

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## The Rock Hill church of Christ

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### Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

### Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

### Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

### Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here  
and We Care"*

## BACK TO GRACE

The idea of grace has been largely misunderstood by the average "Christian". It is considered God's compassion towards us as a means by which He will overlook our 'SIN' as an every-day thing for which we will NOT be held accountable. **Romans 3:23** (*for all have sinned*) is a verse that supposedly relieves us of any personal responsibility for the way we live or the things we do.

Let's remember a few other verses that, on the contrary, give us a true outlook on God's attitude expressed in Scripture: **Isaiah 59:1-2**, "*sin separates us from God*", **Romans 6:23**, "*the wages of sin is (spiritual) death*" and perhaps **Romans 6:1** "*do we continue in sin that grace may abound?*" Paul goes further with this teaching in **Romans 6:4**, "*therefore we are buried with Him by (through) Baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*"

It is clear that the intent of God is NOT (nor will it ever be) that we continue in the same "rut" in regards to how we live. Repentance is required unto salvation, **Luke 13:3**: "I tell you, nay, but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." God tells us how He feels about it in **II Peter 3:9**, "*The Lord is not willing...that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*"

The "newness of life" is repeated in concept by **Romans 12:1-2**, "*that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*"

By the grace of God, we have a means by which we can escape the condemnation of the world. It is exclusively through Jesus Christ, and the Plan by which it was given. Grace is not a get-rich-quick scheme, nor is it a get out-of-jail card for those who wish to find a short cut. We appreciate, "*that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*" **John 3:16**. Grace does not circumvent God's Plan, but by Grace we have a way unto salvation.

Doug Jones

# Family News

*“For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:18,19*

If you are visiting our congregation, **welcome!** Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

## N . E . W . S .

**THIS SUNDAY** Park will be out of town and Doug Jones will be filling the pulpit in the morning and John Smetzer will be bring us a lesson from God's word on Sunday evening.

**EASTER** is only a week away now (April 20), and while we celebrate the Lord's resurrection each first day of the week, Easter is one of the two big holidays that can bring in the usually non-church going lost ones. Don't miss the opportunity to ask your neighbor, friend, relative, or colleague to come with you this Easter.

**SATURDAY APRIL 26TH** - This will be our ladies' annual **Spring Fling**. It will be in the fellowship building at 11:00 AM. More information will be forthcoming soon.

**LEADERSHIP MEETING**, regularly scheduled for today has been postponed to April 27.

**YOUTH ACTIVITY** — **Saturday, May 10th from 10-noon**. The kids will be making cookies to give to mothers on Mother's Day the 11th.

**SEWING MINISTRY** The ladies resumes again April 17. Come enjoy good work for the Lord by serving others and great fellowship between sisters.

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE**



## Revive and Thrive in 2025

- **Camp Deer Run camperships** — If you'd like to help with sending our youth to Camp Deer Run this summer, please give any special donations to any of the elders.
- **The Pittsfield MA church** — Those who wish to provide the Pittsfield MA church money for their benevolence fund monthly can see Trudy R. to contribute.

### NEW REQUEST...

- Our missionary in Pittsfield MA, Cleve and Melinda Stafford, now has his grand-daughter, Peyton living with. Please pray for them in this transition.
- Isela H's friend Jeff is now in hospice.
- Kim B. has surgery on her back this week. Pray for a quick recovery for her.
- Gary Don R., Nancy's brother is home from the hospital. Continue to pray that the Lord give good health progress.

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Ralph L. has come home from the hospital, but still suffers from double vision. Pray God for a quick recovery.
- Reiven H — Thank the Lord for a successful surgery and a complete recovery.
- Alene and Lynn T were at church Sunday. Let's thank God for their health progress.
- From Juliana: Pray for Becky B., recovering from tongue cancer surgery.
- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy to recover from Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie H who has been recovering from neck surgery and setbacks.

- Ora H's health
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Jim B.'s daughter-in-law is terminal.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Ora H, kidney
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

### LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

### READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Apr 13, 2 Sam 18-19
- Apr 14, 2 Sam 20-22
- Apr 15, 2 Sam 23-24
- Apr 16, 1 Kgs 1
- Apr 17, 1 Kgs 2-3
- Apr 18, 1 Kgs 4-6
- Apr 19, 1 Kgs 7
- Apr 20, 1 Kgs 8

Theology doesn't stay in theology books, what you believe about God comes out in every aspect of everyday life. — Albert Mohler

# A word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

## FIND A HOME

**W**hy do you buy a house or rent an apartment? You want a home, right? Living in your car, being a nomad, is not a good choice — always on the move, no place to call your own, and no place for your family to be in one place. Of course, having a home and a family does come with obligations like chores, rent/mortgage, duties, loyalties, and adjustments of various sorts, but the benefits far outweigh the obligations. And I'd like to point out that having a place to call home — where we come every evening for dinner, hugs, and shelter from the storms of life and weather — is very similar to our need for a spiritual haven, a home church.

