



Morning Star Church of Christ

4249 River Street
Willoughby, OH 44095

(440) 254-6207
June 17, 2007

Welcome to The Morning Star Church of Christ. Our church meets at The Willoughby Christian Church. Sunday Bible classes are at 11:00 a.m. and services are at 12:15 p.m. Thursday Bible classes are at 7:00 p.m. for adults and children.

A Father's Day Thought [Bob Hansel](#)

Every time Father's Day comes around I certainly think about my own biological father but my mind always turns quickly to think of the "Our Father," that simple and beautiful prayer of Jesus. ...

I know that there are people who think that the "Our Father" is a sexist prayer that ought to be edited in some way. I've heard of congregations that say, "Our Father/Mother who art in heaven. That seems to me, however well-intentioned, to be clumsy and unattractive. I doubt it will catch on very many places.

Some have suggested considering "Our heavenly parent" but that, I think, depersonalizes the whole thing and it is the very intimacy of the address that, to me, is the power of the prayer.

I think, we need to remember that the gender isn't really so important. We're not talking here about scientific fact. We're talking about a relationship.

Whether father or mother, the point that Jesus is getting at is that **at the heart or core of everything is a power and presence more like the devotion of a loving parent's heart toward a beloved child than anything else we can possibly imagine.**

The problem, of course, is that positive poetry can be smashed by negative reality. The word "father" can make us think - depending on our experience of our own parent - of anything from an oriental despot to a drunken bum.

Still, that mental connection doesn't invalidate the insight into God's essential nature. God is most like the very best that an earthly father can possibly be, whether or not we happened to be blessed with that particular father within our own nuclear family.

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THOSE SERVING FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:

Today's preaching will be done by Micheal West. The usher will be Josh Meeks. Song leader will be Jim Zukoski. Bob Bonnell has opening prayer, Micheal West has prayer of intercession and Josh Meeks has closing prayer. Dan Spence has communion and Ken Allen, Josh Meeks and Mahlon Tennant will assist him. Alternate assistant will be Tom McTighe.

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1. It takes God out of the "vague oblong blur" category and puts us at least on the person-to-person level of acquaintance.

2. It helps us understand and truly believe the rather astonishing reality that we are beloved children and, ultimately, heirs of all that is or ever will be.

3. Fatherhood and family implies at least the possibility of siblings-sisters and brothers who are equally beloved and precious in God's eyes-so that, while our relationship to God can be personal, it can never be private. We **are** our brother's keeper if we really understand all persons to be members, along with us, of God's family.

Parent, child, brother, sister-very ordinary common words, but in them there are essential clues about the Christian Gospel.

To acknowledge God as "Our Father" is to accept God's love for ourselves, but just as importantly, to accept the responsibility to be a sister or brother to every other human being.

IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

?? Courtney Schultz will be going for further testing on a benign tumor on her pituitary gland.

?? Mahlon Tennant will be having cataract surgery June 28th.

?? Jim Summers (friend of Norm Meeks) passed away June 14.

?? T.J. McTighe is experiencing some personal problems.

?? Chelsea and Celeste Allen are experiencing some difficult times.

?? Micheal's nephew B.J. will be going to Iraq.

?? Micheal's cousins (Marilyn and Thelma) have been diagnosed with cancer.

?? Jim Zukoski is seeing his doctor to regulate his medications.

ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people who are suffering from cancer:

Valerie Evans' stepsister (Mary), Dave Wojcik (friend of Ken Allen), Myndi Allen's Uncle Sherm and Aunt Peg, David Ward (friend of Norm Meeks), John Russell's wife (friend of John Addison), Harold Tidd's daughter, Bob Glover

Please pray for the following people who are having health problems:

Eugene Price, June Young, Myndi Allen's mom, Jerrie and Brad Rohl, Dennis Tankersley, Steve Cirino, Augie Bruno, Rachel Wiant, Valerie Evans' father, Glenn Dunlop (friend of Norm Meeks), Mike Lackner's sister, Marge Tennant's niece, Ruth Bell, Florence Nichols, Gladys Skidmore, Ruth Glover, Mike Lackner, Marge Tennant

Please keep Chris Zukoski in your prayers as he is in Iraq again.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 17: Father's Day, no potluck after services
- June 20-21: Teen lock-in at the West's house
- June 21: Leslie Toth's birthday
- June 29: Norm Meeks' birthday
- July 1: Breakfast potluck after services
- July 3: Ken and Myndi Allen's anniversary
- July 3: Allyssa Yezzi's birthday
- July 7: Flo Wilhelm's birthday
- July 7: Leslie and Joyce Toth's anniversary
- July 8: Larry and Flo Wilhelm's anniversary
- July 9: Nate Zukoski's birthday

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ?? The amount collected on June 10, 2007 was \$448.00 and there were 34 people in attendance.
- ?? There is an Open House to celebrate the graduation of Rebekah Moore on Friday June 22 from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at 7405 Truman Court in Mentor. Everyone is invited. Please call and RSVP at 946-0113.
- ?? The food pantry needs restocked. Please bring in any non-perishable items.
- ?? The website for Morning Star Church of Christ is www.morningstarchurchofchrist.org.

Please give the following prayer request or concern to the person with prayer of intercession:

Please put your suggestions on improving the worship services below and place in the can by the song books.
