

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

January 8, 2017

Prayer Makes a Difference

Gil Rugh

We sometimes need to be reminded how important prayer is.

The writer of Hebrews believed that people praying for him would make a difference and wrote:

I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you the sooner (Heb. 13:19).

James also believed prayer makes a difference:

The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much (James 5:16).

The Apostle Paul continually asked people to pray for him. It is easy for us to get caught up with life and forget how important it is to pray. We forget that if we are not praying, things will not be happening.

In his letter to Philemon, Paul wrote:

At the same time also prepare me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given to you (Philemon 1:22).

Paul believed that if Philemon

and others prayed, God would answer and send Paul to them.

Sometimes prayer is hard work. If we pray only when we feel like it, we will probably have a very limited prayer life. Paul wrote of striving in prayer.

Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me (Rom. 15:30).

Paul asked his brethren to join with him in the struggle and become his partners in the battle he was in. As they prayed for him, they became an integral part of his ministry. They went through the struggles and battles with Paul as they upheld him in prayer. Paul asked them to pray:

That I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints (Rom. 15:31).

Paul asked for deliverance

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Prayer Makes a Difference

from those trying to hinder his ministry and that his ministry on behalf of Jerusalem, particularly the offering, would be acceptable.

Although Paul is a great example of faithful service to God, I wonder how many now share in the rewards of his ministry because they diligently prayed for him. The visible, focal point of ministry was on the Apostle Paul, but what God was doing through his life was partly in answer to the prayers of the saints.

When we stand in the presence of Jesus Christ for the rewards to be given, we may find that while many were not visibly part of a ministry, much of the ministry's effectiveness depended on those who were not seen, but were praying.

It is easy to lose sight of the importance of praying for others. I am a visible figure in the ministry God called me to, but God is using those who diligently pray for this local work to accomplish His will and bring effectiveness to the ministry.

Paul wrote about the experience he had undergone in Asia—sufferings, trials and burdens to the point of thinking he was about to lose his life. In spite of these

difficulties he wrote:

[He] who delivered us from so great a *peril of death*, and will deliver *us*, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us, you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through *the prayers of many* (2 Cor. 1:10, 11).

Paul believed that because people prayed, he would be delivered for more ministry and that would cause more people to praise God.

A key element of prayer is found in Ephesians 6:18: “With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit.”

As we submit our lives to the Spirit of God, He takes control of us and our desires. As we pray under the control of the Spirit, we pray according to the will of God. The Spirit will move us to ask God for what He is determined to do, that He might answer our prayers and do it.

Knowing the power of prayer, Paul continued, “Be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints” (Eph. 6:18).

What a privilege God has given us in prayer. We must not lose hope and we must never give up because prayer makes a difference.

New Daily Prayer Requests

Many in this local fellowship of believers already receive the Monday prayer requests via e-mail.

To expand on this, a brief daily prayer list will begin January 9.

Prayer requests will be divided into four categories: ministry, evangelism, personal requests, and praise.

Each category will have one prayer request.

If you would like to receive this daily prayer request via e-mail, please sign up on the sheet available at the information desk, or:

- Go to www.ihcc.org
- Select “Get Connected” (located at the top of the page)
- Click on “E-Mail Sign-up”
- Scroll down to “Daily Prayer List” and enter your information



“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18).

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much” (James 5:15).

Bible Fellowship Hour

Children' Sunday School

Visit the Sunday school coordinator's desk for class locations.

Junior High (Grades 6-8)

Studying Matthew
Team Taught
Cornerstone House

Senior High (Grades 9-12)

Topical Study
Team Taught
Room 1430

Alpha Omega (18-25)

Studying 1 John
Duane Nelsen Teaching
Room 2311

EDGE

Topical Study
Team Taught
Rooms 2211

Common Bonds

Studying John
Jim Mooberry Teaching
Room 1404

HIS

Studying Deuteronomy
Scott Bailey Teaching
Room 1423

LOGOS

Studying First Samuel
Greg Thomas Teaching
Room 1422

180° Fellowship

Studying Luke
Bill Cooley Teaching
Room 1100 (Chapel)

One Heart

Studying Matthew
Dick Bergt Teaching
Room 1112

LIFE

Studying Matthew
Jim Pelton Teaching
Room 1419

The Father Knows Best

Studying "Taking the Mystery Out of Revelation"
Don Goertzen Teaching
Room 1414

Prime Time (60+ retired)

Studying Jonah
Ed Daly Teaching
Room 1417

Classes begin at 8:45 a.m. but everyone is welcome to come at 8:30 a.m. for a cup of coffee and fellowship.

