

Family Information

Work Day Postponed

The work day has been postponed, and it will be re-scheduled soon. See Mike Evans for further information.

Prayer Seminar On April 27

There will be a Prayer Training Seminar led by Caleb on Saturday, April 27th from 3:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Room. Everyone is welcome, and no sign-up is necessary.

Crafts & Story Time On May 4

There will be a children's Crafts and Story Time on Saturday, May 4, from 2:00-3:30 PM, in the Fellowship Room. It will be for all children 12 and under; it is free for everyone, and no sign up is necessary.

Spring Needs For The Clothing Closet

As you begin your spring cleaning, please remember the Clothing Closet and those in need. We can use these clean, gently used items: children's, men's, and women's clothes; small household items; toys and books. There is a Donation Box located in the church foyer. Thank you for anything you can donate.

Clothing Closet Schedule

The Clothing Closet will next be open, by appointment only, this Wednesday April 17, 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.

Outreach Meeting On May 5

The next Outreach Meeting will be on Sunday, May 5, after the morning worship assembly. Outreach Meetings are currently taking place on the first Sunday of each month; see Caleb if you have any questions.

Willow Brook Worship On May 12

The next time that Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road) will be on Sunday May 12 at 2 PM.

Sunday Service Times

English Bible Study 9:00 AM
English Worship 10:00 AM
Spanish Worship (Annex) 10:00 AM
Ghana Worship 12:00 PM

There is currently no Sunday evening class.

Midweek Bible Studies

Current Mid-Week Studies

First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans, currently meeting in room E41. Contact Mike or Leisha for details and updates.

Mondays at 6:30 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser (it resumes meeting this week). Contact her for details. If you aren't able to join, you can e-mail prayer requests to Peggy.

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM - A Bible study organized by Jeff McVicker is currently meeting in the meeting room just off the foyer.

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM (Online) - 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.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$6,735	\$4,163
Designated:	\$0	\$99

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



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The Spirit Of God Lives In Us

You . . . are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. - Romans 8:9

Indeed, the Spirit of God lives in those who open their hearts to Jesus and who follow him humbly; our Heavenly Father cleanses and sanctifies those who trust in the good news of the Lamb of God instead of in this world's empty thinking. God has brought us out of the realm of emptiness and decay, and into the realm of his Spirit, a realm of hope and life -

If Christ is in you . . . the Spirit gives life . . . And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. - Romans 8:10-11

Italian philosopher and physician Marsilio Ficino (1433-1499) began his career in medicine, and he wrote a number of medical works. He also spent considerable time studying the writings of ancient Greek philosopher Plato, since he was intrigued by Plato's thoughts about what existed beyond this physical universe. Ficino said, "The soul exists partly in eternity and partly in time," yet he found that the philosopher's thoughts fell well short of answering his questions.

Marsilio then realized that only the message of Jesus could meet the deepest needs of our souls, as he writes "The will is satisfied only by that one good beyond which there is no further good. What can this good be except the boundless God?" So when Ficino was about 40, he devoted himself to learning about Jesus and writing about him.

Truly, God's thoughts are boundless and timeless, and the depths of his compassion and understanding are beyond human words to describe fully. Not only does our Father in heaven give us his Spirit, he also calls us his own children -

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. - Romans 8:14

Oneness with God can give us lasting hope and meaning, since as Marsilio writes, "The soul longs for unity and harmony." Only God can give us genuine unity and harmony; as Marsilio Ficino also wrote, "The One is infinite, for it is not mixed, divided or incomplete in any way. It is an infinite beauty and an ultimate Good, which therefore calls forth the greatest love. Thus we may come to love God himself." And God also gives us the imperishable inheritance of eternal life -

The Spirit himself testifies with our Spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. - Romans 8:16-17

There is no one like God, who rejoices in being with those who put our faith in his Son.

