

Garden Gleanings

October 2024

A monthly publication of the Garden Community Church



Teaching for Long-Term Impact

Saturday, September 14, Garden hosted a ReCharge Conference—Teaching for Long-term Impact with Dr. Paul Pettit from Dallas Theological Seminary. Throughout the day Dr Pettit shared 4 different sessions. There were around 60 participants from Garden and other area churches. The foyer was filled with door prizes for each attendee from area businesses. Lunch was provided by Knackies Meats. Dr. Pettit was also with us Sunday morning and brought the morning message.



GARDEN KIDS

Kick-off

Garden Kids kicked off their new year on September 18. Each evening begins with a church meal prepared by Erin Koehn, Eva Pankratz and Wilda Becker. The 3rd through 6th graders start Garden Kids time with game time in the gym followed by classroom time upstairs. The 3 year olds through 2nd grade begin their time in their classrooms and then go to the gym for games and activities. This year the younger kids are using the Heart Shaper curriculum that helps kids build a relationship with God and His Word. The older kids are using Truth78 curriculum entitled *Faithful to All His Promises*.



KIDS HELP WITH SERMON



Pastor Dizzy got the kids involved during the sermon on October 6. He invited all the kids to the front to help display the Armor of God for his message of How to Walk with Christ on Ephesians 6.



Vonnie's Views

Gerhard and I spent three weeks in Alaska last month, about 45 minutes northeast of Juneau at Echo Ranch Bible Camp. Our task was to assist with a complete remodel of the kitchen that serves campers and retreaters. Through demolition and reconfiguration, we gained about 60 square feet of space and significantly improved the workflow.

During the first week, a work team of nine from Florida helped with the demolition. In the following two weeks, Gerhard collaborated with full-time Avant missionaries at Echo Ranch.



What did we learn during our time there? A verse from Zechariah 4:10a resonated with us: "For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice and shall see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel." The "small things" referred to the temple of God, which had been in ruins for decades. God, through Zechariah, encouraged the people to act on what needed to be done, promising that He would increase their efforts as He saw fit.

You might wonder about the eternal significance of our work—whether it was remodeling a kitchen, preparing meals, playing games with missionary children, or winterizing the camp. Each small task matters, especially if done with a Kingdom purpose.

*In the harvest field now ripened
There's a work for all to do;
Hark! the Master's voice is calling,
To the harvest calling you.*

*Does the place you're called to labor
Seem so small and little known?
It is great if God is in it,
And He'll not forsake His own.*

*Are you laid aside from service,
Body worn from toil and care?
You can still be in the battle,
In the sacred place of prayer.*

*Little is much when God is in it!
Labor not for wealth or fame;
There's a crown, and you can win it,
If you go in Jesus' name. (Kittie L. Suffield, 1924)*



What small thing could you do that, in the hand of God, will create larger eternal ripples? Send a card or note? Visit with someone? Lead a LifeGroup? Show hospitality? If you have breath, there is Kingdom work for you to do!

NOVEMBER

Prayer Calendar and Memory Verse

Memory Verse: Micah 7:7—Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Pray believers in the military shine forth the truth of Christ & make an eternal difference in the lives of others.	2 Praise God that we don't have to be able to understand His ways to trust Him.
3 Praise God that He lets us hurt when He knows it is for our best.	4 Pray for peace in our land & respect for authority to grow.	5 Pray more police & fire-fighters look to God for strength & salvation.	6 Pray our kids treasure God's word in their hearts & obey it.	7 Pray God's guidance for Josh & Camila in discipling young people.	8 Pray those living with pain are able to see past it to God & His blessings.	9 Pray for Tim & Renee Zook have wisdom in working with youth.
10 Rest in Christ. He is our Rock, our Fortress, our Shepherd.	11 Praise God for gray haired saints who are living faithfully still!	12 Pray those who hear the gospel at New Hope Shelter turn to Jesus.	13 Pray for unity in our church.	14 Pray for those facing the holidays without someone they love.	15 Pray for God to use you to serve someone who is hurting.	16 Pray God's refreshing for ministers at the retreat center in Brazil.
17 Pray for believers in Brazil as they worship, grow & testify for Jesus.	18 Pray those in workplace conduct themselves in a God-honoring way & bring Him glory.	19 Pray school teachers among us love their students with the love & patience of Christ.	20 Pray Ivan & Mary are sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit & His "interruptions".	21 Pray for powerful, clear transmissions of signal from Harvest Radio & All Nations Radio.	22 Pray Elwyn & Linda have vision & creativity in serving Christ.	23 Pray for believers in positions of power to be wise, humble, & merciful.
24 Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel this week.	25 Pray church board members have a hunger for more of God & His Word.	26 Pray Mark, Mollie & kids know the joy of God's pleasure.	27 Pray youth surrender to Christ & give their all to Him.	28 Pray the lonely, elderly & sick know the peace of God.	29 Pray Pastor Dizzy & his family are amazed each day at God's goodness.	30 Pray Chuck & Connie know how to pass on leadership to others.



