

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

January 17, 2016

Welcome beloved of God on this frosty January morning. Although it is cold outside, we trust your heart will be warmed with the study of the truth and love of the brethren.

Preparing for Trials

As Christians, it is important that we put thought into how we live our lives. We need to be intentional in how we use the time God has given us each day. The things that will make a true difference are our time in the Word, our time in prayer and our time fellowshiping with the saints.

As we consistently attempt to be in the Word, pray, fellowship, and trust God, our confidence in the Lord grows.

The faith we develop in the easy times will be greatly needed when the Lord takes us through the trials of life.

When the hard times come, we trust God just as we did in the easier days. We don't have to stop and learn a different approach because the trials are harder. We simply trust and obey, follow the pattern we developed in easier days. God is faithful and He will see us through.



Growing Together

The unity we have in Christ truly is miraculous. Although we come from many different backgrounds and walks of life, have differing strengths, weaknesses, and varying personalities—we are united in our love for the Savior.

As we grow, we learn that “love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8) and that God uses each one despite our many failings. How sweet it is to love the ones our Lord holds closely.

We're thankful you're here this morning. As members of God's family it is a joy to gather with the saints and worship our Lord and Savior with you!

Serving as an Elder

Randy Sperling

Randy Sperling was raised in a godly home where his mother clearly presented the gospel to him. Randy also heard the gospel at church and although he had repented of his sins and believed in Jesus for the forgiveness of his sins, he spent a couple years wondering if he was truly saved. Randy says, “I asked the Lord many times to save me because I wanted to be certain.”

By the time Randy was 12 years old, he knew he was a believer. He came across Romans 8:16, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” Randy says, “It dawned on me that that was why I was so confident of my salvation. I was convinced of my salvation at that young age. I knew of the Holy Spirit’s witness to me by what I saw the Lord producing in my life and by how he was changing my actions. It is more than an inner awareness. It included an outward change.”

Why are elder candidates recommended to the congregation before they are appointed to the board?

Elder candidates are recommended to the congregation



Randy Sperling

before they are appointed because something may not have become apparent during the candidate’s interviews with the board. The body is instructed to bring comments regarding the candidate to the board, which gives the body an opportunity to bring information forward.

How did you know you were called to be an elder?

I did not have a mystical calling, but a conviction to be ready for whatever the Lord called me to. When I was approached about serving as an elder, I examined Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-15, 5:17-25 and felt I met the biblical

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Serving as an Elder

Randy Sperling

requirements. After much thought and prayer, I was comfortable with serving the body as an elder.

How do you deal with disagreements on the board?

We always make unanimous decisions. If we have different opinions, we continue discussing the topic (sometimes for a length of time) until we are all of the same mind.

Will elders be held accountable for how they lead the church?

The elders will be held accountable for how faithfully they cared for the flock. Hebrews 13:17 states, “they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account.” Serving as an elder is a solemn responsibility and I’m thankful to serve with a group of elders that are steadfast.

Why should we trust the elders?

God is the one who chooses His leaders for the body, (Acts 20:28) therefore the body is called to follow God’s selection. This can be difficult at times because the body often does not have all the detail there is to know about a situation or decision the elders have made.

When the body knows all about a situation, no trust is required. The body expects that things will be done according to what is known.

Trust comes into play when the body doesn’t know all the circumstances. Leadership is not perfect, but God calls us to follow the leadership despite their imperfections.

What is the biggest challenge to being an elder?

The biggest challenge for me as an elder is becoming aware of the impact sin has on the sinner and other people. Yet, it is refreshing to know that every situation can bring renewed hope and restoration as the sinner repents and all who are impacted forgive and look within themselves to consider what needs to be dealt with in their own lives.

How can we pray for you?

Pray that I would finish strong to my dying day.



Call the church, 402-483-4541 to schedule a baptism interview this week. The next baptism will take place on Sunday night, February 14.

Family News.

Hospitalized. Virgil Frahm was a patient at St. Elizabeth.

Hospitalized. Zoe Leach (daughter of Roy and Wendy Leach) was a patient at St. Elizabeth

Thank You for the many acts of kindness you have shown these past months as we faced Dana's health issues. We are so grateful for those of you who moved us into our new home. Your ongoing faithfulness is so appreciated. Blessings—Dennis & Dana Oehlertz

New Address. Dennis & Dana Oehlertz: 7100 Holmes Park Rd., #216, Lincoln, NE 68506. 402-937-7780. ddoeh@outlook.com

Thank You for your prayers, calls and cards during and after my surgery. Thank you ladies for bringing in food. We appreciated all of this so very much.—Ruby Rogers

Children's Studies

Sunday School. The children studied Isaiah 6 and learned about Isaiah's call.

Children's Church. The children studied 1 Kings 11 and learned about God punishing Solomon. The lesson goal is to love God with all our hearts throughout our lives.

Information

Ladies Retreat will be held February 26, 27 at the Lied Lodge

in Nebraska City. The theme is "Biblical Friends Forever" and will be team-taught by Titus Tuesday teachers. Stop by the table in the south lobby to sign up. January 24 is the last day to register.

