

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

August 27, 2017

A hearty welcome to you, beloved of God, on this last Sunday of August. We are glad you are here and honored you have chosen to worship with us today.

Without a doubt, the best thing about The Hills is the clear, regular teaching of the Word. We are blessed to have this teaching in the worship services as well as in the Bible Fellowship Hour and other weekly studies.

Dr. Gary Gilley

Thank you to Gary Gilley for ministering the Word to us last Sunday.

Ministering Today

This morning our very own, Duane Nelsen, will be sharing the Word with us. Tonight at 6:00 p.m., Adam Flaugh will be teaching the Word.

The Common Sin

We all know people who are holding onto the hurt and pain in their lives. Maybe we do that too. If we've been nurturing a wound for a while, we may not even know that we have a bitter spirit. Perhaps we have forgotten that we're to forgive others like Jesus forgave us.

Bitterness pollutes our heart.

We become cynical and caustic. It's not long before we are experts at scorching people at church, home, and work. Our eyes, tongue, and body language become honed tools.

Our relationships can't survive our sarcastic voice and soon the only one that is happy is Satan. He loves to see us trapped in bitterness. He loves it when we are miserable and burning with hate.

We must avoid bitterness at all costs. Holding onto our pain robs us of a growing relationship with God. How can we do His will when we're loaded down with bitterness, anger, and resentment? How can we love God and others when our heart is crowded with hurt and hate?

We must recognize this as sin and ask for God's forgiveness and help. He will help us forgive those who have hurt us and give us amazing peace and rest.

Eclipse

On Monday we were reminded of the greatness of God. "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him?" (Psalm 8:3, 4).

Genesis 2:4-25

The Garden of Eden: Grace and Wisdom by Design

Ed Daly

Is any Book of the Bible attacked more vociferously in our culture than the Book of Genesis? You can expect to be ridiculed if you interpret Genesis literally and believe that “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). Lawrence Kraus, theoretical physicist, cosmologist, and bestselling author and advocate for science education wrote, “If you’re introducing it (creationism or Intelligent Design) as reality, if you’re telling your kids the world is 6,000 years old, and they shouldn’t believe scientists because there is no way humans are related to other animals, and don’t believe any of that stuff you learned in school, or take your kids out of school because they are learning something, then it is like the Taliban at some level, which is an extreme form of child abuse.” (reported on examiner.com). Susan Elkin echoed the same message when she wrote, “Anyone who tells children that God – literally – created the world in seven days 6,000 years ago is guilty of perverting education.” (The Independent, a blog). What the cultural elites offer as an alternative is a man-centered, secular humanist philosophy of life in which evolving man is the ultimate moral authority in the universe. In their religious fervor, they mock the idea that there



Ed Daly

is a supreme God of the universe who has moral authority over their lives. They hate the God that they believe does not exist.

The human wreckage that this perspective has produced over the last century (the bloodiest century in human history) provides abundant evidence of just how bankrupt this philosophy of life is. In the final analysis, reducing the size of our lives to satisfying our appetites is a recipe for despair and a life of escapism, which is why pornography, alcohol, and drugs (witness the current opioid crisis) enslave so many people today.

When we resist the world and believe that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, we submit to His absolute author-

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ity over everything in the universe, including our lives. We turn to the Bible for wisdom for how to live our lives. Psalm 11:3 says, “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Genesis is foundational to understanding God’s purposes as He reveals His design. But, understanding God’s purposes takes careful study.

Because His word is rich, deep, and nuanced, it can perplex even the most diligent student. For example, the Bible gives two accounts of the creation of man (Genesis 1:26-27 and Genesis 2:7). Why did God decide that it was necessary to give two different accounts? Wouldn’t just one suffice? Won’t two accounts just confuse people more, especially when they differ in so many ways? Also, we find that God tested Adam in Eden. Couldn’t God have just left him alone to cultivate the garden and live in peace and harmony with his wife? Besides, wasn’t God being harsh when he tested Adam? Couldn’t He at least have established a higher standard for a test than eating a fruit? Murder, maybe? Why should eating the fruit of the tree of good and knowledge lead to such disastrous results? Couldn’t God have lightened the sentence, and shaped Adam’s submission to His authority more gently over time?

When we read of God creating Adam and placing him in a perfect environment in Genesis 2, an even more obvious question jumps off the page. We live in a Genesis 3 world, and not in Eden, a paradise specially created just for Adam. How is

Genesis 2 relevant in our Genesis 3 world? Our circumstances are vastly different from his, aren’t they? Or, are they? Furthermore, God tested Adam’s obedience by telling him to not eat the fruit from a tree. But, that tree is no longer accessible. Besides, we are not saved by do’s and don’ts, are we? Don’t we look to God for grace (and not our works) to be saved? And, finally and perhaps most importantly, how can Genesis 2 be relevant today when the biggest problems we face in life are due to the sin that occurred in chapter 3?

