

Lessons From the Early Church

Next year at the 2027 HOALTC the focus will be the book of Acts, so I thought it would be good to spend some time studying Acts. I find it exciting to read about the birth of the Church! As I was reading, Acts 2:42 jumped out at me:

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

This one short verse contains the recipe for a healthy church family, with four activities that will help keep a church body connected to God and to each other.

1. They were devoted to the apostles' teachings
For the church to remain strong and connected to the Father we must take time to make sure we are rooted in the Scriptures, "the apostles' teachings". Several passages come to mind that encourage us to be dedicated to spending time studying the Scriptures:

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

-II Timothy 3:16

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

-II Timothy 2:15

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

-Hebrews 4:12

A faithful church family is grounded in the Word of God, following the example of the apostles and of our Lord, Jesus Christ. How are we doing in this area? Are we spending time each day in the Word?

2. And to fellowship

In its original context, fellowship (Greek: koinonia) described a deep, mutual sharing of goods, experiences, and spiritual life among a community. It went beyond

simple social interaction to imply a profound unity where members considered their resources and lives as shared for the common good. A strong church family spends time with each other and helps to meet the needs of one another. Do we spend time together investing in the lives of our church family members?

3. And to the breaking of bread

One way to look at this phrase is in reference to our sharing the Lord's Supper or communion. This is a vital part of our worship time together. I think "and to the breaking of bread" also refers to the sharing of our everyday meals together. Acts 2:46 reads, *"Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart."* There is something about gathering around a table and sharing a meal that enriches relationships. How often do we share meals with those of our church family?

4. And to prayer

The early church believed in and relied on the power of prayer. In Acts 1 when the disciples returned to Jerusalem after the ascension of Christ it tells us, *"They were continually devoting themselves to prayer."* Often, we see the disciples going to the Temple at the hour of prayer. In Acts 12 when Peter was in prison, we are told that *"prayer was being made fervently by the church to God."* In Acts 16 we find them going out to a *"place of prayer."* Strong churches are churches that believe in and practice the power of prayer. Is prayer made a priority in our lives, individually and as a church family?

The early church used these four areas to help build a strong community of believers. I want to encourage us to look for opportunities to use the activities we find listed in Acts 2:42 to help strengthen our East Hill family.

~Eric Tremaine

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, minister, or elders know how we can serve you.

CALENDAR	September
	19 Men's Breakfast at 8 am Mark Miller's house
	19 Women's Heartfelt Brunch 9 am -1 pm in the fellowship hall
	19 Nebraska Youth Camp Annual Dinner 5:30 pm at Stolley Park Church of Christ in Grand Island
	22 Greeters' Meeting 7 pm in FH
	26 Meals for the Mission 1 pm
	26 Fun & Fellowship 5-9 pm in FH
	October
	2 Son Shiners at Chances "R" at 5:30 pm
	3 Ladies' Crafting 2-8 pm in FH
DAR	10 Men's Breakfast at 8 am in FH
	10 Chili Cookoff 5:30 pm in FH
	11 Clothing Giveaway set up 5:30 p
	12-15 Sorting for Clothing giveaway 9 am to 9 pm
	16 Clothing Final Set-up
	17 Clothing Giveaway 8 am-noon
R	30-1 Women's Retreat Timberlake Ranch Camp

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

9/13 Virginia Helmlinger
9/17 Ryan Roseke
9/19 Susan Becker
9/19 Addie Boss
9/19 Genaro Vasquez

9/13 Wade & Rose Scamehorn
9/16 Jeff & Becky Shafer
9/17 Scott & Kim Van Esch
9/17 Tim & Anessa Westbrook

CELEBRATE

MINISTRIES & EVENTS

The Church Office Secretary Hours will be 9 am– noon this week as Tera will be gone on vacation.

Small Groups News: We will soon be restarting some small groups and reforming some others. If you are willing to host or lead a small group (or both), please talk to Glenn Hawley.

Thursday Women's Bible Class will begin meeting this Thursday, September 17, 10:00 -11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Bible, Bacon, and Bros: Men's Breakfast will meet this Saturday at Mark Miller's house at 8 am.

All women: Please plan to come to the fall East Hill Women's Day on Saturday, September 19, 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Our theme will be "Wisdom from Above". We will have a light breakfast and lunch, several women sharing thoughts and scriptures, singing, prayer and fellowship. This will be a great time to meet new people, and enjoy connecting with one another. We will also have an opportunity to sign up for our Heartfelt groups for the year again. There will be more info to come about Heartfelt Moms and Sisters (monthly intergenerational meetings in "Mom's" homes). If you have questions, you may contact Julie Stachura or Kay Magner. The QR code links to a sign up for sides if you would like to help with the brunch or sides portion of the food.



NYC Annual Dinner: Supporters of Nebraska Youth Camp are invited to the camp's annual dinner on September 19 at the Stolley Park church of Christ in Grand Island. There is a free will offering for the pancake feed that begins at 5:30. There will be an auction of prize baskets to support the camp, and the board members elected for 2026-2028 will be announced.

Secret Sisters: Ladies that are interested in anonymously praying for one another, please sign up for this school year. You will be given a form about a sister to pray for. You can leave an occasional card or gift in their mailbox, if you would like, but it is not required. See the EHPN or call the office to sign up by next Sunday, September 20. See Tera Knapp with questions.

