

## Family Information

### Congregational Meeting On December 2

There will be a congregational meeting on Saturday December 2 from 10:00-11:30 AM. Members of the Ghana and Spanish congregations are welcome to attend. Topics will include areas of service, ongoing maintenance, building usage, security, and finances.

### Carols & Cookies On December 3

There will be a Christmas Carols & Cookies event on Sunday evening, December 3, from 6:00-7:30 PM.

### Scripture Reading On December 16

On Saturday December 16, everyone is welcome to join us from 6:30-7:30 PM as we read the book of Hebrews from beginning to end. You will also have the chance to read part of the letter if you'd like to. See Caleb for more details.

### Outreach Meeting Schedule

The next Outreach Meeting will be on Wednesday January 3, from 6:30-7:30 PM. The Outreach Team will now meet on the first Wednesday of each month, beginning in January. See Caleb if you have any questions.

### Clothing Closet - Current Needs

The closet clothing now needs winter coats (of all sizes), gloves, winter hats, and scarves. Thank you for anything you can donate.

### Clothing Closet Schedule

The Clothing Closet is now open once per month, by appointment only, usually on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. It will next be open on December 13 (due to the holiday); for appointments call 614-918-7925 from 5:30-8:00 PM Monday. We are also looking for helpers to sort and hang clothes on Wednesdays when the Clothing Closet is closed.

#### 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, 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 on 1 Peter, using the workbook "Living Stones" by Casandra Martin. Contact Karen for more details.

### 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
<b>General:</b>	\$4963	\$4380
<b>Designated:</b>	\$100	\$282



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## We Were All Given The One Spirit

*Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. - 1 Corinthians 12:12*

The human body contains many parts, each of them with its own abilities and its own limitations. Similarly, when we put our faith in Jesus instead of trusting in human strength and human ability, God joins us together in the body of Jesus, and he gives us his Spirit who lives within each of us - *We were all given the one Spirit . . . Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. - 1 Corinthians 12:13-14*

In French writer Carmen Bernos de Gasztold's (1919-1995) "Prayers From The Ark", a giraffe thanks God for letting it see things from a higher viewpoint, "Lord, I who see the world above . . . It is easier for me to believe in Your greatness." Similarly, when we seek God with our hearts, he helps us look past this world's appearances, and he places us where we can encourage one another to put our faith in the message of Jesus - *If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? . . . But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. - 1 Corinthians 12:17-18*

In another of de Gasztold's prayers, a thankful bee appreciates how God gives its life meaning, "May You be blessed who spread the riches of Your sweetness . . . Let my small span of ardent life melt into our great communal task; to lift up to Your glory this temple of sweetness." For God can show us his compassion and splendor through things that seem small by earthly thinking, and through those who seem weak to worldly minds - *The eye cannot say to the hand, I don't need you! And the head cannot say to the feet, I don't need you! On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable. - 1 Corinthians 12:21-22*

In Carmen's "The Creatures' Choir", a humble parrot is aware of its limitations, while offering all it has to God, and prays "If You need me, I am your servant, one who never grows tired repeating the same word again and again . . . I may grow tedious, but people listen . . . When may I serve Your infinite wisdom?" Indeed, little things repeated again and again, whether kind words or an encouraging Scripture or a sympathetic listener, can reflect God's care and understanding - *If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. - 1 Corinthians 12:26-27*

Each of us is part of the body of Jesus, and each of us is equally important to our Heavenly Father.

- Mark Garner

## The Lord Hath Helped Me Hitherto

The Lord hath helped me hitherto  
By His surpassing favor;  
His mercies every morn were new,  
His kindness did not waver.  
God hitherto hath been my guide,  
Hath pleasures hitherto supplied,  
And hitherto hath helped me.

I praise and thank Thee, Lord, my God,  
For Thine abundant blessing  
Which heretofore Thou hast bestowed  
And I am still possessing.  
Inscribe this on my memory:  
The Lord hath done great things for me  
And graciously hath helped me.

Help me henceforth, O God of grace,  
Help me on each occasion,  
Help me in each and every place,  
Help me through Jesus' passion;  
Help me in life and death, O God,  
Help me through Jesus' dying blood;  
Help me as Thou hast helped me!

- Emilie Juliane of Barby-Mühlingen, 1637-1706

*German hymnwriter Emilie Juliane (her first name is sometimes spelled Ämilie or Aemilie) studied Latin, history, and religion in school. Her faith in Jesus led her to write over 600 hymns, and she became one of the most influential religious writers in Germany in the late 1600's.*

## Praise Him, Praise Him

Praise Him, praise Him—  
Jesus, our blessed Redeemer,  
For our sins He suffered, and bled, and died;  
He our rock, our hope of eternal salvation,  
Hail Him, hail Him, Jesus the Crucified.  
Loving Savior, meekly enduring sorrow,  
Crowned with thorns that cruelly pierced His brow;  
Once for us rejected, despised and forsaken,  
Prince of Glory, He is triumphant now.

- Frances Jane Crosby, 1820-1915

## One Sacrifice For Sins

*By one sacrifice for all time, Jesus has made it possible for everyone to come to God with a humble heart and receive forgiveness of all our sins, an eternal home with God, and much more. This week, Don Milnor writes about the vastness of the grace Jesus' sacrifice brings to us.*

## How Much Did Our Sin Cost?

The price which Jesus paid for our sin is not really quantifiable in dollars and cents, but Jesus does tell a parable which may start to give us some idea of how big a deal our sin is, by comparing it to large amounts of money.

I'm going to quote from Matthew 18 here, except I'm going to try to convert to our money. Footnotes in my Bible say that a talent was worth more than 15 years' wages of a laborer (I'll assume 15 years), and that the denarius was a day's wages. I'll assume the worker makes \$10 an hour after taxes, 8 hours a day, 5 days a week, 50 weeks a year (2 unpaid weeks off) to make the math simple: \$20,000 a year.

*Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he had begun to settle them, one who owed him three billion dollars (ten thousand talents) was brought to him. But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made. So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.' And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt." -Matthew 18:21-27*

I've read this before and thought, "He...he just forgave him? He didn't have to pay that gigantic amount back at all? He just let him off?" He couldn't pay it anyway. If he worked for 50 years and saved every penny, he would have saved one million dollars, only 1/3000<sup>th</sup> of the debt. He would have to work for 150,000 years to pay it off. Now are you starting to see a little of the concept of eternal punishment?

Each one of us is that debtor. I am, you are, anyone old enough to sin. By one estimate, there have been a total of 117 billion humans who have ever lived on this planet...plus who knows how many more to come in human history. Thankfully, the value of the blood of God in the flesh dying for his wayward creation is... yes, that big! And so is his great love (Ephesians 2:4); praise God!

*But He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time... Hebrews 10:12*

Oh, a side note: In verses 28-35, the slave above is owed \$6,000 (100 denarii) by another slave, a lot if you only make \$20,000 a year, he doesn't forgive him...and gets in a lot of trouble. We need to forgive each other from the heart. After all, we each owe three billion dollars . . .

- Don Milnor