

Unanswered Prayer

Christians are promised a special relationship with God that is best pictured as a child with his or her father. This relationship is especially experienced through prayer. Jesus and the Apostles attest in their experiences God hears and answers prayer. One example is 1 John 5:14-15, *"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him"* (NIV, 2011). But therein is the rub. Sometimes you pray for the Father's help, wait in hope, but then experience unanswered prayer. The disappointment, sadness, and anger can turn one's faith dark. I wonder if Mary and Martha from Chapter 11 of the Gospel of John experienced something like this.

Jesus had some very close friends by the names of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. They were siblings. The story goes that Lazarus became deathly ill, and when this happened, the sisters sent word to Jesus asking him to come and heal their brother. This was a serious illness and they prayed and put their faith in Jesus. However, Jesus didn't go right away. He told his disciples that he would wait so that "God would be glorified through Lazarus' illness." Lazarus died, and by the time Jesus reached the city of Bethany, he had been buried for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was outside the city, she went to him and said, *"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."* What beautiful words of faith! Jesus responded to her by saying, *"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"* Martha responded, *"I believe you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."* Despite Lazarus' death and despite knowing that Jesus could have healed Lazarus, Martha believed in Jesus!

That was Martha's faith response to Jesus. However, Mary had a different response. It's implied that when Jesus arrived at Bethany, he called both sisters but only Martha went out. So, now, he calls for Mary a second time. When she hears this, she gets up suddenly and runs out of the house, shocking the people who were with her. She ran to Jesus, fell at his feet, and said, *"Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died."* You can hear the angry accusatory tone in her voice. She knows Jesus could have saved her brother, and she doesn't understand why he didn't. What's more, is that she can't express confidence in him right then. All she could do was weep. Please take to heart what Jesus did next. He did not preach to her or chastise her. . . . Jesus wept with her (John 11:35). Even though he knew that the Father would heal death (and in the case of Lazarus, he was raised from the dead that day), for the moment, Mary was experiencing an unanswered prayer. She "prayed" honestly, *"If only you had been here."* You see, this too is a response of faith. It says, even though I don't understand and I'm angry; I'm still running to you.

A week ago, we lost Margaret Friesen so unexpectedly. There have been other losses in our lives this year, and sometimes these losses turn our faith dark. But it doesn't have to be that way. You can still run to Jesus either in hope or in disappointment, and he will hear your prayer. God was glorified in the death and revival of Lazarus. God was glorified in the stories that were shared about our sister Margaret. And God will be glorified in your lives if you will keep the faith. May you keep the faith and keep running to Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God. Amen.

~Glenn Dallmann

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.

C A L E N D A R

November

- 24 Elders Meeting
- 26 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot
- 27 Devotional in Lieu of Bible Class (Day before Thanksgiving)
- 28 No Thursday Morning Women's Class—Thanksgiving Day!
- 28-29 Church office closed-Thanksgiving

December

- 5 Women's Ornament Night 7-9 pm in fellowship Hall
- 6 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
- 7 Ladies' Craft Day 8 am-6 pm in the fellowship hall
- 14 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH
- 19 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot (Thursday before Christmas)
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 6 pm
- 25 No Classes meeting at the building
- 29 No Sunday morning classes —we are planning a fellowship time in the fellowship hall before service

- 11/25 Fenton Phan
- 11/27 Leanna Hawley
- 11/28 Eric Tremaine
- 11/29 Tayha Eppens
- 11/30 Sharon Woods

- 11/27 Jeff & Cheryl Mogul

C E L E B R A T E

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

The Food Distribution this month WILL follow the regular fourth Tuesday schedule, which puts it two days before Thanksgiving. As holidays sometimes shift the schedule we wanted to confirm that the Lincoln Food Bank will be here to hand out food from 10:30-11:30 in the south parking lot on Tuesday, November 26. Please help spread the word.

Children's Ministry: The new quarter for the children's ministry starts Sunday, December 1st. We need many hands to serve our kids at East Hill. Don't worry if you are traveling for the holidays, there will be no children's classes between Christmas and New Year's Day. We also have all your materials ready for you. Please talk to Hannah or Tana if you have questions, or sign up in the foyer, downstairs or at the QR code.



Survey Request: East Hill is participating in a survey which is exploring the impact of the pandemic on congregations across the nation. As a participant our congregation will receive a report for our own responses as well as a summary from the national results from this survey which could help our leaders in shepherding us. Everyone, 18 and older who attends East Hill is encouraged to take the survey to give us and the study the best information. It is estimated that the survey will take about 10 to 15 minutes. At the QR code is a link to the survey unique to East Hill so your responses will be linked to East Hill but will also be anonymous. The survey will only be available until December 15. If you would like to know more, contact Michele Briggs.



