

## The Unbending Message

*And Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men."* — Mark 1:17

From the onset Jesus' call was to save men. In just three years, spent mostly in a section of Galilee the size of York County, he would train and commission a band of followers to spread His message to the whole world (Mt 28:16-20; Mk 16:15-16; Lk 24:45-49).

What was that message? Luke outlines its core:

*"The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and in His name repentance and forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem."* — Luke 24:46b-47

A risen Christ, repentance, forgiveness of sins, beginning in Jerusalem. The exact planks of Peter's message a couple of weeks later on Pentecost (Acts 2:36-38). Three thousand accepted his message that very day, were baptized, and added to the church.

Continuing through Acts, we learn much about that message.

**The message was transcendent.** It never changed throughout Acts. From Jewish Jerusalem, through pagan Asia Minor and Greece, all the way to Imperial Rome, the message was identical. The apostle Paul

*"... declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance."* — Acts 26:19b-20

Paul conceded that his preaching offered neither "eloquence or superior wisdom" nor "wise and

persuasive words" (1 Corinthians 2:1-4). It wasn't flashy and even seemed to bore some (2 Corinthians 10:10). His message stuck to the fundamentals: "Jesus Christ and him crucified", "prove your repentance by how you live" (Acts 26:10) thus becoming "a demonstration of the Spirit's power".

**The message never acquiesced to culture.**

Already I can hear throngs shouting, "Wait! What about 'becoming all things to all men?'" (1 Corinthians 9:20-22) Follow me for a minute.

Paul's conversion piqued concerns. Disciples in Jerusalem initially were fearful of the "new" Paul (Acts 9:26-29). Later, other Judean Christians seemed squeamish as they heard he was "preaching the faith he once tried to destroy" (Galatians 1:23). Years later in Jerusalem, Paul eagerly presented to the other apostles exactly what he believed and taught. The result? "Those men added nothing to my message". (Galatians 2:6)

Get it? Decades into church history, be it to Jews, to gentiles, in all cultures, in all places, the apostles' message was still unified, unaltered, and unadorned.

Becoming "all things to all men" did not change the message: Repent, turn to Christ, and show what you claim to believe in how you live. When around Jews, Paul "became" (though he always was) a Jew. He circumcised Timothy (Acts 16:3), "because of the Jews who lived in the area"— in other words, to "win the Jews". That same Paul would not circumcise Titus (Galatians 2:3) to placate the Judaizers— his arch-critics! — who insisted that one must become a Jew in order to

*(Continued on page 4)*

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.

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July

- 21 Elder's Meeting
- 23 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot

August

- 2 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
- 7 Youth Huddle Resumes
- 10 Men's Breakfast: 8 am in FH
- 14 YPS begin
- 16 Reception for Simeon & Mallory T
- 17 New YU students arrive on campus
- 19 YU Freshman Progressive Dinner
- 21 YU classes begin
- 28 Potluck—Children's Ministry Fall Kickoff 5:30-7:30

Nebraska Youth Camp Summer Sessions  
July 21-27 Senior 2 (9th-12th)

*Make every effort to  
live in peace with  
everyone and to be holy;  
without holiness no one  
will see the Lord.*

Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)

- 7/23 Joshua Bonde
- 7/24 Coty Noe
- 7/25 Brent Magner
- 7/25 Ephraim Kretz
- 7/26 Bobby DeHart
- 7/27 Rachel Kreifels

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## MINISTRIES & EVENTS



**Summer Children's Ministry:** Parents, please consider volunteering to help in one of your children's classes during August and the upcoming fall quarter. Many people have been teaching without a break for a long time. The children's program cannot be run without volunteers. Tana and Hannah have prepared all of your materials and taught this summer, but they will both be gone for several weeks in August. Our kids are the future church, preparing them for The Kingdom is one of the most important things we can do for their future! Sign up for August at the QR code or contact Tana (402-710-0580) or Hannah (402-710-1862) for more details.

**Wednesday Evening Families at the Park:** For Wednesday evenings this summer, families are invited to Minks Park at 6:30. Those wishing to participate in the Bible Bee activities can meet in the northwest shelter while younger children play in the Peyton Parker Lane Playground and parents float between and fellowship.

**Wednesday Evening Youth Huddles:** We are taking a short break for Wednesday night huddles. We will resume huddles on Wednesday, August 7.

**Food Distribution:** The Lincoln Food Bank will be here this week, Tuesday, July 23, from 10:30-11:30 am in the South Parking Lot. This may take some people by surprise if they are thinking the last Tuesday of the month rather than the 4th Tuesday, so please help spread the word. If you have questions or would like to help, please see Tonya Carr.

