

“Let us Pray ...”

As we approach another year, think about these things.

Our lives are busy, our bodies are changing, and we are constantly reminded of how small and powerless we are. We live in a secular age when belief in God seems to be in retreat, and we who believe fear we may be marginalized further. We wonder what may happen to our society if we try to cope with our existential crises without a confident reliance upon God for truth and hope.

As a new year dawns, what can we do? We can do what we do best. We can exalt our God in praise. But our praises of God will have more meaning if we invest our lives in prayer. The prayer life of Daniel comes to mind just now. It is clear that Daniel’s vital faith in the living God was sustained by prayer (Dan. 6.10), and his prayer of confession and petition in ch. 9 is one of the great prayers of scripture. What can we learn?

Consider three qualities. First, Daniel’s faith is informed by scripture. He has clearly been reading the writings of Jeremiah, and so he knows the exile was to last 70 years. Daniel also knows the writings of Moses, especially Deuteronomy. He believes that God’s steadfast love has sustained His people through the upheavals of the previous centuries and has found the reasons for exile and the destruction of Jerusalem laid out in the law of Moses.

Second, Daniel is painfully honest about why the people have suffered such painful losses. “We have sinned,” he says, and describes at length the wickedness and rebellion of his people. Note he says “we.” He places himself among his sinful brethren. To individualists like us this might be confusing. Daniel believes national sins have a corporate dimension. If most of my neighbors are worshipping idols, and the whole economy is invested in the worldview and

benefits of the high place, it will be impossible for me to avoid either the advantages gained, or the consequences of these sins. When sinners lead the nation into depravity everyone suffers either from the debased view of life that prevails, or from the time of purging that is certain to come. Daniel knows that he must lead his people in serious soul-searching and penitence.

Third, Daniel has a vital faith in the living God who is still active in the history of His people. He believes absolutely that God’s purposes for the future will include His now chastened people. As God graciously brought His people out of Egyptian bondage, so He can bring them out of Babylon. Based upon this confidence he now prays, “Let your wrath turn away from Jerusalem ... let you face shine upon your desolated sanctuary” (vv. 16-17).

I suggest we take Daniel’s prayer as a model for our prayers for the coming year. With Daniel let us discern the purposes and plans of God as they are laid out in scripture. From these words let us analyze the pathologies that afflict the families of our land. Let us recognize the lies the Enlightenment has told us about the nature and purpose of human existence. Let us acknowledge the sins of a secular mindset that fosters rebellion against the Creator and provides no restraint against the violence that has taken the lives of thousands. Let us embrace and model a penitent attitude before those who are wandering in darkness. Let us deepen our faith in the One who alone can save us from ourselves. Let us sharpen our spiritual senses and discern what God is now doing in our troubled and changing world. And let us await with confident faith the return of the risen Lord, “For the present form of this world is passing away.” Let us pray.

~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.

C A L E N D A R

December

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

23-24 Leaders Retreat

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

12/29 Barbara Hood

12/30 Emory Flynt

12/30 Carol Baker

1/3 Kareen Light

1/3 Dan Keller

1/3 Barbara Benton

1/1 Stewart & Dawn Sikes

1/1 Bryan & Brittany Kretz

C E L E B R A T E

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

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

Devotional on Wednesday, December 31, in the auditorium, in lieu of all evening Bible Classes.

Office Closure: The office will be closed on Thursday, January 1. The bulletin will be mostly completed on Wednesday, so please have anything for the January 4 bulletin to the office by Wednesday noon. Last minute changes can be made if we have the information Friday morning.

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.

LTC (Leadership Training for Christ) is a program for students in 3rd–12th grade. There are a variety of areas to participate in. The conference will be in Kansas City on April 4-6. Attendance at the conference is not required to participate in several of the events. However, the conference itself is a meaningful experience. If you missed the meeting last week, contact Brittany Kretz for information.

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:

Loretta Goben has not been feeling very well and is very weak. Please keep her in your prayers.

Robbie Sikes passed peacefully at her home last Saturday night in the presence of family. She was 97. No date has been set for the service, but the family will plan a celebration of life gathering at a future date.

Richard Swenson is doing much better. The plan is for him to come home on January 1.

Ebenezer List:

New Members: John & Carol Baker, Cheryl Booth, Arriana Colwell, Deanna Ellis, Corena Heasley, John Hartley, Jared Hawley, Joe & Jamie Hendrix, Stephanie Stevens and Jace, Liam, and Arya, Logan Rice, and Tim & Anessa Westbrook

Weddings: Jaden & Timberly (Carr) Beske and Shane & Emma (Tremaine) Stachura

Births: Arya Grady, Alieth Lacina, Bodie Mogul, and Spencer Sikes

Adoptions: Skyler, Nathan, and Isaac Odom

Baptisms: Lorelai Fifield, Desi Gassman, John Hartley, Logan Rice, Bella Robison, Lexi Simons, and Wyatt Tandy

Moved Away: Justin and Joanna Carver, Mark and Rhonda Briggs, Sheila (Tandy) Norris, Earlene Reeves, Garrett and Jenna Schwarz, and CC and Amy Vernon.

Deaths: Carolyn Hambleton, Tim McNeese, Robbie Sikes, and James Thomas.

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

Compassion – Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, humility, gentleness, and patience.

~Colossians 3:12

Daily Bible Reading for the Daily Bible Class

Beginning this week on Thursday

January 1—Genesis 1-3

January 2—Genesis 4-5

January 3—Genesis 6-9

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

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|-------------------------|-------------------|
| For the Record: | December 21, 2025 |
| Weekly Attendance: | 225 |
| <u>Weekly Giving</u> | |
| Budgeted: | \$7,319.72 |
| Actual: | \$4,713.40 |
| Children's: | \$56.59 |
| <u>Year to Date</u> | |
| Budgeted: | \$373,305.72 |
| Giving: | \$347,417.87 |
| Children's for Ecuador: | \$3,059.02 |

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WiFi: EHguest PW: JesusIsLord!

Ministry Staff:

Preaching Minister

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 Gomple -----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.



Order of Worship

Under His Wings

Worship Leader: Charlie Van Gomple

Welcome

509 I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

10 A Mighty Fortress

Hide Me Away, O Lord

Scripture Reading: Andrew Van Gomple

1 Samuel 7:2b-12

Ebenezer, "the Stone of Help"

Prayer: Keith Knight

778 Be with Me, Lord

134 The Lord's My Shepherd

479 Peace, Perfect Peace

Communion: Ken Van Gomple

Children's Offering

Blue Skies and Rainbows

"Especially the Parchments"

2 Timothy 4:13

Glenn Hawley

Invitation for Prayer

414 Anywhere with Jesus

Shepherd's Prayer: Michael Case

Body Life: Titus Robison

Memory Verse:

Ecclesiastes 3:11