- Mark Garner, April 2024

The Unfailing One

He who hath led will lead
All through the wilderness;
He who hath fed will feed;
He who hath blessed will bless;
He who hath heard thy cry,
Will never close His ear;
He who hath marked thy faintest sigh,
Will not forget thy tear.
He loveth always, faileth never;
So rest on Him, to-day, for ever.

Then trust Him for to-day
As thine unfailing Friend,
And let Him lead thee all the way,
Who loveth to the end.
And let the morrow rest
In His beloved hand;
His good is better than our best,
As we shall understand,
If, trusting Him who faileth never,
We rest on Him, today, for ever.

- Frances Ridley Havergal, 1836-1879

Just As He Promised

My Father will not let me fall.
His strong and loving arms enfold me;
To Him I trust my life, my all,
And know that He will safely hold me.

My Savior will not let me stray.
The path He trod is plain before me;
And He who said, "I am the Way"
Is watching, ever watching o'er me.

Just as he promised, promised to do,
When first to Him I trembling came;
Now I have trusted, proven Him true,
Hallelujah to His name!

- William McPherson Lighthall, 1865-1949

Canadian writer William Lighthall came to the U.S. in his late teens, and he worked for a railroad for many years as a telegrapher and station agent. He wrote about Jesus in his spare time, and he had numerous poems published.

In The Beginning

Genesis teaches us that in the beginning God created the world, the skies, and the seas, and everything in them; and John tells us that in the beginning Jesus was the Word and that he was with God. This week, Paula Robbins writes about the care God put into creating us.

A Story That Never Ends

The beginning of any story is important and often contains details that recur in the story. The story of God's activity in our world is no different. We find a unique detail about the creation of the first human in Genesis 2:7. God chooses dust as the material for this creature who will bear His image. He presumably adds water since our bodies are 55-60% water in composition. God personally forms the incredibly elegant human body out of...mud. We humans still bear the elegance and the messiness of our creation. Then God gets even more personal. He gives life to this mud form by breathing His breath into Adam's nostrils. God gives a level of attention and care to the creation of the human body that he did not give to anything else.

Tragedy soon enters the story. Genesis 3 describes how Adam and Eve are enticed to sin, to defy God. As God pronounces the Serpent's punishment in Genesis 3:15, He makes the enigmatic statement that one of the woman's offspring will crush Satan's head, destroying his influence. God announced His plan counteract this interruption of His story at this early stage of the story.

After much time and several other predictions of a coming deliverer and redeemer, God puts his plan for redemption into action...by coming to earth in a tiny, vulnerable human body (Luke 1:31-33; 2:6-7). Our creator, who put such tender and personal attention into forming the body, lived in a human body. (Colossians 1:15-20). After living a sinless life (2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15), Jesus allowed the sacrifice of his body (John 10:18). Through the spilling of His blood and death he made atonement for our sins and redeemed us while also giving us the perfect object lesson of God's love, mercy, and justice (Romans 3:23-26; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 10:10; 1 Peter 2: 22-24). All this while confined to all the limitations of a body like ours.

But he wasn't finished. Three days after he died, he was alive again...in a new type of body. He was recognizable as himself, participated in human activities like eating, and still bore the wounds that caused his death (Luke 24:36-43). But he now inhabited a body that could not die (Romans 6:9;) and in which he returned to God's presence (Luke 24:51).

But His story isn't over. We have been promised that those who put their faith in Jesus have been united with Him in His death and will be united with him in a resurrection like His (Romans 6:3-5). Humans are designed to exist in a body, but our corruptible bodies are not able to lie in God's presence. After our corruptible bodies die, we will live on in incorruptible bodies like that of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15). A body that cannot be affected by sin and is fit for God's presence. A body in which we will live on the new earth, eternally free from death, pain, and all other effects of sin (Revelation 21:1-4).

The human body has been and always will be a central part of God's story. We are each invited to allow God to weave our story into His. When we put our faith in Him, we are part of His story of perfect love and perfect justice. We are part of a beautiful story that never ends.

- Paula Robbins, April 2024