The topic of placing membership is not often brought up in bulletin articles, pulpits, or Bible classes; but especially in times like our modern era, in which the need for the church (let alone placing membership at a congregation) is aggressively questioned and often considered completely unnecessary, it really should be discussed. Let me list a few reasons why you should definitely place membership in a local congregation to work and worship with.

**First, God's norm is for you to be part of the church, a congregation.** When the Lord saved you, washed away all your sins in the waters of baptism (Acts 22:16), He also added you to His church (Acts 2:47), His household (1 Tim. 3:15), and His body (Eph. 1:23). There is no record in the Bible of anyone who was saved who was not expected to be part of the church and a congregation. Even the apostle Paul, as much as he traveled around, when he could stay in one place, he would stay for a while until it was time to plant a new church. Being part of the church and of a congregation of God's people is in fact more than just the norm, it is the only way it was designed. Just like a child belongs in a family and an organ belongs in a body, so we belong in the Lord's church.

**Second, you will benefit from deeper relationships with fellow Christians.** While it is true that "congregation roaming" does give you the opportunity to get to know a lot of other Christians in the area, it definitely has the drawback of not getting to know your brothers and sister in Christ on a deeper level — and letting them get to know you better, too. Fellowshiping with one another week after week through good times and bad times, through sicknesses and distresses, through personal defeats and victories engenders real Christian love, concern, loyalty, understanding, friendship, and compassion. While many in our culture aspire to be like the John Wayne or Clint Eastwood movie-myths (radically independent and in need of no one) the truth is that all of us really do need one another.

**You should be making a regular contribution (and not just financial) to the cause of Christ.** Christianity is not just about coming to church and staying away from sin. It is also

about involvement, doing positive things. Paul (1 Cor. 12) tells us that the church is a body and every individual in the church is a member or organ of the body, each one making his contribution to the whole. Sometimes people want to avoid involvement, but isn't that a little like wanting to avoid chores at home? The Lord added you to His family, when you were baptized into Christ, and that family needs your contribution, your involvement.

**You should be under the oversight of some elders (Heb. 13:17).** There are dangers in being a "Lone Ranger" Christian. There is no accountability; no one to point you back to the narrow road, when you've strayed; no one to look to for an example or encouragement. This is why the Lord has given us both the church (your local congregation) and its elders, whose job it is to shepherd you and the rest of the flock (Acts 20:28). When you don't place membership and are a Christian nomad, you lose the spiritual benefit of having others to help you on your Christian walk.

**It encourages the rest of God's people.** You may not have thought about it before, but your absence discourages your fellow Christians. No only do the pews look empty but those Christians who are trying to serve the Master through Bible classes, preaching, evangelism, benevolence, and worship become weary carrying the burden for these things without support, help, or relief. On the other hand, when people do place membership with a local congregation, the number of disciples present for worship swells the heart of all of God's people and the works of service to the Lord are

properly shared with brothers or sisters who can be relied on to be there.

**Lastly, placing membership with the local congregation says something important to the world about Christ.** Even the world knows that a Christian belongs in the church. "Lone Ranger" Christianity says that there's nothing of worth in the church and therefore nothing of real worth in Christianity. On the other hand, being able to say that you go regularly to this or that congregation of the Lord's people says that His people are unified, devoted to the Lord and one another, serious about their faith, and that's there's something of great eternal worth going on among those who regularly worship and serve Jesus.

Yes, placing membership is important. If you haven't, as a Christian placed membership at any particular congregation of the Lord's people, the Rock Hill church is a warm, sound, and loving place to worship, serve, grow, and fellowship, and we hope you'll throw in your lot with us.

Park Linscomb



# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN APRIL

13 ■ 9:00AM Bible classes ■ 10:00AM Worship ■ 6:00PM Worship	14	15 ■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class	16 ■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class	17 Chris L. Sewing ministry at from 10 to 2	18	19
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## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

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### **Week of April 13** .....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....John S .....John S  
 Song Leading .....Scott W .....Doug J .....Jim B  
 Opening Prayer .....Marty K .....Burley S  
 Communion .....Burley S .....Charles H  
 Closing Prayer .....Jim B .....Charles H  
 A/V Control .....John S .....Hunter M .....Charles H  
 Greeter .....Hugh R

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### **Week of April 20** .....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....Charles H .....Charles H  
 Song Leading .....Doug J .....Scott W .....Jeremy C  
 Opening Prayer .....Hugh R .....Reiven H  
 Communion .....Chris S .....Doug J  
 Closing Prayer .....Charles H .....Scott W  
 A/V Control .....Hunter M .....Hunter M .....John S  
 Greeter .....Burley S



Sermon Notes...

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