

The Blood of Abel

Consider the story of Abel (Gen. 4.1-16). As we enter the story, we find that in the post-sin world Adam and Eve have had two sons with names that have symbolic significance. "Cain" is so named because Eve "produced a son" with the help of the Lord. We will come to the meaning of the name Abel in a moment. The story quickly moves to their adult pursuits; Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. Each approaches the Lord to worship, and a comparison is made between the offerings of each. The gift of Abel from "the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions" (Gen. 4.4a) is distinguished from Cain who "brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground" (v.3).

God's response to each is crucial. He "had regard for Abel and his offering," but not for Cain and his offering. Cain takes God's disappointment with him and his offering into himself with destructive consequences. God quickly intervenes and points out that sin is the culprit. Sin is seeking to exploit Cain's anger, but he must master it.

Unfortunately, he does not and brother Abel becomes a victim of Cain's uncontrolled rage. Abel is slaughtered by his own brother for the "crime" of doing the right thing.

What's the point? As it stands, the Cain and Abel tragedy illustrates the nature of sin. In Gen. 3 sin entered the world through the disobedience of Eve and Adam. In ch. 4 sin continues its march and brings destruction in its wake. We may be tempted to explore the spiritual maturity or psychological profile of Cain to understand why sin had its way with him. But that does not seem to be the point. To find the point, observe the importance of the name, Abel, and the response of God to Cain after he had murdered him.

An ancient reader, when told that a man is named "Abel," would expect that something ominous was

about to happen to him. Another pronunciation for this word is hebel, and it is the word the Preacher of Ecclesiastes uses repeatedly. It means "meaningless," "utterly futile," or "empty." With this name we are to expect that the life of this righteous man would amount to nothing.

This is the way things are in a sin-filled world. Can you hear the cry of Abel's innocent blood? There have been many like Abel in the world (Matt. 23.35). It has been said that those who gave their lives for others are "suckers and losers." We may admire those who die for a righteous cause, but we do not want to be among them. But don't depend on it. In this sin-filled world there will be many who are simply trying to do the right thing whose lives seem to amount to nothing. Paul is probably reflecting on this story when he affirms "for the creation has been subjected to futility" (Rom. 8.20).

In truth, the blood of Abel is crying today. It is important that God hears the cries of Abel's blood. In the fullness of time, we find that the death of Abel foreshadows the death of another righteous man, the sinless Son of God. His blood also cried out for vindication, and this time God answered. Jesus came from the tomb a victor! Can you hear the message?

In this broken world doing the right thing may often look like the way of fools. It seems to get you nothing. Just look at Cain and Abel. Abel died young, and Cain had a long life and a family. But take a longer look. When Jesus died on the cross, God remembered the blood of Abel (Heb. 12.24). His meaningless life finally had a purpose. His death for righteousness prepared God's people to understand what God was about to do on the cross. In a meaningless world following Jesus is the only way that makes sense.

~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 May
 9-17 Adult Ecuador Mission Trip
A 17 High School Seniors Honors
 17-23 YU Round Up
L 23-29 Youth Mission Trip to Colorado
 28 Food Distribution 10:30-11:30 am
 in south parking lot (moved to
 Thursday)
E 30 Freezer Meal prep for the Mission
 1 pm in the church kitchen
 31 Mission Sunday
N 31 Secret Sister Reveal 2:30 pm, FH
 June
D 5 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30
 13 Men's Breakfast at 8 am in FH
A 14-20 YU Soul Quest
 17 No Bible Classes
 21 Father's Day
R 23 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

- 5/17 Kara McNeese
- 5/18 Tonya Carr
- 5/18 Robert Tandy
- 5/21 Sawyer Jaekel
- 5/23 Clay Hinton
- 5/23 Thomas Tandy

- 5/18 Noah & Kara McNeese
- 5/20 David & Rachel Odom

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MINISTRIES & EVENTS

Graduation Booklets: Kids grow up so fast and it can be hard to keep up with who is "graduating already!" If you would like to catch up a little on who is graduating from high school this spring you can find out more in the booklets at the welcome tables. Please take just one booklet per family.

