

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

November 15, 2015

The doors of this church are always open to those who come to learn more of our Lord and Savior. We are glad you are here and trust you will receive rich blessings from the study of His Word. If you do not have a church home, we hope you will prayerfully consider “growing in the likeness of Christ” with this local fellowship of believers, known as Indian Hills Community Church.

If you have not worshipped with us before, you will find an active ministry for each age with plenty of activities and opportunities to develop friendships and encourage one another in the faith.

Knowing the Word is crucial for the believer. The Bible says of such a person, “he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither, and in whatever he does, he prospers” (Psalm 1:3).

Wouldn't each of us like to be described as such a tree? A good start in becoming firmly planted in the Word is to take advantage of all the Bible classes available throughout the week, beginning with the Sunday morning worship service and Bible Fellowship Hour.



Thanksgiving Is Next Week

Since Thanksgiving Eve is traditionally the time to do last minute grocery shopping, baking, and cleaning, all classes will be cancelled next Wednesday evening, November 25.

Miraculous Unity

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!

Keeping Watch Over Our Souls

God has not been silent about the leadership structure of His church and there are many examples and instructions in His Word concerning the church elders.

“Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you” (Hebrews 13:17).

The importance of our elders cannot be overlooked since the church stands or falls on their faithfulness. If the elders are ungodly, false teaching will come into the church and sin will become rampant. Thus, it is through bad shepherds that the flock will become sick and face great danger.

However, if the elders are faithful men, devoted to God’s Word, who meet the qualifications laid out in Scripture, the church will be spiritually healthy since the flock will be nourished and protected by good shepherds.

Due to the vital role the elders play in the well-being of the body, we take the appointing of elders very seriously at Indian Hills.

How are elders appointed?

In the initial stage, the elders put forward the names of godly men devoted to the Word. When the names have been narrowed

down, each man is approached and asked if he would be interested in becoming an elder.

If the man is interested, he is then asked to sit in on the elders’ meetings for several months. This allows him to become accustomed to what the elders do and to determine if the Lord would have him serve in this capacity.

If the man still desires to serve as an elder, he is given a doctrinal questionnaire to fill out. When he has submitted the questionnaire he is formally interviewed by the board. If the board agrees that he meets the qualifications required in Scripture, he is recommended to the congregation.

After the elder candidate is presented to the church, he shares his testimony with the congregation. Then there is a two-week approval period when the body is asked to make any comments regarding the candidate to one of the elders. This is very important, for if a man does not meet the biblical qualifications, it must be known.

All comments are then considered by the board of elders and the candidate is either appointed or denied appointment to the board of elders.

Our elders are appointed for three-year terms. After that original three-year period, they are

asked if they would like to continue serving on the board of elders.

Members of the IHCC board of elders for 2015 include:

Gil Rugh
Jeff Horn
Rob Jensen
Larry Riekenberg
Rob Schmidt
Mike Shrader
Randy Sperling
Greg Thomas

What do elders do?

Our elders meet the second Wednesday of each month and at other times as needed. They address doctrinal questions and set the doctrinal framework for the church. If there are questions about a doctrine or practice, they discuss it in light of Scripture.

As “shepherds for the flock” they are always looking out for the health of the sheep. If there is a drift away from the truth in some area, or a false teaching from outside the church that is beginning to make inroads into the body, they look into it and do whatever is needed to keep the church on track.

Besides discussing the direction of the ministry, the elders spend much of their meeting time in prayer. The first hour of their monthly meeting is generally spent in prayer for specific individuals in the body.

The elders will give an account for our souls.

Although the elders are in a very important and key position, which has a lot of recognition, we must not overlook the responsibility they have before God. Scripture tells us that each elder will give an account for our souls.

Of course, we will also give an account for ourselves (and fathers for families), but the elders will give an account for the body and how the members turned out. They will give an account for what happened in the life of the body. They will receive a much stricter accounting than the rest of us.

It is important to understand the importance of their position and our response to them. Their responsibility is serious and our responsibility to obey and submit to their leadership is serious as well.

The “shepherd and sheep” relationship, like any relationship, is a two-way street. Either one can cause difficulty in the relationship. Problems result if the shepherd does not fulfill his role and problems result if the sheep are not willing to follow the shepherd’s leading.

Who can become an elder?

Not anyone who wants to be an elder can become one. Only a morally and spiritually qualified man can be appointed to the position of elder. He must be devoted

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Keeping Watch Over Our Souls

to the Word, above reproach, able to exhort believers and refute those who contradict sound doctrine, since this will be the thrust of his ministry. The qualifications for an elder are clearly defined in the New Testament (see 1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-9).

