

# Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

February 18, 2018

With deep gratitude, we welcome Dr. J. Randall and Beverlee Price to Indian Hills Community Church and our Sunday morning worship service.

This has been a busy weekend for Dr. Price as he spoke four times between Friday night and Saturday afternoon at our Men's Retreat. Our men were blessed as they grew in their understanding of archaeology and the reliability of the Scriptures.

Dr. Price will be speaking this morning during the combined Sunday school hour and again during the 10:00 a.m. worship hour. He will be sharing how digging up lost civilizations contributes to our understanding of the Bible, which was written long ago, by many different people, in many different cultures.



*Randall Price at the Qumran Caves*



*Dr. J. Randall and Beverlee Price*

The author or co-author of 30 books, Dr. Price says, “As students of the Bible we should embrace the results of archaeology and encourage new archaeological discovery.

“This field needs an army of archaeologists to be raised up in this generation to both teach and do excavation in the Bible lands.

“The result will be a greater knowledge of the context of Scripture that will help future students and scholars produce even better handbooks of biblical archaeology.”

Dr. Price is the director of excavations on the Qumran Plateau (site of the Dead Sea Scrolls). He and Beverlee have four daughters, one son, and eight grandchildren.

# Ready, Set, Go!

Rob Schmidt

## (Hebrews 12:1-4)

If you've trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you're in a race. The race isn't a sprint. It's a long-distance race that requires endurance. Our goal is not only to reach the finish line (when we go to be with Christ), but to glorify God along the way.



*Rob Schmidt*

As we run the race, obstacles arise that can weigh us down or entangle us, making it difficult to move forward. Some obstacles are associated with sin in our lives. Other obstacles are due to distractions. It's possible to get so caught up in other activities that we don't even have time to run the race. But God's word says we can overcome these obstacles.

The believer is able to put those things aside and run the race with cheerful, hopeful endurance. Chapter 11 of Hebrews provides a

list of others who have finished the race successfully — Abel, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and many others. They were men and women who lived by faith in what God had told them and they looked ahead to God's promises.

In our day, those who believe that Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins are exhorted to look ahead to the upward call of God (Philippians 3:14). In Hebrews 12:2, we are told to fix our eyes on Jesus. There are many things in the world that can distract us from running the race... hobbies, sports, television, travel, maintaining our homes, work, and even spending time with family. These things aren't bad in and of themselves, but when they take priority over serving Christ in the church, then our life is out of balance... we've become distracted, entangled in such a way that we are no longer making progress in the race. Our eyes are no longer fixed on Jesus.

Imagine how ineffective Jesus' earthly ministry would have been if He had allowed Himself to get caught up in everyday life. Jesus might have stayed home, rather than give the sermon on the mount, because He had worked too hard in the carpenter shop. He might have been traveling to see the great theater in Ephesus, instead of be-

ing available to raise Lazarus from the dead. Jesus might have decided that healing Peter’s mother-in-law was enough for one day and turned away the dozens of others who sought to be healed by Him.

But Jesus didn’t allow Himself to get entangled in worldly affairs. He endured hostility by sinners against Himself. He despised the shame and endured the cross. He was able to do that because He looked ahead to the joy set before Him... the joy of saving lost sinners and being seated at the right hand of His Father in heaven (Heb 12:2-3).

Running this race is difficult, but it can be done. The writer to the Hebrews said that we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in our striving against sin (Heb 12:4). None of us have become martyrs by keeping from sin and testifying of Jesus’ death to save sinners.

As long as we have life on this earth, we are in the race. We need to run with endurance by keeping our eyes focused on Christ Jesus. When we do that, we won’t wear out or faint from exhaustion. We will be invigorated as we anxiously await our Savior’s return, knowing that we have faithfully served Him.



