Family Information

Directory Photos & Information

If you haven't yet had your photo taken for the directory, please talk to Meagan as soon as possible to have that arranged. She won't be set up unless arrangements have been made. The directory will use new photos, and we would also like everyone to update or confirm your directory information with Meagan. Thank you!

Registration Open For Church Camp At Fort Hill

Registration is currently open for camp week at Fort Hill, which will be from July 14-20. The cost is \$230. Potential scholarships are available. See Josh Evans if you have any questions.

Outreach Meeting On July 7

The next Outreach Meeting will be on Sunday, July 7, 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.

Men's Lunch On July 14

The next Northland brothers' lunch will be on Sunday July 14, a half hour after morning worship. The location hasn't yet been determined. See Jeff if you have any questions.

Willow Brook Worship On July 14

The next time that Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road) will be on Sunday, July 14 at 2:00 PM. Northland will also be organizing the worship time on August 25. See Caleb or one of the elders if you have any questions.

Needs For The Clothing Closet

As summer approaches, please remember the Northland Clothing Closet for your donations. We can use in season clean, new or gently used clothing of all sizes, games, toys, and household items. Note that no winter items are needed until this Autumn. There is a Donation Box located in the church foyer. Thank you for your continued support.

Clothing Closet Schedule

The Clothing Closet will next be open, by appointment only, on Wednesday July 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.

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, meets 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, beginning 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:	\$2,427	\$4,318
Designated:	\$0	\$61

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	1:00 PM

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

There is currently no Sunday evening class.

The Riches of God's Grace

Hottlend Church of Christ



4581 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43231 (614) 410-5860

Website ncocfamily.com

June 23, 2024 Volume 33, Number 25 heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. - Ephesians 1:3

Praise be to God, who gives us salvation \through Jesus and who gives us his Spirit to

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the

live within us. Before the creation of this world, our Heavenly Father had already chosen to send his Son to cleanse and sanctify and to give eternal life to those who seek him with a soft and humble heart -

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. - Ephesians 1:4

British writer and editor Elizabeth H. Codner (1824-1919) began following Jesus as a teenager, and she often wrote short essays or poems to express her appreciation and gratitude for everything God does for us through Jesus. A couple years later, she also edited a newsletter to encourage other believers, and she also had her writings distributed as small booklets.

In one of Codner's best known poems ("Even Me"), she writes of our constant need for God and his presence in our lives, as well as God's eagerness to give us showers of spiritual blessings. Her poem begins, "Lord, I hear of showers of blessing, Thou art scattering full and free; showers the thirsty land refreshing; let some drops now fall on me; even me, even me, let some drops now fall on me." Truly, God pours out spiritual blessings on those who follow Jesus closely -

... for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will - to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. - Ephesians 1:5-6

In Elizabeth's poem, she also acknowledges our deep need for God's forgiveness and grace, "Pass me not, O God, my Father, sinful though my heart may be . . . Let Thy mercy light on me; even me, even me." Our Heavenly Father's grace overflows to us, for in Jesus he has redeemed us and forgiven us; moreover, he patiently teaches us his words -

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us . . . he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ. - Ephesians 1:7-9

God indeed lavishes the riches of his grace upon us; and as Elizabeth Codner's poem says, "Love of God, so pure and changeless, blood of Christ, so rich and free; grace of God, so strong and boundless, magnify them all in me; even me, even me." And the good news of Jesus includes everyone from everywhere who seeks him in truth and puts their faith in his message -

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. - Ephesians 1:13

In Jesus we have salvation and redemption and more spiritual blessings than we could name.

Almighty God, Creator Of Us All

O Thou Almighty God, Creator of us all; Help us to praise and magnify Thy holy name o'er all.

O Thou Almighty God, Thy mercy we implore; Keep us within Thy tender care, And plenteous joys bestow.

O, lead us on, dear Lord, Our hand still clasped in Thine, Until we reach the pearly shores Of Heav'n's abode divine.

- Wellington Alexander Adams, 1924 (born 1879; the date of his passing is unknown)

Musician Wellington Adams was known as a teacher, songwriter, and violinist. In 1916 he founded an academy of music, and he also wrote poetry.

The Greatness Of His Mercy

When in Jesus we believe, and His pardon we receive,
What a comfort to the soul the promise brings;
That the weary and oppressed, when they come to Him for rest,
He will cover with the shadow of His wings.

When in Jesus we abide, and by faith are justified, We have peace with God the Father through His Name; And the joy that fills the heart, though its earthly hopes depart, Through His all atoning merit we may claim.

When in Jesus we are one we can say, His will be done, We can trust Him where perhaps we cannot trace; For he keeps us by His power, every moment, every hour, And we feel the sweet refreshing of His grace.

O sing the greatness of His mercy, Unto those that seek Him ever full and free; O sing, while angels join the chorus, Rolling onward like the sea.

- Frances Jane Crosby, 1820-1915

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, Emily Graham writes about the light that Jesus brings into this world.

Channeling The Light Of The World

June is possibly my favorite month. While June is often a favorite for its warmth, end of the school year or long daylight hours, my reason may seem more trivial than those things. I love it for the fireflies.

Now I generally despise bugs. I scream, I squish, I've even been so panic stricken, all I could do was point when a giant wolf spider the size of a Halloween decoration walked across my living room floor. But somehow fireflies, or lightening bugs, fascinate me! I don't mind catching them with my bare hand, and it is the only bug I consider touching on purpose!

The last several years God has used these little wonders to calm my body and mind. I turn off all of the lights in the house, open the blinds to my back yard, and watch them for 30-45 minutes. While I watch, I often pray and worship the God who created these glowing little beings.

I praise Him for making the church just like these little bugs. We are a light, and alone we may be interesting, but together we can create magic! By magic I mean we can glorify God by doing things we shouldn't be able to do, and do them in a way that is full of love which lights the way to Jesus. We shouldn't be united or working together to create a beautiful way of living, but we do. We can do this because God placed His light in us. We create a community that can fascinate and make people ask, how? and why?

John 1 talks about Jesus being the Word, in whom Life lived, and that Life was a Light. Yet then it says, "The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it." John 1:5. So we too are not understood when we live in harmony as the church, working towards one goal, to show the way to Jesus by way of loving actions guided by the truth.

It's hard to not be understood, but this is how God designed it. The darker the evening gets, the easier it is to see the firefly's glow. As followers of Jesus, when the people around us become dark with gossip, divisions and cliques, point fingers of blame, put others down to build up self, we should shine brighter. We need to channel the Holy Spirit, becoming a brighter contrast to the world around us with loving speech, giving the benefit of the doubt, encouraging, forgiving and finding ways to lift others above ourselves.

I'm currently getting to know a few new coworkers. Part of me is tempted to hide my light because it takes energy to shine in front of new people, but I know it will be worth it.

Now that my thoughts are coming to a close, I think I'll direct my gaze to my glittering back yard, and praise the God of unity and light!

- Emily Graham, June 2024