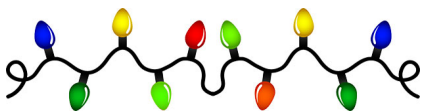


# Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

December 27, 2015



Greetings and a warm welcome to each one this last Sunday of 2015. We are glad you are here and wish you a blessed New Year. May the Lord be our personal guide each day and may He be pleased to lift each of us to a higher spiritual plane in 2016.

## Establishing Life Patterns

A new year is soon beginning and this is a great time to commit ourselves to establishing the most essential life habit we could ever develop—spending time in the Word of God each day.

Reading the Bible is more than just a good habit, it is our sustenance as “man does not live on bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4). Besides being our very food, spiritual blessings flow from our time in the Word.

Our prayer life rises out of Scripture. As we read about the great things God has done, we praise Him. As we read how He hates sin, how judgment and hell await those who do not know him, we pray, knowing the terror of the Lord that will fall upon many of our loved ones.

As we read of God’s standard and what He requires of us, we look at our own lives and confess our sins. All the elements of prayer rise out of an understanding of what God has revealed

in His Word.

As Gil has often reminded us, if we read just 15-30 minutes each day, we will have read the Bible in one year—and what a blessing it will be to see how God transforms our lives over the next year. No doubt we will come to the end of 2016 and be ready to start all over again, as people who read God’s Word “year in and year out.”

## Reflecting on 2015

As we contemplate the past year, we are overwhelmed with thankfulness for each of you, and grateful for all you contribute to the ministry of the Word at Indian Hills.

We know God hears your prayers and we trust He is working through each one, as it is your faithfulness that keeps the ministry going.

Not only do you blanket the ministry with prayers, but many of you have given your very hearts, time, strength, talents and treasure to the work of the Lord through this local church.

We truly have a huge debt of gratitude that we can never repay and no matter how many times we say thank you, we continue to be in your debt all the more.

Each of us has a choice of where we invest our time and strength, and we are deeply thankful for all you do for the Lord through this local church.

God bless you!

Let us be good  
stewards of the  
Lord's blessings

# No Food or Drink

in the Auditorium  
or Chapel

## Heartbeat

Dec. 27, 2015 • Vol. 23, No. 52

Editor: Gale Engle  
Publisher: John Scholle

Heartbeat is published each week  
by Indian Hills Community Church  
for distribution on Sunday morning.

Submission deadline is 10 a.m.  
Wednesday.

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

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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](http://www.ihcc.org)



# Significance of the Magi's Gifts

Gil Rugh

The gifts that the magi presented to the Messiah were very significant. In addition to financing Joseph and Mary's trip to Egypt, the gifts also had specific symbolism associated with them. The fact that Matthew specifically identified them as gold, frankincense and myrrh supports the idea of symbolism.

Gold in the Scriptures is associated with deity and royalty, so the emphasis of this gift is on the deity and royalty of Jesus Christ. (You can read about the significance of gold in the description of the tabernacle in Exodus 25. That passage reveals the place that gold has in the worship of God.)

Frankincense is associated with the service of Jehovah. It relates to the fragrance of the life of Christ as the One who serves His Father. Incense was used in the worship of Jehovah and symbol-

izes our service.

Myrrh is associated with sacrifice and death. It is one of the fragrances used in John 19:39 when they were preparing Jesus' body for burial after His death.

The gifts given to this young child by the magi emphasize His deity, the faithfulness or fragrance of His life in serving Jehovah and the sacrifice of His life for our sins. The magi offered their gifts and their worship.

If Jesus Christ was not deity as well as humanity, this would have been an abominable thing. It would have been idolatry for these Gentiles from the east to bring their pagan ideas to Bethlehem and worship a mere human baby.

The magi knew this child was not a mere human baby; they knew He was deity and worthy of worship.