For more information about any of these classes, contact Duane Nelsen at 483-4541, visit the class, or stop by the information center in the south lobby.

Information Center

We would love to meet you! Please stop by and pick up your visitor/newcomer gift bag. We're located across from Sound Words.

"In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Romans 8:26).



Ladies
Friday Night Seminar

Friday, February 24
6–9:30 p.m.

“I Lift Up My Eyes”
Worship As a Way of Life

Catered Meal in the Family Center
Seminar in the Bible Learning Center

Registration will be held all Sundays in February.
Stop by the table in the south lobby.

All ladies are welcome.

Men's Retreat 2017

THE REFORMATION

With Dr. Manfred Kober

Friday & Saturday, February 17 & 18

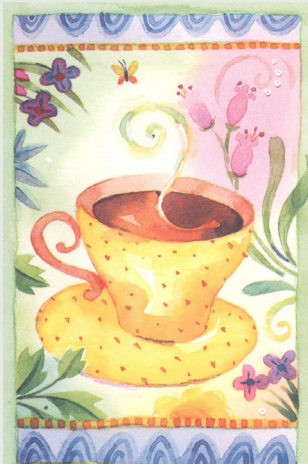
Leadership Center in Aurora, Nebraska

Registration deadline is February 5

Titus Tuesday Kickoff

Mug & Muffin

January 10 at 9:30 a.m.



We'll begin with a few announcements and then go through the food line for: muffins, coffee, tea, or hot chocolate.

Lesson: "God: Who is He?"
Taught by Janice Horn

Dismissal at 11 a.m.

A Note from the Treasurer

Carroll Lavalleur

Offering Envelopes. The 2017 offering envelopes are available next to Sound Words. They are individually labeled in alphabetical order and may be picked up at your convenience. If you don't have an offering envelope you can have one issued to you at Sound Words.

Cash Donations. The IRS requires that in order to claim a charitable cash donation it must be substantiated by either a cancelled check or by a written receipt from the church. For donors who give \$250 or more, however, a written acknowledgement from the church is required. For your convenience, the church will issue a year end



Carroll Lavalleur

giving receipt to everyone who uses an offering envelope and also to those who paid using checks that totaled over \$250.

Non-cash Gifts. Separate receipts will be issued for each non-cash gift. Non-cash gifts include stocks, mutual funds, grain commodities, and IRA distributions.

As cold, snow and ice storms move in, Jeff Horn 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 meteorologists, our men will try their best to make sure we are not driving when it would be best to stay home.

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



Family News.

Death. Kathy Kitchen's mother, Delores Lowe, died January 4, 2017.

Thank you for your prayers, visits, and calls during my recent hospital stay. Thanks for the many meals provided by our Bible study group. Praise to our Good Shepherd who provided beyond measure.—Kathy Summers

Children's Studies

Sunday School. The children studied Psalm 1 and learned about the blessed man.

Children's Church. Children studied Matthew 27 and learned about Jesus enduring the cross. The lesson goal is to worship Jesus Christ for dying for our sins and giving us access to God.

Information

Titus Tuesday will kick-off the season on Tuesday, January 10 with "Mug & Muffin." Meet in the Bible Learning Center at 9:30 a.m. for a few announcements and then go through the food line for muffins, coffee, tea, or hot chocolate. We'll have some extra time for visiting and then a time of prayer. Janice Horn will present the lesson: "God: Who is He?" from 10:30–11 a.m. Dismissal will be at 11.

