

Family Information

Summer Church Camp Registration

Registration has now opened for summer church camps. Nick Strawser's week at NWOCYC will be from June 9-15, and the cost is \$200. Camp week at Fort Hill will be from July 14-20. The cost is \$220 if paid a month ahead of time, and it is \$230 if paid after that. (Potential scholarships are available.). See Josh Evans if you have any questions.

Spring Picnic On May 18

The Spring congregational picnic will be on Saturday, May 18 at Blendon Woods Metro Park, from 5:00-8:00 PM. The location will be the Sycamore Picnic Area (our usual spot). Bring your own meat and a side dish to share. Drinks and utensils will be provided.

What's The Point Of Jonah?

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 Jonah?"

Outreach Meeting Today

There is an Outreach Meeting today 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 Next Sunday

Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road) next Sunday, May 12 at 2:00 PM.

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.

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.

Sunday Service Times

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| English Bible Study | 9:00 AM |
| English Worship | 10:00 AM |
| Spanish Worship (Annex) | 10:00 AM |
| Ghana Bible Study | 12:00 PM |
| Ghana Worship | 1:00PM |

There is currently no Sunday evening class.

Midweek Bible Studies

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.

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 (E41-42).

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: | \$3,503 | \$4,038 |
| Designated: | \$0 | \$81 |

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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God's Good, Pleasing, & Perfect Will

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. - Romans 12:2

As our Heavenly Father cleanses our hearts and renews our spirits, he also calls us to let him transform our minds. God patiently reminds us to let him take out this world's faulty patterns and its empty thinking, and to let him renew our minds with his timeless truths. Then he can help us see and appreciate his good, pleasing, and perfect will -

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. - Romans 12:2

God thinks differently than human minds do, and he often shows us his splendor and understanding in unexpected places and in small things. Snowflakes are tiny, and they quickly fade away, yet each one is indeed unique; in fact, scientists and mathematicians have determined that it is almost certain that every snowflake that has ever fallen is different from all the others. This is because of how snowflakes are formed; though they start in the same way, each step opens many possibilities.

Similarly, our Creator makes each of us in a similar form; yet from there, there are many possibilities for our abilities, weaknesses, personalities, likes, dislikes, and appearances. Each of us is unique and dear to God, so he calls us to appreciate and care for one another, instead of comparing ourselves with one another -

By the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. - Romans 12:3

Snowflakes begin with a droplet of cold water vapor condensing on a particle of dust or pollen, forming a tiny ice crystal. As these crystals join together, they take their familiar six-sided shape (due to the way that hydrogen and oxygen atoms bond). As snowflakes undergo this process, they accumulate as many as a quintillion (written as a 1 followed by 18 zeros) water molecules. As each molecule joins, there are dozens of possibilities for how it can attach to the others.

Then, the exact temperature, humidity, and other factors affect a snowflake's final form. Each resulting snowflake is different and beautiful, yet they last only a short time. God puts all this understanding into making them, and we are much more valuable to him; so he creates each of us with great care and compassion. And when we humbly follow the Lamb of God, he brings us together with our various characteristics into the body of Jesus -

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. - Romans 12:4-5

God's will is good, pleasing, and perfect; and he calls each of us to walk humbly by faith in Jesus.

- Mark Garner, May 2024

He Is Not Far, But Very Near

It is not always comfort to remember
That God is in His Heaven,
When heavy clouds have hidden all the sunshine
And we are tempest-driven;
When all the world is desolate and lonely,
Or filled with hate and strife;
When hearts grow weary with their cares and troubles,
And grief and sin are rife . . .

But here is comfort - I am with you always
The Faithful and the True
And I will never leave thee nor forsake thee,
The long, hard journey through,
For Jesus Christ is present help and refuge,
Not far, but very near;
Our Light, our Guide, our Shepherd, our Consoler,
A Savior Who is here.

- Annie Johnson Flint, 1866-1932

There Is One Name

There is one name that will last when all others shall have died out, and that name is connected with blessing, and only with blessing. Jesus Christ came into the world on purpose to bless humanity. We find in Him a blessing wide as the world. While He was here, He blessed and cursed not. All around Him, both by speech, and act, and glance, and thought, He was an incarnate blessing.

All that came to Him, unless they willfully rejected Him, obtained blessings at His hands. The home of His infancy, the friends of His youth, the comrades of His manhood, He blessed unsparingly. To bless, He labored. To bless, He parted with everything, and became poor. To bless, at last He died.

- Charles Haddon Spurgeon, 1834-1892

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, Renée Jackson writes about the divine and eternal nature of Jesus.

What a Word!

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and Word was God." - John 1:1.

This one verse establishes the Word as being both divine and eternal. The parallels between John 1 and Genesis 1 are impossible to miss. Both John 1:1 and Genesis 1:1 begin with the words "In the beginning." John is establishing Christ's presence during creation, which shows the eternal nature of Jesus. He didn't just come when Mary gave birth, he existed from eternity. Jesus is not just the Word, he is Creator, equal with God.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." - John 1:14

This verse works beautifully with John 1:1, because this Word who was present at the beginning, and who was God, now has appeared in the flesh and dwelt with us. Jesus taking on human flesh did not cause him to lose his divine nature. He was able to be fully God and fully man while he walked on the earth. He carried in him the fullness of the Godhead.

"For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form." - Colossians 2:9

This means that Jesus - who is the Word, God in flesh - was the full package. He carried in him the nature of God, the power of God and the authority of God simply because he was God. The Word was in the beginning. Through the Word the Father created. God created through the Son, without whom nothing could exist. Jesus was the ultimate expression of God and God's plan. If we see Jesus, we see the Father.

As we read the gospel of John with a true understanding of the concept of Word, the wonderful love of our Heavenly Father is clearly shown. From the very beginning God had a purpose, a plan that He brought to pass in the world in a way that reveals His love and wisdom. Jesus' coming was prophesied throughout the scriptures. He was born a man, lived a sinless life, died on the cross and was raised from the dead. He was exalted as Lord to the right hand of God where he presently is. Jesus will come again at the end of this age in judgment, bringing destruction on the unbelieving world and salvation to the believers and doers of His word. Finally, He will destroy Satan and all evil, and begin the new heaven and earth. The Word gives faith, hope, life and light to those believers and doers.

- Renée Jackson, May 2024