ONE | COLLECTIVE

LA Beginnings



We made it to LA in August and have been figuring out our new lives here! We are starting to develop some new rhythms but are still in transition for sure. Overall, it has been going super well and we are so thankful for your prayers and support during this transition. We have been enjoying the benefits of living in LA like driving 40 minutes to the ocean on the weekend (pictured above).



When to STOP Giving Financially

Thank you to everyone who has given financially to make all of our work in Ecuador possible. Hannah is wrapping up with One Collective and End Slavery Ecuador. The last date to give financially is **October 15th**.

Stop any recurring donations to us so that nothing comes in past October 15th to our account. You can stop donations in three ways; emailing gifts@onecollective.org, logging into your portal at profile.onecollective.org and doing it yourself, or calling One Collective to cancel at (847) 429-0900.

For those of you who would like to continue supporting the ministry in Ecuador, instead of canceling your giving, use the email or phone number above and let them know that you want to change your recurring donation from Josh & Hannah Zook to End Slavery Ecuador. This would be a huge help to the ministry if you are still passionate about supporting women and kids in Ecuador. Do this by October 15th.

Any gift received after this date will not go to us and will be put in a general fund at One Collective. Our account is very low, so if anyone would like to give a special gift, those gifts will be given to us if they come in by October 15th.

Thanks again and please reach out if you have any questions

More Life Updates

It has been SO fun to live in the same place as Hannah's sister, Sarah. We have never lived near any of our extended family since we got married, so it has been exciting to do life on the daily with Sarah. She loves our kids and they love their Auntie RaRa :)



Hannah has started her job at [Bundle Birth](#), as the new Director of Strategy for the business. She works for Sarah and they are pictured above on a day that Sarah was teaching a live class to a group of Labor and Delivery Nurses and other birth professionals. It is a learning curve but Hannah is loving it!



Josh has been getting out there and connecting with others in the music industry here in LA. He has been enjoying getting to perform and meet other songwriters.



Dakota has a new bike! This picture is of him in the parking lot at Walmart before even taking the tags off he was riding and so excited! He has started at a school here and is adjusting well.



Riley has enjoyed beach days. She wants to do "skin care" and "makeup" and put on jewelry. She is quite the girly girl. She has been having trouble napping and getting to sleep at night, so please pray for her that she can get the rest she so desperately needs (and we need her to get!)



This was one of the first pictures we sent to you all from our first few months in Ecuador in 2016!! Thank you for walking with us all these years from when we were first married, through the birth of two kids and now moving back to the USA after so many years in Ecuador. We couldn't have done it without you. We want to thank you again from the bottom of our hearts. Here is our current contact info to stay in touch:

Hannah Email: jhzook93@gmail.com

Josh Email: joshuakzook@gmail.com

Hannah (new) Phone: 310-730-9860

Josh (new) Phone: 310-730-9918

Mailing Address: 144 N Kenmore Ave #2, Los Angeles, CA 90004

We will not be sending regular updates but please feel free to reach out to us.

Much love,
Hannah, Josh, Dakota & Riley Zook

October 8, 2024

Good afternoon!

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support of us and Harvest Radio!

Praise the Lord with us for blessed time together with family last month as we were in the US for our daughter, Susanna's wedding.



Praise the Lord that while we were gone, the Harvest Radio staff managed the station well, including the always stressful political campaign period.

We arrived back in time for elections this past Sunday and we were able to provide news coverage so that our listeners could accompany the official election results as soon as they were available. Our staff, together with 8 volunteers worked together so well and we praise God for a job well-done!



A couple of things you can join us in prayer for:

1. Elwyn has hired a crew to paint and tighten our two towers. Please pray for safety.
2. He is also busy ordering equipment in anticipation for Jesse Regier to come the end of this month and work on the server at Harvest Radio. Pray the equipment arrives in time.
3. The translation of Algemas Quebradas (Unshackled) has been slowed down by various factors, one of which is computer problems. Pray that this can get resolved soon.

In His hand,

Elwyn & Linda



Greetings Friends!

It's been a long time since you heard from us. Life has been challenging. Much of our time is being spent going to doctors and the grocery store. 😊 With our various medical conditions, we haven't been able to go to many places on our own. Our daughter drives us to most of our appointments.

But God is good despite our health and the condition of world around us. We praise Him that we have been spared from the floods and tornadoes that have destroyed parts of the USA. Even our daughter and her family who live in NC only had minimal damage at their house. They were without electricity for 10 ½ days, but they had a generator that they ran periodically to keep things frozen in their freezer. They were able to get gas for it from a friend who drove it down to them from Raleigh. We have heard many stories of people showing other people kindness and help during this trying time.

Weather, inflation, and politics sometimes cause us to wonder what is happening in our world, but God is still in charge. Nothing surprises Him! II Chronicles 7:14 says, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Our hope is in God alone! Keep looking up. One day soon we will see what He has planned for us from the beginning of time.

Thank you so much for your continued support. Without it, we would have difficulty keeping up with inflation. We are praying for you all! If you are ever in this area, please stop in. We would love to visit with you!



In Christ,
Norvin & Evelyn Schrag
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