Clothing Outlet will be open Tuesday, January 10 from 8 a.m.–6:30 p.m. Donated clothes may be dropped off any time the church is open. Please place clothing inside the box in the Clothing Outlet closet (NE corner, by big canopy). Donated clothes should be in bags or boxes. Please put children's clothes in a separate bag or box. Clothes should be clean and in good condition. Questions? Call Brenda Turner at 402-486-1898.

Used Toy Donations. On January 17, Titus Tuesday will be holding a used toy swap for toys in good condition. If you are de-cluttering and would like to contribute, there will be a drop off location in the southeast foyer on January 8, 10, and 15. Books, puzzles and costumes are welcome. Questions? Call Jeri Moser at 402-805-1651.

Wednesday night class. Perry Beard will be teaching through the Book of Ruth on Wednesday at 7 p.m. starting on January 11.

Issues in Our Contemporary World will meet Wednesday, January 11 at 7 p.m. Donald Goertzen will be teaching on Eretz Israel. Everyone is welcome.

Awana resumes on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:45 p.m.

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

Nursery Workers are needed Sunday morning during the Sunday school hour. Call Stephanie Dowding, 402-416-9868.

Cleaners are needed to vacuum an area of the church once every five weeks. If you would like to help, call Jennifer Gaden at 402-438-4671.

Choir resumes on Wednesday, January 11 at 7 p.m. We will sing every other Sunday morning starting January 22 and we'll sing for the Easter service. New and veteran singers are welcome.

Hospitalizations. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and notify Pastor Aaron Nicholson or Curt Kuster of all hospitalizations and births. They would love to come pray with you.

Girls' Choir (fourth–twelfth grade) resumes rehearsal on Wednesday, January 11 from 5-6:15 p.m. in the choir room.

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

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

Lending Library. Winter is a great time to introduce your kids to the church Lending Library. We have all kinds of books for both children and adults. Consider making this a “reading winter.”

Home Bible Studies. If you are looking for a Home Bible Study, or are interested in hosting a study in your home, contact Duane Nelsen at 402-483-4541.

Teacher Is Needed the first Sunday of every month at the Waterford (south) on South 48th Street. The service starts at 2:30 p.m. and usually is done in 45 minutes. A teacher and song leader are needed on the first Sunday of the month at Country House (70th and O) starting the first Sunday in February. A teacher and song leader are needed at The Arbors in north Lincoln on the fourth Sunday of every month. Contact Tom Price at mathman-price@gmail.com for more information.

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

Used Book section is available at Sound Words. You may contribute to or make purchases of discounted and hard-to-find books. Our shelves are growing and the stock is constantly changing in both the fiction and non-fiction categories.

Last Week's Message

Jan. 1 AM. PB 24. Peter Barber.
Are You Thirsty? Come and Drink!
John 7:37-52

This Week's Events

Sunday

Sunday School
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Duane Nelsen Preaching AM & PM
Sunday Night Church 6 p.m.
Girls of Grace 6 p.m.
Boys of Faith 6 p.m.
Sonshine Kids 6:30 p.m.

Monday

Sisters 7 p.m.

Tuesday

Titus Tuesday 9:15 a.m.
Mansion Builders 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Girls' Choir 5 p.m.
Orchestra 6 p.m.
Awana 6:45 p.m.
Junior High 6:45 p.m.
Choir 7 p.m.
Issues . . . World 7 p.m.
Wednesday Night Study 7 p.m.
Mansion Builders 7 p.m.

Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7 p.m.

Future Events

January 21

Boys of Faith Archery Clinic

January 22

Boys of Faith Derby Cars for Sale

January 27, 28

Boys of Faith Lock-in &
Archery Clinic

February 4

Boys of Faith Archery Clinic

February 10

Mother/Daughter Tea

February 11

Boys of Faith Derby Car Workshop

February 17, 18

Men's Retreat

February 24

Ladies Seminar 6–9:30 p.m.

March 4

Boys of Faith Pinewood Derby

March 28

Intermission 6 p.m.

April 2

Steve Scheibner Preaching
Boys of Faith Dessert Social

April 28–30

Boys of Faith Spring Camp

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