## Family News

**Open House.** You are invited to celebrate Jean McKinney's 90th birthday at an open house in her honor at The Legacy, 5600 Pioneer Boulevard on Saturday, January 2, from 2-4 p.m.

**Hospitalized.** Doug Andrews is a patient at St. Elizabeth.

**Hospitalized.** Rob Meador is a patient at Bryan West.

## Children's Studies

**Sunday School.** The children studied the birth of Christ.

**Children's Church.** The children studied the Christmas Story.

## Information

**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.

**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.

**Offering Envelopes** for 2016 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.

**End of Year Giving.** As the Church CPA, Carroll Lavalleur would like to remind everyone that all giving must be received by December 31 to qualify as an income tax deduction for 2015.

**Last Minute Giving.** Using the church's website ([www.ihcc.org](http://www.ihcc.org)) is a convenient method of doing last minute giving toward General Offering, Sound Words, or Equip Project.

**Young Adult Bible Study.** A new study for young adults is starting on Monday nights at the home of Rob and Lynne Jensen, 7943 Hunters Ridge Road at 7 p.m. Adam Flaugh will be teaching. Child care will not be provided. The study meets every other week. For more information contact Adam or Rob.

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

**JHAM Ski Trip** will be Saturday, January 23.

**High School Ski Trip** will be March 5–9.

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

**Worship Service Online.** If you are unable to attend church on Sunday and would like to worship with us through the internet, log on to [www.ihcc.org](http://www.ihcc.org) and click on Resources at the top of the page. Then, click on Live Stream. The services start at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**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/IndianHillsCommunityChurch](http://www.facebook.com/IndianHillsCommunityChurch)) 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](http://tiny.cc/sundayam)

Sunday Evening Services Page:  
[tiny.cc/sundaypm](http://tiny.cc/sundaypm)

## Last Week's Message

Dec. 20 AM. Gil Rugh. GRM 1146. *The Second Coming of Christ to the Earth.* Selected Verses.

Dec. 20 PM. Duane Nelsen. DN 4. *The Reality of the Incarnation.* 1 John 1:1-4

*"Faithful are the wounds of a friend..."*  
**Coming Soon for Ladies...**

*A friend loves to advise*  
**BFF**

*"You are my friends if you do what I command you"*  
**Biblical Friends Forever**

**2016 Women's Retreat**

**Lied Lodge**

**Nebraska City**

**February 26-27, 2016**

*"A friend loves at all times"*  
**Registration All Sundays in January!**

*"A man is called his friend"*  
4 people/room (quad) \$100.00 each  
3 people/room (triple) 108.00 each  
2 people/room (double) 122.00 each

Friday w/supper 36.00

Friday no meal 10.00

Saturday w/lunch 35.00

**Team-taught by several Titus Tuesday teachers**

# This Week's Events

## Sunday

Church Closes at Noon  
No Sunday Night Church

## Monday

No Sisters  
No Young Adults Study 7 p.m.

## Wednesday

No Wednesday Night Programs

## Thursday

Church Closes at 3 p.m.

## Friday

New Year's Day  
Church Closed

## Saturday

Church Opens at 8 a.m.

## February 14

Baptism

## February 19–20

Men's Retreat

## February 28

Communion

## February 26–27

Ladies' Retreat

## March 5–9

High School Ski Trip

## March 19

Boys of Faith Pinewood Derby

## June 13–18

Senior High Camp

## July 11–15

Vacation Bible School

## August 10–13

Junior High Camp

# Future Events

## January 3

Duane Nelsen Preaching  
Church Closes at Noon  
No Sunday Night Church

## January 6

Wednesday Night Classes Resume

## January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6

Boys of Faith Riflery Clinic

## January 23

JHAM Ski Trip

## January 29–30

Boys of Faith Lock-in

*"They fell down  
and worshiped  
Him; and open-  
ing their treasures  
they presented to  
Him gifts of gold  
and frankin-  
cense and myrrh"  
(Matt. 2:11).*