

## Family Information

### From The Elders & Minister:

Thank you for your patience and your continued patience as we seek the right times to resume certain church activities. At least for the time being, we'll continue to just meet for Sunday mornings and maintain the same precautions that are currently in place.

The worship service time will be 10:00 a.m. Facemasks will be required. If you do not bring your own, one will be provided for you. The facemasks are to be worn at all times during the service apart from taking the cup and bread during the Lord's Supper. The service will be shortened in length.

Regarding the Lord's Supper: We will have individual cups with bread on top packed and ready for each of you as you come into the foyer. Instead of a collection/contribution time, we will have a contribution plate where you can leave your contribution. Bulletins will not be printed. They will be on our website.

Water fountains, hallways, and classrooms will be off limits for the time being. Restrooms will remain open in the foyer, but we encourage you to refrain from using them if possible. Each family must sit together, and there has to be 6 feet or more distance from the next person or family.

Once service is finished, we will dismiss starting from the back and working towards the front, going section by sections. Please do not gather around in the foyer. As usual, follow CDC recommendations.

## Calendar

### On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is "The Wisdom Of God" (based on 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16). The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Leon will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join.

### More On-Line Studies

Every other Friday at 7:00 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him for details.

Every other Tuesday at 7:00 PM, next session July 7 - Devotional and Prayer with Jeff McVicker. Contact him for details.

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM - Instagram Devotional by Caleb Dillinger. Contact him for details.

(Jim Robbins's Sunday evening Bible Study is temporarily postponed, while Jim recovers from knee replacement surgery.)

### Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
<b>General:</b>	\$4976	\$4849
<b>Designated:</b>	\$25	\$81



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## Jesus Had Compassion On Us

### (With Some Thoughts From Sherlock Holmes's Cases)

*As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. Follow me, he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.*  
- Matthew 9:9

As Jesus sees an unpopular tax collector, he sees Matthew's heart and calls him to follow him. On his part, Matthew does not hesitate, and at once follows Jesus, leaving behind his business; for he recognized the hope and renewal and meaning that Jesus brings to those who follow him. Tax collectors were outcasts, especially since they worked for the Romans, so most of their friends were also unpopular for one reason or another, looked down upon as 'sinners'. So when the Pharisees see Jesus eating at Matthew's house, they disapprovingly question Jesus' disciples - *While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?* - Matthew 9:10-11

Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective Sherlock Holmes worked on many difficult cases that involved shocking outrages and gruesome crimes that unnerved even experienced officials, as they worried about how ruthless these criminals were, and how difficult it would be to find them. Of one such case, Holmes said, "Crime is common. Logic is rare. Therefore it is upon the logic rather than upon the crime that you should dwell." Instead of panicking, Holmes examined what had happened to see what clues it provided and how they could help solve the case.

Similarly, sin is all too common in its many different forms, while understanding and mercy are rare; so Jesus calls us to dwell on God's message of forgiveness and hope, instead of letting this world's problems overwhelm us. For we all sin and we all need the continual healing and kindness and grace that can only come from God - *On hearing this, Jesus said, It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.* - Matthew 9:12-13

Sherlock Holmes is especially known for saying, "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth." We are all sheep who had gone astray, yet Jesus had compassion on us, and he brings good news to those who turn our hearts to him - *Jesus went through all the towns and villages . . . proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.* - Matthew 9:35-36

As improbable as it may seem, the truth is that God loves each one of us more than earthly minds can imagine, our Heavenly Father rejoices in being with us, and he delights in giving us the compassion and grace and understanding that we all need.

- Mark Garner

### Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Ghana Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Ghana Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Spanish Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Evening	7:00 pm

**Minister:** Caleb Dillinger  
**Elders:** Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins  
**Deacons:** Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva  
**Spanish Ministry:** Elmer Renderos, Luis Valdez

## We Hope In Thee, O God

We hope in Thee, O God!  
The day wears on to night;  
Thick shadows lie across our world,  
In Thee alone is light.

We hope in Thee, O God!  
The fading time is here,  
But Thou abidest strong and true  
Though all things disappear.

We hope in Thee, O God!  
Our joys go one by one,  
But lonely hearts can rest in Thee,  
When all beside is gone.

We hope in Thee, O God!  
Hope fails us elsewhere;  
But since Thou art in all that is,  
Peace takes the hand of care.

We hope in Thee, O God!  
In whom none hope in vain;  
We cling to Thee in love and trust,  
And joy succeeds to pain.

- Marianne Hearn, 1834-1909



## The Lord Will Be Our Guide

*Whatever tomorrow or next week may bring, our Heavenly Father will always be with us and will guide us each step. This week, Leon Norwood writes about what this means to him*

## We Can Always Count On God To Guide Us

Sheep are peculiar animals—timid, defenseless, and not necessarily known for their great intelligence. Isn't it interesting that God likens his people to sheep? It isn't very flattering, but it is true. See **John 10:27**. "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

In the classic book "The Lord of the Rings," J.R.R. Tolkien wrote a poem that included the line, "Not all who wander are lost." This is particularly true for God's people, and from time to time may seem to apply to you. Fortunately, even though you feel like you're wandering, that doesn't mean you're lost. God designed you with a purpose in mind. God loves you. He has a specific, unique and glorious destiny for you, and He promises to guide you. God's purpose for you is bigger than your mistakes. I have made many mistakes in my life, but I can honestly say that God has never stopped guiding me.

Let's do a quick review of God leading the Israelites out of Egypt to the promised land. When Pharaoh let the people go, God didn't lead them on the road that made the most sense. The Bible tells us in Exodus 13, that though the path was shorter right through the Philistine country, God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." So, He led them around the desert road over towards the Red Sea, thru a hot, dry, barren wasteland (Exodus 13:17-18). And that was just the beginning of their journey. The way to our promised land is not always easy, and in fact rarely is. But with God leading us we can be sure that it's worth it.

"By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light..." (Exodus 13:21-22). God never left his people alone in their journey. His presence was always there, a reminder to them that they hadn't been left on their own in the wilderness. As a pillar of cloud in the day and fire by night, He guided them, giving them shade from the fierceness of the desert sun, and a light in the darkest of nights.

God will not leave us to fend for ourselves, struggling to find our way. He created us for love and fellowship and is always willing to lead us. He promises to be faithful. We may not see him in a pillar of cloud or fire these days, but we have his Word, and the Holy Spirit to give guidance to our days. He is with us when we fellowship with each other and gives us wisdom, and provides direction, so we never have to fear being left on our own to figure things out. He goes ahead of us, he walks with us, and he guards our way from behind. His Word gives truth and life, it shows us the way to walk in this world.

Too often in despair, we face these journeys as God leads us into our own "promised land." Maybe you feel like the blessing is too long in coming, maybe you feel like giving up. Be assured again today that God is faithful, and he will use all things to strengthen our faith and bring goodness to his people. Stay strong, keep pressing through. "For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end" (Psalm 48:14).

- Leon Norwood