Family Information

Photos For New Directory

Beginning on May 19, we'll start taking photos for the new directory. More details will be coming soon. See Meagan Stover or Caleb for more information.

Summer Church Camp

Registration will begin soon for summer church camps. Nick Strawser's week at NWOCYC will be from June 9-15, and there will be a camp week at Fort Hill from July 14-20. More details will be coming soon.

Crafts & Story Time This Saturday

There will be a children's Crafts and Story Time this 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 Next Sunday

There will be an Outreach Meeting next 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.

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 organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger is now 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
General:	\$4,128	\$4,072
Designated:	\$0	\$86

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.

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

The Torrent Could Not Shake It

Hottlend Church of Christ



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April 28, 2024 Volume 33, Number 17 The one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete. - Luke 6:49

Even for believers in Jesus, it can be difficult to walk by faith in a world that trusts in outward appearances; even when we trust in God, it can be easy to be influenced by this world's empty thinking and its temporary circumstances. The Lamb of God patiently reminds us to follow him humbly, so that he can teach us how we may have a well-built foundation for our lives -

As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. - Luke 6:47

Beavers live in rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds; and they are especially known for their skill in building dams and lodges. Our Creator has given them several distinctive features to equip them for this unusual lifestyle. Their front teeth are coated with enamel strengthened with iron (which gives them an orange tint), to make them efficient at gnawing the wood they need for building (they can also eat wood). Their front teeth also never stop growing, to replace the constant wear.

Beavers are very good swimmers, and they are even better divers. The entrances to their lodges are underwater, so they have valves that close their ears and noses, as well as a third, transparent eyelid. Their large lungs also enable them to stay underwater for 5 minutes or more.

God also calls us to adopt a lifestyle that this world considers strange, a lifestyle of forgiveness, patience, and humility. Our Heavenly Father has washed away all our sins, he has given us his Spirit, he teaches us his boundless truths and he writes them on our hearts as we ponder them, so that we are fully prepared to make him and the message of Jesus our trustworthy foundation -

They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. - Luke 6:48

Beavers build dams on rivers and streams as a preparation for building the lodges they live in. They tie together branches and coat them with mud to make a waterproof dam, providing the calm, deep waters ideal for their lodges. Their lodges are also carefully designed, so that an entire beaver family can live comfortably and safely from predators. As God teaches these diligent animals to build well on good foundations, he teaches and helps us to build a foundation on him and on Jesus' message, so that our faith won't be shaken by the torrents of this world's chaos and harshness -

When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. - Luke 6:48

Jesus and his good news of salvation and redemption are truly a sure foundation for our lives.

- Mark Garner, April 2024

The Lord Is Ever Near, Our Guard, Our Guide

The Lord is mine, the portion of my choice, My sure support, my blessed inheritance.

Thy favor (O my God, my happy lot Continue still), is all my wish, my joy.

Thy gracious hand, with indulgent care,
Marked out my lines; my prospects serene;
A pleasant heritage, an ample share
Of every good, O let me bless the Lord,
Whose heavenly counsel guides my doubting soul,
While in the silent watches of the night
Instructive meditation warms my heart.

The Lord is ever near, my guard, my guide:
Blessed with his presence, what can ever remove
The lasting basis of my sacred joys?
Exulting gladness fills my grateful heart,
And bids my tongue and all my powers rejoice.

- 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 16.

A Glimpse Of A New Country

Though Christianity seems at first to be all about morality, all about duties and rules and guilt and virtue, yet it leads you on, out of all that, into something beyond. One has a glimpse of a country where they do not talk of those things . . . Everyone there is filled with what we should call goodness, as a mirror is filled with light. But they do not call it goodness. They do not call it anything. They are not thinking of it. They are too busy looking at the source from which it comes.

- C.S. Lewis, 1898-1963

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, Micah Evans writes about the closeness that God has always desired to have with us, from the beginning.

On a First Name Basis with God

In the beginning, God was there. But also, He was there before the beginning...or at least, our understanding of "the beginning." He IS the beginning. And the end. But we can't even fully understand that, because our human brains can only grasp a definite starting place and a definite ending place. It's like trying to give an explanation to a 4-year-old as to why "tomorrow" is not a day of the week, but that it's always going to be the day after today (trust me, this is a tough one!). They just have a hard time grasping an abstract concept for which they have no mental framework.

However, we serve a God who wants us to be in relationship with Him, and live with Him eternally. A God who, despite the fact that He reigns supreme over all of creation for all time, has made Himself accessible to us lowly, imperfect humans.

I read something recently from a book called "The Bible Recap" that explained the name of God, Jehovah, as God's "first name" as we think of them today. That every time we see "LORD" in all capital letters in the Old Testament, it is referring to God personally by His first name. The idea that we are on a first name basis with the Alpha and Omega of the entire universe is a pretty amazing concept. I definitely don't have the mental framework for that one! But again and again God shows us how much He wants us, loves us, and cares for us.

In Genesis 22, God directs Abraham to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, on an altar. In no uncertain terms, God directs Abraham to kill his only son. But knowing that God had made him a promise, Abraham places his faith fully in God by trusting He will provide a way for his son to live. God of course, does provide an animal to take Isaac's place. Abraham then gives the place where they stood, a name. This name, "Jehovah-jireh," means "The Lord Provides." This says to me that God is not just the beginning and the end, but He is everything in between. He is more than enough, and we can rest in that knowledge with peace.

- Micah Evans, April 2024