

Family Information

Sunday Afternoon Class Schedule (Revised)

The Sunday afternoon Bible class will be taking a break for a couple more weeks. It will resume meeting in the near future.

Upcoming Study In Tuesday Women's Bible Class

In September, the Tuesday women's on-line class will begin a study of 1 Peter, using the workbook "Living Stones" by Casandra Martin. The workbook costs \$20; Karen Susenna can order one for you, as long as you let her know by next Sunday, August 6. If you have any other questions about the class, see Karen.

Wednesday Outreach Meeting This Week

There will be an Outreach Meeting this Wednesday, August 2, at 6:30 PM. The Outreach Team is currently meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. See Caleb if you have any questions.

Men's Lunch On August 20

The next Northland brothers' lunch will be on Sunday, August 20, after morning worship. See Jeff for more information.

Crafts & Story Time On August 26

The Outreach Team is planning a Crafts and Story Time at the church on Saturday, August 26th, from 2:00-3:30 PM. See Caleb for more information.

Combined Worship On September 10

There will be a combined time of worship with the Ghana congregation (and possibly also with the Spanish congregation) on Sunday evening, September 10, at 6:00 PM. More details will be coming soon.

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 AM
 Sunday Spanish Worship 10:00 AM
 Sunday Ghana Worship 12:00 PM
 Sunday Evening Worship 4:00 PM

For sessions that are currently meeting on-line, see the announcements above.

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

On Line Bible Studies

Current Mid-Week Studies

First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans. Contact him or Leisha for locations, details, and updates.

Mondays at 6:30 PM (On-Line) - 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 (On-Line) - Women's Bible study "Abide In Christ", led by Karen Susenna. The current study is in Acts. In September, the class will begin a study of 1 Peter, using the workbook "Living Stones" by Casandra Martin. Contact Karen for more details, as well as to request a workbook.

Children's Classes

We currently have children's classes for ages 2-10 during worship (each of them begins after the Lord's Supper). See Mike Evans for further details. The children's education program needs helpers for all age groups. See Lynn Paden or Emily Graham if you can help.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$3319	\$4415
Designated:	\$	\$573



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The Surpassing Worth...

The Surpassing Worth Of Knowing Jesus

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: . . . a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. - Philippians 3:4-7

As the apostle has learned, nothing else compares to knowing God through Jesus, nothing gives lasting hope like the message of Jesus, and only God's presence and his Spirit living in us can bring peace to our souls amidst this world's confusion and harshness. Everything pales compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus - *What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. - Philippians 3:8*

This is one of the favorite Scriptures of chemist and research scientist Jing Kong (born in China in the 1970s and has lived in the U.S. since 1997, best known for her research in nanotechnology). Growing up, Kong had no interest in learning about God, yet when she was in college some of her friends told her about Jesus, so she visited some of their meetings. Later Jing moved to the U.S. for graduate school, continued learning about God, and soon she decided to follow Jesus.

Kong writes of her life, "This was all part of God's wonderful plans. We as humans truly have nothing we can boast of." She also came to see how her work and her walk with God were inter-twined, "We, as researchers, are exploring God's amazing creation every day . . . My research is only a platform to do God's work. His creation, the way he made this world: it's amazing."

Worldly thinking and human ambitions can lead us astray, yet when we trust instead in God and the good news of Jesus, our Heavenly Father clothes us with garments of his own righteousness - *I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. - Philippians 3:8-9*

As Jing raised her children and learned about the care and compassion involved, she also learned about God's compassion for us, as she writes, "The love of our Heavenly Father is far greater than any parent's love. His love is so broad and long and high and deep, so gentle and attentive. May our hearts be completely softened by his love, and . . . learning to trust in his love."

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. - Philippians 3:10-11

Knowing Jesus brings hope, peace, and eternal life to those who walk humbly by faith in him.

- Mark Garner

Praise Ye The Lord On Every Height

Praise ye the Lord! on every height
Songs to His glory raise;
Ye angel hosts, ye stars of night,
Join in immortal praise.

For His the Word which gave you birth,
And majesty and might;
Praise to the Highest from the earth,
And let the deeps unite.

Mountains and rocks, to Heaven that rise;
Fair cedars of the wood;
Creatures of life that wing the skies,
Or track the plains for food;

Praise ye His name, to whom alone
All homage should be given,
Whose glory from the eternal throne
Spreads wide o'er earth and Heaven.

- Felicia Dorothea Hemans, 1793-1835

British poet Felicia Hemans published over a dozen collections of poems on numerous topics, including poems based on the Scriptures, poems based on historical events, and other subjects.

This Same Jesus

He who healed the hopeless leper,
He who dried the widow's tear;
He who changed to health and gladness,
Helpless suffering, trembling fear;

He who spoke as none had spoken,
Angel wisdom far above,
All-forgiving, ne'er upbraiding,
Full of tenderness and love.

He who gently called the weary
Come, and I will give you rest.
He who loved the little children,
Took them in His arms and blest;

This same Jesus, this same Jesus!
Bless the Master's changeless name;
Yesterday, today, forever,
Jesus Christ is still the same.

- Frances Ridley Havergal, 1836-1879

Treasures In Heaven

In Matthew 6, Jesus tells us of treasures in heaven, and he calls us to set our hearts on these things. This week, Leon Norwood writes about the lasting value of the spiritual treasures we have in Jesus.

Christ Is Our Treasure

In a world that often seems to value material possessions over inner peace, it can be easy to lose sight of what is truly important in life. While money can certainly provide a sense of security and comfort, it is spiritual wealth that ultimately leads to lasting happiness and fulfillment.

In Matthew 6 verses 19 -21 we read *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

The search for "the meaning of life" is a common pursuit of reflective people. We all want to know what the real purpose of life is, and to experience the fullness of our existence. In Colossians 2 verse 3, Paul gives us some spiritual insights and teaches that the real treasures in life are bound up in Jesus Christ, not worldly possessions. He suggests that if one were to go searching for the riches of ultimate meaning and significance, he would find them in Christ *"in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge"*, verse 3. Hidden in this sense does not mean that these treasures are utterly beyond our reach, but rather as treasures in a mine which has already been opened, and from which by diligent searching will be a constant supply of precious stones ready to be extracted.

The key to extracting and processing these hidden treasures is recognizing what we have in Christ. What do you have in Christ? What does every Christian possess? All the glorious riches of Christ! Paul says in Christ *"are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."* In a word: everything. You have everything in Christ. In fact, in Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he describes this same "mystery" as the *"unsearchable riches of Christ"*, Ephesians 3:8.

The mystery is *"Christ in you, the hope of glory."* Colossians 1:27. And the point is, there is no secret knowledge a Christian needs or some hidden mystery the Christian must solve. Christ is the preeminent One, the source and substance of all knowledge. In other words, there is no end to the storehouse of blessings and treasures in Christ. They are endless; boundless. He is the treasure in Heaven.

Paul reminds Christians what they have in Christ so that they are not deceived or influenced by false teachings of this world. Therefore, know what you have in Christ! You have in Christ *"all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."* And it's knowing this that propels you forward in joy and thanksgiving. In other words, the ultimate consequence of our knowing what we have in Christ causes our hearts to overflow in gratitude and thanksgiving, causing us to bless others with the love we ourselves have received. What a treasure we have in Jesus.

- Leon Norwood, Jr.