

Announcements

Guest Speaker Today

This morning, Houston Haynes, minister at the Centerville Church Of Christ, will be speaking at the worship assembly. See the insert for more information about Houston.

Area Wide Worship At Marysville On October 17
On **Saturday** October 17, the Marysville congregation will be hosting an area-wide worship evening. It will be from 6:30-8:00 PM, and everyone is welcome to come.

Events Coming Soon * Updated *

October 4 (Sunday) - Combined Bible class on the Psalms at 9:00 AM in room E44
October 4 (Sunday) - Guest speaker, Ben Driver, in morning worship assembly
October 4 (Sunday) - Potluck after morning worship
October 11 (Sunday) - * **postponement** * - the men's lunch has been postponed
October 17 (Saturday) - Area-Wide worship at Marysville
October 18 (Sunday) - Fall Fest (see announcement above)

Fall Festival On October 18

This year's Fall Festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 18th from 5:30 PM -7:00 PM. We will have trunk-or-treat, a hot dog dinner, crafts, games, and a bounce house. There is a table in the foyer where you can ask questions, sign up to volunteer, or contribute candy or money. If you have any questions, please see Meagan Stover.

Auditorium Renovations

The elders are currently considering making some renovations to the auditorium in the church building. These include a new projector, better lighting, better sound, and other features that would benefit both the English-language worship and the Ghanaian congregation. See Jeff or one of the other elders if you have any questions.

Sunday Service Times

English Bible Study	9:00 AM
English Worship	10:00 AM
Spanish Worship (Annex)	10:00 AM
Twí Bible Study	12:00 PM
Twí Worship	1:00 PM

Needs For The Clothing Closet

With cooler weather coming soon, the Clothing Closet would appreciate donations of clean, gently used Autumn and Winter clothing. We have a particular need for children's and men's items. We currently do not need Spring or Summer items. Thank you for your continued support.

Ministry In Ghana

The Seikwa, Ghana Church Of Christ, along with the congregation that now meets at Nkoranman Senior High School, appreciate your continuing prayers and support. Please see Franklin Agyei for ways you can help this ministry.

Current Mid-Week Studies

Mondays at 6:30 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's prayer group, organized by Peggy Kaiser.
Tuesdays at 7:15 PM (Via Zoom) - Women's Bible study. The current topic is "Grace & Gratitude". See Karen Susenna for more information.
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM - A Bible study organized by Jeff McVicker and Caleb Dillinger, meeting in room E41-42. In September and October, they will study 2 John, 3 John, and Jude.
First and third Friday of each month at 6:30 PM - TGIF Bible Study led by Mike Evans, currently meeting in room E41-42. See Mike or Leisha for more details.

Sunday Morning Children's Classes

We currently have three children's classes (ages 2-3, ages 4-8, and ages 9-10) that begin right after the Lord's Supper. During the 9:00 morning Bible classes, there is a combined class for ages 2-10. * **Please see Vicki Cowans or Lynn Paden if you can help with these classes.** *. There are regular teachers for these classes, so we just need volunteers to help with the class activities and lessons.

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$5,120	\$4,997
Designated:	\$455	\$408

Minister: Caleb Dillinger
Elders: Franklin Agyei, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins
Deacons: Lynn Champney, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva
Spanish Ministry: Luis Valdez



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Nothing In All Creation Is Hidden From God

The word of God is alive and active. - Hebrews 4:12

The words of God did not originate in mere human minds, for the Scriptures are alive, and they give life to those who humbly follow them. The words of God are not mere printing on a piece of paper, for they are meant to be active, and they can cut through human pride and human pretensions and outward appearances:

Sharper than any double-edged sword . . . - Hebrews 4:12

Stomatopods are a family of small crustaceans (average length 4 inches) that live in an ocean full of dangers, yet they are well-equipped for survival. There are about 500 species of stomatopods (they are commonly called "mantis shrimp", though they are really neither mantises nor shrimp), and they have remarkable strength. Their second pair of appendages can accelerate so quickly that when they strike, it superheats the surrounding water, leaving bubbles that collapse with such force that they hit the target like a second shockwave.

Many species of stomatopods have these key appendages designed for raw force, and these light crustaceans (most stomatopods weigh 1-2 ounces) have been seen splitting rocks, breaking glass, and even fracturing human bones when they are mishandled. As these miniature animals can do things that seem impossible for their size, the words of God can have an effect far beyond mere human words. They are not meant to be analyzed with human logic; instead they are meant to be pondered, so they can penetrate to our inmost beings:

. . . it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. - Hebrews 4:12

Stomatopods also have amazing eyesight. Their eyes are on stalks, so they can move independently of one another, giving them the ability to see in different directions at the same time. Their flexibility also enables their eyes to shift directions rapidly, giving them a continuous view of everything in their surroundings. Moreover, their eyes have many more photoreceptors than human eyes have, so they can see a much wider spectrum of light, including ultraviolet light and infrared light.

