

East Hill CHURCH/OF CHRIST

Leviticus

Have you ever had the following experience? New Year's Day rolls around and you resolve you are going to read through the Bible cover to cover this year. You start out well. (Genesis has lots of familiar action, adventure, and love stories.) You do pretty well through Exodus. (Though you have to push through the last several chapters about making the Tabernacle.)

Then you start Leviticus, and it is like hitting a brick wall. Sacrifices. More sacrifices. Even more sacrifices. Then you have laws about food, childbirth, and infections. You long for the good old days of Abraham taking Isaac up the mountain or Moses confronting Pharaoh.

Finally you can go no longer and you give up. Maybe you will try again next year.

Leviticus has been the downfall of many a wellintentioned Bible reader. And I think it is mostly because we don't know that world of sacrifices, of clean and unclean, of dietary restrictions, and of worship that involves incense. It is foreign to us.

At the same time, much of what seems foreign is foundational to our faith today. Through Leviticus we learn about the holiness of God and his desire for us, an unholy people, to relate to him. Through Leviticus we learn to start distinguishing between the holy and the common, and that the difference has a meaning for how we live.

Through Leviticus we learn about the world in which Jesus lived. All of those feasts and Sabbath restrictions and dietary standards begin to come into focus. We begin to understand his teachings better.

Today I am beginning a series of sermons that will take us through the book of Leviticus. I am excited to

plumb the depths of this God-given book and to learn things we don't learn elsewhere in the Bible.

Let me give you a heads up to three major themes that are key to Leviticus. The first is that God is holy. Holiness is a term that sometimes gets watered down, but not in Leviticus. In the books of Moses, the holiness of God is deadly. The fire of his holiness staves off the Egyptians who are trying to hunt Israel. The storm of his holiness shakes Mount Sinai and scares the people half to death. The presence of his holiness is so powerful that it must be kept behind the curtain of the Most Holy Place.

Second, we humans are not holy. One of the few narrative sections of Leviticus tells about the death of two of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu. They were priests themselves, but because of their sin God consumed them with fire. There are all sorts of laws and regulations in Leviticus explaining to the people how to live in a holy way. The regulations are there because the people, even the priests, tended toward sin.

A third and crucial theme is the importance of substitutionary sacrifice. Since the book focuses on the work of the priests, sacrifices fill its pages. Not all of the animals sacrificed on altars were substitute payments for the sins of the people, but many were. And when we get to the Day of Atonement in chapter 16, we will shine a light that takes us all the way to the cross on which Jesus was executed.

Join me in this journey through Leviticus. I guarantee you will take some things with you to take you deeper into your Christian journey.

~Glenn Hawley

Welcome to East Hill Church of Christ, a place where you can discover the gospel! Please, don't hesitate to let any of the greeters or ministers know how we can serve you.

January

- 23 Food Distribution10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot
- 24 Deadline to register for Marriage Workshop
- 28 Shepherds lead service
- 28 Church Potluck after services

February

- 2 Son Shiners meet at 5:30 at Chances "R"
- 2-3 Marriage Workshop
- 10 Men's Breakfast at 8:00 am in fellowship hall
- 11 Baby Blessing during service
- Food Distribution10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot

1/14 Evalee Robison

- 1/15 Kenan Knapp
- 1/20 Kyle Stewart
- 1/21 Benjamin Tandy
- 1/22 Brenda Mersch
- 1/22 Adam Kreifels
- 1/23 Dawn Sikes
- 1/23 Carol Shafer
- 1/24 Callen Hinton
- 1/24 Mason Fifield
- 1/25 Garrett Knapp
- 1/25 Timothy Tandy
- 1/25 Tim McNeese
- 1/25 William McNeese
- 1/25 Amy Vernon
- 1/25 Madi Miller
- 1/27 Lori Keller
- 1/27 Sadie Martens

1/23 Dan & Lori Keller

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Church potluck rescheduled, January 28: Please come share a meal with your church family next week after services. Everyone is welcome to attend. We would also like to extend a special invitation for all young adults and college students to join us.

