

Announcements

Lord's Supper Resources Discussion Today
Today there is a group discussion regarding re-sources for the Lord's Supper. It will begin at 8:15 AM, in the Bible Study classroom (E44). See Caleb or Mike Paden for more information.

Book Presentation This Saturday
This Saturday, August 1 from 3:00-4:00 PM, Caleb will be presenting some thoughts from the book "Grace" by Max Lucado. The session will meet in the Bible Study classroom (E44).

Benevolence Fund
The benevolence fund has been used recently to bless several people. For those who designate funds in the contribution, we encourage focusing on this specific area for the month of August.

Women's Devotional & Brunch On August 8
There will be a women's devotional and brunch on Saturday, August 8. It will be in the Sunshine Room (E31) from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please RSVP to Robbie McVicker (614-595-6363) by August 6, and see Robbie if you have any questions.

Events Next Month
August 1 (Saturday) - Book presentation (see also announcement above)
August 8 (Saturday) - Women's Devotional & Brunch (see also announcement above)
August 9 (Sunday) - Worship at Willow Brook
August 29 (Saturday) - Area-wide worship at Reynoldsburg, 6:30
* Note Also * - Outdoor worship at the Dillingers' home has been moved to September 12.

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

Ministry In Ghana (& The Village Of Hope)
The Seikwa, Ghana Church Of Christ, along with the congregation that now meets at Nkoranman Senior High School, appreciate your continuing prayers and support. You can support the ministry in Ghana either with your contribution envelope, or by giving online. See Franklin Agyei for more information. See Franklin also if you'd like to contribute to the Village Of Hope orphanage, or if you would like more information about it.

Current Mid-Week Studies
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. The current topic is "Grace & Gratitude". See Karen Susenna for more information.
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM - A Bible study organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger, meeting in room E41-42. Over the summer, the class will be studying a variety of topics.
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 see Vicki Cowans or Lynn Paden if you can help with 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:	\$6,158	\$4,834
Designated:	\$265	\$447

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



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

Website
ncocfamily.com

July 26, 2026
Volume 35, Number 29

A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken

You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem . . . to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. - Hebrews 12:22-23

God has opened the gates to his heavenly city to everyone whose sins have been washed away by the blood of Jesus. The Lamb of God has brought a new covenant:

You have come to God, the Judge of all . . . to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant. - Hebrews 12:23-24

French writer Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592) is known for his essays on a wide variety of subjects. He was also known for his humility as well as his respect and appreciation for Jesus. Montaigne knew that all of his abilities came from God, as he wrote, "The share we have in the knowledge of truth, such as it is, has not been acquired by our own powers. God has taught us his wonderful secrets; our faith is not of our acquiring, it is purely the gift of another's bounty."

This world's experts and leaders do not have the answers to the most important questions, and they cannot meet our deepest needs. God alone knows the answers, and he alone can satisfy our greatest needs; so he calls us to listen to his words carefully and humbly:

See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. - Hebrews 12:25

Michel found a sad irony when people devised their own teachings about God. He said, "People are quite insane. They could not create so much as a worm, but they create gods by the dozens." We are all mere mortals who cannot save ourselves by our own deeds, yet God cares for each of us, and the message of Jesus has not changed.

God is so much vaster, wiser, and more caring than any of us, as Montaigne writes, "We will rise, if God lends us a hand; we will rise by abandoning and renouncing our own means, and letting ourselves be raised and uplifted by purely celestial means." Truly, God alone does truly great things. We are all shakable, so God calls us to put our faith in him and in what cannot be shaken:

He has promised, Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens . . . the removing of what can be shaken - that is, created things - so that what cannot be shaken may remain. - Hebrews 12:26-27

Michel said that the life and teachings of Jesus "is a story to revere, fear, and adore." He also says that we should "seek to be instructed, not to instruct." Those who follow Jesus reverently and in genuine awe will receive an unshakable, imperishable home with God:

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. - Hebrews 12:28

- Mark Garner, July 2026

One Day At A Time

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

Swift cometh His answer, so clear and so sweet;
"Yea, I will be with thee, thy troubles to meet;
I will not forget thee, nor fail thee, nor grieve;
I will not forsake thee; I never will leave."

Not yesterday's load we are called on to bear,
Nor the morrow's uncertain and shadowy care;
Why should we look forward or back with dismay?
Our needs, as our mercies, are but for the day.

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.
His grace is sufficient; we walk not alone;
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own.

- Annie Johnson Flint, 1866-1932

See How He Loved

See how He loved, who tra-veled on,
Teaching the doc-trine from the skies;
Who bade dis-ease and pain be gone,
And called the sleep-ing dead to rise.

See how He loved, who, firm yet mild,
Patient en-dured the scoff-ing tongue;
Though oft pro-voked, he ne'er re-viled,
Or did His great-est foe a wrong.

See how He loved, who nev-er shrank
From toil or dan-ger, pain or death;
Who all the cup of sor-row drank,
And meek-ly yield-ed up His breath.

- Sarah Bache, 1770-1884

British schoolteacher and hymn writer Sarah Bache also co-pressed for many years over a local school with her sister. Note that she is a different person from American relief worker Sarah Franklin Bache (Benjamin Franklin's daughter).

Whoever Has Ears, Let Them Hear

Jesus often asks, "Whoever has ears, let them hear", in the hope that we will listen carefully to what God says, instead of this world's loudness and chatter. This week, Leon Norwood writes about the spiritual benefits of listening carefully to God and his words.

Listening & Trusting

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God. - Revelation 2:7

What a beautiful reminder of all God has in store for those who trust and obey Him. Revelation 2:7 is the concluding promise to the church of Ephesus. It means that those who remain faithful to Christ despite hardship ("the victorious") are promised eternal life and restoration to God's presence, symbolized by eating from the Tree of Life in paradise.

Whoever heeds to Jesus' words is a conqueror. Conqueror is from the Greek word *nikōnti*, literally meaning "one who overcomes." The "conquerors" in the church at Ephesus were those who did what Jesus instructed, even enduring persecution and hardship along the way. They remembered their original love for the Lord, repented, and returned to the works they did originally.

So, which of the Ephesian Christians and which of us will overcome and receive these precious promises? What do they, and we, have to do in order to receive this blessing? Well, John, who wrote the book of Revelation, explains who will overcome in 1 John 5:4-5 *"for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."*

Having faith in God over fear means trusting in God's plan and provision, even in the face of uncertainty, difficulty, or danger. It involves acknowledging and facing our fears but not allowing them to control or consume us. Instead, we choose to focus on God's promises and character, believing that He is faithful and loving and that He is with us through every circumstance. Faith in God allows us to find peace, hope, and courage even in the midst of fear and to live with a sense of purpose and meaning that transcends our present circumstances.

We read in 2 Timothy 1:7 *"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."* Amen!

- Leon Norwood, July 2026