

Announcements

Fall Festival This Evening

This year's Fall Festival will be this evening from 5:30 PM -7:00 PM. We will have a "trunk-less-treat", a hot dog dinner, crafts, games, and a bounce house. * **Please Note** * **This year's Trunk-less Treat will be held inside the church building**, along the sides and back hallways. If possible, please bring candy for your own bowl. There is a table in the foyer where you can ask questions, sign up to volunteer, or contribute candy or money. If you have any questions, please see Meagan Stover or Vicki Cowans.

Worship At Willow Brook Today

Today at 2:00 PM, Northland will be organizing the worship time at the Willow Brook Christian Home (55 Lazelle Road). See Caleb or one of the elders for more information. Everyone is welcome to come.

Bible Reading This Saturday

On **Saturday**, October 24 there will be a Bible reading of the entire book of Zechariah. It will be in the Sunshine Room (E31), and everyone is welcome to come. See Caleb for more details.

Prayer Time On November 1

On Sunday, November 1, there will a prayer time shortly after the worship assembly concludes. The theme will be "Set your minds on things above" (see Colossians 3:1-4). Everyone is welcome to come.

Women's Devotional & Brunch On November 7

On Saturday November 7, there will be a women's devotional and brunch in the Sunshine Room (E31) from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please RSVP to either Karen Susenna or Vickie Cage.

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

Events Coming Soon * Updated *

October 24 (Saturday) - Bible reading (see announcement)
November 1 (Sunday) - Daylight Savings Time ends
November 1 (Sunday) - Prayer session (see announcement)
November 7 (Saturday) - Women's Devotional & Brunch (see announcement)

Ministry In Ghana

The Seikwa, Ghana Church Of Christ, along with the congregation that now meets at Nkoranman Senior High School, appreciate your continuing prayers and support. 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. In September and October, they will study 2 John, 3 John, and Jude.
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:	\$3,379	\$5,016
Designated:	\$60	\$422



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

Website
ncocfamily.com

October 18, 2026
Volume 35, Number 41

In The Desert

The Lord spoke to Moses in the Desert of Sinai . . . - Numbers 9:1

The Lord guided the Israelites through the desert, and he guides us as we pass through the spiritual desert of this world's empty ways and false hopes. As the Lord asked the Israelites to observe the Passover, God calls us to worship him reverently, and to ponder what he has done for us:

Have the Israelites celebrate the Passover at the appointed time . . . in accordance with all its rules and regulations. So Moses told the Israelites to celebrate the Passover, and they did so in the Desert of Sinai. - Numbers 9:2-5

Grebes are a family of 22 species of water birds, ranging from 8 inches long to over 2 feet long. Each species of grebe is designed for swimming and diving; their legs are near their tails, making it difficult to walk and to take off. They spend most of their lives on water, they dive for food, and build their nests on water. Grebes mate for life and work together to raise their young, and grebe couples regularly perform elaborate rituals to reaffirm their devotion to one another.

As grebes stay close to water, our Heavenly Father designed us to walk closely and contentedly with him, instead of following this world's meaningless teachings and its lifeless idols. God shows us his care for us in many ways, and reminds us of our constant need for his care and his grace:

On the day the tabernacle . . . was set up, the cloud covered it . . . and at night it looked like fire. . . Whenever the cloud lifted from above the tent, the Israelites set out; wherever the cloud settled, the Israelites encamped. - Numbers 9:15-17

As soon as grebe chicks are ready to go on the water, the parents begin carrying their young on their backs. They swim with them and even dive with them on their backs. Grebes' feathers are much denser than most birds' feathers, they are waterproof, and they are curved instead of straight. So a grebe parent "clamps" its young securely in its feathers, helping the chicks get used to being underwater, and teaching their young what to eat.

Similarly, regardless of our ages in this world, we are still all God's little children. We need constant guidance, and we are safer spiritually when we stay close with our Heavenly Father. He teaches us what is good and what is bad, and he nourishes our souls. The Lord keeps us near when we humbly follow him:

Whether the cloud stayed over the tabernacle for two days or a month or a year, the Israelites would remain in camp and not set out; but when it lifted, they would set out. At the Lord's command they encamped, and at the Lord's command they set out. - Numbers 9:22-23

- Mark Garner, October 2026

Thee Will I Love, Lord

Thee will I love, my dearest Lord,
For Thee hast heard my mournful cries.
My soul shall live upon Thy word,
For Thou hast sent me fresh supplies.

Why, O my Go, why should'st Thou be
To me so infinitely kind?
Why such regard, such live to me?
The reason, Lord, I fain would find.

O may Thy love be still my song,
Thy honor be my sole employ,
Jesus, whilst Thou my life prolong
Till I in heaven my God enjoy.

- *Susanna Harrison, 1752-1784*
(from her poetry collection "Songs In The Night")

Father, Look Upon Thy Children

Father, look upon Thy children,
Who before Thy footstool bow,
Coming as Thy sons and daughters
To renew their solemn vow.

Thou who knowest all our weakness,
Strengthen us with heavenly light,
Temples of Thy Holy Spirit,
Fill us with his life and light.

Give to us all heavenly knowledge,
Fill us with thy holy awe;
With hushed spirits, now like children,
For Thy blessing we draw near.

- *Esther A. Wigglesworth, 1827-1904*

British poet Esther Wigglesworth contributed numerous poems to several periodicals, as well as writing the words to at least a couple dozen hymns. For some years she was also the manager of a charity home.

The Eternal God Is Our Refuge

In this world, we may often find temporary refuge from its storms and other physical perils. But God alone can give us lasting refuge and shelter for our souls. This week, Leon Norwood writes about the differences between this world's temporary shelters and the lasting spiritual refuge that God gives us.

The Sanctuary Of His Presence

Deuteronomy 33:27 - The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemies before you, saying, 'Destroy them!'

Deuteronomy 33:27 is part of Moses' final prophetic blessing over the tribes of Israel prior to his death. He has just pronounced blessings for each of the twelve tribes by name, and now concludes with a collective, prophetic blessing over Israel as a whole, offering encouragement as they prepare to enter the Promised Land.

Soon, Israel will cross the Jordan River and conquer the fortified cities within the land promised to them. Except for Jericho, their battles will be close-quarters, but they can trust that God will ensure their victory. It is He who will displace the inhabitants, including the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Jebusites, and others, driving out the enemies and establishing Israel in peace and security in the land God has granted them.

This verse teaches us that the Eternal God is our refuge and safe place. Our adversaries are temporary and fleeting, but our God is eternal and unchanging. He is the "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14), existing always and forever. He is the One who was, is, and is to come (Revelation 1:4, 8), the Alpha and the Omega (Revelation 1:8).

Therefore, we live in Him, abide in Him, and He dwells within us. Our relationship with God involves not only obedience but also love. He is our spiritual home, and we find joy in His presence. This assurance enables us to face challenges and enemies, knowing that His eternal power is always available to defend us or completely defeat our foes.

While we are encouraged to utilize the spiritual weapons He has provided, we can also trust that His power will operate on our behalf, often coming from beneath the surface of our experience to secure victory. Beloved, take comfort in the Eternal God. Live in the sanctuary of His presence, sharing your daily life with Him, confident that whenever you face difficulty, His mighty, everlasting arms will stand in your defense and bring victory.

- *Leon Norwood, October 2026*