



Morning Star Church of Christ

4249 River Street
Willoughby, OH 44095

(440) 254-6207
September 2, 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.

Walking with Peace and Presence
Thich Nhat Hanh –
(edited by MW)

We have an appointment with life, and that appointment takes place in the present moment. If we miss the present moment, we miss our appointment with life, which is serious. In our daily life, we have a tendency to think about the past, to get caught in the sorrow and regret concerning the past, and to get caught in the fear and uncertainty about the future, so our mind is not in the present moment. That is why it is very important to learn how to go back to the present moment in order to become fully alive, fully present. . . .

I don't want to run anymore, because I know that conditions for my happiness are already here in the present moment. Sometimes we believe that happiness is not possible in the here and the now; we need a few more conditions to be happy. So we run towards the future to get the conditions we think are missing. But by doing so we sacrifice the present moment, we sacrifice true life. Therefore, learning how to go home to the present moment is the basic practice of mindfulness. "I have arrived. I am home." My home is right here, right now. I don't want to run anymore.

The habit of running may have been transmitted to me by my parents, and I may have been running all my life. Now I don't want to run anymore, I want to stop. The blue sky, the beautiful vegetation, the face of a child, the flower blooming -- all these wonders belong to the kingdom of God. . . We allow separation between us and those wonders of life because we allow anger, fear, grieving, and despair to stand in our way.

Going home to our body by mindful breathing will help us let go of our worries, our regret and our fear, and that is the basic condition for us to get in touch with the wonders of life that are truly present in the here and the now.

We should walk in such a way that the kingdom of God becomes a reality in the here and the now. There is not one day when I do not enjoy walking in the kingdom of God. Why should I deprive myself of that pleasure? I need only some energy of mindfulness, of concentration in order to penetrate into the kingdom of God . .

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THOSE SERVING FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:

Today's preaching will be done by Micheal West. The usher will be Larry Wilhelm. Song leader will be Bob Bonnell. Josh Meeks has opening prayer, Micheal West has prayer of intercession and Larry Wilhelm has closing prayer. Mike Tankersley has communion and Larry Wilhelm, Mahlon Tennant and Dan Spence will assist him. Alternate assistant will be Matthew West.

IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

- ?? Marge Tennant's niece is not doing well.
- ?? Dick Thorton (Florence Nichols' son and Flo Wilhelm's brother) is home and doing well.
- ?? Kathy and Jim Flick are home and recovering from their surgeries and awaiting the results of the biopsies.
- ?? Leslie Toth's nephew is fine but dealing with a political situation in a foreign country.
- ?? Larry Wilhelm's friend (Kim Masterson) will be going in for surgery this week.
- ?? Paul (a friend of Bob and Norm) is in jail.
- ?? Mahlon's sister is scheduled to have knee replacement.
- ?? Mahlon's Uncle Robert has broken bones in his legs and his Aunt Ruby fell, but both are recuperating.
- ?? Dan Spence's co-worker (Rex) had one half of his thyroid gland removed.. The doctors will be removing the remainder of his thyroid next week because of suspicious cells.
- ?? Hector Lainez's wife (missionary in Honduras) Yami is having stomach problems.

ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Myndi Allen's Aunt Peg and Uncle Sherm, Micheal West's cousin (Thelma), Valerie Evans' stepsister (Mary), Dave Wojcik (friend of Ken Allen), Bob Glover

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

Mike Lackner, Jim Zukoski, Eugene Price, June Young, Dennis Tankersley, Valerie Evans' father, Florence Nichols, Ruth Glover

Please keep Chris Zukoski and Micheal West's nephew (B.J.) in your prayers as they are serving our country in the military.

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The kingdom of God is available to you in the here and the now. But the question is whether you are available to the kingdom. Our practice is to make ourselves ready for the kingdom so that it can manifest in the here and the now.

You don't need to die in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. In fact, you have to be truly alive in order to do so. If you are truly established in the here and the now, you feel free, and you can get in touch with all the wonders of life that are available to you. Every step is an enjoyment. Peace is the outcome of that practice.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 2: No potluck after services
- September 4: Matthew West's birthday
- September 9: Brittany Takac's birthday
- September 14: Joy West's birthday
- September 15: Teens doing an area-wide dinner for the seniors
- September 16: Out to eat after services (location to be announced)
- September 17: Teens going to the Indians game
- September 17: Molly West's birthday
- September 19: Katie Spence's birthday
- September 20: Justin Takac's birthday

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ?? The amount collected on August 26, 2007 was \$606.00 and there were 36 people in attendance.
- ?? 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.
