

Putting the Pieces Together In Between the Gardens

If you know me even just a little, you know that I love to do puzzles. I've always enjoyed projects that have a process and you can see completion. I love how every piece of a puzzle connected strengthens the whole. When I am puzzle-ing I think about how there are so many great metaphors within the act of completing a puzzle. How each piece can be related to something you have learned along the way. All those growing pains can be related to when parts of your life didn't quite fit. A hump or hurdle or valley you had to work through. At the end of those moments you were able to learn from it and grow. Just like that, the piece was in place and made you a little stronger. However, I'm not sure that the life puzzle can ever be fully intact.

Recently, I went back to a study plan that I had started and never finished in my Bible app. I know I stated that I like to do projects that I can see the progress and complete. However, I didn't mention the part about me being easily distracted and also how I can't stand missing out on anything, period. But that is not what this is about! One of the studies I chose to go back to and complete was by Lysa Terkeurst. It was all about living between the gardens. I love this idea so very much and just can't get it out of my head. Human life started in a garden and our goal is the promised garden. Everything we do in between is this life. How are we using the time we have in between the gardens?

Tim and I love Ecclesiastes. It is a gold mine. All of the talk about our meaningless days and chasing the wind. How the day of death is better than the day of birth (Ecclesiastes 7:1). There is a time and season for everything. Our very favorite is Ecclesiastes 9:9,

"Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun—all your meaningless days. For this is your lot in life and in your toilsome labor under the sun."

This has become our secret motto in life and is the answer to the question, "How are we spending our time between the gardens?" Our life or our puzzle between the gardens may never be fully complete but we can spend our meaningless days trying.

"No one can comprehend what goes on under the sun. Despite all their efforts to search it out, no one can discover its meaning. Even if the wise claim they know, they cannot really comprehend it."

Ecclesiastes 8:17

-Tonya Carr

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

December

- 21 LTC informational meeting
- 23 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am in south parking lot
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 5:30 pm at YU Prayer Chapel
- 28 Ebenezer Service
No Bible Classes
- 31 All Church Devotional in lieu of Wednesday Bible Classes

January

- 2 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
- 10 Men's Breakfast at 8 am in FH
- 27 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

- 12/21 Tania Billington
- 12/21 Chana Marsh
- 12/21 Braden McNair
- 12/22 Emmitt Suhr
- 12/22 Liz Bair
- 12/23 Roy Krula
- 12/23 Cora McNeese
- 12/23 Mark Billington
- 12/24 John Ratliff
- 12/24 Scott Van Esch
- 12/26 Troy Flynt
- 12/26 Josh Rinard

12/28 Glenn & Leanna Hawley

C E L E B R A T E

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Leadership Training for Christ Informational Meeting: There is an informational meeting after service today in the fellowship hall for families interested in Leadership Training for Christ (LTC), a program for students in 3rd–12th grade. The meeting will go over what the program involves, how children can participate, and when practices will begin. Brittany will also share details on how students can prepare for the Bible study portion. Attending the conference is not required to participate in several of the events. However, the conference itself is a meaningful experience.

Christmas Dinner: Harold & Deena Tandy will host a meal at noon on December 25 for individuals or couples in the congregation who will not have a Christmas meal with family. Harold or Deena need to confirm attendees TODAY so they can plan for the number coming.

Lincoln Food Bank: The Monthly Food Distribution will be Tuesday this week, December 23, from 10:30-11:30 in the south parking lot. With the students on Christmas break, Tonya Carr may still need some helpers. Please speak with her if you can help and spread the word to those who would benefit.

Christmas Eve Service: We will host a Christmas Eve Service this Wednesday at the York University Prayer Chapel at 5:30 PM. Please invite your friends and neighbors and join us in a night of worship and prayer.

The Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday this week for Christmas. Anything for the bulletin on the 28th needs to be in by Wednesday morning.

Worship on December 28: Next Sunday, we'll host our "Ebenezer Service," where we'll give God thanks for all he has done for us at East Hill this year. We will not have Bible classes on the 28th, but coffee and donuts will be served during the Bible class hour.

The 2026 Communion Sign Up to serve the body here by preparing the communion during 2026 is up on the bulletin board. Please see Diana Kretz if you have questions.

