

Restore us Again, O God of Our Salvation (Psalm 85:4)

The psalms are essential for the life of every believer. There are spiritual gems waiting to be discovered. Let's see if we can find one in Psalm 85. This psalmist is probably living in Judah in the post-exilic era when he and his people were tasked with the job of rebuilding after the destruction of the early 6th century at the hands of Babylon. These Jews were poor, unskilled, outnumbered by their foes, and oppressed by a foreign nation. These problems made the tasks at hand difficult, but not impossible. Were it not for the persistence of prophets {Haggai and Zechariah} the psalmist and his community could easily have sunk into despair and assimilated into the cultures of the people who surrounded them. But the psalmist listened and prayed the prayer we have before us. As we read this psalm, we note the distance he feels from God. He contrasts his community with a past generation who experienced the Lord's favor and forgiveness (vv. 1-3). He probably has in mind the experiences of the Jews who were set free from captivity in Babylon after 70 years. But after a couple of decades or more life had not returned to "normal." Things were still difficult and there seemed to be little prospect that they would get better. At this point take a moment to examine the rest of the psalm to see what the psalmist prays for. As you examine vv. 4-7 focus on the words "restore" (v. 4), "revive" (v. 6), and "salvation" (vv. 4, 7). In these powerful words the psalmist is pleading for God to act and do for His powerless people what only He can do. He is not asking for help to do what skilled builders do every day, or what diligent and obedient worshipers do when they go to a properly constructed temple. The psalmist's eyes are big with the prophetic vision, beautifully and briefly described in vv. 10-13, and he perceives that the spiritual

poverty of his people is profound. He knows that life in the land is not what either God or his community want. He knows that he and his people need nothing less than to be revived or brought to life, and the act of a merciful God to bring about the life He meant for His people to have. He says, "Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation" (v. 7). As we read the psalmist's petition in vv. 8-9 we see that the psalm is not a call to act, but to listen. He is confident that the God of salvation will "speak peace" to those who turn to Him, who revere Him, "that His glory may dwell in our land" (v. 8). The psalmist's confidence reaches a high point in the verses that conclude. He believes that God will act to bring about the life in the land that He wants. This life is characterized by steadfast love, faithfulness, and righteousness. Read these verses carefully and try to imagine the kind of life they describe. The psalmist expects the Lord, Himself, to come into his world and set things right. What points of contact can you make with this ancient worshiper? Here are mine. With the psalmist I see much that is broken in our land and in the lives of people. Our spiritual poverty is profound and troubling. *I believe with the psalmist that what we need is not more action, but more confidence in the God of our salvation.* Of course, there is much work for us to do. But before we go about the work of building, let us join the psalmist and stop to listen and then to have our eyes and our faith enlarged by the vision he sets forth. Indeed, "righteousness will go before Him, and will make a path for His steps." Amen! Come, Lord into our dark world! Your humble and penitent people are waiting for your salvation.

~Michael Case

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.

CALENDAR

January

- 28 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am
in south parking lot

February

- 1 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH
2 Shepherd Led Service
7 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
25 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am
in south parking lot

March

- 1 Ladies' Crafting 8 am-6 pm in FH
7 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
8 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH

Save the Dates

- April—Meals on Wheels Deliveries
April 6-12—Clothing Giveaway week

FriendSpeak: Do you know someone who would like to have conversational English lessons? Have them call our FriendSpeak hotline: 402-710-0042

- 1/27 Lori Keller
1/31 Garrett Schwarz
2/1 Sheila Tandy
2/1 Conner Mogul
2/1 Braelynn Lamonde
2/1 Earlene Reeves

- 1/29 Bill & Karesa Norquest

CELEBRATE

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Weekend to Remember (W2R): Great Marriages Don't Just Happen - W2R is a powerful marriage enrichment retreat. It takes place at a hotel conference center with about 100 other couples over the weekend. Dynamic speakers encourage and challenge couples to greater oneness, and you're given multiple breakout sessions to meet alone with your spouse to discuss the lessons. East Hill also has limited scholarships to help couples go. Please see Glenn Dallmann with questions.

Food Distribution: Lincoln food bank distribution will be Tuesday, January 28 from 10:30 to 11:30 am on East Hill Church of Christ's south parking lot. If you would like to volunteer, please let Tonya Carr know. Volunteers are asked to be at the building starting at 10am.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday at 8 am in the fellowship hall. Rick White will lead the devotional and there will be bacon.

See the back page for LTC information and links.

*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)

*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

Last Sunday, we announced that **Joshua Bonde** had open heart surgery on January 16. He returned home last Saturday, and he's recovering at a good pace. Praise God! Please keep his recovery in your prayers.

Loretta Goben is settling in well at Hearthstone. We have been able to get her sleep schedule and some health issues resolved, which have helped stabilize her and reduce the confusion she was experiencing. She is doing PT and OT in the mornings on weekdays for a while to help her regain strength. Visitors are now welcome and desired! She has chairs in her room for you to hang out and be comfortable. You are welcome to attend most activities or visit in her room. We will soon have a guest book in her room so you can leave a note for her, helping her remember your visit. Thank you for all the support and prayers you've poured over all of us during this transition.

~Tana Albin

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: For the weekly youth activities contact Garrett Schwarz to get the Remind notices.

Women's Thursday Class is 10-11:30 am in the fellowship hall and is available via Zoom. Rose Miller is teaching on "God's Word and Interpersonal Relationships."

Praise in Motion: Ladies are invited to gather Thursdays 6:30-7 pm in the fellowship hall to breathe, stretch and praise God together.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion
Love for God's Word—*They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.*

~Psalm 19:10

Scripture Memory for 3 weeks

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

... Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work..*

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:	January 19, 2025
Weekly Attendance:	244
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$
Actual:	\$6,070.61
Children's:	\$67.59
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$
Giving:	\$24,260.47
Children's for Ecuador:	\$153.44

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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

Trent Hinton -----Livestream

Larry Light ----Single Seniors, Facilities

Garrett Schwarz-----Youth

Jeff Shafer-----Worship Support

Ken Van Gompel -----LTC

Join Us for Leadership Training for Christ (LTC) -

We're thrilled to invite all 3rd through 12th graders to participate in Leadership Training for Christ (LTC), a program designed to inspire and equip young people to grow in their faith and become active in God's church. The convention is held in Kansas City, MO, over Easter weekend, April 18-20.

LTC offers a wide variety of exciting events, allowing students to explore their talents through independent study and group activities. You can see everything that is available in the manual at the QR code.



Here's what's happening:

- We have coaches for elementary-age chorus, drama, and puppets.
- Middle and high school students can join junior high drama, high school drama, and other dynamic activities.
- We're still looking for someone passionate to coach the older chorus. Don't worry—we have a helper ready to attend the conference if you can't make it to Kansas City!

LTC isn't just about learning new skills—it's about building deeper connections with other families and creating memories that will last a lifetime. For more information or to volunteer, contact Brittany Kretz. Families interested in attending, please fill out the form at the QR code in the next two weeks by Friday, February 7.



Order of Worship

Jesus, Our Long-Awaited Messiah

Worship Leader: Jared Pack

Welcome

Here I Am to Worship

Prayer: Ivan Keller

Luke 4:14-21

Reading: Brien Alley

509 I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Just as I am, I Come Broken

Communion: Mark Miller

Children's Offering

356 I Believe in Jesus

What the Lord Has Done in Me

"Praying with Scripture:

Praying at the Wall"

John 17:1

Glenn Hawley

Invitation for Prayer

483 Is it for Me?

578 We Will Glorify

Body Life: Glenn Dallmann

Shepherd's Prayer: Michael Case