# The Purpose

October 25, 2026

***From here to Heaven…***
***following God wherever he leads us.***

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**9703303716**

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## *EEM* special contribution today

We will have a contribution today as we continue our support and partnership with Eastern European Missions. If you are unable to give today, we will be accepting these contributions through next Sunday, November 1st. On behalf of EEM, thank you for your support and help as they provide Bibles to a thirsty world.

*Rejoice In the Lord Always*
*Day By Day*

**Meet & Greet**

**Announcements & Reminders**

**Prayer**

*Hear, O Israel*

**Sermon**
***First things first***

*And Can It Be*

**Scripture Reading:**
**John 1:1-9**

*Lamb of God*

**We remember Christ's sacrific**

**Contribution collected**
*When the Roll Is Called Up Yond*

**EEM special contribution**
*O For a Faith That Will Not Shrin*

**Elder blessing & prayer**

*You're the One*

**Unison Reading**
**Hebrews 13:20-21**

## Men To Serve (today)

| | Communion |
|---|---|
| Scripture reading – Cory Newton | Chad Goodwin |
| Prayer – James Pascoe | Kim Hegarty |
| Communion prayers – Tom Odle | Abner Morales |
| Contribution prayer – Roy Moore | Doug Seaman |

# News Notes Events

### Set those clocks back on Saturday night!

We will return to Standard Time next Saturday evening, October 31st. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before heading to bed. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep! (If you do not turn the clocks back, it's no big problem. You'll be an hour early to Westview next Sunday morning.)

### *Families Discovery Group* meets next Sunday

The next meeting for the *Families Discovery Group* is next Sunday, November 1st. We will meet at Cory & Katie's house. The menu will be chili, Frito pie, and cinnamon rolls. Check with Cory & Katie for more information.

### Missions Emphasis next Sunday November 1st

Next Sunday, we will have *Missions Sunday*, presenting information about the various international missions Westview helps support. From India to Uganda to Honduras to Mexico to Eastern Europe and to multiple Central America countries, we will summarize our involvement and the ongoing needs we help meet through our support. As God blesses us generously, we are able, then, to pass along that blessing to people and missions throughout the world.

## November Bible Reading Plan available

The handout for Bible reading strategies for November is now available and in the lobby. You will also receive a PDF file this week of this information. Stay in the Word!

## Carley's doctoral recital on November 3rd

Carley Jo Goggans continues her doctoral work in voice at UNC. She will perform a doctoral recital on Tuesday, November 3rd. All are invited. It will be at 5 p.m. in Milne Auditorium in Kepner Hall on the UNC campus. There is no charge for this event. If you need directions, check with Carley for that information.

**The *October and November Bible Reading* Strategies handout are in the lobby.**

**The *Children's Worship Bulletin* is on the table at the back of the auditorium.**

**Be sure to grab some *Westview cards* from the lobby to distribute this week.**

**Every week:**

- **Men's Coffee** - each Tuesday morning in the fellowship room from 6 to 8 a.m.
- **Women's Coffee** - each Wednesday morning in the fellowship room from 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Singing with the worship leaders** every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. at the building.
- The **Wednesday night study group** meets at 6:30 p.m. We are currently studying the book of James.

**You can give to EEM through the giving portal on the Westview website. Click on the giving button and an EEM option will be available.**
**www.westviewcoc.org**

**The next scheduled meeting for the *Ladies' Prayer Group* will be Thursday, November 19th, at 10 a.m. in the home of Margy Lininger.**

**Classes today:** The fellowship room class is studying the book of Hebrews, taught by Tom.
Terry's class (room #14) is studying *Great Words & Themes*. Today – ***Light.***

*God's grace and forgiveness, while free to the recipient, are always costly for the giver. From the earliest parts of the Bible, it was understood that God could not forgive without sacrifice. No one who is seriously wronged can 'just forgive' the perpetrator. But when you forgive, that means you absorb the loss and the debt. You bear it yourself. All forgiveness then, is costly.*

~~Timothy Keller~~

## ***Commentary from a Common Terry*** by Terry Newton

*Either/Or faith in a Both/And world* 5

"Joseph, either you trust me or you don't. That's the choice." The great narrative of Joseph in the last quarter of the book of Genesis, captures the difference between hoping for a *both/and* circumstance instead of an *either/or* reality. If given the choice, Joseph would have never been sold into slavery. He would have still been with his family, tending sheep and being his father's favorite.

But God was positioning Joseph in history to not only play a major role in the big picture of the coming nation of the Jews, but to also make choices that resonate even to this day in the halls of faith. He could have rejected God because it sure felt like God had rejected him. Or, at the very least, forgotten about him.

Sold into slavery. Falsely accused of attempted rape. In prison for more than a decade. Either he would continue to trust God or he would not. God didn't give him both a comfortable life and use him to fulfill his promise of the coming Savior. At least not yet.

Finally…*finally!!!*...Joseph was rescued from prison by Pharaoh after Joseph showed him he was blessed with divine wisdom from the true God by interpreting his dreams. Only then was Joseph granted some peace, comfort, and safety. He became the second most important man in Egypt…and he wasn't even an Egyptian! He had a wife and children. He had power. But he was still far from home and family, not knowing whether is father Jacob was even alive.

The Great Famine drove his brothers from their homeland to Egypt. Because of Joseph's God-led wisdom, Egypt had stockpiled supplies that would help sustain not only the Egyptians through the famine, but others who would come to purchase the necessary grain in order to survive. They came face to face with the brother they had sold into slavery but didn't recognize him. He knew who they were, but kept that quiet until it was the wisest time to reveal his identity to them.

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What happens when we make the right choice – the godly choice – in an either / or moment. Does God notice? Does He care? What will happen? Well, for Joseph, pretty much nothing happened for a decade and a half. But when his brothers came to him and he was able to sell them the supplies they needed to survive the famine, it made sense.

As he first spoke to his brothers after telling them he was Joseph, they were terrified. Rightly so. When they had an either / or moment so many years ago ("Either we put up with this irritating younger brother of ours or we get rid of him."), they made the worst choice. Now, it seemed it would all come back on them. This man, their brother, now had the power to end their lives. Instead, Joseph recognized the good that had come from a faithful God to Whom he had remained faithful while in Egypt for so long.

*"I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve your life…. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.* ***So it was not you who sent me here, but God****."* Genesis 45:4-8

God was protecting His promise that He'd one day send the One that would solve the sin problem of mankind. He preserved the lineage of Abraham, through whom the promise would be fulfilled. He set the stage to bring Jacob and his expanding family to Egypt, leading eventually to a bondage followed by a deliverance (the same thing God has done for us through Jesus – delivered from sin's grip).

There are a lot of reasons to chose God in this either / or faith life we live, not the least of which is we are then right in the middle of God continuing His plans and will in ways we could have never imagined, but are now involved with.

Let God do His work. Choose godliness. Always.

*Love one another.*

