

Good Gifts from Imperfect Fathers

Rena and I have spent quite a bit of time lately in the Kansas City area helping my son and his wife work on their new house. In fact, that's where we plan to be again by the time you read this article. It's demanding, and the time commitment has required us to put our own plans on pause for a while. We load up tools, put the mail on hold (actually, Janet Rush graciously collects it for us when we're away) and drive four hours each way to perform strenuous physical labor to help them make their home a comfortable and safe place to live.

Why are we willing to do this? Of course it's because we love our children. It's also because they've asked us to. Significantly, they've asked us to come help them achieve something that's right and proper. They are expecting their first child (and our first grandchild) this fall, and they want to provide a safe and healthy environment for that expected little one. They didn't have to ask twice.

We're happy to help our kids with whatever they need and yet we're trying to learn to allow our kids to take charge of their own lives. We're not very good at it, having a history of being responsible for their care and knowing that there's a lot they still don't know about life and handling all the curve balls life can throw. For us to barge in and dictate what we think they should do and how they should do it would be overstepping their personal sovereignty. But, having been asked to come and help is a different matter. It reminds me of a couple of scriptures:

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" – Matthew 7:11

"You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures." – James 4:2-3

Being a parent is one way of better understanding how God deals with all of us, his children. It has led me to think that while he desires good things for his children and is willing to do much more than we are able to comprehend, he also doesn't want to continually "take over" our lives and make all our choices for us. I think much of the time he's watching our lives and waiting to be invited in, so that he can bring his immeasurable power and wisdom to our aid without imposing himself into the free will he's granted each of us.

Just as I, an "evil" father in the biblical sense (meaning human and flawed), find satisfaction in giving good things to my kids, our Heavenly Father takes pleasure in providing for us when we ask with proper intentions.

Therefore, let us remember Matthew 7:11 as we go about our lives. Let us also consider James 4:2-3. We should not hesitate to bring our needs before our Heavenly Father, understanding that he desires to give good gifts to his children. And let us examine our motives, ensuring our requests align with his will, not just our own desires. When we ask with a sincere heart, he is ready to provide, much like an earthly father is pleased to provide for his children.

~ 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.

C A L E N D A R

June

29 Secret Sister Reveal 2-3:30pm
in fellowship hall

29 Elders Meeting

July

4 Office Closed for 4th

11 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30

12 Men's Breakfast 8 am in FH

13 Ecuador Mission Trip Report

16 God Bless Party for the Schwarz

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

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

6/29 Ron Mogul
6/29 Deanna Ellis
6/30 Carter Sikes
7/3 Dominick Tandy
7/3 Thomas Bonde
7/3 Lauren Alley
7/3 Lanny Turner
7/3 Sam Orman
7/3 Logan Rice
7/4 Dan Cole
7/4 Ken Alley
7/5 Danny McClure

C E L E B R A T E

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

The Office will be closed on Friday to celebrate the 4th. Please keep this in mind if you need to contact us or share prayer concerns.

Looking for Housing: A York University professor and his wife, Greg and Sally Stevenson will be arriving in July. They are looking to rent and they have dogs. They do have one option available but would need a place for the dogs to be temporarily. If you have suggestions on either part of this please contact them through the church office.

Nebraska Youth Camp Dates: Nebraska Youth Camp has started their summer sessions. There are still spots available, you can find registration at NebraskaYouthCamp.com. The session grade breaks are based on grade completed.

Intermediate Sessions for 6th-9th grades are June 29-July 5 and July 6-12.
Senior Sessions for 9th-12th grades are July 13-19 and July 20-26.

Secret Sister Reveal Party for those who participated in the Secret Sister ministry over the last school year will be in the fellowship hall today, June 29, from 2-3:30pm. Please bring a snack to share and it's nice (but not necessary) to have a card or something for your secret sister when we reveal who all of the secret sisters are. Please see Tera Knapp with questions.

Our **Youth Mission Group** returned to Dallas from Ecuador on Wednesday. Unfortunately, there were some weather and plane delays on their trip home. Thank you for the prayers for this group and their trip.

Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

East Hill 2025 Theme Verse—Hebrews 10:24 (NIV)

BODY LIFE & PRAYERS

Prayer Requests:

Michael and MaryAnn Case are requesting prayers for their granddaughter, Clara Ann. After her surgery, her scans show tremendous improvement in the curvature of her spine. However, she is still in a lot of pain, and she's taking heavy doses of pain medication. Please continue to pray for her recovery. The families really appreciate all of the prayers!

Tim McNeese began a new round of chemotherapy last week.

Earlene Reeves began daily radiation treatment (in Lincoln) for the cancer in her back. The doctors are hoping to reduce the cancer so they can hopefully remove it surgically. For now, she has family here to help. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Meghan Salisbury had surgery on Tuesday. She has returned home, please pray for an easy recovery. She does have lifting and bending limitations and could use some help with dishes and laundry the next two weeks. If you can help, please contact Meghan. There is a meal train set up, please see the QR code to the right or contact Tera Knapp to sign up.



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 Dan Goodwin to get the Remind notices.

Women's Thursday Class will resume in the fall.

Praise in Motion plans to resume in August.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

Prayer-full-ness – *Never stop praying.*
~I Thessalonians 5:17

Scripture Memory Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.* Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Shepherd's Prayer: Mark Miller