

Lifting Up Holy Hands

"I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing."

– 1 Timothy 2:8

I've thought a lot about Paul instructing men to "lift up holy hands in prayer". Physically raising my hands when praying is not something I grew up doing. It makes me feel uncomfortable to do so in public. I'm not at all saying that it's not something we should do, or that anyone who raises their hands when praying is doing anything wrong. On the contrary, it's more likely (given the specific words of Paul) something we should do than something we should avoid doing. I'm only saying I am personally uncomfortable doing it myself. It's probably something I need to get over.

Until then, there are some other thoughts on the matter that I'd like to address. In this verse Paul is talking specifically to men (males). Why? We know it's right and proper for women to pray as there are examples of women (Hannah, Anna and Mary) praying in the scriptures. But here, Paul seems to want men to understand something. Something important. The reference to lifting up hands may be intended to remind us of the story in Exodus when the Israelites have just escaped slavery in Egypt and are almost immediately attacked by the Amalekites.

"The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.' So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were

winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword."

– Exodus 17:8-13

When Moses held his hands up towards God in a prayerful way, God's people were winning. When he lowered them, God's people started losing. Moses was the leader of God's people. In a similar way, men have a position of leadership in their homes and in the church. I think Paul is saying that men as husbands and fathers, and also when appointed to leadership positions in the church, have a responsibility to pray for those they are responsible for. It's as critical as the difference between God's people winning and losing.

If you're a husband, pray for your wife. If you're a father, pray for your children. If you're a leader in the church, pray for the flock. Keep praying. Don't give up praying. If you want it to go well with your family and/or with the church, be faithful in prayer.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

– Ephesians 6:18

~ Keith Miller

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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December

- 8 Elders Meeting
- 14 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH
- 15 Final day the Survey is available
- 19 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot (Thursday before Christmas)
- 22 Elders Meeting
- 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

January

- 1 Devotional in Lieu of Classes
- 3 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
- 4 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH
- 11 FriendSpeak Training 9 am (402) 710-0042
- 12 "Foundations" Bible Class begins
- 24-25 Elders & Ministers retreat
- 28 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot

- 12/8 Keith Peters
- 12/8 Shawn Smith
- 12/10 Jason Mader
- 12/13 Heather Suhr
- 12/13 Isaiah Davis
- 12/13 Luke Davis
- 12/14 Carolyn Hambleton
- 12/14 Heidi Mader
- 12/14 Nathan & Lexi Lacina

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MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Survey Request: The survey exploring the impact of the pandemic on congregations across the nation will be available for one more week. 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. If you would like to know more, contact Michele Briggs.



Next Sunday, December 15, we will have a lament-focused worship service. Laments are biblical prayers to God when people are grieving and suffering. They often ask God, "How long must things go on as they are?" We'll also take this opportunity to remember the East Hill members who have passed away in 2024 and to specifically pray for their families. Please prepare for a somber service and consider how you can be a support to those you know are hurting.

Christmas Eve Devotional: On Tuesday, December 24, we are hosting a Christmas Eve service at the York University prayer chapel at 6 pm. We are inviting the York Community and we hope to fill the chapel with people and with worship. Please invite your neighbors and friends. Contact Glenn Dallmann if you would like to help with scripture reading. We would like to have some cookies to hand out, if you would be willing to make and package cookies please sign up in foyer or at the link in the QR code.



Meals for Hope Gospel Rescue Mission: Sheila Tandy and Sharon Woods are planning to prepare some freezer meals for use at the Mission. They would like to do this monthly. If you would like to help make meals or fund them let Sheila or Sharon know.

*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:

Jenna Schwarz has been at UNMC in Omaha this last week working with a specialist to find and repair the CSF (Cerebral Spinal Fluid) leak she has been diagnosed with. They found the leak on Thursday and she had surgery to repair it. She will have a two week recovery once she is home. Let's pray for her recovery.

Michele Briggs will have outpatient surgery on Wednesday to remove a uterine fibroid. Prayers for a successful surgery and good recovery would be appreciated.

Please remember **Marla Huber's** family in your prayers, including her daughter Jamie Wenzl, son, C.J. Huber, and sister, Marcia Kennedy. We celebrated her life on Friday. Thank you to everyone who served the family by hosting Marla's memorial.

Body Life:

Congratulations to **Sheila Tandy** upon her engagement to Tom Norris of Wellington, KS. We rejoice with her though we will miss her when she moves to Tom's farm in Kansas.

Notes of Thanks:

Dear East Hill church family, We want to express our sincere thanks for everything you have done after the passing of Margaret. The plant that was sent for her service and the luncheon following the service were greatly appreciated. Your thoughts, prayers, and cards have made our loss a little easier. She loved God and being a part of this family of God. ~In His love,
The family of Margaret Spencer Friesen

Thank you East Hill for once again showing your ongoing support of the ministry in Ecuador and generously giving to the **Marcum family**. You surpassed our goal of raising half the needed funds (\$4,750) towards the installation of a new hybrid energy system for their house, raising \$5,640 in only a few days! Joshua and Julie are thrilled and very grateful for your quick response and will update us in the coming weeks if the remaining funds are raised or if another opportunity to give towards this project is needed.
Muchas Gracias!

Susanne Keller has coordinated the communion preparation for years and years. She's stepping down from this role, and we want her to know how much we have appreciated her service. **Diana Kretz** is assuming the role. Please contact Diana if you would like to serve on this ministry team.

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

Wisdom – Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

~Proverbs 1:7

Scripture Memory for December 8-21 Acts 2:38-39

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.

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:	December 1, 2024
Weekly Attendance:	265
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,143.85
Actual:	\$5,823.36
Children's:	\$136.15
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$342,904.80
Giving:	\$321,265.07
Children's for Ecuador:	\$2,336.70

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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 Gompel ----- LTC

Sermon notes:

Order of Worship

Giving Him Praise and Glory

Welcome: Jansen Fraser

2 We Praise Thee, O God

3 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah!

4 To God Be the Glory

Prayer of Worship: Jay Roberts

Reading: Cameron Clifford

Luke 1:68-79, 3:1-6

1018 Joy to the World

66 Doxology

“Who is my Neighbor?”

Luke 10:25-37

Glenn Hawley

Invitation for Prayer

659 I love to Tell the Story

701 My Jesus, I Love Thee

Communion: Casey Kinnison

Children's Offering

Come Let Us Sing

Shout to the Lord

Body Life: Glenn Dallmann

Shepherd's Prayer: Keith Miller