So, why is it worthwhile to study the creation accounts of Genesis, especially when it raises such controversy, even in the church? Hebrews 11:6 says, “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.” When we come to God in faith, carefully studying His word from beginning to end, we grow in wisdom and grace. We learn to see historical narratives in the Bible, like those we find in the opening chapters of Genesis, as not merely factual statements whose veracity are to be debated by intellectuals, but God’s descriptions of His design, in which each of us finds purpose, meaning, and responsibility in our lives. In the garden of Eden, we find grace and wisdom by design. Join us to see how both accounts of the creation of man complement one another and provide a powerful and compelling description of the awesome responsibilities that He has entrusted to us.

Kitchen Project Cooking Along

The new kitchen is coming together nicely. Following is a progress update.



Back Splash around the sinks is being installed. Stop by and see the subway tile.



Kitchen Island is complete with a center aisle under the countertop for parking carts.



Floor Sink is ready to be used as a drain for the ice machine.



Microwave stand is installed.



Drawers are installed. They are made of solid maple, have dovetailed corners, and are good quality.



Pantry needs shelves installed.

86% of Dollar Goal Reached



Cupboards and Shelves are installed with plenty of room for dishes, cups, and glasses.



Thermostat is installed. Kitchen workers will be able to control the temperature.



Overhead Roll Top for Serving Window is installed and controlled by switch.

Dishwasher will ship September 6.

Fireproof Grill Wall has been installed.

Dollars Needed

Dollars Received

\$170,000

\$146,548 (86% of our goal!) has been given to the Kitchen Project.

\$160,000

\$150,000

\$140,000

\$130,000

\$120,000

\$110,000

\$100,000

\$90,000

\$80,000

\$70,000

\$60,000

\$50,000

\$40,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$10,000

\$0



Candidate for Deacon for Girls of Grace Ministry

Steve DeRiese

Gale Engle

Steve DeRiese is a candidate for Deacon for the Girls of Grace Ministry. He is married to Gail, and together they have two daughters, Madison and McKenna. Steve has worked for Valentino's for over 30 years and he is the general manager for the Valentino's restaurant at 35th and Holdrege.

As a child, Steve's family moved a lot but they established roots in Scribner, Nebraska, when Steve was in fifth grade.

"I grew up believing that most people go to heaven," Steve said. "Since I was baptized as an infant and I did mediocre good works, I thought I would surely go to heaven. I didn't see myself as a sinner, and I thought hell was just for murders and really bad people. I definitely didn't think I was one of them."

Steve's future wife, Gail, lived on a farm outside of Scribner and attended country school, so she did not attend school in town until she was a high school freshman. Steve was a junior when he met her and says, "I knew she was the one I wanted to marry the first time I saw her."

Steve and Gail were married in 1991 and began attending various churches in Lincoln. "Eventually we came to Indian Hills. Gil was teach-



Steve DeRiese and family

ing and his sermon seemed long, but I was captivated and we continued to attend The Hills."

Three months later, Steve received a call from his father. "He told me that my uncle had passed away and that he had terror in his eyes just before he died. I put myself in my uncle's position and knew I would also be terrified."

Steve got off the phone and opened his Bible. A tract of the Roman Road fell out. Steve read it and began to understand his wretchedness. "I knew my good works were nothing but filthy rags to God. Knowing I was a sinner, I asked Him to forgive my sins and come into my life.

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Steve was born again and things began to change in his life. “My desire for alcohol went away, I started a regular prayer time, and I began reading the Bible daily.”

As Steve grew in the Lord, he was convicted that he needed to be coming to church for Sunday School and Sunday Night Church in addition to the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service. “We grew together as a couple and I became the spiritual leader.”

Steve began teaching in the Wee Care Ministry and when a need arose, he began teaching Children’s Sunday School, which he still loves. In 2015, Steve and Gail began leading the Girls of Grace Ministry.

“God has surely done a work in my life,” Steve said. “Not only has He saved me, but day by day He is preparing me for Heaven.”

Steve is a candidate for Deacon of the Girls of Grace Ministry. If you have comments about his candidacy, please share them with an elder by September 20, 2017.

Fall Kickoff

Fall Kickoff is Sunday, September 10. We’ll have lots of food and fun things to do, and it’s all free. Festivities begin at 3:00 p.m. with games, inflatables, and pickleball. (If you don’t know how to play, we’ll teach you.)

At 4:30 p.m. we’ll have picnic food under the big canopy (north-east entrance). Bring lawn chairs or a blanket if you’d like.

At 6:00 p.m. we’ll gather in the auditorium to praise our God and proclaim the wondrous things He has done. This will be a time of congregational singing and listening to soloists and groups. Adam Flaugh will share the gospel and encourage us in our walk with the Lord.

Invitations are available at the main entrances. Be sure to invite your friends and share the invitation on facebook.

Used Books “By the Pound”

Sale will be held Fall Kickoff Weekend

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 9 & 10

If you are fall cleaning or down-sizing,
please consider donating books to Sound Words.

Family News

Hospitalized. Mary Ann Hill is a patient at Omaha Methodist Hospital.

