

## Family Information

### Scripture Reading

This 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.

### 2024 Offering Envelopes

The 2024 offering envelopes are now available to be picked up in the foyer for those who have requested them. The names are written on each box. If you don't have envelopes and would like a set, please see Ashley Dillinger.

### 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 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 this Wednesday, 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.

### 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.

## 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>	\$12,016	\$4518
<b>Designated:</b>	\$250	\$274



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## Hosanna In The Highest Heavens

*Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. - Matthew 21:1-2*

As Jesus enters Jerusalem, he comes riding on a humble donkey, instead of on a powerful warhorse; our heavenly King comes in gentleness and compassion, rather than in gaudiness or lavishness - *This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: Say to Daughter Zion, See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt.* - Matthew 21:4-5

Hymn writer, theologian, and logician Isaac Watts (1674-1748) had his first hymn published at age 20, and he went on to write at least 700 hymns. In his best-known hymn, "Joy To The World", Watts sought to combine the imagery of Psalm 98 with the message of Jesus, to reflect the enduring hope and peace that Jesus brings to those who believe his message.

In the first verse to Isaac's hymn, he expresses the good news that Jesus brings to everyone, as well as God's simple call for us to open our hearts and minds to him, "Joy to the world, the Lord is come . . . Let every heart prepare Him room and Heaven and nature sing." As the crowd prepares the way for Jesus, our Heavenly Father asks us to clear away this world's distractions, so that we can consider the lasting blessings Jesus brings to those who follow him humbly - *A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.* - Matthew 21:8

Watts's hymn continues, "Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns Let all their songs employ While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy." Truly, Jesus makes our spirits rejoice, and he brings us salvation and eternal life - *The crowd that went ahead of them . . . shouted: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!* - Matthew 21:9

"Joy To The World" first appeared in a collection of hymns in 1719. In 1742, when classical composer George Frideric Handel's oratorio "Messiah" was first performed, Watts's hymn was re-set to music based on excerpts from "Messiah" (the current tune is a slight revision made in the 1800s). Combined with Handel's music, Isaac's words express God's splendor and his care for us. As Watts writes, "He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love." For this is Jesus, our Savior - *When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, Who is this? The crowds answered, This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.* - Matthew 21:10-11

He is Jesus, our Lord and Savior, our Alpha and our Omega, our light of life.

- Mark Garner

### 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

**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

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

## God Does Wonderful Things

*(This is an excerpt from an article that Tanya Milnor wrote for the bulletin of November 26, 2017.)*

God's people have always been blessed and privileged to be able to say, as referenced from Isaiah 25:1, "Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago." God's perfect faithfulness continues, and he does wonderful things today in the present and in the future to come. Sometimes, these things are too wonderful to understand completely. Count your blessings and give thanks to God.

*Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours . . . In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. -1 Chronicles 29:11-13*

This verse gives us a godly perspective and helps us to focus on our Savior when we think about our blessings, and reminds us why thanks and all the credit should only be given to the Lord. God gives grace and we give thanks.

*- Tanya Milnor*

## A Beautiful Star

The wise men of old saw a beautiful star,  
Led on by its glory they traveled afar;  
O'er mountain and valley 'til wanderings past,  
Their gifts at the feet of the Savior they cast.

The star of His Word guards His people today,  
To sweet joy in Jesus 'tis leading the way.  
Then still let us follow and lovingly bring  
Our hearts and our offerings to Jesus our king.

Beautiful, beautiful star of the east  
Beautiful, beautiful star of the east  
Scatter the shadows of sin far away,  
Lead us to Jesus, the Star of the day.

*- Eliza E. Hewitt, 1851-1920*

*Poet and schoolteacher Eliza Hewitt began writing about Jesus and God during a long convalescence from an injury. A couple of music teachers read her poems and asked her if they could write music to accompany them, and Hewitt went on to write the words to over 1,500 hymns.*

## MYSTERY VERSE WORD SEARCH #1

The words in the following list come from a certain book of the Bible, and they are all hidden in the diagram below. The words can be forwards, backwards, up, down, or diagonally. As you find them, shade in the letters that you use. There will be 25 unused letters, and reading from left to right beginning at the top of the diagram, they will spell out the mystery verse from this week's mystery book.

ACKNOWLEDGED	CEDARS	HUMBLE	SILENCE	VICTORY
AFRAID	DECEITFUL	LEADING	SONG OF ASCENTS	WATERS
AUTUMN	DREAMED	OVERAWED	SUPPLICATION	
BLOTTED	FEATHERS	RICHEST	THANK OFFERINGS	
CAREFREE	GARMENT	RIGHTEOUSNESS	TRANSGRESSIONS	
CEASED	GENERATIONS	SETTLED	UNHARMED	

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S G N I R E F F O K N A H T
S O V E R A W E D T R U R D
N R N M U T U A U L M A E D
O G A G D Y D T M B N L I E
I E T D O E E H L S T A Y G
T N N S E F M E G T R O D D
A E E U L C A R E F R E E E
C R M F I D E S A E C N T L
I A R D I S R I C H E S T W
L T A N S E D L T E N S O O
P I G I T R E E S F N U L N
P O O A T I N N G O U T B K
U N W Y R O T C I V D L S C
S S E N S U O E T H G I R A
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The answer, and another puzzle, will be in the bulletin next week.

*- Mark Garner*