

Announcements

1. **Baptism**- brother Li Huang and sister Qihuan Gu were baptized this morning. In 2018, there have been 4 saints being baptized, including 2 brothers and 2 sisters.
2. **M/P/R Brothers blending** will be held on May 5 (Saturday) from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at Plano meeting hall. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up at the service office.
3. **2018 International Memorial Day Conference** will be held in Kansas City, Mo from Friday, May 25 through Monday, May 28. Please see the announcement on bulletin board for more details. Please encourage one another to go to join such a feast. We will have 15-passenger vans going and taking lodging at the conference hotel (The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center). Please sign up at service office no later than next Lord's Day if you would like to ride the van.
4. **Ministry book reading** - Our next ministry book reading is "The Knowledge of Life" . If you would like to have a hard copy of this book, please place your order at book room.
5. **Summer Training Registration** -- The deadline for the live training registration is next Lord's Day (4/29).
6. **Bible Camp** - Please use the following link to register children : <http://churchinrichardson.org/biblecamp/>. For serving ones, please sign up at service desk.
7. **Cleaning** --English-speaking District

Nourishment

- Holy Word for Morning Revival:** *Crystallization-Study of Leviticus, vol.1, Week 11 - Experiencing Christ as the Peace Offering for the Body of Christ*
- Ministry book reading:** *The Economy of God - Chapter 24 The Vision of the Mark of God's Economy*
Questions:
 1. What is God's economy and what is the ultimate consummation of all God's work of creation, redemption, and transformation? (Hint: p. 209, paragraphs 1—3 "The economy of God with its mark..." and p. 210, paragraph 1—"The New Jerusalem is a mingling...")
 2. What is the mark of God's economy? (Hint: p. 211, para-graph 4—"The mark of God's economy is this...")
 3. What steps were needed to accomplish the mark, where does the mark operate, and what does the mark do? (Hint: p. 210, paragraph 2—"What is the mark of this..." to the end of the chapter)

•**Scripture Reading**

	L.D.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
OT	Isa. 15:1-19:25	20:1-22:25	23:1-26:21	27:1-28:29	29:1-30:33	31:1-35:10	36:1-37:38
NT	1 Tim. 1:1-4	1:5-20	2:1-15	3:1-13	3:14-4:5	4:6-5:25	6:1-21

Regular Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting	Place
Lord's Day	09:30AM	Lord's Table and Prophesying	meeting hall
	04:00PM	PSRP	meeting hall (by language)
Wednesday	07:30PM	Prayer and Service	meeting hall
Thursday	10:00AM	Chinese Speaking Sisters	meeting hall
Saturday	06:30PM	Young People	Homes or meeting hall

Prayer Burden

1. Please pray for the practice of God-ordained Way through the small groups in 2018. Pray for the new ones recently moved to Richardson or came to our meetings that they could fully enter into the church life.
2. Pray for the saints' job and health situations so that the saints will be freed from distractions to take care of God's move in Richardson.
3. Pray that all the saints will spend adequate time before the Lord everyday to build an intimate relationship with the Lord to live an overcoming God-man living.
4. Pray for the building project in London to take care of the urgent need for perfecting saints for God's move in Europe.
5. Pray for God's move in Frisco.

Attendance Last Week

Group	E1	E2&E3	E4	C1	C2	C3	C4	Total	Wed. Prayer (E)	Wed. Prayer (C)	Young People	LD Children	Lord's Day (E)	Lord's Day (C)	Total
#	10	17	16	13	12	10	10	88	14	12	6	22	40	53	103

Hymn 959 HOPE OF GLORY-LONGING AND PRAYING

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|---------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Since Thy departure from Olivet's Mountain,
Why is Thy coming again so delayed?
Thru the long years we have longed for Thy
coming;
Hast Thou not heard all the prayers that
we've prayed? | 4 | Lord, we're impatient awaiting Thy coming,
We do not know how much longer 'twill be;
From every sunrise to every bright sunset
Hope we each moment Thy coming to see. |
| Chorus | | 5 | Whene'er 'tis raining, or strong winds are
blowing,
Whene'er the moon shines, or rises the sea,
We ever hope to discover Thy coming;
How disappointed when no sign of Thee! |
| 2 | Come Thou, come now;
Lord, for Thy coming we yearn;
All our desire is Thy promised returning,
Oh, may Thou quickly return. | 6 | If it were not for the bidding Thou gav'st us,
We'd be discouraged, Thy service we'd
shirk;
But Thou dost want us while waiting Thy
coming,
For Thee to live and in diligence work. |
| 3 | Beloved Lord, since the year Thou ascended
Everything here has been tasteless and dry;
Often in praying and often in watching,
In every movement, for Thee, Lord, we sigh. | 7 | Oh Lord, remember the days have been
lengthened
Since Thou hast promised ere going away;
We hope and hope and are endlessly hoping,
That Thou wilt come. Canst Thou come e'en
today? |
| 3 | Scenes although lovely, yet when will we
meet Thee?
Birds and the flowers fair beauty embrace;
All are delightful, but none satisfy me,
For I am longing for Thy loving face. | | |

Brief Background of the Hymn

2 Timothy 4:8 "Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, with which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will recompense me in that day, and not only me but also all those who have loved His appearing."

For the one who genuinely loves the Lord, he always has a heart of a widow toward the world. Because his beloved Lord has not been in the world, the world has lost attraction to him. His only hope and longing is the Lord's coming back. On the last day of 1925, brother Nee prayed together with sister M. E. Barber. She prayed: "Lord, are You really going to let 1925 go by? Do You really want to wait until 1926 before You will come back? Even on this last day, I will still ask You to come today." Brother Nee was deeply touched by such a prayer. Several months later, brother Nee met her on the street. She held his hand and said to him, "Brother, it is strange. Why has He still not come back today?" Brother Nee therefore was greatly influenced by M.E. Barber on waiting for the Lord's return. Several hymns he wrote on this topic show that he, like sister M. E. Barber, was one who had been waiting for the coming back of Christ.

In the open letter of Issue No. 1 of *The Present Testimony*, brother Nee said: "We are deeply convinced that the present time is a preparatory period. If the children of God are to become a harvest that God can reap, they must first become ripe (Mark 4:29). We may say that the time of rapture is at hand. But the most important question is whether or not the church is ready." In Issue No. 9, sister Ruth Lee on behalf of brother Nee wrote, "To my readers who are expecting to be raptured, I would say that we all must be watchful! A little thought for the flesh is enmity with God; a little care for this life is sufficient to make our hearts entangled. If we are not yet ready, then let us not be at peace." (June, 1926)

Today, no matter the world situation, or the spreading of the Lord's recovery, and other signs, all tell us that the day of the Lord's return is near. Luke 21:36 says, "But be watchful at every time, beseeching that you would prevail to escape all these things which are about to happen and stand before the Son of Man." May we all be watchful and prepared to hasten the Lord's coming back.