# Family Information

## **Outreach Meeting Next Sunday, July 7**

There will be an Outreach Meeting next 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. It will be at Fiesta Jalisco. See Jeff if you have any questions.

#### Willow Brook Worship On July 14

Northland will be organizing the Sunday worship time at Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road) 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.

# **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.

# **Needs For The Clothing Closet**

This summer, 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 (Via Zoom) - 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**

	<b>Last</b> <b>Week</b>	Average YTD
General:	\$3,963	\$4,304
Designated:	\$0	\$58

#### **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.

# God's Invisible Qualities

# Hottlend Church of Christ



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June 30, 2024 Volume 33, Number 26 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes. - Romans 1:16

The good news of Jesus is full of the grace that God wants to give those who believe it, and it is also tells us of God's power that redeems and saves those who believe in his Son. The gospel of Jesus tells us of God's righteousness; it tells us that we cannot make ourselves righteous by human efforts and human thinking, yet that we can be declared righteous by faith in the Lamb of God -

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed - a righteousness that is by faith from first to last. Just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith. - Romans 1:17

For years, astronomer Allan Sandage (1926-2010) was well-known for his scientific research and his discoveries, as well as his many writings about the nature and structure of the universe. He was awarded numerous honors; yet in his fifties, he began to realize that science alone could not answer his deepest questions.

Sandage says, "It was my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science. It is only through the supernatural that I can understand the mystery of existence." First, Allan concluded that, "The world is too complicated in all its parts and interconnections to be due to chance alone. I am convinced that the existence of life with all its order in each of its organisms is simply too well put together."

So Sandage was convinced that, "If there is no God, nothing makes sense", and he began reading books by religious writers. This soon led him to study the Scriptures; as he learned about Jesus, he knew that he had found the key answers, so he decided to put his faith in Jesus and his message. Truly, our Heavenly Father has made plain his wisdom and understanding and splendor to us-

What may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. - Romans 1:19

Allan writes of his decision to walk by faith, "I chose to believe, and a peace of mind came over me." Truly, God brings peace and meaning and hope to those who open their hearts to Jesus and trust in him. We can clearly see the invisible qualities of God's eternal power and his divine nature in everything he has created, and they also call us to learn more about our Heavenly Father -

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made. - Romans 1:20

And in the Scriptures and in the message of Jesus, we can also see the depths of God's compassion and mercy, and his desire for us to live with him forever.

- Mark Garner, June 2024

# We Hope In Thee, O God

We hope in Thee, O God, The day wears on to night; Thick shadows lie across our world, In Thee alone is light.

We hope in Thee, O God, The fading time is here, But Thou abidest strong and true Though all things disappear.

We hope in Thee, O God.
Our joys go one by one,
But lonely hearts can rest in Thee,
When all beside is gone.

We hope in Thee, O God! Hope fails us otherwhere; But since Thou art in all that is, Peace takes the hand of care.

- Marianne Hearn, 1834-1909

British writer and editor Marianne Hearn helped start a Christian periodical, and contributed articles and poetry to it for many years. Her writings were later collected in several volumes, and she also edited a magazine for teachers.

## Like A River Glorious

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace, Over all victorious in its bright increase. Perfect—yet it floweth fuller every day; Perfect—yet it groweth deeper all the way.

Every joy or trial falleth from above, Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love; We may trust Him fully all for us to do. They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true.

- Frances Ridley Havergal, 1836-1879

# In Jesus All Things Hold Together

In Colossians 1, amongst other key truths about the significance of Jesus, the apostle also tells us that in Jesus all things hold together. This week, Leon Norwood writes about what this means for us, and also how this applies to our walk with God as well as to our daily lives.

# **Christ In His Proper Place**

Paul wrote in Colossians 1:17 "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together". The text was part of the apostle Paul's counterargument to those in the church Colossae asserting false teachings about the nature and divinity of Jesus Christ. False teaching is still persuasive today, because so many teachers of the Bible have misrepresented Jesus's position of preeminence in the affairs of God. Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians, to reinforce that Jesus has always shared a divine position of preeminence with God and therefore is God. "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him" (verse 19)

We understand from "He is before all things", that Jesus is not only in dignity, being preferable to angels and men in his nature, and worthy of more honor than all creatures, but was before them in existence since they are all made by him. He was not only before John the Baptist, his forerunner, but also before Abraham who saw his day and was glad. He was before the first man was made, before the angels were created, or the heavens and the earth, or any creature was formed and therefore as the Father, is from everlasting to everlasting.

I have always been intrigued by these words "And in him all things hold together" at the end of the text and the various interpretations that have evolved from them. Simply, what God wants us to understand is that Jesus has put everything in its proper place or position, i.e. he holds all things together.

And by him all things consist; he upholds all things by the word of his power; the heavens have their stability and continuance from him; the foundations of the earth were made and fixed by him, otherwise it and the inhabitants of it would decay and dissolve; the angels in heaven are confirmed in their estate by him, and have their standing and security in him; the elect of God are safe in his hands, and are in his loving care and charge, and therefore shall never perish. Everyone lives and moves and has their being in him; the whole creation is held together by him; every created being has its support from him, and its consistency in him. Even the affairs of creation are subject to his providence and are governed, directed, and managed by him, in conjunction with the Father and the blessed Spirit.

The personal application: Our role fits into place only when Christ is in His proper place in our life. It means that if we truly believe that Christ is Preeminent, he must also have first place in our lives; he must be in the driver's seat and not merely a passenger. The New Testament is full of descriptions of what this means and looks like, for example, seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33) or set your hearts and minds on the things above, where Christ is (Colossians 3:1,2).

- Leon Norwood, July 2024