Scripture does not specify a minimum age requirement for an elder, although 1 Timothy 3:6 requires that he not be a new convert. The elders have not set a minimum age for elders, but as a “rule of thumb” 35 years old is generally a good minimum age for becoming an elder at The Hills. The elders

require that he be saved for at least eight years and functioning in the church for four years.

The qualifications for an elder are a good standard for those of us who are not elders. Even if we do not desire to be an elder, it is a high standard we should all be striving toward. Our goal should be to be growing more like Christ.

Praise God we can attain those standards if we are faithful, obedient and submissive to the Holy Spirit.

“Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you” (Hebrews 13:17).

Six Days and a Flood

Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Scripture has the answers



Class taught by
Larry Riekenberg.

Everyone high school age and older welcome.

The greatest result of biblical giving is that God is glorified.

It's amazing to think that the ultimate result of being obedient—giving biblically—brings glory to God.

“Because of the proof given by this ministry they will glorify God for your obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all” (2 Cor. 9:13).

But do you know what the problem is?

Our desire for God to be glorified is not great enough for us to give biblically. We talk about the glory of God and we pray that God will be glorified but that's as far as we go.

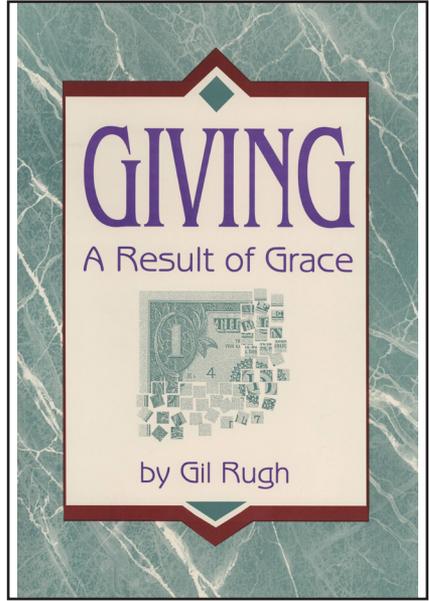
God has told us one of the ways that we can be used to cause people to glorify Him is to give biblically.

We say, “I'd rather pray. You give, I'll pray.”

No. We'll both pray, and we'll both give. The result will be that we will glorify God.

Note that Paul puts it as a matter of obedience to what we have confessed regarding the gospel. If we're living in light of the gospel and giving properly, that results in God being glorified.

Giving: A Result of Grace by Gil Rugh is available in the lobby book racks. Pick up a free copy today.



WEATHER ALERT



As winter storms move in, Duane Nelsen and Kevin Wheat will try to keep abreast of the weather and road conditions. Church cancellations or delays will be posted on the church website: www.ihcc.org. **Please take care and be safe.**



Just Before Thanksgiving!

Bake Sale

Sunday, November 22

South Lobby

Immediately Following Sunday Night Church

sponsored by



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**2015
Holiday Shop**

The Believer's Character

by Gil Rugh

When we, as believers, placed our faith in what Christ did on the cross we became positionally perfect—we gained a right standing before God. Our ultimate perfection, however, will not be realized until we enter into His presence.

As we are working out our salvation here on earth, we are becoming in practice what we already are in position:

That you may prove yourselves [demonstrate, be becoming] to be blameless and innocent (Phil. 2:15).

Blameless refers to the judgment others make of us. If a person is blameless, no one can hold anything against him.

We must be careful to keep the emphasis where Scripture places it. “That you may prove yourselves to be blameless” (v. 15, emphasis added). Our flesh wants to judge if other people are blameless. However, each of us must evaluate our own lives.

Notice, also, that this verse says we are to be innocent, a word describing the inner character of a person. It literally means unmixed or unadulterated; thus it has come to mean pure or sincere. The word is used in Scripture of pure wine or pure metal, or that which is unmixed or unalloyed. Thus, my life is to be unadulterated, pure.

It should not contain a mixture of things that have no place in the life of a believer. A follower of Christ shouldn't dabble in both godly and worldly things. He should be purely seeking after Christ and nothing else.

This verse describes how God's children are to live. We are born into God's family through faith, by recognizing our sinfulness, by believing that His Son, Jesus Christ, died to pay the penalty for our sins.

God then begins working in our lives to bring about a transformation from the inside out, so we can live in a manner that is pleasing to Him.

Heartbeat

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Copies of previous editions may be found in the acrylic holders in the north and south lobbies.

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Family News

Birth. Steven and Kate Lacy Sizemore are parents of a boy, Johnathan Eugene, born November 8, 2015. Great-grandparents are Maynard and Wanda Hershberger.

