

Announcements

Women's Event This Saturday

This Saturday, January 17th, there will be the first of the "Walking In Awe Of God" women's winter events. This is an opportunity for women to gather in the Fellowship Room (E41-42) from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon, for a Bible Study, brunch, and walking together. There will also be similar events on Saturday, February 21st and Saturday, March 14th.

Potluck On January 25

On Sunday January 25, there will be a potluck right after the worship assembly ends. More details coming soon!

Volume 19 By Northland Members

Copies of the next collection of bulletin articles written by Northland's members are available on the table in the foyer. This is the 19th volume in the series, and its theme is "Rebuilding The Ruins". See Mark if you would like a copy of any of the previous booklets.

Afternoon Sunday Class Schedule

The Sunday afternoon Bible class is now taking a break, and it will resume later this winter. See Mike Paden if you have any questions.

Support For The Ministry In Ghana

Northland and the Ghanaian congregation continue to support the Seikwa, Ghana Church of Christ (as well as the student group that is meeting at a local school building). They're currently raising funds for a mission group to go there next summer. Please continue praying for the congregation, and you can support the ministry in Ghana either with your contribution envelope, or by giving online. See Franklin Agyei for more information.

Current Mid-Week Studies

* Topics Updated *

- * Mondays at 6:30 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's prayer group, organized by Peggy Kaiser.
- * Tuesdays at 7:15 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's Bible study, coordinated by Tara Lynn Bell. The class is starting a new topic, "Grace & Gratitude".
- * Wednesdays at 6:30 PM - A Bible study organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger, meeting in the Fellowship Room. Currently the class is studying John.
- * First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans, currently meeting in room E41-42. See Mike or Leisha for more details.

Sunday Morning Children's Classes

We currently have three children's classes (ages 2-3, ages 4-8, and ages 9-10) that begin right after the Lord's Supper. During the 9:00 morning Bible classes, there is a combined class for ages 2-10. *** Please note that we still need helpers for these classes.** * There are regular teachers for these classes, so we just need volunteers to help with the class activities and lessons.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4,205	\$4,205
Designated:	\$1,105	\$1,105

Sunday Service Times

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

Minister: Caleb Dillinger

Elders: Franklin Agyei, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins

Deacons: Lynn Champney, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep,

John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva

Spanish Ministry: Luis Valdez



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A Fortress Of Salvation

To you, Lord, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me. - Psalm 28:1

The Lord is our Rock; to him we call for guidance and compassion and mercy. The Lord is near with everyone who calls on him with a soft and humble heart, and he hears our faintest cries. Our Heavenly Father lifts us out of the pits and ruins where we have wandered:

If you remain silent, I will be like those who go down to the pit. Hear my cry for mercy. - Psalm 28:1-2

Chipmunks are best known for their cuteness and for their ability to store large amounts of food in their cheeks. These small animals face many dangers, and their defenses are speed and agility. They are excellent swimmers, skilled climbers, they run over 20 mph, and they can change directions constantly. Not only are their feet designed for speed, for God also gives them the ability to see things in slow motion, giving them an advantage against larger attackers.

Similarly, God equips us to face this world's temptations, snares, and spiritual foes. When we follow Jesus closely, he writes his words on our hearts, he guides us every step, and he gives us his Spirit who lives in us. The Lord is our strength and our shield, and it is good to trust him:

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. - Psalm 28:6-7

To have all this energy, chipmunks live at a fast pace. Their hearts beat 350 times per minute, so they need to eat and store plenty of food. Their large cheek pouches help them collect over 150 acorns each day; and their digestive systems are designed to process a wide range of foods, including nuts, seeds, berries, and insects. Likewise, amidst this world's noise and confusion, God provides spiritual nourishment in many places.

When we open our minds and hearts, God gives us spiritual food from his words, from his creations, from other faithful believers, and even in unexpected places. Despite this world's disappointments and false hopes, we have many reasons to rejoice in God and praise him:

My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. - Psalm 28:7

Given the fast pace of a chipmunk's day, they need a safe place to get plenty of rest. Their feet are also designed to dig; they make burrows as long as 30 feet, with several chambers for different purposes. Similarly, our Heavenly Father gives us rest for our souls; moreover, through his nearness, his promises, the message of Jesus, and more, he is a fortress of salvation:

The Lord is . . . a fortress of salvation for his anointed one. Save your people . . . be their shepherd and carry them forever. - Psalm 28:8-9

God is our Shepherd, and he amply supplies the needs of our souls.

- Mark Garner, January 2026

Fear Not

Fear not, though the dangers around thee
Come close and look large and grow great;
I will make thee a way through the waters
Till their force and their fury abate;
I will walk through the furnace beside thee
And the flame shall not burn, but refine.
I have called thee and I have redeemed thee!
Fear not, thou art mine.

Fear not; I have called thee and named thee,
Thou art precious and dear unto Me;
I have chosen thee, loved thee and saved thee
My praise and My glory to be.
I have given My life for thy ransom,
My blood is the seal and the sign;
Thy Savior, Thy God, Thy Redeemer -
Fear not; thou art Mine; I am thine.

Annie Johnson Flint, 1866-1932

Jesus Will Listen

When my soul is bowed down in the darkness,
With trials and temptation and woe,
When no mortal can comfort or cheer me,
To whom in that hour shall I go?

When my heart and my life have grown weary,
With failure and trouble and loss,
I may still ask for help and for comfort
From hands that were nailed to the cross.

Jesus will listen to me,
When, with burdens breaking,
My heart is aching,
Jesus will listen to me.

- Sarah Rebecca Ernest, 1875-1941

College teacher Sarah Ernest taught English Language and Literature at a religious college, where she was also known for helping other teachers. She later married, so she is sometimes known as Sarah Ernest Snyder.

A Spring Of Living Water

In John 4, Jesus talks about the living water that can satisfy our souls' thirst for God. This and other Scriptures tell us about the spring of living water that Jesus promises us. This week, Steve Carver writes about how this spiritual blessing is available to all of us.

Jesus Gives Living Water, Even To One Such As I

The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." ... Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." — John 4:9-10, 13-14

There are so many encouraging messages that can be pulled from Jesus' remarkable interaction with the Samaritan woman in John 4. As Jesus rested by the well, who was it that he called and who responded to his call? Was it a leading light of the nearby town of Sychar? Was it someone who was in control, who had gotten their life in order, and earned the Lord's favor? No, it was a woman whose life was a mess and knew it. Despite her poor life choices and sin, she found favor with the Lord, because she leaned not on herself, but on the Messiah. You and I can find encouragement from her example in dealing with errant life choices we've made and continue to make.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. — Romans 5:6-8

A second major encouragement is the living water that he gives to those who ask of him in faith. The living water, the Spirit, is not just with us, but within us and flows from us. I don't presume to understand all that it means for Spirit of God to be within us, only that it is possible because of the sacrifice of Jesus ... and that because of his presence within us, we can have grace, peace, and a security that transcends the storms of life - even those of our own making.

"Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. — John 7:38-39

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. — Romans 5:1-2

- Steve Carver, January 2026