Young Adult (30's and younger) & College Age Class: Today, starts a new class titled *How to Pray with the Psalms of Lament*. The grand theme of the Psalms is that the Lord is the king of the universe. But how do we relate to him and pray when our lives are turned upside down and we wonder if God is real and if he cares? In this class, we'll explore the Psalms of lament. Meeting in the fellowship hall room A/B at 9 am, Glenn Dallmann teaching.

Food Distribution: The Lincoln Food Bank will be here Tuesday, January 23, from 10:30-11:30 am in the South Parking Lot. If you would like to help, please see Tonya Carr.

"A Lasting Promise": Would you like to learn three keys that if practiced daily will improve your marriage relationship? Then register for "A Lasting Promise" weekend marriage workshop on February 2-4. It is based on Dr. Stanley's 25 + years of research on successful



marriages. The deadline to register is this Wednesday, January 24 and the cost is \$75. See the flyer on the info table in the foyer, or see Glenn Dallmann with questions. You can register at the QR code.

Planning Meeting: This Wednesday, January 24, we're having a father/son event planning meeting at 5:30 in the fellowship hall. We welcome any parent who would like to be involved in helping plan this February event. If you want, sign up for the Wednesday meal too, and bring your plate to the meeting. See Glenn Dallmann with questions.

"Holy Sexuality" Study: For many years, it has been difficult to find resources regarding godly sexuality. This past year, Abilene University sponsored a week of chapel entitled "Holy Sexuality". The Women's Thursday Daytime Study will be going through this material and we are extending an invitation to come see one or more videos based on your interest in the topic. Christopher Yuan is the author of the material and covers multiple topics such as Identity, Singleness, Marriage, Sex, Gender & the Image of God. Please look in your bulletin weekly for the upcoming topic and feel free to join or invite someone who may benefit to join for that Zoom Class only. For further detail, please contact Rose Miller, Michele Briggs, or visit holysexuality.com. May we promote what is good and healthy and holy in God's plan for our lives.

But in your hearts, revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

I Peter 3:15 East Hill 2023 Theme Verse

BODY LIFE & PRAYERS

Prayer Requests and Updates:

Jerald Bennett has requested prayers for his uncle, Jim Kerns and his family. Jim is in the hospital with pneumonia, the flu and strep. He was already in bad health and has been losing weight.

Robert Cunningham had a successful gall bladder surgery over a week ago. Please keep Susanne Keller's 17-year-old granddaughter, Kanasy, in your prayers. She has been battling cancer since she was 15. Last week, doctors removed her left arm due to a tumor. She's well on the road to recovery and has a great spirit about her ordeal. However, she is still being screened for the presence of more cancer cells. The family lives in Grand Junction, CO. You can follow their journey at www.givesendgo.com/kanasy.

Mark Phillips had a successful heart surgery recently.

Angie Robison was recently diagnosed with Thyroid cancer. Please be in prayer for her and the family as they explore what treatment is needed.

Marty Salsbury was taken to the ER twice recently with stroke like symptoms. Tests showed no stroke, but they are unsure of what is happening. He has been in a lot of pain and has had a horrible sinus infection since Thanksgiving. Please pray this will clear up, since his cancer meds, stem cell transplant, and overall health make these infections extremely difficult to clear-up and can lead to worse problems.

Please pray for Carol Wiggin's mother, Veta Curtis, she suffered a brain bleed this last week and is currently in the ICU. She's made some improvements this week, but her condition is still precarious

Body Life:

Welcome back York University students! We're praying for God to bless your studies and lives as you start the spring semester.

(Continued on page 4)

Prayer Focus:

As you know, the Marcum family is our missionary that we support in Ecuador. Tragically, a wave of violence has swept across the country over the last year and a half. Violent deaths have doubled. Currently, drug cartels have taken 100 prison guards and staff hostage, and recently, the gang took over a television station. The security in Ecuador has been destabilized. Pray for the government to re-establish order and security and for justice to be done. Pray for our Ecuadorian Christian brothers and sisters. Pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Weekly Events

Attended Nursery: You can drop off children ages 0 up to 2 years in the nursery during services.