Greeters' Meeting: There will be a meeting for all current greeters on Tuesday, September 22, at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Coffee, tea, and cookies will be served. Anyone interested in the greeting ministry should see Cameron and Andrae Clifford.

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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

Candy Battreall had some appointments on Tuesday. She is glad that she received a good report on her health as she had been struggling with some illness over the last few weeks. Thank you for your prayers.

Dawn Sikes is doing well following her final chemo on August 27. She is scheduled for surgery on September 24.

Lynda Smith is struggling to keep her iron count up. She has thyroid surgery scheduled for September 28 and needs it to come up before then.

Body Life

We want to thank everyone who attended the congregational meeting on Wednesday evening. We got a lot of good feedback and support. For those who were not able to attend, here is a thumbnail sketch of what went on.

Proposed office project: We would like to build an addition to the church building that runs along the southwest wall (foyer/fellowship hall). This will significantly increase our office space as well as provide a meeting room. The cost estimate is substantial, approaching \$500,000. Drawings and financial information are available in the foyer.

New minister proposal: The elders would like to bring on a minister with two areas of emphasis: outreach and youth. How those responsibilities would balance out would largely depend on the qualities of the minister who joins us. Copies of the preliminary proposal are available in the foyer.

These are significant changes for East Hill, and more information will be coming soon.

Fall Adult Classes for Sunday Mornings:

Genesis (Keith Miller) - Fellowship Hall (starts September 13)

Daily Bread (Tim Carr) - Fellowship Hall

Ecclesiastes (Jared Pack - college age) - Fellowship Hall

Daily Bible (Glenn Hawley) - Auditorium

The congregation here does not pass a plate for your offering each Sunday. Should you choose to honor God by sharing in His work, there are offering boxes on the back wall of the auditorium and in the foyer.

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 meets in the fellowship hall on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

Weekly Prayer Pal Suggestion

Faith — See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright — but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness —

~Habakkuk 2:4

Daily Bible Readings

Sun 9/13 - Job 18-21

Mon 9/14 - Job 22-24

Tue 9/15 - Job 25-31

Wed 9/16 - Job 32-37

Thu 9/17 - Job 38-42

Fri 9/18 - Ps 44, 74, 79, 80, 85, 89

Sat 9/19 - Ps 102, 106, 123, 137

Sun 9/20 - Dan 7-8

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:	Sept 6, 2026
Weekly Attendance:	234
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
Budgeted:	\$7,482.33
Actual:	\$8,476.65
Children's:	\$69.57
<u>Year to Date</u>	
Budgeted:	\$269,363.88
Giving:	\$251,345.38
Children's for Ecuador:	\$1,756.36

East Hill Church of Christ
1122 Delaware Ave. (Building)
1225 E 10th St. (Mailing/Offices)
York, NE 68467
Office: (402) 362-4990
Email: easthillsecretary@gmail.com
Website: www.easthillcofc.org
WiFi: EHguest PW: JesusIsLord!

Ministry Staff:

Preaching Minister

Glenn Hawley

Children's Ministry - School Age

Brittany Kretz

Children's Ministry - Preschool

Jodie Yunevich

Youth Ministry - Coordinator

Dan & Julie Goodwin

Administrative Assistants

Michele Briggs 11:00 am—2:00 pm
Tera Knapp 2:00—5:00 pm

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

Trey Colle----- Emergency Meals

Troy Flynt ----- Treasurer

Dan Goodwin ----- Youth

Trent Hinton -----Livestream

Casey Kinnison -----Facilities

Larry Light ----- Single Seniors

Jared Pack -- Fellowship & Involvement

Titus Robison----- Benevolence

Jeff Shafer----- Worship Support

Kyle Stewart ----- Media

Ken Van Gomple ----- College Ministry

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Meals for the Mission: Freezer

meals for the mission to serve to those in need will be put together on Saturday, September 26, at 1:00 pm in the church kitchen. Anyone is welcome to come and help.

The Women's Retreat is coming up October 30–November 1 at Timberlake Ranch in Marquette, Nebraska! We'll begin on Friday at 5:00 pm and wrap up around noon on Sunday. The registration fee is \$95. You can secure your spot with a \$25 deposit and pay the remaining balance when you arrive. (Meals will include Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast.) There will be more information on Saturday, September 19, at the Women's Day.

If you have any questions, please contact: Diana Kretz or Ana Carvalho

CAMPUS CONNECTION:

College Students—Games and S'mores will be hosted by the College Ministry group on Saturday, September 19, 6:30 pm, at the Van Gomple house. Join us for yard games (cornhole, basketball, 'can jam', etc.) and table games, as well (Monopoly, card games, etc.) S'mores will be available, as well as some other snacks. We look forward to having you over for fun and fellowship!

Order of Worship

Seeing My Father in Me

Worship Leader: Aaron Bartak

271 Son of Man

Prayer: Jeff Shafer

Welcome

611 Heavenly Sunlight

414 Anywhere with Jesus

Scripture Reading: Brien Alley

Philippians 3:7-11

800 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

552 Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Communion: Dan Goodwin

Children's Offering

429 O to Be Like Thee

"When Knowing Isn't Enough"

Luke 7:36-50

Invitation for Prayer

662 All to Jesus I Surrender

Shepherd's Prayer: Ron Kretz

Body Life: Ken Van Gomple

Memory Verse: *Isaiah 30:18*