As these tiny, little-known creatures have such extraordinary eyesight, how much truer it is of God's ability to see things no earthly eyes can see, and how God sees everything with complete clarity. God sees all of our innermost thoughts, our deepest fears and hopes, our desires both good and bad, and everything else about us. It is to God alone that we answer, not to human authorities, not to human opinions, not to popularity polls, nor to anything else. And we are truly fortunate that we answer to God, for he alone knows the full truth about every human soul:

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. - Hebrews 4:13

- Mark Garner, September 2026

Desiring To Trust In God

*Trust in the Lord forever,
for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.
- Isaiah 26:4*

Great source of boundless power and grace,
Attend my mournful cry;
In the dark hour of deep distress,
To thee, to thee I fly.

Thou art my strength, my life, my stay,
Assist my feeble trust;
Drive these distressing fears away,
And raise me from the dust.

Let me call thy grace to mind,
And trust thy glorious name;
Jehovah, powerful, wise, and kind,
For ever is the same.

Here let me rest, on thee depend,
My God, my hope, my all;
Be thou my everlasting friend,
And I can never fall.

- Anne Steele, 1717-1778

Hosanna To Jesus

Hosanna to Jesus, our Savior and king,
No theme can so please us, and cause us to sing;
We'll tell of His might, and we'll sing of His love,
And swell the new song of the ransomed above.

All worthy is Jesus, whose life has been given,
From sin to release us, and fit us for Heaven;
To Him that was slain, yet the Ancient of Days,
Be glory and blessing, dominion and praise.

All honor to Jesus, the power of whose love
From Satan now frees us, and guilt can remove;
Our hearts be His throne and our lives be this song,
To tell all the world unto whom we belong.

- Robert P. Kerr, 1850-1923

Writer and hymnist Robert Karr wrote the words to about a couple dozen hymns, as well as editing a hymnal. He also wrote several books on Christian history, as well as writing a travel guide.

The Eternal God Is Our Refuge

In this world, we may often find temporary refuge from its storms and other physical perils. But God alone can give us lasting refuge and shelter for our souls. This week, Tara Neiswonger writes about the ways God gives us refuge and guidance when we rely on him instead of on ourselves.

Lean On God For Refuge

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you saying, "destroy him". - Deuteronomy 33:27

These were of a portion of the last words Moses spoke to the Israelites right before his death. Earlier in Deuteronomy, God had told Moses to go to Mount Nebo in Moab, across from Jericho in order to be able to view Canaan, the promised land. Moses had disobeyed the words of God during the forty years in the wilderness by striking a rock to gain water when God had said to speak to the rock and water would come forth (Numbers 20). For this disobedience, for not honoring the power of God and by taking control of the situation on his terms and not God's, God had told Moses that he would not be able to enter into the promised land.

Moses, in this section, was speaking to the Israelites, calling the tribes by name and giving a blessing for each. Similarly, Jacob, before his death, had pronounced a blessing on his twelve sons. Jacob's blessing as a father gave a glimpse of where each tribe was headed. *Then Jacob called for his sons and said, Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in the days to come, (Genesis 49:1).*

Moses gives his blessing as a way to encourage and direct the tribes as they enter a land they would come to possess, a land already inhabited by other peoples with differing traditions and more notably, not in relationship with the one True God. Moses' blessing, particularly the verse above, is pointing the tribes to lean on God, and not on themselves and to seek strength and guidance solely from Him. Moses knew the Israelites would be going into this land of milk and honey, but the path would not be easy and the distractions many. He wanted, with these words, to give his people guidance that would carry them through.

God is our refuge and strength, an everlasting present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. - Psalm 46:1-2

Moses could not set foot into the promised land because of a moment of anger where he stepped outside of God's direction and did as he saw fit. As the time came for the Israelites to move into Canaan, Moses beseeches the tribes to always lean on God, to seek refuge and safety in his presence. *Be still and know that am I God (Psalm 46:10).*

The phrase "be still" comes from a Hebrew word meaning drop hands or to leave striving. I have long thought of this as more of a form of meditation, a moving away from the distractions of the world to be better able to hear God. In the light of the dropping of hands, it comes to me now as a directive to simply stop striving to control, to let go and let God as the saying goes. Moses' last words point the Israelites to this, to look to God as the center of their peace and source of their strength.

- Tara Neiswonger, September 2026