

## Announcements

### Willow Brook Worship Today

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

### 2025 Contribution Statements

Contribution statements for 2025 can now be picked up in the church office for those who used envelopes or gave online. If you would like your statement mailed to you, see Ashley Dillinger or email office@ncocfamily.org.

### Bake Sale Next Sunday

Next Sunday, February 15 there will be Bake Sale to raise funds for the Northwest Ohio Christian Youth Camp. It will start after the morning worship assembly ends, and it will be in the foyer of the church building. See Josh Evans or Meagan Stover for more details.

### Combined Morning Class Next Sunday

Next Sunday, February 15, the regular 9:00 AM Bible classes will not be meeting. Instead, there will be a combined session in room E44. See Jeff and Caleb will be guiding a discussion about prayer.

### Women's Bible Study & Brunch On February 21

The next women's "Walking In Awe Of God" session will be on Saturday, February 21st. This is an opportunity for women to meet in the Fellowship Room (E41-42) from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon, for a Bible Study, brunch, and walking together.

### Support For The Ministry In Ghana

#### \* New Prayer Request \*

Northland and the Ghanaian congregation continue to support the Seikwa, Ghana Church of Christ (along with the congregation that now meets at Nkoranman Senior High School, as well as a prison ministry). They've asked us to pray for one of their members, who has sickle cell anemia, and needs regular treatments. They're also raising funds for these treatments, as well as for a mission group to go there next summer. You can support the ministry in Ghana either with your contribution envelope, or by giving online. See Franklin Agyei for more information.

### 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 In March

\* More details on all of these will be coming soon \*

**March 1 (Sunday)** - Prayer meeting after the morning worship assembly

**March 8 (Sunday)** - Potluck (re-scheduled from last month's snow day)

**March 14 (Saturday)** - Women's "Walking In Awe Of God" session, 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

**March 15 (Sunday)** - Worship time at Willow Brook, 2:00 PM

### 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.

### 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, coordinated by Tara Lynn Bell. The class topic is now "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.

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$4,258	\$4,280
<b>Designated:</b>	\$55	\$787



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## Where The River Flows

*Then he led me back to the bank of the river . . . - Ezekiel 47:6*

There is a river that flows from God's presence, a fountain of living water that Jesus has opened and that renews inwardly those who humbly acknowledge their constant need for God:

*When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river. - Ezekiel 47:7*

Quaking aspens are high-altitude trees; they are best known for the soothing sound and the captivating movement of their leaves when a breeze moves through them. Their leaves have an unusual structure; their leaf stems are flat, and they are attached to the leaves at 90-degree angles, so that they flutter (or "quake") in even the slightest breeze.

Similarly, through God's words and his Spirit, he helps us understand and appreciate the grace that overflows to us through Jesus, as well as the many ways large and small that God shows us his care and understanding every day. The river of living water brings us constant renewal and peace:

*This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Dead Sea. When it empties into the sea, the salty water there becomes fresh. - Ezekiel 47:8*

Besides the charming effect that their leaf structure creates, it also serves practical purposes. In the high altitudes where aspens grow, this significantly reduces friction during high winds. It also maximizes the exposure of the leaf's surface to sunlight.

Similarly, our Heavenly Father calls us not to be distracted by the strong winds of this world's loud voices, controversies, and opinions; instead, he enables us to absorb the sunlight of his boundless truths and his abundant grace. When we let the river of the living water of Jesus flow freely to us, it cleanses our souls from this world's empty thinking and its restless ways, and brings us peace and hope that transcend this world's circumstances and appearances:

*Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows . . . this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. - Ezekiel 47:9*

Quaking aspens are also unusual in that a single root system may produce many new stems (tree trunks), so that a colony of quaking aspens is in fact one single organism. The individual trunks last from 60-200 years, but the plant itself may live for thousands of years, as the root continues producing new life and growth. Likewise, we are part of the body of Christ, which will endure through all of this world's harshness and misfortunes and chaos:

*Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. - Ezekiel 47:12*

And God's living water brings life to those who walk by faith in the truth and grace of Jesus.