Mission Sunday 2026: We're planning a special mission-focused service for May 31 that will include a special collection for the Quito School of Biblical Studies in Ecuador. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to support the mission of QSOBS.

Meals On Wheels: There are sign up sheets on the information table to participate in May with helping deliver meals to the elderly who participate in Meals on Wheels. This service takes about an hour in the mornings. Please see the sheets or Harold or Deena Tandy for more information.

Nebraska Youth Camp Summer Sessions are just around the corner. You can find session dates for the different grade ranges and register at the QR code or nebraskayouthcamp.com.



Meals for the Mission: Freezer meals for the Hope Gospel Rescue Mission to serve to those in need will be put together on May 30 at 1:00 pm in the church kitchen. If you can dump things in a bag, you can help!

Sunday Evening Building Group: YU Round Up begins tonight and instead of them joining us, we are going to join them for a time of worship at the YU prayer chapel at 5:00 pm.

Devotional Books are available for free on the bookshelf in the foyer.

Teacher Sign-Up for Summer Bible Classes for Children: The sign up for teaching and helping with the children's Bible classes this summer, beginning May 24, is available at the QR code. The sign up is by month so you can sign up around your vacation plans. Please prayerfully consider signing up to help this summer! See Brittany Kretz if you have questions.



Snack Donations are being collected for the Presidential Leadership Institute, a leadership camp for Church of Christ high school students directed by Dr. Jared Pack. If you would like to help, please bring individually packaged snacks and place them in the donation area located in the back of the foyer. Thank you for supporting this ministry and encouraging these students as they grow in their leadership and faith!

Then Jesus said to all of them, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

East Hill 2026 Theme Verse—Luke 9:23 (NIV)

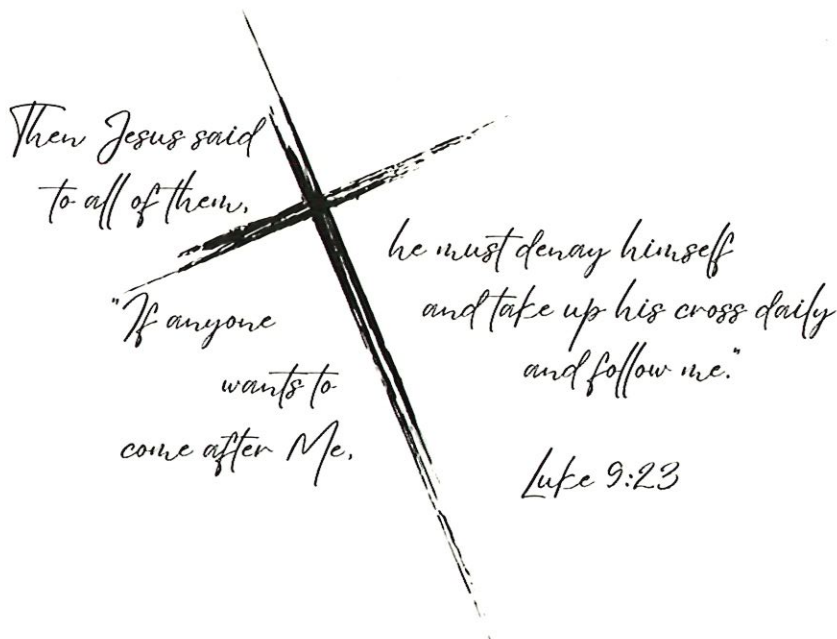
BODY LIFE & PRAYERS

Prayer Requests:

Ecuador Mission Trip: Luke Case, Jared Hawley, Hal Hockersmith, Avery & Kitra Miller, Tom & Sheila Norris, Ryan & Valene Roseke, Shirley Schuman, Todd Sheldon, Bryce Smith, and Mandy Smith are worshipping with our brothers and sisters in Ecuador one more time this morning. They will return tomorrow, Monday, May 18. Please keep them and their travel in your prayers.

