

Family Information

Congregational Meeting Today

All Northland members are invited to a meeting today from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM in room E44, to discuss 2024 projects. See one of the elders for more information.

Outreach Meeting Next Sunday - February 4

The next Outreach Meeting is next Sunday February 4, after the morning worship assembly. Outreach Meetings will now take place on the first Sunday of each month. See Caleb if you have any questions.

2023 Contribution Statements

Contribution statements for 2023 can be picked up in the church office for those who used envelopes or gave online. If you would like your statement mailed to you, see Ashley Dillinger or email the church office at office@ncocfamily.org.

Women's Winter Fellowship Time Schedule

There will be two more winter women's fellowship times, "Just A Little Walk With Jesus", on Saturday February 24 and Saturday March 23. Each will be from 10:00 AM to Noon. See Robbie for more information.

Needed For The Clothing Closet

The closet clothing continues to need 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.

Clothing Closet Schedule

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

Prayer Cards Available

There are prayer cards, along with suggestions for how to use them, on the table in the foyer.

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.

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 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:	\$3,587	\$3,209
Designated:	\$200	\$100



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Welcoming The Message

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. - 1 Thessalonians 1:1

Our Heavenly Father gives abundant grace and lasting peace to those who walk humbly by faith in Jesus. Despite our flaws and weaknesses, God is thankful for those who follow his Son, and he calls us to pray for one another -

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. - 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Camels are known for their unusual humps and for their remarkable endurance through lengthy droughts and severe heat. Our Creator gives their mouths thick linings so they can eat the toughest and thorniest plants; and since even these can be scarce, their humps enable them to store as much as 80 pounds of fat reserves, so if needed they can go for weeks without food.

We too must often walk through this world's spiritual deserts, so God reminds us to take the time to learn his words and let him write them on our hearts, where they can provide lasting spiritual nourishment. Moreover, he gives us his Spirit who helps us ponder and understand his truths. God helps us to walk by faith, to serve him out of love, and to endure this world's wilderness -

We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Camels store water in their blood; their blood cells can safely expand to over twice their normal size, so they can drink over 30 gallons quickly, and they can go two weeks or more without water. God gives camels large, padded feet and extra padding on their chests and knees, so they can both walk and rest on the hottest sands. Camels not only survive; they thrive in an extreme environment. Similarly, as believers in Jesus' message of compassion and forgiveness in an unbelieving, unforgiving world; our spirits eagerly welcome the message of Jesus and the hope it brings us -

You welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. - 1 Thessalonians 1:6

Camels frequently face blowing sands, so their eyes are constructed to face sandstorms. They have a third transparent eyelid that protects their eyeballs; and they have thick, bushy eyebrows as well as long eyelashes, which also shield their eyes from the sun. Similarly, God protects us from this world's storms of futility and harshness, as we put our faith in him and in Jesus' good news -

You turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus. - 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

This world and its idols are full of false hopes, yet God's promises are trustworthy.

- Mark Garner, January 2024

God Made The World

God made the world: in every land
His love and power are shown:
All are protected by his hand,
Though few his goodness own.

In forest-shades, and silent plains,
Where feet have never trod,
There in his mighty power he reigns,
The ever-present God.

To him the rich and poor are known,
The polished and the wild:
He sees the king upon his throne,
And every little child.

Great God, and since thy piercing eye
My inmost heart can see,
Teach me from every sin to fly,
And give that heart to see.

- Jane Taylor, 1783-1824

British poet and hymn writer Jane Taylor wrote many poems and songs for both children and adults. She is best remembered for writing the poem "The Star".

I Will Trust Him

Though I walk the shore that rims the ocean,
Though I face the storm upon the sea;
In the hands of love I rest securely,
For I know my Lord will care for me.

If He bids me walk within the valley
Where the darkness hides His blessed face,
He will surely keep my feet from falling,
While my soul is trusting in His grace.

I will trust Him in the valley of the shadow,
I will trust Him on the wild and stormy sea;
I will trust Him anywhere because He loves me,
I will trust Him through eternity.

- Alfred Henry Ackley, 1887-1960

Songwriter Alfred Ackley wrote the words and music for songs on a variety of topics, including over 300 hymns. He was also an assistant minister for several years.

Bread That Comes From Heaven

The Old Testament tells us how God fed the Israelites in the desert with manna from heaven, and the New Testament teaches us that Jesus came down from heaven to bring us the bread of life. This week, Peggy Kaiser writes about the ways Jesus fills and satisfies our hearts.

Jesus - The True Bread of Heaven

4 cups flour
1 1/2 cups water
2 Tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons sugar
2 teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons yeast

This is the list of ingredients that I use to make a large loaf of homemade bread. I do cheat and load all the ingredients into a bread maker which does all the mixing, kneading, proofing and baking all in one convenient unit. After 2 hours and 50 minutes, a miraculous loaf of bread is ready to eat. There is nothing better than a hot, fresh loaf of homemade bread. Its delicious aroma fills your whole house. It is so irresistible, you just can't wait until it is completely cooled to have a nice big thick slice.

It's no wonder that Jesus is the representation of the true bread from heaven. John 6:32-33 says,

"Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

Even though I know this in my mind, I still try to fill myself with substitutes instead of the true bread. I try filling myself with flour, this does not satisfy. Then I try some butter, but that is not the answer. Some sugar might do the trick (everyone loves sugar), but that fails as well. The true bread is all 6 ingredients mixed together. The true bread comes from the Father above.

No amount of people pleasing or striving or sacrificing can fill that void in my heart that is only reserved to be filled by Jesus. It is valuable to set aside some time each day to think about what is important to be pleasing to God and to reflect on who he is by looking at his word. When I neglect time with God then I try to fill my heart with all sorts of things that are not the true bread. Jesus even tells me in John 6:27,

"Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

Let us fill our hearts and minds with the true bread from heaven.

- Peggy Kaiser, January 2024