New Address. Jan and Leonard Larsen are now living at: 7200 Van Dorn St., Apt #382, Lincoln, NE 68506

Thank You. We would like to sincerely thank our wonderful church family for the prayers, cards, visits and food during Jack's back injury. He is doing really well with the healing process. —Jack and Patti McGovern

Thank You. Merrily and I appreciate your thoughts, prayers, cards, and letters during the recent passing of my dad. A special thank you for those who specifically prayed for one more opportunity for me to share the Gospel with him. All the prayers were answered, and while it is in God's hands now, we rejoice that my dad seemed to finally come to saving faith before he died.—Scott and Merrily Bailey

Card Shower. Dorothy Gunn will be celebrating her 90th birthday on September 8, 2017. Her address is 5621 Prescott Ave., Lincoln, NE 68506. Phone: 402-483-6115.

Children's Studies

Children's Sunday School. The children reviewed recent lessons.

Summer Church. Matt Marra and the AO group completed their

study with the children on Ephesians 4–6 today. On September 3 they will study the Armor of God.

Information

Attention Deaf. There will be no interpreted services for the Deaf on Sunday, September 3.

AWANA workers needed! Would you be interested in helping kids memorize and understand God's Word? The AWANA ministry is built around 2 Tim. 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."

In addition to Bible verse memorization, there is a Bible-centered lesson, praise of our amazing Savior through song and game time too. If this ministry interests you, please pray about serving. If you can't serve in this ministry, please pray for the salvation of the kids and for the leaders to effectively share their love for Christ. If you do feel led to serve, or have questions, please contact Galen Pfeiffer at: gk5fer@gmail.com or 402-613-6896.

T&T Leaders meeting will be held Sunday, August 27th at 11:30 a.m.

SPARKS Leaders meeting will be held Sunday, August 27th at 5:30 p.m.

Music Camp Finale. Be sure to invite friends and relatives to the

Sunday night, September 3, Music Camp finale. Our children will be presenting a short musical by singing and playing instruments they learned this summer. The gospel will be presented.

Choir Resumes on Wednesday, September 13 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Meet in the Choir Room. We will sing every other Sunday for the morning worship service and for the Christmas service. Child care is provided.

Orchestra Resumes on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m. and the following Sundays at 8:00 a.m. Talk to Aaron Nicholson if you're interested in trying out. Child care is provided.

Newbie Night is for anyone who would like to get involved with sharing the gospel. Come to Door 2 Door on Monday, August 28 at 6:15 p.m. Meet by the security desk in the north lobby. You can accompany an experienced evangelist and watch and learn if you'd like, or you can go out with another evangelist and share the gospel. This night is for you. Come and learn.

Used Books "By the Pound" Sale will begin on the Saturday of Fall Kickoff Weekend (September 9). That is also the first Saturday Sound Words will resume being open on Saturday mornings. If you are fall cleaning or down-sizing, please consider donating books to Sound Words.

Hospitality Ministry needs two workers. One person is needed to help at the information desk and one is needed to greet others at the southwest doors on Sunday mornings. Please let Brian Willet (brian.willet@outlook.com) know if you're interested.

A Teacher is needed the first Sunday of the month at The Waterford (South 48th St.) and at Homestead Alzheimer's Unit. A teacher is needed the third Sunday at Summer Place (near 20th and South) and the fourth Sunday at The Arbors. Contact Tom Price at 402-792-9331 or mathmanprice@gmail.com for more information.

Music Camp meets at 6 p.m. to-night. All children going into first through eighth grade in the fall are encouraged to attend.

Nursery Workers are needed for the second hour. Please contact Cheryl Slade, 402-770-3055, if you would like to help.

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

Last Week's Message

August 20 AM. Gary Gilley. GG 5 *Spiritual Disciplines for Godliness.* 1 Timothy 4:6-12

August 20 PM. Gary Gilley. GG 6. *Pointing Out Deviant Doctrines.* 1 Timothy 4:6-12; Selected Verses

This Week's Events

Sunday

Duane Nelsen Speaking (AM)
Adam Flaugh Speaking (PM)
T&T Leaders Meeting 11:30 a.m.
Sparks Leaders Meeting 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Night Church 6:00 p.m.
Summer Music Camp 6:00 p.m.
Sonshine Kids 6:30 p.m.

Monday

Sisters 6:00 p.m.
Door 2 Door 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday

Gardening 9:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7:00 p.m.

Future Events

September 3

Duane Nelsen Speaking (AM)
Ed Daly Speaking (PM)
No Interpretation for Deaf
Summer Music Camp Finale (PM)

September 4

Labor Day (Offices Closed)

September 10

Fall Kickoff

September 12

Titus Tuesday Resumes

September 13

Girls' Choir Resumes
Choir & Orchestra Resume
Awana Resumes
Junior High Study Resumes
Issues in our Contemporary World
Wednesday Night Bible Study

September 30

Men's Breakfast

October 1

Baptism

October 6, 7

Deaf Conference

October 15

Communion

October 20, 21

Girls of Grace Overnighter

Summer Pulpit Speakers

Today! August 27

Duane Nelsen Speaking (AM)
Adam Flaugh Speaking (PM)

September 3

Duane Nelsen Speaking (AM)
Ed Daly Speaking (PM)

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