Issues in Our Contemporary World meets Wednesdays from 7–8 p.m. in room 1414. Donald Gortzen is teaching on Eretz Israel—the Land. Everyone is welcome.

Titus Tuesday. Ladies, please join us Tuesday, January 19 at 9:30 a.m. (arrive at 9:15 a.m. to pick up brunch items and settle in) as Sharon Riekenberg teaches, "Why Folly is Really Bad" with discussion to follow. Child care provided.

Ladies Missionary Prayer group will meet on Wednesday, January 20 at 1:30 p.m. Check the door to the lending library on Wednesday for the location. Please join us.

Offering Envelopes for 2016 are available at Sound Words until the end of January. If you don't have an offering envelope you can have one issued to you at Sound Words.

Men's Retreat will be held Friday and Saturday, February 19 and 20 at the Leadership Center in Aurora, NE. Stop by the table in the south lobby to register today.

Sunday Morning Phone Receptionists are needed during the Sunday School hour at the north desk. As the receptionist for the Sunday School hour, workers should arrive between 8:30–8:45

a.m. and answer the church phone until 10 a.m. (when the worship hour receptionist takes over). We hope to have enough receptionists so each one will work on a rotation schedule. For more information, call Lori Meyer, 402-488-7015 and leave a message. She will call you back.

Faith: Is It Really that Simple?

This Wednesday night's class is the first in a five-week study on "faith." What does the Bible mean by "faith" and how does this affect our lives? The main text for the first lesson is Romans 3 and the second lesson will be Romans 4. No extra books are necessary for the class.

Creative Sewers will meet Tuesday, January 19, at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and sewing.

Teacher Needed for a short gospel lesson on Sundays at The Waterford (Alzheimer's Unit) on South 27th Street. A musician/singer is also needed.

Lending Library. Be sure to check out the great resources for every age in the Lending Library. Many good study tools for every age.

Several workers are needed to care for children in the beginning walker's room during the second hour on Sunday mornings. Please contact Jennifer Lenzen at 402-435-0877 if you are interested in serving in this way.

Hospitalizations. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and notify Pastor Aaron Nicholson for all hospitalizations and births.

Nursing Home Door-to-Door Evangelism. If you'd like to help, call Adam Flaugh, 402-580-3014.

Forgotten Clothing. Coats, jean jackets, hats, gloves and more are waiting to be picked up by their owners. Stop by the south lobby and check the coat racks on the far end for your personal belongings.

Weather Alert. If you are wondering if the church will be open or closed due to the weather, check www.ihcc.org.

Home Bible Studies. If you are looking for a Home Bible Study, or are interested in hosting a study in your home, contact Matt Sherman at 402-465-8030.

Parents. We have been practicing fire/tornado and lock-down drills in the children's classes. We are thinking about safety for all ages and working hard to be prepared if an emergency should arise.

Last Week's Message

Jan. 10 AM. Gil Rugh. GRM 1147. *The Church & the Bible*. Selected Verses

Jan. 10 PM. Gil Rugh. GRM 1148. *Understanding the Bible*. Selected Verses

This Week's Events

Sunday

Sunday Night Church
Girls of Grace, Boys of Faith 6 p.m.
Sonshine Kids 6:30 p.m.

Monday

Sisters

Tuesday

Titus Tuesday 9:30 a.m.
Mansion Builders 7–9 p.m.

Wednesday

Ladies Missionary Prayer 1:30 p.m.
Girls' Choir 5–6:15 p.m.
Orchestra 6–7:30 p.m.
Awana 6:45 p.m.
Junior High 6:45 p.m.
Issues in Our Contemporary World
Choir 7–8:30 p.m.
Faith: Is it Really that Simple? 7 p.m.
Mansion Builders 7–9 p.m.

Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7-8 p.m.

Saturday

Boys of Faith Riflery Clinic

February 12

Girls of Grace Daddy Daughter
Date Night

February 14

Baptism

February 19–20

Men's Retreat

February 26–27

Ladies' Retreat

February 28

Communion

March 5–9

High School Ski Trip

March 19

Boys of Faith Pinewood Derby

April 12

Brunch Break 6:15 p.m.

May 26–29

Girls of Grace Camp

June 13–18

Senior High Camp

July 11–15

Vacation Bible School

August 10–13

Junior High Camp

Future Events

January 23

JHAM Ski Trip

January 29–30

Boys of Faith Lock-in

January 30, Feb. 6

Boys of Faith Riflery Clinic



www.ibcc.org

Let us be good
stewards of the
Lord's blessings

No Food or Drink

in the Auditorium
or Chapel

Heartbeat

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WINTER INSTRUCTIONS

As cold, snow and ice storms move
in, Duane Nelsen and Kevin Wheat will
try to keep abreast of the weather and
road conditions.

Weather forecasting is tricky—even
the professionals don't always get it
right—but with the help of local meteo-
rologists, Duane and Kevin will try their
best to make sure we are not driving
when it would be best to stay home.

Of course, each of us must use good
judgment with the weather, drive safely,
pray, and watch out for the other guy!

Church cancellations or delays will
be posted on the church website: www.ihcc.org

