

## Family Information

### Work Day This Saturday, April 27

The Work Day has been re-scheduled for this Saturday April 27, from 9 AM to Noon. Afterwards, lunch will be provided. See Mike Evans for further details.

### 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. Flyers are available in the foyer.

### 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 2:00 PM.

### 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, on Wednesday May 15, 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.

### 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. 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 on Matthew, organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger, is currently meeting in the fellowship room.

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
<b>General:</b>	\$2,745	\$4,068
<b>Designated:</b>	\$0	\$92

**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



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April 21, 2024  
Volume 33, Number 16

## Let Us Lift Up Our Hearts To God

*No one is cast off by the Lord forever. - Lamentations 3:31*

The prophet Jeremiah was one of the few faithful believers in Jerusalem when the city was taken by the Babylonians; as he endured troubled times, he put his faith in our Heavenly Father, for he trusted in the Lord's unfailing compassion to help him get through this world's harshness -

*Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone. - Lamentations 3:32-33*

Helen Keller (1880-1968) endured a lifetime of afflictions that most of us couldn't even begin to understand, yet the message of Jesus gave her enduring hope and peace. She wrote of what it meant to her to find Jesus, "The world to which I awoke was still mysterious; but there was hope and love and God in it, and nothing else mattered." When we too go through this world's disappointments and pains, God never leaves us, and his compassion endures forever.

Keller continues, "Is it not possible that our entrance into heaven may be like this experience of mine?" Just as knowing God changed Helen's perspective on everything, someday we will see God in his full splendor and glory, and we will no longer have to face this world's confusion and futility. God patiently asks us to ponder and reflect on his teachings, to take some time away from this world's busyness and loud voices, and to lift up our hearts to him in prayer and praise -

*Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord. Let us lift up our hearts and our hands to God in heaven. - Lamentations 3:40-41*

Keller also wrote about the ways that following Jesus affected her daily life, "Four things to learn in life: To think clearly without hurry or confusion; To love everybody sincerely; To act in everything with the highest motives; To trust God unhesitatingly." Likewise, our Heavenly Father calls us to trust in him to guide us, for he will hear us when we call on him humbly -

*I called on your name, Lord, from the depths of the pit. You heard my plea. - Lamentations 3:55-56*

During her lifetime, Helen helped and encouraged many others, and she trusted God to nurture the seed, as she says, "When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another." Helen Keller also often said, "Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood." Indeed, God teaches us lessons each day; and he reassures us not to be afraid, for Jesus has redeemed our lives -

*You came near when I called you, and you said, Do not fear. You, Lord, took up my case; you redeemed my life. - Lamentations 3:57-58*

Jesus is our Redeemer, and his grace overflows to those who walk in his light and compassion.

- Mark Garner, April 2024

### **The Cross Has Wondrous Glory**

I can see far down the mountain,  
Where I wandered weary years,  
Often hindered in my journey,  
By the ghosts of doubt and fears;  
Broken vows and disappointments,  
Thickly sprinkled all the way,  
But the Spirit led, unerring,  
To the land I hold today.

Oh, the cross has wondrous glory!  
Oft I've proved this to be true;  
When I'm in the way so narrow,  
I can see a pathway through;  
And how sweetly Jesus whispers:  
Take the cross, thou need'st not fear,  
For I've tried the way before thee,  
And the glory lingers near.

- Harriet Warner Requa, 1843-1929

*Writer Harriet Requa (her last name is sometimes spelled Re Qua) was known for her poetry about nature and about following Jesus. She also wrote the words to several hymns.*

### **The Face Of Our Lord**

Glad and cheerful and sweet is the blessed, loving face with which our Lord looks at our souls; for he is constantly love-longing towards us while we live, and he wants our souls to look gladly on him so as to give him his reward. And so I hope that by his grace he has made the outer face like the inner face, and shall do still more, and shall unite us all with him and with each other in the true and lasting joy which is in Jesus.

There are three kinds of understanding of the expression of our Lord's face. The first is the suffering face which he showed us while he was here, dying. Although this is a sight of mourning and sorrow, it is also glad and cheerful, for he is God. The second face is pity, grief and compassion; and he shows this face to all those who love him, with the certainty of protection for those who need his mercy. The third is the blessed face which he will show for ever, and we will see this oftenest and longest.

- Julian of Norwich, approx. 1343-1416

*Though little is known of the personal life of Julian of Norwich, she is one of the best-known persons of the 14th century. She lived in times full of conflict, division, and pestilence (including the bubonic plague), yet she was widely known for her spiritual guidance and kindnesses, as well as for her writings about Jesus.*

### ***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, Leon Norwood writes about the parallels between these Scriptures.*

### **In The Beginning Was The Word**

John wrote his gospel to convince people that Jesus is the Messiah, but his gospel also strengthens the faith of those who already know that Jesus is the Messiah. As Christians we all know that Jesus offered himself as a sacrifice for our sins and that by believing we would have life in Him (John 20:30–31). But in John chapter 1 verses 1-5 we learn that Jesus is not only Messiah, but God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God (John 1:1).

Recalling these words from the beginning of the Gospel of John is a great way to start off your day. Why? Because it is vital that Christians remember the sacred truth that Jesus is God, and that his purpose has not changed since the very beginning. As we read the text, our thoughts are drawn to the ancient story of God's relationship with God's people, and here John makes a direct connection to Genesis and the creation story told in the Bible. The parallels are powerful and significant.

The fundamental purpose of the opening chapters of Genesis in telling the two creation stories is to establish God's loving care for humanity and God's eternal desire to be in communion with humanity. From the very beginning of creation, God's desire has been—and always will be—to be in union with his creation. Therefore, for the bridge between God and humanity, to be present with God from the very beginning, tells us that Christ has always been a part of God's plan for the salvation. God and God's desire for our salvation have always been truly one!

This is an important concept to keep in mind as we go into the future. God is the One who was in the beginning in full unity with the Word. God is the same One who is today in full unity with Jesus Christ so that Christians of all ages may have full and unhindered access to and communion with our Creator. God is the One who in full unity with Jesus and for all eternity will be connecting with the creation in powerful and wonderful ways. As Jesus and the Father are one, let all Christianity embrace faith in Christ as one!

- Leon Norwood, 2024