

## Family Information

### Workshop - August 24

On Saturday, August 24th, Caleb and Jeff will lead a training workshop about how to get the most out of worship, from 10:00-11:30 AM at the church building. See either of them for more details.

### Children's Class Assistants Needed

We currently need helpers to assist in the ages 4-8 children's Sunday School class that starts right after the Lord's Supper. We don't need a long-term commitment, and you can volunteer for one Sunday at a time. Sign up on the classroom door, or contact Vicki Cowans.

### Men's Lunch - August 25

The next Northland brothers' lunch will be on Sunday August 25, a half hour after morning worship. It will be at Fujiyama Steak House Of Japan. See Jeff if you have any questions.

### Willow Brook Worship - August 25

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

### Outreach Meeting - September 1

The next Outreach Meeting will be on Sunday, September 1, after the morning worship assembly. See Caleb if you have any questions.

### School Supplies Collection

We are now collecting basic school supplies for those in need. Any supplies or donations will be greatly appreciated; put them in the Collection box in the Church Foyer. If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Cowans or Robbie McVicker.

### 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. We are also now collecting school supplies. 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.

### 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

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 August 21, 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 the Fellowship Room. 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.

### Sunday Morning Children's Classes

There is a combined children's class available from 9:00-9:50 AM. Children's worship begins after the Lord's Supper with classes for ages 2-3, 4-8, and 9-10. See Mike Evans for further details.

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$4,849	\$4,487
<b>Designated:</b>	\$0	\$47

**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



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

Website  
 ncocfamily.com

August 11, 2024  
 Volume 33, Number 32

## The Deliverance The Lord Brings Us

*All Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops - pursued the Israelites and overtook them. - Exodus 14:9*

As the ancient Israelites were pursued by the merciless Pharaoh and his army, we too are often hard-pressed by this world's chaos and harshness, as well as by the accuser's snares and taunts. Yet the Lord is always near, and he hears us when we call on him in truth -

*As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up . . . They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. - Exodus 14:10*

Porcupines are best known for the unusual defense that God gives them, as they are covered with quills (as many as 30,000) that can deter predators. Porcupines are slow-moving, and they have weak eyesight, so they rely heavily on their quills, which are most effective when porcupines are well-nourished.

We rely far more heavily on the grace and compassion and guidance that comes through Jesus, and we too need to let God nourish our spirits instead of relying on human thinking and human ability. As Moses calls the Israelites to trust in the Lord and let him win the battle for them, God calls us to walk by faith in Jesus, so that he can deliver us from spiritual foes too strong for us -

*Moses answered the people, Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today . . . The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still. - Exodus 14:13-14*

In spite of their imposing appearance, porcupines are gentle animals. Their quills are strictly for defense; they don't "shoot" their quills; they can only cause harm when a porcupine is deliberately touched. Similarly, our Heavenly Father asks us not to fight with this world's weapons, instead to speak the truth graciously and patiently, and to let him guide us -

*Then the Lord said to Moses . . . Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. - Exodus 14:15-16*

In spite of their rotund shape, porcupines are good swimmers, and the species in North and South America have ingeniously designed feet that make them good climbers, not only giving them additional defenses, but also giving them access to a wide variety of plants to eat. Also, even their tails are covered with quills, so that they are protected in front and in back. Likewise, our Heavenly Father surrounds us with his presence, and he shields us from spiritual dangers -

*Then the angel of God . . . went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them . . . the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground. - Exodus 14:19, 14:22*

God shows us his care in unexpected ways, and he shows us paths that we couldn't have found.

- Mark Garner, August 2024

### **Patience Of Hope**

The flowers that bloom in sun and shade  
And glitter in the dew,  
The flowers must fade.  
The birds that build their nest and sing  
When lovely Spring is new,  
Must take wing.

The sun that rises in his strength  
To wake and warm the world,  
Must set at length.  
The sea that overflows the shore  
With billows frothed and curled,  
Must ebb once more.

All come and go, all wax and wane,  
O Lord, save only Thou  
Who dost remain  
The same to all eternity.  
All things that fail us now  
We trust to Thee.

- Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894

### **The Harbor Bell**

Our life is like a stormy sea  
Swept by the gales of sin and grief,  
While on the windward and the lee  
Hang heavy clouds of unbelief;  
But o'er the deep a call we hear,  
Like harbor bell's inviting voice;  
It tells the lost that hope is near,  
And bids the trembling soul rejoice.

This way, this way, O heart oppressed,  
So long by storm and tempest driven;  
This way, this way, lo here is rest,  
Rings out the harbor bell of Heaven.

- John Henry Yates, 1837-1900

*Writer John Yates worked at a variety of jobs to support himself, including editing a newspaper and managing a hardware store.*

### ***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, Tara Neiswonger writes about the ways that God renews, reconciles, and restores us through Jesus.*

### **The Infinity Of God's Love**

Ever wonder what holds things together, what keeps this piece of paper as a whole or us grounded to the earth. In the physical world, electromagnetic forces are what holds things together. Particles exert forces upon each other, attracting one to another. This force is the passing of a new particle from one particle to another particle, binding the two together as one. The intersection of the two creates a bond between them, creating something larger than the two as separate.

Colossians 1:17 speaks to us of Christ holding all things together. As Paul writes to the Colossian Church, he gives us guidance to be aware of false teaching through a focus on Christ and who he is. His emphasis is on knowing Christ as the wellspring of the gospel, the source of the good news. Paul asserts in verse 15 that *"Jesus is the image of the invisible God."* He is God incarnate, taking on human form, an example of God's mercy and grace walking amongst us. He continues in verses 16 and 17, writing that *"all things were created by him and for him, he is before all things and in Him all things hold together."*

Jesus has been since creation, the Word in Genesis 1 and throughout the covenant promises of Moses, Abraham, and David - the promised Savior who rose from the dead and who will come again. To me, the meaning of this phrase, in him all things hold together, is more fully explained in the next two verses.

Verse 19 reads *"for God was pleased to have his fullness dwell in him and through him to reconcile all things to him."* How are we reconciled to him?

Verse 19 answers that by going on to read *"by making peace through his blood shed on the cross."*

This is a wonderful picture of the infinity of God's love. The Word present at creation, the fall of man - the relationship of creator and creation broken. Then the promise made of reconciliation, fulfilled in Christ made man, showing us the invisible God here on earth thru his walk, his blood on the cross, defying death and bringing us back to God. And what holds this together? All through Christ holding it together - our path to a restoration relationship with God - the bond made whole.

- Tara Neiswonger, August 2024