Thank You. Bill and LoRee Peery thank the body of Christ for the outpouring of love expressed since Bill's shoulder replacement. Your prayers are felt. The meals and cards mean so much. Bless you all, as we are blessed.

Indian Hills Family. We want to thank you for your prayers, visits, food, and cards after Shirleen's surgery and now recovery. "Pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18).— Carl and Shirleen Langenberg

Children's Studies

Sunday School. The children reviewed recent lessons today.

Children's Church. The children studied 1 Samuel 16 today and learned about God seeing David's heart. The lesson goal will be for the students to desire hearts that please the Lord.

Information

Pie Pickup. Your order will be ready for pickup on Wednesday, November 18 from 6–8 p.m. in the south lobby. Due to the large quantity of pies that have been ordered,

we ask that you pick up your pie at this time or have a friend pick up your order for you. If you are unable to pick up your pie at this time, please call Jeff Harford, 402-770-2229.

Hospitality Meeting. Join us Sunday, November 22, from 7:30–8:00 p.m. in the Bible Learning Center. We will discuss how to engage visitors, make them feel welcome, and get them connected. This meeting is for all those currently involved in the Hospitality Ministry including Ushers, Door Greeters, Hall Helpers, Sunday School Greeters, and Information Desk workers. We also need more volunteers. Please come to the meeting to find out what areas need more help and how you can serve.

Thanksgiving Eve. The church building will close at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, so all the Wednesday night programs will have the night off.

JHAM Ski Trip will be Saturday, January 23. More details will be mailed to students in December. Save the date!

Titus Tuesday Ladies. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 17 as LaVon Sperling leads our Bible study on "Spirit-Led in Conflicts." Lois O'Neal and Cory Johson will teach us how to make a "Fifteen Minute Table Runner" the second hour and Chris Thomas will moderate the second hour discussion. Child care provided.

Ladies Missionary Prayer group will meet on Wednesday, November 18 at 1:30 p.m. in the Lending Library. All women are invited to join us.

Learning New Songs. Would you like to learn the upcoming songs we sing each Sunday during the week? Visit our church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/Indian-HillsCommunityChurch) and see the corresponding post *or* write these links down and visit these pages each week. On each page, click on the “Youtube” button to hear the song.

Sunday Morning Services Page:
tiny.cc/sundayam

Sunday Evening Services Page:
tiny.cc/sundaypm

“Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth” (Ps 96:1).

December Fun Money. If you shop at Earl May Nursery or Garden Center and receive December Fun Money, please don’t throw it away. Our garden ladies have a list of off-season chemicals they would like to purchase and the December Fun Money allows them to buy items at half price. You can give the Fun Money to Roxanne or Jeanne or put it in the gardening slot in the mail room.

Parking Lot Security. Two men are needed to help with security in the parking lot. Contact Jon Duval or Kevin Wheat to help.

Creative Sewers will meet Tues-

day, November 17, at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and sewing.

Severall 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.

Girls’ Choir (fourth–twelfth grade) meets every Wednesday from 5-6:15 p.m. in the choir room.

Issues In Our Contemporary World will meet Wednesday in room 1414 from 7–8 p.m.

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

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

Nov. 8 AM. Gil Rugh. GR 1820.
Biblical Principles For Personal Giving. 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Nov. 8 PM. Gil Rugh. GR 1933.
Living As A Light In the Darkness. 1 Peter 2:11-12

This Week's Events

Sunday

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.
Pie Pick Up 6–8 p.m.
Orchestra 6–7:30 p.m.
Awana 6:45 p.m.
Junior High 6:45 p.m.
Choir 7–8:30 p.m.
Issues Contemporary World 7 p.m.
Six Days & a Flood 7 p.m.
Mansion Builders 7–9 p.m.

Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7-8 p.m.

Future Events

November 22

Hospitality Meeting
Girls of Grace Bake Sale

November 25

Church Closes at 3 p.m.

November 26

Thanksgiving: Church Closed

November 27

Church Closed

December 13

Adult Christmas Concert

December 15

Church Closes at 3 p.m.

December 20

Children's Christmas Concert

December 24

Christmas Eve Service
Communion

December 25

Christmas Day
Church Closed

December 26

Church Closed

December 27

Church Closes at Noon
No Sunday Night Church

December 31

Church Closes at 3 p.m.

January 1

New Year's Day
Church Closed

January 3

Church Closes at Noon
No Sunday Night Church

January 23

JHAM Ski Trip

February 19–20

Men's Retreat

February 26–27

Ladies' Retreat

June 13–18

Senior High Camp