# Announcements

#### **Crafts & Story Time On August 16**

There will be a Children's Craft and Story Time on Saturday August 16, beginning at 2:00 PM, meeting at the church building. More details will be coming soon. See Vicki Cowans or Caleb for more information.

## **Upcoming Events This Month**

On Sunday August 24th, there will be a Potluck after the morning worship assembly, and afterwards Northland will be organizing the worship time at Willow Brook, starting at 2:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend both.

#### What's The Point Of 2 Corinthians?

The next installment of the monthly series on the books of Scripture is now available on the table in the foyer, as well as on the racks. This month, Caleb and Mark have each written one page on "What's The Point Of 2 Corinthians?" The entire series is viewable on the Northland website, under "Resources."

#### Needs For The Clothing Closet (\* New Item \*)

With a new school year approaching, through August 10 the Clothing Closet is now collecting gently used backpacks. We would also appreciate donations of clean, gently used clothes and small household items. We can always use donated blankets and linens. Please continue to let those in need know about our Clothing Closet ministry. Note that the Closet is currently open by appointment only, by calling or texting 614-918-7925. Thank you!

# **Support For The Ministry In Ghana**

Northland and the Ghanaian congregation continue to support the Seikwa, Ghana Church of Christ. Current needs include a motorbike for the preacher, computers for high school students, and support for the prison ministry. You can support the ministry in Ghana with your contribution envelope, or by giving online. Prayers for the ministry and for those involved are also greatly appreciated. You can also see Franklin Agyei for more information, as well as for more things we can pray about for them.

#### **September Events**

Coming up in September: On Sunday September 7th, there will a combined Sunday morning adult class in the auditorium, and on Saturday September 20th there will a Safety Workshop from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. More details will be coming soon.

#### **Current Mid-Week Studies**

Mondays at 6:30 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's prayer group - see Peggy Kaiser for details. \*Schedule Note\*: The group is taking a break tomorrow (August 4) and August 11.

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's Bible study, coordinated by Tara Lynn Bell. The current study is based on "God, Pass By Me: A Study Of The Names Of God" by Casandra Martin. See Tara Lynn for more information.

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM - A Bible study on 1 John, organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger, is currently meeting in the Fellowship Room.

First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans, currently meeting in room E41. Contact Mike or Leisha for details and updates.

# **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 9-11. See Vicki Cowans, Lynn Paden, or Emily Graham if you can help with any of these classes.

# Contribution Last Average Week YTD General: \$4,140 \$4,759 Designated: \$1,042 \$235

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: 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

# Let Us Acknowledge The Lord

Come, let us return to the Lord. - Hosea 6:1

We had once wandered astray, yet when we called on Jesus, God cleansed us and sanctified us. We couldn't have washed away this world's stains or healed this world's wounds, yet God pours out his care and compassion on those who open our hearts and minds to Jesus and his message:

... he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. - Hosea 6:1

Scottish surgeon William Mackay (1839-1885) is known today for his hymns, especially "Revive Us Again". When he left for college, his mother had given him a Bible in which she had written an inscription. Yet this world's pressures and temptations soon caused Mackay to live a life of overindulgence. To pay his debts he sold off many of his belongings, even the Bible his mother had given him. Later, while working in a hospital, William often thought about coming to Jesus, yet he feared that God would no longer accept him.

Then, a workman came in who had suffered a severe accident. Mackay knew that he wouldn't survive, yet as he explained this, he noticed the patient's calmness and friendliness in spite of his sufferings. When the patient passed away, he left behind a Bible. Mackay was astounded to realize it was the Bible he himself had sold, for it still had his own mother's inscription.