Auditorium Class: Beginning in January, the Auditorium class will be studying through the Daily Bible (also known as the Narrated Bible). This is an arrangement of Scripture that attempts to take the reader through the Bible chronologically. Our hope is that everyone who participates in this class will read the entire Bible in 2026. Each week, the class will focus on one or more passages from the previous week's readings. Glenn Hawley has copies, so talk to him if you would like to purchase one. The Bibles are also available from Amazon or from Christian distributors; digital copies are also available. There will be a listing of the reading for each day on the back page of the bulletin for those who would like to read from a Bible they already have.

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 Request:

Eddie Kennedy requested prayers this week for the health issues he continues to struggle with.

Sara Leetch has had an MRI and is waiting for news from the doctors.

Nancy Phan and Lynda Smith's cousin, Sherri passed last week. Please pray for their loss and for family as they travel for the memorial.

Richard Swenson of Davenport had a stroke this last Monday. He recovered in Bryan East for most of the week. Please remember him and his wife **Barbara** in your prayers.

Body Life:

Ramon Garibay passed away unexpectedly on December 12. He had been attending East Hill semi-regularly over the last two years. Please remember his family in your prayers. We want to credit some men who have served the Lord over the past year or 2. We all have lives full of work and service which we do daily. Sometimes it's hard to give help. It can even be hard to find time to give someone a ride to church Sundays. Yet several made special provisions to give a ride to Ramon Galibray, who recently passed away. Offering this service required some special effort to help him into the vehicle and to put away his wheelchair. Thanks to these who have done it several times: John Ratliff, Terry Krumrei, Tom Tandy, Josh Rinard, and Hal Hockersmith -- someone may have been missed - apologies. Ramon had more handicaps than being an amputee. So sometimes he was not ready to go when these men arrived. But they still returned on following Sundays in the hopes that he would make it. Thanks to God for men like these who go the extra mile. Without a doubt it was a blessing to Ramon.

Rejoice with:

Anessa and Tim Westbrook's son, Theo Westbrook, was married to Rochelle Reese on December 13 in Searcy Arkansas where Theo is a minister at the College Church and Rochelle is a nursing student at Harding.

The Yunevich family had a wedding as well. **Harry Yunevich** was married to Kinley Collins on December 13 in Gladewater, Texas.

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.

Youth Updates: To stay current with Youth Group activities, sign up for the "Band" announcements.



Women's Thursday Class will resume meeting on January 8.

Praise in Motion will meet again on January 8.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

Humility – In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

~I Peter 5:5

Luke 2:10-14

... I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." *Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."*

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 14, 2025
Weekly Attendance:	213
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,319.72
Actual:	\$7,507.90
Children's:	\$30.20
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$365,986.00
Giving:	\$342,699.47
Children's for Ecuador:	\$3,002.43

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Ministry Staff:

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Glenn Hawley
Outreach & Involvement Minister
Glenn Dallmann
Children's Ministry - School Age
Tana Albin
Children's Ministry - Preschool
Jodie Yunevich
Youth Ministry - Coordinator
Dan & Julie Goodwin
Ministry Intern
Archford Manduvi
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
Jeff Shafer-----Worship Support
Ken Van Gompel -----College Ministry

CAMPUS CONNECTION

College age Class: Dr. Pack's college age class will resume in January. You are invited to join in any of the other classes that meet in the fellowship hall or auditorium every Sunday morning at 9 am until then.

The Sunday evening group that meets at the Tim and Tonya Carr home in Henderson on Sunday nights will resume in January.

You can scan the GroupMe QR code to get updates regarding this group or to reach out if you need a ride.



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

Hebrews 10:24 (NIV)

Order of Worship

He Shall Be Called Jesus

Worship Leader: Glenn Dallmann

1018 *Joy to the World*
1012 *Go Tell it on the Mountain*
Magnificat

Welcome

Scripture Reading: Thomas Tandy
Matthew 1:18-25

Prayer: Ivan Keller

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

"Waiting for the Savior"

Luke 2:25-32

Jared Pack

Invitation for Prayer

264 *O Come, Let Us Adore Him*
185 *Jesus, Thy Name I Love*

Communion: Casey Kinnison

Children's Offering

Philippians 2:6-11

162 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Shepherd's Prayer: Tim Carr

Body Life: Titus Robison