
Sweetness beyond the reach of sounds can find.

- Anne Steele, 1717-1778

*This is an excerpt from a series of poems by British poet Anne Steele based on the Psalms.
This one is based on Psalm 19.*

The Morning Star

In every cloud of pain and loss
There is a silver lining;
Beyond the shadow of the cross
The Morning Star is shining.

Temptations greet us day by day,
To sin our hearts inclining;
But still and bright upon our way
The Morning Star is shining.

Upon my way from day to day,
With hope my path adorning,
I see afar the Morning Star,
The matchless Star of Morning.

- Lucia Belle Cook, 1884-1941

Writer Lucia Cook became an invalid at age 15 due to severe health problems. When she was hospitalized, she thought often about the message of Jesus, and she determined to devote herself to writing about Jesus. She went on to write numerous articles and poems for a variety of publications.

Gods Backyard Masterpiece

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. - Matthew 6:28-33

Ten years ago, I stopped mowing most of my backyard. Janet and I are gladly accepting whatever God sees fit to coax from this small patch of soil behind our house. All things green are welcome. Maples trees, a couple of walnuts, as well as other species have lifted out of the earth, reaching for the sun. This little stand of trees now is as tall as a cluster of utility poles and has begun to form a canopy for the little woods we see coming. Underbrush and spreading groundcover too are establishing themselves. We have planted nothing; neither have we removed any growing thing, save occasional strands of poison ivy that show themselves. We have left it all to God, and he is painting a delightful leafy masterpiece all on his own, right outside our back windows.

From April through October the thicket is so dense we can't see our neighbors' houses. The trees have granted us total backyard privacy. The early years were a weedy stage, which drew some grumbles from a couple of neighbors. But the little woodland now is emerging into a charming, more mature stage, and is destined only to get better. Our front and side yards are mowed and manicured, but a lush woods is coming into focus behind us.

And trees and shrubs and wildflowers aren't the only gifts God is presenting to us in this little woods. The trees are providing shelter and cover to an array of feathered and furry creatures. A birdfeeder we installed on our deck offers year-round dining for birds that roost and nest in our trees.

A variety of mammals, too, have taken up residency in our little woodland. There is a possum who keeps himself scarce during the day, but comes around each evening for dinner that Janet and I gladly provide. Same with a couple of raccoons, and even a skunk who sports a beautiful black coat with a white racing stripe. He has become surprisingly tame. He loves the banana pieces and bread slices we toss to him from our deck. Not once have we felt in danger of being doused with his aromatic spray. One time Janet inadvertently dropped a piece of bread squarely on his head, and he didn't even flinch.

There are chipmunks, too, scampering among the trees, and a little herd of squirrels. Except for the squirrels, all our furry friends now have burrowed in for the winter. The skunk has excavated a wintering burrow under our front porch. God has installed in them all a clever means to survive winter's cold and lean times -- hibernation. They are tucked in safe for the duration, and now sleep in peace like little children, under our watchful care. Janet and I feel that God has entrusted them to us, and we accept the responsibility. We just know we will see them again around April.

The beauty and diversity of God's backyard creations, both fauna and flora, are gifts we gratefully accept. We are blessed.

- Larry Harris, January 2024

Last Week's Puzzle Answer

Last week's mystery verse answer is: *The Lord looks at the heart. - 1 SAMUEL 16:7*