# Church Leadership

## Board of Elders

Gil Rugh, Chairman  
 Rob Jensen  
 Larry Riekenberg  
 Rob Schmidt  
 Mike Shrader  
 Randy Sperling  
 Greg Thomas

## Pastoral Staff

Gil Rugh, Senior Pastor  
 Jeff Horn, Senior Associate Pastor  
 Duane Nelsen, Associate Pastor  
 Aaron Nicholson, Assistant Pastor  
 Donald Goertzen, Part-time  
 Curt Kuster, Part-time  
 Eddie Masters, Pastor Emeritus  
 Nick McElvain, Part-time

## Support Staff

Twila Beck  
 Gale Engle  
 Rachel Gould  
 John Scholle  
 Kevin Wheat

## Deacons

Jim Aust ..... Children’s Church  
 Steve DeRiese ..... Girls of Grace  
 Adam Flaugh ..... Evangelism  
 Jonathan Goodding ..... Boys of Faith  
 Jeff Harford ..... Junior High  
 Jim Krieger ..... Wee Care  
 Curt Kuster ..... Communion  
 Nick McElvain ..... High School  
 Galen Pfeiffer ..... Awana  
 Tom Price ..... Nursing Home  
 Todd Smith ..... Sunday School

## Part-Time Staff

Doug Andrews  
 Jerry Andrews  
 Stephen Bede  
 Madison DeRiese  
 Dalton Dowding  
 Hannah Ganshorn  
 Rick Gloe  
 Jake Krieger  
 Carroll Lavalleur  
 Sidney Marra  
 Dale McDaniel  
 Charles Muir  
 Carsten Scholle  
 Taysha Slade  
 Andrew Thomas  
 Zach Wheat

# Embarking on a New Journey

## Adam Flaugh

### What is your new journey?

My plan is to earn an M. Div. degree. I began taking classes for it this January.



*Adam and Elizabeth Flaugh*

### How did the Lord lead you to this journey?

A couple verses come to mind:

Prov. 25:6-7

Do not claim honor in the presence of the king, And do not stand in the place of great men For it is better that it be said to you, “Come up here,” Than for you to be placed lower in the presence of the prince, Whom your eyes have seen.

1 Tim. 3:1

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do.

I think aspiration and affirmation are important elements in being led by the Lord. Over the past 6 years, as I’ve had more ministry experiences, I have found myself coming to the settled conviction that full-time ministry, specifically to be a pastor, is something I must earnestly pursue. I’ve received affirmation of this desire from IHCC members, elders, and pastors, and have been voluntarily encouraged to seriously consider it. Those are the events leading up to my decision to pursue a seminary degree. Now, I absolutely do not believe a seminary degree is going to provide the moral and spiritual qualifications for pastoral elder-ship (1 Timothy 3, Titus 1, 1 Peter 5), nor do I think a degree is a requirement for the pastorate, but I do think there is value in the reading and studying that it requires. Also, going to school was what Gil said he would do if he was in my situation – that was helpful input for my decision.

### How did this come about?

In 2012 a decision was made that changed the course of life for Elizabeth and me. We were at Purdue University pursuing a doctorate and I believe God graciously directed me away from that path. The most impactful ex-

perience during that time was the difficulty of finding a solid church that taught truth. We tried many churches only to find bad theology. It was from this discouraging struggle to find solid teaching that the Lord sparked a fire in my heart for sound words and solid teaching. Ever since then, Elizabeth and I have discussed seminary and pursuing a pastorate. Over the last 6 years that desire has developed. So, with much discussion, counsel, prayer, and encouragement from others, we took a step of faith and decided to pursue this path.

### **What is your goal?**

My goal with these studies is to be better equipped to communicate God's Word to others. I want to be able to do that well, not only from the pulpit, but also in personal relationships with believers and unbelievers.

### **How long is this study?**

This M. Div. degree is typically a three-year program, but I'd like to be done sooner. If I take courses year-round and keep a heavy course load, I think it is reasonable to be done in 2 years. My goal is to graduate December 2019.

### **What will you study?**

My coursework will follow a typical M. Div. path including classes in Languages, Theology, Old Testament, New Testament, etc. I plan to balance my electives on additional language and pastoral courses.

### **What school did you choose?**

Temple Baptist Seminary of Piedmont University.

In 2015, Temple Baptist Seminary joined with Piedmont University (previously Piedmont Bible Institute) and an M. Div. degree was then offered in its entirety through Piedmont's nationally ranked online program. Piedmont is one of a few remaining schools that is strongly dispensational in their handling of Scripture. Piedmont was founded in 1945 by Dr. Charles H. Stevens, long known for his teaching on dispensationalism and his use of large charts to provide clarity and a visual overview – just like all the great preachers do.

### **How does school work?**

It is 100% online. I log in to their "blackboard" system to access assignments, examinations, and to submit my work. My coursework includes lots of reading with weekly writing assignments and also longer-term writing projects. In my current courses, assignments are due by midnight on Mondays and Thursdays. Examinations are taken online with an honor statement. An element of this style of learning that I've appreciated is the "Discussion Boards." For most assignments, student's post their paper to a message board where other students read and comment on it. Part of

our assignment is to critically read and respond to other student's papers and replies.