He writes, "That strange ev-ent was the turn-ing-point in my his-to-ry. The ac-cu-sa-tions of an awak-ened con-science drove me al-most to des-pair, un-til was ena-bled to em-brace the faith-ful say-ing, wor-thy of all ac-cep-ta-tion, that Christ Je-sus came in-to the world to save sin-ners, ev-en the chief." Truly, our Heavenly Father restores us when we turn to Jesus:

He will revive us . . . he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. - Hosea 6:2

William realized that God was always waiting for him to humbly accept God's overflowing grace through Jesus. He soon wrote the hymn "Revive Us Again", beginning "We praise Thee O God, for the Son of Thy love, for Jesus who died, and is now gone above." We couldn't ever have redeemed ourselves, so Jesus himself died to bring us new life and eternal life.

William Mackay's hymn continues, "All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain, who hath borne all our sins and cleansed every stain", and in the refrain he writes "Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again." Truly, when we stumble or lose our way, the Lord asks us simply to acknowledge our need for his grace and care, so he can renew us with living water from heaven:

Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises . . .

he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. - Hosea 6:3

As surely as the sun rises, Jesus' words are timeless truths and his promises are trustworthy.

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- Mark Garner, August 2025

#### A Radiant Curtain Of Celestial Blue

A radiant curtain of celestial blue, Adorned with stars and suns, thy hand has spread. That potent hand which in the watery stores of Of heaven, hath firmly laid with wonderous skill, The stable beams of God's imperial feat . . .

By their Creator's hand the thirsty hills
Are watered from the deep, whose stores in clouds
Exhaled and shed in softening showers, the earth
Teems with rich fruits, the product of his bounty.
For cattle here appears the springing grass,
And there for man the healthful herbage grows;
Earth yields her plenteous stores of food for all.

- Anne Steele, 1717-1778

This is an excerpt from a series of poems by British poet Anne Steele based on the Psalms. This one is based on Psalm 104.

# Come & Rejoice

Come and rejoice with me, For once my heart was poor, And I have found a treasury Of love, a boundless store.

Come and rejoice with me, I was so sick at heart, I've met with One who knows my case, And knows the healing art.

Come and rejoice with me.
My feet so wide did roam,
And One has sought me from afar,
And bears me safely home.

I knew not of Jesus' love, And he had loved so long, With love so faithful and so deep, So tender and so strong.

- Elizabeth Rundle Charles, 1828-1896

British writer and linguist Elizabeth Charles published over two dozen books, including poetry collections and historical works. She also translated a number of hymns from Latin and German into English.

# Like A Mustard Seed

In Matthew 13 and Mark 4, Jesus compares God's kingdom with a small mustard seed, for God can take the smallest of beginnings, nurture it, and make it grow. This week, Don Milnor writes about the many ways we need God, even the small ones, not just the "large" ones.

## **God Causes The Growth**

God has given Christians some huge tasks to work on, to the point that, if we believe that we are supposed to do them on our own power, we understandably should feel inadequate to do so . . . because we are. The first task which comes to my mind is evangelizing the world, spoken about in these two passages, and many others:

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." -Matthew 28:18-20

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." -Acts 1:8

God chooses to work through us people, who have free will, and mess up. He could do everything he wants done himself, better than we could, but he doesn't, for reasons I don't understand. How much of this stuff getting done has to do with us and what we do, vs. what God does? God has given us free will, and we can and do choose to do things which fall short of his will. He has made it clear in several passages that it's not up to us to get his work done on our own power. The last passage above not only tells what we are to do, but also promises his disciples that they will receive power from the Spirit. But no matter what we're doing, big or small in our eyes, we need to remember what Jesus said:

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. -John 15:4-5

Do we really believe we can do nothing apart from Jesus? At times, I tend to think I can do quite a few things without anyone's help, including Jesus. That's simply not true. It seems God needs to periodically remind me how much I need him . . . to do anything.

One small demonstration of God's power to me: When I opened up my Bible while working on this, I was staring straight at this passage, which fits in well with this topic: Then he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel saying, 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts. - Zechariah 4:6. It's a bit less dramatic than the parting of the Red Sea, but it did help. We need God to do the big and the small things. We have a role to play, and let's do what we should, but remember: I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. -1 Corinthians 3:6

- Don Milnor, August 2025