

Family Information

Holiday Schedules

Sunday Morning Bible Class in E44 - The class is taking a break for the holiday on December 24, and will resume meeting on December 31.

Sunday Morning Bible Class in the Auditorium - The class will be meeting through the holidays.

Sunday Afternoon Worship (4 PM) - The class is taking December off, and will resume sometime in 2024.

Monday Women's Prayer Group - The prayer group will take a break on December 25 and January 1, and will resume meeting on January 8.

Tuesday Women's Bible Study - The Bible study is taking a break on December 26, and will resume meeting on January 2.

Wednesday Outreach Meetings - The group will next meet on Wednesday January 3.

Friday TGIF Bible Study - See Leisha or Mike Evans for updates.

Outreach Meeting Schedule

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

Current Mid-Week Studies

First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans.

Mondays at 6:30 PM (On-Line) - Women's prayer group, hosted by Peggy Kaiser.

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.

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

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.

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.

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 Wednesday, January 17; 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.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$2233	\$4472
Designated:	\$525	\$283



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We Have Seen A Great Light

There will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. - Isaiah 9:1

In this world's gloom and confusion, Jesus brings lasting hope and meaning to those who walk humbly by faith in him. Amidst this world's distresses and sorrows and fears, we have seen a great light, for the Lamb of God is our light; he guides us and reassures us of God's nearness and care - *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. - Isaiah 9:2*

During his twenties, British hymnwriter William C. Dix (1837-1898) was starting a career as a manager in an insurance company; during the same time he decided to put his faith in Jesus, and he sometimes wrote about Jesus' good news of redemption and salvation. Then, in his late twenties, Dix was stricken with a nearly fatal illness that left him bed-ridden for an extended time. As William battled depression, he spent considerable time praying and reading the Scriptures.

As he felt God's words and the message of Jesus taking on a deeper meaning, Dix began writing hymns; the best-remembered one today is, "What Child Is This". William had previously written a poem about the Son of God being born in a manger; so he built on this theme, and he set it to the tune "Greensleeves", a 1500s English melody he found comforting.

In the hymn, Dix reflects on the contrasts in the story of Jesus' life, beginning with him surrounded by humble shepherds and animals, yet honored by angels, "What child is this . . . Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherd watch are keeping . . . Why lies he in such mean estate . . ." Truly Jesus was born for us all, both for the well-known and for the forgotten, and for all those in every place and in every time who open their hearts and minds to him and his message - *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given . . . And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. - Isaiah 9:6*

William Dix also knew that the story of Jesus had just begun with the manger in Bethlehem, for Jesus would go on to teach us about our Heavenly Father, he would die for our sins, and he would raise from the grave. As a later verse of the hymn says, "for sinners here the silent word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you." For our Lord and Savior brought salvation by pouring out his lifeblood so that God's grace might flow freely to us.

William's hymn continues, "The King of kings salvation brings - let loving hearts en-throne him"; Jesus indeed lives forever, and he brings eternal life to those who remain in him - *He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and up-holding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. - Isaiah 9:7*

Jesus came full of grace and truth, and his promises are trustworthy.

- Mark Garner

MYSTERY VERSE WORD SEARCH #2

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.

AFRAID	CERTAINLY	MIRACULOUS SIGN	SOVERIGN LORD
ATTENTION	EPHRAIM	MORTAL	STIPULATIONS
BARREN	ELEVENTH	MOUNT NEBO	STOREHOUSE
BETH PEOR	FORTIETH	NEIGHBOR	UNCLEAN
BITTER	GATHER	NEITHER	
BROTHER	HORRIBLE	PRIESTS	
CANCEL	MERIBAH KADESH	SETTLE	

S T I P U L A T I O N S T N
H O R R I B L E C N A C M G
N H V C L A T R O M R E O I
O E E E E E E E T E R U U S
I A R S R R E H T I E N N S
T F R R U E T T B E P C T U
N R O R A O I A N R A L N O
E A E R O B H G I E N E E L
T I P L T K G E N N O A B U
T D H D A I S I R L L N O C
A S T D Y T E O U O O Y R A
R E E F S E T T L E T R U R
G S B E B R O T H E R S D I
H T N E V E L E P H R A I M

The answer, and another puzzle, will be in the bulletin next week. (Last week's mystery verse answer: *Truly my soul finds rest in God.* - PSALM 62:1)

One Sacrifice For Sins

This week, Emily Graham writes about what it means for us to walk in the light of Jesus.

Welcome The Light Of The World

Many of you know my parents. They love the Lord, and they bless me as they share with me how God changes their lives. Over the last few years, these precious conversations have led me to growth in areas that relate to Hebrews 10, Jesus' sacrifice once for all, and how it applies to my heart and life.

My parents recommended the book "The Calvary Road". One of the truths I took from this book is the meaning of the word "light" in God's Word. Previously I focused on how "light" reveals my path and gives me a direction. I also enjoyed the aspect of Jesus as the "Light" Himself. At Christmas time, it can be especially visual as we sing about the Light entering the world. I also have often tried to picture Him as the Light in heaven, filling heaven with radiant light that is also full of color, maybe some of which we've never seen before, and feel the love in His warmth that His light produces . . . but I digress.

But "The Calvary Road" gave light an additional meaning. 1 John talks about walking in the light, which means our lives are revealed, no longer hidden in darkness, but instead willingly placed completely in front of God and even before trusted fellow Christians. Walking in the light, means confession like I had never understood it before.

Yes, Jesus died once and for all, which is the best news ever! We no longer live in guilt, fear and condemnation! Heb. 10:10 proclaims we have been made holy. That's our new identity. Praise God! Heb. 10:13 also reveals that Jesus is waiting for the enemy to be made His footstool, because the enemy is still after us and we still sin. Verse 14 balances these truths perfectly, stating that we are perfect because of Jesus' sacrifice, but that He is in the process of making us holy, which is also so amazing!

I have, thankfully, long trusted that God has cleansed me from my sins, but now I need to learn to trust Him when facing my sin. I confess I took God's grace and Jesus' sacrifice for granted by not facing my sin. I confess I did that because I feared the humility. 2 Peter 1 says that forgetting what I've been saved from stops growth and lack of growth will make me ineffective and unproductive. Yikes! Just like relationships between people are not healthy when we sin against one another if we choose never to address those hurts, I need to daily come to my perfect Father and admit my sin, and not only that, but ask Him to show them to me, so that our relationship is in the light. Then Jesus can continue to defeat the enemy in my life and overcome!

Whether we struggle to tell Him about our sin because we'd rather ignore it or because we feel we should carry it, He wants to take it from us as often as it happens. How much more joy we'll carry instead when we let Him take it. We'll feel so light! And that, my friend, is the final definition of the word light! I think . . .

- Emily Graham