### **Why did you choose Temple Baptist Seminary?**

I've been taught well at Indian Hills to value serving in the local body. Since I feel like this church is the body that my heart belongs to, being able to stay involved at The Hills was very important to Elizabeth and me.

In total, I had 5 criteria for a school: hermeneutic, location, flexibility, time to degree, and accreditation.

What I did was make a spreadsheet with all the schools I could find that state an agreeable hermeneutic and/or state they are dispensational and/or had a reputation for being dispensational.

Then I evaluated each school on those criteria and TBS was the best choice, satisfying all criteria.

### **How do you see yourself serving the Lord after you have completed your studies?**

The future is absolutely in the Lord's faithful, sovereign hands and I trust Him to lead us where He wants us to serve. My ultimate hope and aim is to effectively communicate the simplicity and wealth of God's truth to His people and to the lost; seeing His people glorify Him while we wait for His return. Wherever that may be, I

trust, is exactly where the Lord wants me and has been preparing me for. As I've said though, I love The Hills and my heart is in this ministry and in serving alongside all of you. It would be an immense joy to serve here until we all get to heaven. But God will accomplish what pleases Him and glorifies His name in this ministry and in the ministry He calls me to serve in. I look forward to finding that out!

### **How is Indian Hills helping you with your journey?**

Indian Hills has made an office and a computer available for me to use. This has given me a nice place to work on studies while being in close proximity to the ministry.

### **How has the Lord prepared you for this adventure?**

Several of my secular jobs have contributed to my preparation. Teaching a large lecture hall course for two years at UNL was great experience. Writing papers as an engineering grad student and doing technical research taught me useful skills. The greatest preparation has come from just sitting under Gil's faithful teaching and serving in this body.

### **How would you like the church to pray for you?**

Please pray for our wisdom, discernment, and perseverance. I want adequate time (which I believe the Lord will provide) and the discipline to use that time in

order to get the most out of my studies while also loving Elizabeth well and serving in the body. We are excited to see what the Lord has in store and are trusting Him as we take each step together.

### **How will you fit studying into your day?**

I do seminary every evening after work. I also use our commute in the morning and evening to

work in the car as Elizabeth drives, and I work on seminary during the weekends. Elizabeth and I have enjoyed being busy with ministry and school and we are learning new ways to make the most of our time together.

I should add that I've been really enjoying school so far. The reading and the writing has been fun and profitable.

## *Ladies Retreat*

*True Wisdom Found:  
The joyful mindset of fearing God*

*Friday & Saturday  
February 23 & 24*

*Lied Lodge in Nebraska City*



## Family News

**Hospitalized.** Lucas and Alicia Arndt's daughter, Meredith, is a patient at St. Elizabeth.

**Hospitalized.** Eliza Iekel, daughter of David and Carrie, was a patient at Seward Memorial.

**Hospitalized.** Hudson Willet, son of Jason and Heather, was a patient at UNMC.

**Hospitalized.** Ruby Rogers was a patient at Bryan East.

## Children's Studies

**Children's Sunday School.** The children studied Ephesians 2:1–10 and learned about salvation by grace.

**Children's Church.** The children studied Exodus 32 and learned about God punishing Israel's idolatry. The lesson goal is to thank God for his mercy and patience.

## Information

**Pinewood Derby** is March 3. Check-ins are from 8:30-10:30 a.m.; races begin at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and cheer on the racers. If you'd like to build a car, they are still available for sale on Sundays in the south lobby.

**2017 Giving Receipts.** Your 2017 donation receipt should have arrived by February 1. Please notify the church of any discrepancies

or if you did not receive a giving receipt. To claim a charitable cash donation, the IRS requires that it be substantiated by either a cancelled check, or by a written receipt from the church. For donors who give \$250 or more, a written acknowledgement from the church is required.

**New Baby & Family Room.** If you have a new baby and you'd like to keep your little one with you during the worship hour, we now have a special place for you. Families can worship the Lord together in the high school room. The sermon is streamed so you can follow along in your Bible with the rest of the congregation.

**Cookie Dough.** Girls of Grace is selling Eileen's cookie dough. Stop by the table in the south lobby to order your favorite cookie dough. Orders will be accepted through February 25. Pick up will be Wednesday, March 14 in the new Event Kitchen.