Youth Mission Trip to Colorado: On Saturday, May 23 the you mission team and their sponsors will be headed to Colorado Springs to work with a church in the area that is focused on outreach and serving the community through a food pantry and a clothing giveaway. They will be helping with some repair around the building and joining the church in service to their community. **Dan and Julie Goodwin** will lead the group of teens: **Danny Burgess, Peter Dallmann, Lorelai Fifield, Ava and Tyce Goodwin, Sawyer Jaekel, Asher Marquart, Harison and Lauren Sears, Hailey Stutzman, Brianna Ulrich, Sam Van Gomple and Kris Van Patten.** They will return on Saturday, May 29. Please keep the team in your prayers.

Leo Miller will have eye surgery tomorrow.



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 has wrapped up for this year. It will resume in the fall.

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

Daily Bible Readings

If you would like to read Proverbs by topic like in the daily Bible, please, pick up a sheet from the information table, or you can follow the schedule below for the rest of Proverbs by chapter.

Sun 5/17-Prov 1:8-19, 3:1-12, 25-35; 5; 6

Mon 5/18-Prov 7; 9:7-12; 10

Tue 5/19-Prov 11; 12; 13

Wed 5/20-14; 15; 16

Thu 5/21-Prov 17; 18; 19

Fri 5/22-Prov 20; 21; 22:1-16, 22-29

Sat 5/23-Prov 23; 24; 25

Sun 5/24-Prov 26; 27; 28

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:	May 10, 2026
Weekly Attendance:	285
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,482.33
Actual:	\$6,318.35
Children's:	Will be included with next week's.
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$142,164.27
Giving:	\$136,598.73
Children's for Ecuador:	\$896.20

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Ministry Staff:

Preaching Minister

Glenn Hawley

Outreach & Involvement Minister

Glenn Dallmann

Children's Ministry - School Age

Brittany Kretz

Children's Ministry - Preschool

Jodie Yunevich

Youth Ministry - Coordinator

Dan & Julie Goodwin

Administrative Assistants

Michele Briggs 9 am-noon

Tera Knapp 2:15-5:15 pm

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

Troy Flynt -----Treasurer

Dan Goodwin-----Youth

Trent Hinton -----Livestream

Casey Kinnison -----Facilities

Larry Light ----- Single Seniors

Jared Pack---Fellowship & Involvement

Jeff Shafer ----- Worship Support

Kyle Stewart----- Media

Ken Van Gomple----- College Ministry

Summer Quarter about to start!

Each Sunday, all children ages 2 through 5th grade begin together for 15 minutes of fun, intergenerational sing time before heading to their classrooms for 30 minutes.

Classes are divided into: nursery, 2s & 3s, 4s & Preschool/Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade, 3rd-5th Grade. This year, our 1st-5th grade students will begin a new study called Bible Bee, where students will work through Acts 1-18 while memorizing larger portions of Scripture throughout the year.

Our 3rd-5th grade students will also begin learning Greek and Latin words connected to the text, helping them build a deeper understanding of Scripture.

Wednesday nights will focus on studying through the entire book of Acts in a large-group setting with all ages together. Older students will help lead puppet shows designed to help younger children better understand different parts of the lesson.

We Need Your Help! There is a place for everyone downstairs. Whether you are interested in teaching, helping with classroom activities, assisting during sing time, working with puppets, encouraging students, or simply being an extra set of hands, your help matters.

And of course, families are always encouraged to bring their children and be part of all the exciting things happening this year!

Order of Worship

Jesus Christ is Lord

Worship Leader: Glenn Dallmann

47 *Holy, Holy, Holy* (Joseph B.)

76 *How Great Thou Art* (Arabella R.)

Congregational Reading: Troy Burgess

Philippians 2:6-11

186 *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*
(Sarah C.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Frank Billington

Welcome

242 *Sing Hallelujah to the Lord* (Ava G.)

478 *Nearer, Still Nearer* (Danny B.)

Communion: Titus Robison

Children's Offering

290 *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (Braeden P.)

"Fix your Eyes on Jesus"

Hebrews 12:2

Dan Goodwin

Invitation for Prayer

710 *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*
(Jaime R.)

38 *Awesome God* (Quinn S.)

Elder's Graduate Blessing Graduate Slideshow

Shepherd's Prayer: Michael Case

Body Life: Ken Van Gomple

Memory Verse: *Proverbs 4:6*