- Mark Garner, February 2026

## *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 article was originally scheduled to appear in the bulletin of January 25, when bad weather prevented our congregation from meeting then. In it, Peggy Kaiser writes about the everlasting stream of living water that God gives us when we put our trust in him.*

### **House Plant Faith**

Have you ever failed to water your house plants in a timely manner? I am guilty of this. If you have one of those peace plants, their leaves droop terribly when they have been neglected. They look so sad. But once they have been watered, their leaves straighten up quickly & they become a happy plant. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have an automatic watering system that would provide a continuous stream of water? It would keep the plant healthy and happy and eliminate that guilt one feels for neglecting their house plants.

We can have that continuous stream of water. In our walk with God, he provides that eternal, everlasting and living stream of water.

One of my favorite scriptures is *Jeremiah 17:7-8*,

*"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in him.  
They will be like a tree planted by the water  
that sends out its roots by the stream.  
It does not fear when heat comes;  
its leaves are always green.  
It has no worries in a year of drought  
and never fails to bear fruit."*

When we trust and put our confidence in the Lord, we become that tree that continues to thrive. We will always have green leaves and always bear fruit. Not because of anything we have done. Our role is to send out our roots and build our foundation on the One who can provide us with the living water that will never, ever run dry. We may not feel as though we are thriving on the outside. Digging deep and building a foundation on Jesus, gives our spirit the stability and strengthen to continue to glorify & worship him each & every day.

*- Peggy Kaiser, January 2026*

## *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, Dot Duncan writes about the ways that the stream of living water nourishes us and renews us.*

### **A Stream of Water That Wells Up to Eternal Life**

Jesus told the woman at the well, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst" (**John 4:13-14**). His words point beyond the physical need for water to a deeper, lasting source of life—one that rises from within and never runs dry.

Behind my granddad's crib—a place where feed for the animals and tools was stored; there was a small stream. Sometimes, the summers were brutally hot. The ground would crack, grass would wither, and everything above the surface showed signs of drought. Yet there was one place in that stream that was always damp, always cool, always alive.

Eventually, we realized why. Beneath the surface, hidden from sight, was an underground spring. It quietly fed the stream, not dependent on rainfall or weather, but drawing from a deeper source. What appeared ordinary on the surface was sustained by something unseen yet powerful.

Jesus offers that kind of water. The world provides temporary relief—success, possessions, approval—but those wells run dry. Christ speaks of a spring placed within us, a living water that continually rises, restoring and renewing the soul. It is not affected by spiritual drought, hardship, or the heat of life's trials.

Like that hidden spring behind the crib, eternal life does not always announce itself loudly. It flows steadily, faithfully, from a source only God can provide. When we drink from Him, we discover that even in dry seasons, our souls can remain alive and nourished—because the water He gives wells up to eternal life. What is this stream of living water? May I suggest that this stream of living water that wells up to eternal life is the Holy Spirit. He is the one person that God has promised every one of us who believes that Jesus Christ is His son.

Two powerful Scriptures that complement **John 4:13-14** and clearly echo the theme of **streams of living water welling up within us are:**

**John 7:37-38** (NIV) -- "..... *Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.*"

Jesus extends the promise He made to the woman at the well to us. This is not merely water **given to us**, but water that **flows from within us**- internal, Spirit-filled source that overflows outward. It emphasizes abundance, movement, and continual supply, much like an underground spring that feeds a stream regardless of surface conditions.

**Isaiah 58:11** (NIV)- "*.....He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.*"

Isaiah speaks prophetically of God sustaining His people even in dry, scorched places. The image of a spring whose waters never fail mirrors the idea of divine life sourced from beneath the surface—constant, dependable, and God-provided. These Scriptures reinforce the truth that God living in us is not seasonal or fragile. It is a living, flowing presence—quiet at times, powerful always—drawing from eternal depths and sustaining us through every drought.

*- Dot Duncan, February 2026*