**Vacation Bible School 2018** will be held June 25–29. Mark your calendars and invite your cousins, friends, and neighbors.

**Girls of Grace** camp will be held May 25–28.

**Awana Cubbies** needs one helper to work with children 3–5 years old.

**Awana** needs 40 margarine type bowls with lids for a craft in Cubbies. We need them by March 1. They can be dropped off at the second-floor coordinator desk.

**Girls' Choir** meets on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. and is open to all girls in grades 4-12.

**Pickleball** meets on Monday from 6:45–9:00 p.m. in the Family Center. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Vince Ganshorn at 402-440-9640.

**The Great Awakenings of the Americas** meets on Wednesday from 7:00–8:00 p.m. in room 1414. Donald Goertzen is the teacher. Everyone high school age and older is welcome. Cookies and coffee top off the evening.

**How important are the gospels?** Why are there four gospels? How are they similar and how are they different? Come delve into the story of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John this Wednesday night at 7:00. Everyone is welcome and cookies and coffee top off the evening.

**Titus Tuesday** will not meet this week. We hope to see you at the retreat on Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24.

**Hospitality Ministry** needs one door greeter to welcome people at the southwest doors on Sunday mornings from 8:30–9:00 a.m. Each greeter is on rotation of one month per quarter and would serve four months out of the year. Please let Brian Willet (brian.willet@outlook.com) know if you're interested.

**Creative Sewers** will meet Tuesday, February 20, at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and sewing.

**Ladies' Missionary Prayer** group will meet on Wednesday, February 21 at 1:30 p.m. in room 1112. Please note the change in location. All women are invited to join us.

**Cleaners Needed.** If you'd like to vacuum a section of the church once every five weeks, contact Tami Coffin, 402-366-3490.

**Event Kitchen.** If you have an upcoming event that involves the new Event Kitchen, contact Rachel Gould at church, 402-483-4541. She will reserve it for your group and give you an Event Sheet, which will help with the planning. Questions to Merrily Bailey 402-730-7617.

**Hospitalizations.** Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and notify Pastor Aaron Nicholson or Curt Kuster of hospitalizations and births.

**Weddings & Funerals.** Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and ask for Pastor Duane Nelsen or Pastor Aaron Nicholson for wedding and funeral arrangements.

**Nursing Home Door-to-Door Evangelism.** If you'd like to help, call Adam Flaugh, 402-310-2070.

## Last Week's Message

Feb. 11 AM. Gil Rugh. GR 2031. *The Completion of the False Trinity.* Revelation 13:11-15

Feb. 11 PM. Gil Rugh. GR 2111. *Restoration and Burden Bearing.* Galatians 6:1-2

# This Week's Events

## Sunday

Combined Sunday School  
& Morning Worship Hour  
Randall Price Speaking  
Sunday Night Church 6:00 p.m.  
Boys of Faith 6:00 p.m.  
Girls of Grace 6:00 p.m.  
Sunshine Kids 6:30 p.m.

## Monday

Sisters 7:00 p.m.  
Pickleball 6:45–9:00 p.m.

## Tuesday

No Titus Tuesday  
Creative Sewers 11:30 a.m.

## Wednesday

Ladies Missionary Prayer 1:30 p.m.  
Girls' Choir 5:00 p.m.  
Praise Team, Band 6:00 p.m.  
Orchestra 6:00 p.m.  
Awana 6:45 p.m.  
Choir 7:00 p.m.  
Junior High Study 7:00 p.m.  
Issues . . . World 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Study 7:00 p.m.

## Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7:00 p.m.

## Friday

Ladies Retreat

## Saturday

Ladies Retreat

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# Future Events

## March 3

Pinewood Derby

## March 11

Daylight Saving Time Begins

## March 14

Cookie Pick Up

## March 30

Good Friday Service  
Communion

## April 1

Resurrection Sunday

## April 7

Dodgeball Tourney  
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

## April 8

Dessert Social

## April 10

Intermission 6:15 p.m.

## April 22

Girls' Choir Concert 2:00 p.m.

## April 27–29

Boys of Faith Spring Campout

## May 6

Communion

## May 13

Mother's Day  
Boys of Faith Last Night Cookout

## May 25–28

Girls of Grace Camp

## June 17

Father's Day

## June 25–29

Vacation Bible School