

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Next Phase of Covid Adjustments: We still have a lot of adjustments to plan this summer - Bible class, Wednesday activities, church events, communion supplies, etc.

Here are the continued precautions we are taking: 1) Face coverings are now optional. We will continue to provide face masks for those who desire them. 2) Regarding 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, head to the table on the left. 3) We will have a contribution plate alongside the communion table as well as immediately inside the auditorium near the doors. 4) There will be no invitation song. In place of the invitation, An Elder will be at a table in the foyer for you to come to and submit any prayer requests. These prayer requests will be prayed over after our final song.

Summer Camp Week

Our camp week is July 19th through July 25th at Fort Hill. Camp registration: Cost is currently \$190.00 if paid 2 weeks before camp, and \$200 at camp. Josh Evans is putting together a list of staff and campers coming to camp this year. Please let Josh know if you plan on attending or are interested.

On Line Bible Studies

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, this week we're starting a new series, "That Grace May Overflow" (based on Romans 5 & 6). The studies are being taught by Mark G., Phil S., Steve C., and Leon N. This week, Mark will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM, and 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.

Mondays at 7:00 PM - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser. Contact her for details. If you aren't able to join, you can e-mail prayer requests to Peggy.

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM - Women's Bible study, "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. Contact her for more details.

Contact Caleb Dillinger if you would like to have free access to RightNow Media, a digital collection of faith-based videos.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5207	\$4606
Designated:	\$30	\$82

Adjusted Service Times

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Worship
12:00 PM Sunday Ghana Worship
3:00 PM Sunday Spanish worship

*Classes and devotionals are
Currently meeting on-line*

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

Blessed Are Those...

Blessed Are Those Whose Hope Is In The Lord

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul. - Psalm 146:1

Throughout the Scriptures we are encouraged to love and praise and worship the Lord with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength. Many of the Psalms remind us of God's vastness and his splendor, and they help us learn how to praise our Heavenly Father not only with words, but also with our souls, not only outwardly, rather with our inmost being - *I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. - Psalm 146:2*

Scientist and mathematician Isaac Newton (1643-1727) is remembered for his many discoveries and teachings in numerous scientific fields, yet during his lifetime he was also known for his faith in God and for his devotion to reading and studying the Scriptures daily. To Newton, these fit together perfectly, for he was a seeker of truth, and as he wrote, "Truth is ever to be found in simplicity, and not in the multiplicity and confusion of things."

To Newton, all of the natural world reflected God's majesty and understanding, so instead of devising complicated speculations, he looked for simpler yet deeper truths. For example, when Isaac was able to understand and explain how gravity works, he also wrote "Gravity explains the motions of the planets, but it cannot explain Who sets the planets in motion."

Each time that Isaac made a new discovery, it reminded him that God is far greater and far wiser and far more caring than human words can fully describe; and as Newton often said, "What we know is a drop, what we don't know is an ocean." Instead of trusting in his own talents and his own strength, Isaac trusted in the Lord our living God. For God has the answers to questions we never even thought of, and he alone can sustain us each step - *Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save . . . Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. - Psalm 146:3, 146:5*

Newton described the Scriptures as "the most sublime philosophy," for this world is full of loud voices and empty thinking, yet the words of our Heavenly Father are timeless truths, teachings meant for all of us to understand, yet also full of depth and meaning. And as Isaac Newton says, "God is the same God, always and everywhere." The Lord alone is God - *He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them - he remains faithful forever. - Psalm 146:6*

In his unfailing care, God made the skies and the earth and the seas and he gives life to us all; in his overflowing compassion and grace, God gives eternal life to those who walk by faith in Jesus.

- Mark Garner



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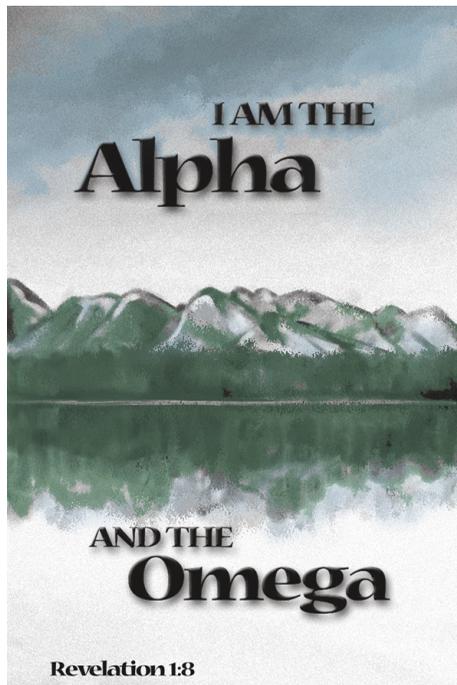
Up To The Eternal Hills I Lift My Eyes

Up to the eternal hills I lift my eyes,
Those holy hills whence every blessing springs,
Where Jesus, my triumphant Conq'ror, lives ;
Those sacred hills where God, the Judge of all,
In majesty and glory, reigns supreme,
Exalted far above my highest thoughts ;
Those glorious hills where all perfection dwells,
Where faints and angels sweetly harmonize.

There Jesus, as my Advocate, appears,
In Him, in Him alone, my help is found ;
He bought my ransom with His precious blood ;
He bore my sins on the accursed tree ;
Let everlasting honors crown His head!

Jesus, to Thee I lift my longing eyes,
On Thee alone my expectations wait,
And Thou canst far surpass my soul's desires :
Thou art acquainted with my numerous woes,
Thou know'st my wants, my sorrows, and my fears
O send me consolation's friendly balm.

- Susanna Harrison, 1752-1784



As The Mountains Surround Jerusalem . . .

Psalm 125 uses this image of the ways that God surrounds us and protects us and guides us. This week, Leon Norwood writes about the promises in this Psalm, and what they mean to us.

God's Precious Promises

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore. - Psalm 125:2

I love Psalm 125. I can't tell you how many times I have read it aloud to help renew my hope and faith in the Lord.

The first three verses contain some very precious promises made to God's people, which, though generally refer to safety and welfare of the church universally, can equally be applied to individual believers and help inspire and encourage us to strive for a greater level of faith and trust in God. Verse 1 identifies a specific characteristic that God's people must possess to fully partake of the blessing of His love and protection. That is of course trusting him. I presently find myself in a situation where I vacillate between trust and skepticism, as maybe you do too, from time to time.

Such is the world we live in today. However, God's promises are more than precious. They are true and it is God himself who encourages us to embrace and take hold of his promises simply by trusting him. The second promise God gives us is that those who truly trust Him cannot be shaken. That doesn't mean that you won't feel anxious or frustrated sometime, but rather because you have put your whole faith and trust in God's love, that experience (no matter how troublesome or foreboding) will not prevail and will ultimately give way to God's love and peace because you have learned to call on him and trust him.

Finally, the third and best promise is that God will always love and protect us, both now and forever. The only way He can possibly do this is that He is always with us i.e. surrounding us. God gives us his assurance in verse 2 and says, "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore." All that deal with God must trust Him, as He is eager and pleased to give comfort to those who give credit and glory to him. The closer our expectations are reserved to God the higher our expectations may be raised from him.

- Leon Norwood