



January 7, 2024

Pastor Note:

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name (Jesus) under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (NASB, parenthesis mine)

That's not what they wanted to hear, the Jewish ruling council who had Peter and John arrested the previous day. In their minds, the best thing that could happen was for the whole Jesus thing to away. If anyone needed saving it surely wasn't them, they had their act together, contributed to society, stood for public morality, believed in God, prayed, and taught their children about God. No, if anyone needed saving it was these two uneducated and deluded followers of Jesus and their kind. If anyone needed saving it was the toothless tweaking drug addict down by the liquor store, or those damn Samaritans and heathens up north, those foreigners who shouldn't be here in the first place, and those corrupt, Rome-sympathizing tax collectors. "The audacity! How dare they suggest that we are wrong, corrupt, and in need of saving."

In the end, they tried to intimidate Peter and John and released them but not without threatening them and officially banning them from preaching Jesus' name and the message that goes with it. Obviously, it didn't work because, thankfully, Jesus' name and the truth that we can only be saved by believing in His name is still being proclaimed two thousand years later. Not for lack of trying, however, in short order, they arrested them again and this time had them beaten before releasing them, and not long after that, they executed Stephen for nothing more than preaching Jesus. They were far more corrupt, sinful, and lost than they would ever admit. Oh, how they needed saving.

They totally missed it, the good news that through Jesus they could be saved from God's deserved judgment, death, and eternal damnation as well as the opportunity God gave them to repent, believe in, and call on Jesus' name when Peter told them both the truth and pointed out their need.

Their rejection of Jesus and self-righteousness hardened both their minds and hearts, salvation was so near and yet so far away. It

wasn't that they didn't think people needed saving, it just wasn't them who needed saving. **"There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name (Jesus) under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved,"** is just so narrow, so all-inclusive. No first-class cabins in the salvation ark of Jesus, the upright productive citizen is seated next to the tattooed gangbanger convict, the philanthropist has to share a cabin with the toothless drug addict In front of the liquor store we met earlier, the Never-Trumper next to MAGA-hat wearer, the illegal alien welcomed the same as the natural-born citizen, even our enemies get a sunny deck chair next to us instead of the brig.

The most humbling place in all the world is at the foot of the cross of Jesus, and realize that the sinless Son of God died there because of and for you, that without Him you have no hope of forgiveness and will forever remain in the clutches of sin and death, that the sum-total of all of your very best and noble efforts cannot save you, that you are unable to save yourself, that you need saving, **"You must be saved" by Jesus!**

So, are you saved? Are you going to respond to this opportunity God is granting you through a simple pastor's note, or are you going to pass it up? If you have never been saved, read the following, then kneel and pray out loud your belief in the crucified and resurrected Jesus, acknowledge your sinfulness, and call on His name to save you.

**"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved...
For 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"**
Romans 10:9-10, 13 (ESV).

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans

P.S. If you knelt and asked Jesus to save you, take these next steps. Tell everyone, including me (dergermanshepherd@gmail.com). Find a Jesus-preaching, Bible-teaching church. Get Baptized. Start serving Jesus every day.



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

NAMB - Chris & Sarah Mills who are Church Planters in NYC's Hell's Kitchen, an artistic and vibrant urban melting pot. Pray for grace as they make everyday missionaries in that dynamic backdrop

If you notice someone has been absent from Small Group or Worship Services for awhile, why not call them or stop by to let him/her know that they have been missed. A kindness that cost you nothing could mean everything to someone who is suffering in the silence of self-exile.

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing,
Noah Martin, John Michael Chavez,
Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Brian Sula,
Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen,
Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski,
Christopher Sula

CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862 and Rachel Aratin - (209)206-5236
Prayer Request e-mail to: **Judy Mahar** ldpbepayer@gmail.com

Church Board Members:

Hans Frei - Pastor . Richard Mayes - Head Deacon , .
Sue Kluding, Gabi Cox, Chuck Arndt,
Sue Hankemeier, Barb Deibler

TODAY

January 7, 2024

(after church)

if you are interested in helping plan for our Pastor's

40th church anniversary celebration.

This will be our initial meeting to start planning.

We are in need of another
“Kids Church Caregiver”
to serve once-a-month.

If interested. Talk to Susie ASAP

January Announcements

Sermon Notes:

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- Women's Morning Bible Study— Wed. @ 10:00 AM
- Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
- Ministry Opportunity Fair - January 14th after the service
For more info. See Jim Cox

Fellowship Time Snacks were provided
By - "Hans' Class"

Thank you

Next week Dan's Class is up!!

Happy New Year

A Bit of
Humor
Corner

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(See Matthew 14:14-21)

YES I COULD MAKE FIVE THOUSAND OF THOSE,
BUT A FEW FISH AND SOME BREAD MIGHT BE A
BETTER OPTION

03-13-2009

Giving

December 31, 2023

Offering:
\$2,160.00

Food Basket:
\$60.00

Lottie Moon:
\$86.00

Facilities:
\$50.00

Missions:
\$12.00

Attendance:
71

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM

Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM

Grief Share - On Hiatus

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

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BE SAVED



January 8th - January 14th

DAY 1 - Gen. 11 - 12
(Prov. 8)

DAY 2 - Gen. 13 - 14
(Prov. 9)

DAY 3 - Gen. 15 - 16
(Prov. 10)

DAY 4 - Gen. 17 - 18
(Prov. 11)

DAY 5 - Gen. 19 - 20
(Prov. 12)

DAY 6 - (Prov. 13)

DAY 7 - (Prov. 14)

Acts 2:21, 40, 4:12

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.