**Meals on Wheels:** East Hill volunteers will be the deliverers for the York Meals on Wheels for August. If you can help with this community service please sign up on the sheets in the foyer. Deliveries are made weekdays at 10:40 am and take about an hour. You can sign up for individual days to fit with your schedule. To meet state requirements there is some paperwork for volunteers to fill out yearly, so if you haven't done it yet this year please get signed up early so the office staff can help with the paperwork.

*Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy;  
without holiness no one will see the Lord.*

*East Hill 2024 Theme Verse—Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)*

## BODY LIFE & PRAYERS

### Prayer Requests:

**MaryAnn Case** is struggling with pain from tendonosis in four areas of her shoulder and also areas below her shoulder. She would like prayers for the pain, and for healing as she goes through physical therapy.

**Connie McClure** went into the hospital in Grand Island on the 17th with heart and kidney troubles, likely staying until the 23rd. Please pray for wisdom for the doctors and the peace for her and her family that only God provides. Danny is staying at Amanda's in Seward. Amanda says that Connie probably would not like visitors at this time, and she has a hard time talking, but you could certainly try calling.

**LaRae Melvin** would like prayers for her mother, Wanda Stark. Wanda is caregiver for LaRae's father (and her husband) who is in poor health as well as having the guardianship of a 15 year old great-granddaughter who is struggling with life.

Last week **Lynda Smith** asked for prayers for her job and financial issues.

**Margaret Spencer's** nephew, Stephen, is now awake but he can't talk much. He will be having more skin grafting and the doctor says he has a long road ahead. Margaret is grateful for all the prayers and continued prayers are appreciated.

### Prayer Focus:

York University starts their fall semester on August 21, which means that there is much opportunity for us to pray. We share a common mission with YU in the teaching and encouragement of young adults to be transformed by the gospel. We plan to have several prayer focuses about YU. For this first one, let's pray for ourselves that we'll be ready to welcome and love students when they return. (We're hosting a freshman progressive dinner on Monday, August 19. Consider if you're available to help host and greet.)

### 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:** The meals will resume in the fall.

**Women's Thursday Class** will resume in the fall.

### Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

*Purity – Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ~Psalm 51:10*

### Scripture Memory—Psalm 8 for July 7 through August 24

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. *When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?* You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## 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 will be livestreamed on Facebook in the fall  
 Children & Families meet 6:30 at Minks Park

For the Record:	July 14, 2024
Weekly Attendance:	240
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,143.85
Actual:	\$9,035.60
Children's:	\$29.11
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$207,171.65
Giving:	\$188,606.67
Children's for Ecuador:	\$1,059.51

East Hill Church of Christ  
 1122 Delaware Ave. (Building)  
 1225 E 10th St. (Mailing/Offices)  
 York, NE 68467  
 Office: (402) 362-4990  
 Email: easthillsecretary@gmail.com  
 Website: www.easthillcofc.org  
 WiFi: EHguest PW: JesusIsLord!

### Ministry Staff:

#### Preaching Minister

Glenn Hawley—on sabbatical

#### 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 9 am-noon

Charlene Huskins (summer) 1:00-4:00

#### 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 Colle-----Emergency Meals

Robert Cunningham -----Son Shiners

Troy Flynt -----Treasurer

Jansen Fraser -----Grounds

Trent Hinton -----Livestream

Larry Light -----Single Seniors, Facilities

Garrett Schwarz-----Youth

Jeff Shafer-----Worship Support

Lonnie Shafer -----Elder/deacon liaison

Ken Van Gomple -----LTC

become a Christian. Paul was flexible on methodology, but never on message.

**The message was unbending.** This inflexibility offended some cultural and social sensibilities. It was unapologetically exclusive. The message was intolerant, allowing not a single accommodation or redaction for special groups or for the trendy dictates of “higher learning”:

*In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. — Paul to the Areopagus, Acts 17:30*

Most gentiles considered the message as foolishness; Jews, a stumbling block many refused to overcome (1 Corinthians 1:18-25). But “God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believed.” (:21) Yet Peter, John, Stephen, Paul, Barnabas, Apollos, et al. were unyielding, and bore on their bodies the blows they’d taken for refusing to adapt the message to placate the demands of outspoken and even hostile cultural groups.

And the church grew.

— Mark Miller

## Order of Worship

### God is Love

**Worship Leader: Les Miller**

### Welcome

*Come Let Us Sing*

*3 Hallelujah Praise Jehovah*

*779 I Love You Lord*

*418 Breathe on Me Breath of God*

**Prayer: Noah McNeese**

**Scripture: Trey Colle**

Psalm 89:19-37

*Covenant of Love*

*325 Boundless Love*

*Faithful Love*

**Sermon: Glenn Dallmann**

***This Is How We Know He Lives In Us—1 John 4:7-12, 16***

*Greatest Commands*

*176 Lamb of God*

**Communion: Willis Hood**

**Children's Offering**

*881 Mansion Over the Hilltop*

**Shepherd's Prayer: Mark Miller**

**Body Life: Dan Goodwin**