

Family Information

From The Elders & Minister

Next Phase of Covid Adjustments: We still have a lot of adjustments to plan - Bible class, Wednesday activities, church events, communion supplies, etc. We are currently working on updating the E44 classroom (formerly a Wednesday Night classroom/Spanish classroom). More details to come as we work on it this month.

We are tentatively scheduling a church building "work day" on Saturday, September 11th. We'll be doing some cleaning, organizing, and various projects to improve the building. We'll keep you updated on time and a definitive plan later.

See the elders for details on the continued precautions we are taking.

New Birth

Congratulations to Gloria and Franklin Agyei! On Sunday, August 15, Gloria gave birth to a son, Arvin Kufuor Agyei. Arvin's weight is 6 pounds and 15 ounces, and his height is 19 ½ inches. Many of us will have Gloria, Franklin, Adin, Ariella, and Arvin in our prayers.

Upcoming Birth

Our friend and sister in Christ, Micah Evans is due in a short couple months with baby Marshall. We'd like to gift them a monetary blessing from their church family. If you are willing and able to give, you can give cash or gift cards to Meagan Stover or Ashley Dillinger by the 29th of August. Thank you!

On Line Bible Studies

Northland Child Care Update

Please pray for quality teachers. We are in critical need of teachers. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. You can help our current teachers by volunteering to read or teach lessons to the children. If you have questions of what this involves you can discuss with Mike and/or Lynn Paden as they are currently developing and teaching a curriculum based on stories in the Bible.

This ministry not only involves the children but also their families and our staff. One of our teachers is off on maternity leave which is creating a financial hardship for her. We are helping to support her from the benevolence fund. Thanks for your support! Additional needs include boxes of tissues.

On-Line Sunday Afternoon Bible Class

In the Sunday afternoon on-line Bible class, the current series is, "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, Phil will teach the class, beginning at 2:00 PM, and everyone is welcome to join.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$4321	\$4541
Designated:	\$790	\$100



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An Anchor For Our Souls

God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. - Hebrews 6:17

The purposes of our Heavenly Father's heart are the same yesterday and today and forever; God's words are true and his promises are trustworthy. God makes those who walk by faith in his Son his own precious children, heirs of eternal life, for he has prepared a place for us in his heavenly dwelling where we may be with him forever. Our Father in heaven gives us a lasting hope that transcends this world's changing appearances and circumstances - *God did this so that . . . we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. - Hebrews 6:18*

Writer and nurse Arabella Katherine Hankey (1834-1911, she went by her middle name) is best remembered today for writing the words to the hymn "I Love To Tell The Story". Hankey was active in teaching children's Bible classes and writing about Jesus, until in her 30's when Katherine was stricken by a severe illness, which necessitated her to undergo a lengthy convalescence. She used that time to write a long poem about the story of Jesus and what it means to us.

As Hankey writes, "I love to tell the story Of unseen things above, Of Jesus and His glory, Of Jesus and His love." From this poem, she later chose some excerpts that were set to music as two hymns. Indeed, the story of unseen things above and of Jesus' unending love is an anchor for our souls amidst this world's noise and confusion, and the story of Jesus gives us hope all day long - *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. - Hebrews 6:19*

As Katherine writes, "I love to tell the story, Because I know 'tis true; It satisfies my longings As nothing else can do." Truly God has given us many reasons to believe in the message of Jesus and him crucified and raised, and indeed the Lamb of God came to satisfy the deepest needs of our souls. This world is full of empty promises and false hopes, yet as Hankey writes of the story of Jesus, "More wonderful it seems Than all the golden fancies Of all our golden dreams."

Each one of us is dear to God, he knows each of us by name, and he calls us to put our hope and our faith in Jesus, who has opened the curtain we couldn't have opened so that we may be with our Heavenly Father - *It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. - Hebrews 6:19-20*

Jesus lived as one of us and he bore our pains and our sorrows, and God's grace overflows to those who walk in the light of his Son.

- Mark Garner

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: Luis Valdez

Lead Me To Calvary

King of my life, I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn crowned brow,
Lead me to Calvary.

Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid,
Tenderly mourned and wept;
Angels in robes of light arrayed
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept.

Let me like Mary, through the gloom,
Come with a gift to Thee;
Show to me now the empty tomb,
Lead me to Calvary.

Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.

- Jennie Evelyn Hussey, 1874-1958

Writer Jennie Hussey began writing poems as a child; she had one of her poems published at age 13, and at 16 her poetry and articles began being frequently published. Later, several dozen of her poems were set to music as hymns; this is the one she is best known for.



As The Mountains Surround Jerusalem . . .

Psalm 125 uses this image of the ways our Heavenly Father surrounds us and protects us and guides us. This week, Mike Paden writes about the spiritual protection that God gives us when we walk by faith in Jesus.

Those Who Trust In The Lord . . .

As believers we read these verses or sing the song because it gives us comfort to know that our God is looking out for us. In the case of "mountains" there are two perspectives, depending on one's relationship with God.

Psalm 125:1-2 affirms that those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken, because the Lord protects them as the mountains that surround Jerusalem are her fortifications. The same cannot be said about the wicked, who neither know or fear God (v.3).

Hosea was a prophet to the northern kingdom of Israel who spoke out against the people's iniquity, idolatry and disregard for God. They had set up altars to false gods on the mountains, and God's patience has run its course. As punishment, God foretold of the nation's destruction and when the end is in sight, "Then they will say to the mountains, 'Cover us!' and to the hills, 'Fall on us!'" (Hosea 10:8).

But the mountains surrounding Zion are not the same as the mountains of Samaria. True, but Jesus quotes this Hosea passage to the mourning women as he is carrying His cross toward Golgotha, (Luke 23:26-31). In this passage, Jesus is foretelling the destruction of Jerusalem some forty years in the future. He mourns for them as any compassionate person would, however sad he is, he has no control over their destiny. He has warned them, but their lack of faith means that they will seek shelter in Jerusalem even though it is foreordained to be destroyed. When faced with the Roman invasion they will pray to the mountains to cover them.

Within the same context of Jesus' prophecy about the destruction of Jerusalem from Matthew 24, he warns his followers by saying, when you see the abomination which causes desolation, "Let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak" (Matt 24:16-18). I believe Jesus did not want any of His followers to lift a finger to defend Jerusalem.

Whatever we are facing, if our perspective is on following and believing God, we can be comforted in knowing that He will protect us—not necessarily physically, but definitely spiritually. On the other hand, those who reject God do not have that assurance, and at the end of this life, would rather have the mountains fall upon them.

Let us say to non-believers, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths." (Isaiah 2:3).

- Mike Paden