Maintenance Requests: Eric mentioned in his recent article that we were going to set up an online form where maintenance issues could be reported. That form is now up and the QR code here will take you to it. The code is also on posters in the fellowship hall, kitchen, near the restrooms, on the bulletin board in the foyer and down by the child check-in area for your convenience when you notice something.



Women's Ornament Night: On Thursday, December 5 women of all ages are invited to come to the fellowship hall from 7-9 for an evening of crafting holiday ornaments. Charlene Huskins will provide supplies and ideas for us again. Plan on \$5 per ornament to cover costs. If you would like to bring holiday treats to share you are welcome to, but mostly we want you to just bring yourself!

*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 Request:

Andrea Clifford is scheduled to have hernia surgery on Wednesday, November 27 here in York. Please pray that they are able to do the surgery with no complications and for a smooth recovery.

Marla Huber was moved to Ridgewood in Seward to receive hospice care. Contact the office for her room number.

Jenna Schwarz has been diagnosed with another CSF leak. With her history and their inability to find the location of the leak, she has been referred to a specialist at UNMC where they can run specialized tests to find the leak location and then fix it. She will be checking into UNMC in Omaha on December 2 and was told to plan on a one week stay, give or take, and then a two week recovery at home after treatment. She would appreciate prayers for the Doctors to successfully find and treat the leak.

Body Life:

We mourn with **Wally Friesen, Susan Becker,** and family on the recent passing of Margaret Friesen. The Celebration of Life was on Wednesday.

Directory Check: Members are asked to stop by the tables in the foyer to check their information that is in the online directory. All members with an email address in the directory can set up a login to access the online directory through their phone or computer. Contact Michele Briggs if you would like help with this. To make corrections you can write them out on the printout, contact the office, or make corrections through the directory itself. If you are changing an email address, we will make personal contact with you to double check it is you. We have had scammers try to gain access to our directory by claiming to be one of you changing your address. To update your picture you can also upload it directly through the app or you can email a digital copy to the office, or give a hard copy to a secretary (we will scan it and give it back).

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.

Women's Thursday Class
Delores Hartman is teaching on "Favorite Verses." Class will be 10-11:30 and is available via Zoom. For child care, contact Rose Miller.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

Gratitude – Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Scripture Memory for the weeks of November 17 & 24

Psalm 117:1-2

Praise the Lord, all you nations;
extol him, all you peoples.
*For great is his love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord
endures forever.
Praise the Lord.*

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 (livestream-East Hill's Facebook)
 Children's Class 6:30 pm (drop off 6:20, pick up 7:15)
 MS & HS Huddle 6:20-7:20 pm

For the Record:	November 17, 2024
Weekly Attendance:	266
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,143.85
Actual:	\$10,324.85
Children's:	\$39.73
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$328,617.10
Giving:	\$309,348.58
Children's for Ecuador:	\$2,143.11

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Ministry Staff:

Preaching Minister

Glenn Hawley

Outreach & Involvement 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

Tera Knapp 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 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

The Hope Gospel Rescue Mission in York

is in need of volunteers to provide dinner. Since reopening they are working to rebuild their volunteer base. The meal can come frozen, cold, or warm and it can be dropped off ahead of time. They generally serve 15-20 people, so a couple of people may want to work together to help prepare a meal. It could be one time or set up as reoccurring donation. Currently they have 11 days where they don't have volunteers providing dinner. Please contact their Meal Coordinator, Winnie Callahan, with questions or to volunteer.

Community Opportunity - Sam

Orman has been a volunteer, leading the Next Chapter Book Club for adults with autism and other disabilities on Wednesdays from 1-2 pm at Kilgore Library. In December her work schedule will be changing. While she still plans to participate, it will be as a caregiver to participants, and she will not be able to lead the group. She is looking for someone who would be interested in taking the leadership on. If taking turns reading and discussing the story sounds like a fun way to spend an hour this might be just the opportunity for you. If you would like to know more you can contact Sam or contact Deb at the library.

Order of Worship

Free Indeed

Worship Leader: Steddon Sikes

Welcome

Covenant of Love

Firm Foundation

226 O Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer: Dan Goodwin

Scripture Reading Garrett Schwarz

Hebrews 10:19-25

How Deep the Father's Love

48 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Communion: Keith Miller

Children's Offering

He Will Come and Save You

"Fallen Heroes"

2 Samuel 12

Glenn Hawley

769 May I Call You Father?

Cornerstone

Shepherd's Prayer: Michael Case

Body Life: Glenn Dallmann