Service at Legacy Square: There is a service for the residents of Legacy Square in Henderson at 2:30 each Sunday. See Tommy Carr

if you have questions.

Youth Updates: Contact Garrett Schwarz to get the Remind notices. Wednesday Meal: Menu this

week: ham and bean soup with crackers. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer by today! \$6 per person, serving line open 5:15-6:00.

Women's Thursday Class Meets from 10-11:30 on Thursday morning in the fellowship hall and on Zoom. This week is introducing the "Holy Sexuality" material.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

Compassion - Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ~Colossians 3:12

Weekly Scripture Memory January 14 Hebrews 11:1 ... Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Schedule of Services Sunday Worship 10 am, livestreamed on Facebook Bible classes for all 9 am Sunday evening 5 pm, communion available Wednesday Adult Class 6:30 pm Adult class is livestreamed on Facebook

Children & Families event twice a month this Summer

For the Record:	December 31, 2
Weekly Attendance:	269
Weekly Giving	
Budgeted:	\$6,971.50
Actual:	\$5,270.94
Children's:	\$57.76
Year end 2023	
Budgeted:	\$369,489.50
Giving:	\$364,567.08
Children's for Ecuador:	\$2,600.74

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Ministry Staff:

Preaching Minister Glenn Hawley

Worship & Family Minister Glenn Dallmann

Children's Ministry - School Age Tana Albin

Children's Ministry - Preschool Hannah Sikes

Youth Ministry - Coordinator Garrett Schwarz

Administrative Assistants

Michele Briggs Tera Knapp 9 am-noon 11:30-2:30

Missionaries in Ecuador Joshua & Julie Marcum Michaela, Eliana, Jana, Enoch

Shepherds:

Tim Carr
Michael Case
Ron Kretz
Keith Miller
Mark Miller
Todd Sheldon
Steddon Sikes
Eric Tremaine

Shepherd of the month is in bold font.

Deacons Area of Service
Marty Barrett Benevolence
Trey ColleEmergency Meals
Robert Cunningham Son Shiners
Troy FlyntTreasurer
Jansen Fraser Grounds
Trent Hinton Livestream
Larry Light Single Seniors, Facilities
Garrett SchwarzYouth
Jeff Shafer Worship Support
Lonnie ShaferElder/deacon liaison
Ken Van GompleLTC

Simeon Tremaine has begun a worship ministry internship at East Hill for this spring semester as a part of his Biblical Studies and Ministry degree. He'll be more involved behind the scenes working with Glenn Dallmann, and he'll serve as worship leader more regularly.

Congrats to the duo of David and Ron Kretz on being recognized by the York Chamber of Commerce as the Small Business of the Year award for their operation of Daylight Donuts! This award goes out to small businesses that not only offer a great service/product but also provide great customer service. The York News Tribune had this to say about them, "As Christians, they also see this as a good opportunity to help shine his (Christ) light to those around them. For Ron and David, it is a perfect combination and they look forward to serving and being a part of the York community for years to come" (YNT, 1/16/24).

Congrats to Shannon Leinen who was named provost for York University! She has been serving as interim in this role since June of 2023. YU President, Sam Smith, commented "While serving as interim provost, Dr. Leinen has demonstrated incredible gifts in leadership, organization, and team building. I appreciate her ability to think strategically and creatively and her drive to make York University the best it can be."

Order of Worship

024

Guide Me, O Lord

Worship Leader: Jansen Fraser

54 We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise8 Let Every Heart Rejoice and Sing412 Jesus, Hold My Hand

Reading of Psalm 139:

Garrett Schwarz

Prayer: Terry Kite

420 Cleanse Me 806 Sun of My Soul 786 Precious Lord, Take My Hand 410 He Leadeth Me

"Holy God, Holy People"

Leviticus 1-7

Glenn Hawley

Invitation for Prayer

Only a Holy God

Communion: Larry Light

Children's Offering

Body Life: Glenn Dallmann

Shepherd's Prayer: Steddon Sikes