

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

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

Deacons:

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

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

GOD'S PLAN — PART 13

The significance of the Lord's Church cannot be overlooked, nor can the association of the 'kingdom' with the Church. They are indeed part of God's Plan. The popular teaching today has become as follows; that Jesus was not successful setting up His kingdom on earth; the Church became the temporary substitute; that the return of Jesus (His 2nd coming) will be for the purpose of setting up His kingdom on earth, and the faithful will be 'raptured' from off the earth. This teaching includes a battle called Armageddon, and the Israelites fully restored in some form. This is widely believed as the truth. However, those of us who concentrate on New Testament teaching do not agree.

In **Matthew 16:18-19**, Jesus said, "I will build my church...and I will give unto thee the keys to the kingdom of heaven...". Obviously, the keys were to 'unlock' the secrets (mysteries) of God as Paul declared in **1 Corinthians 4:1**. Jesus was resurrected in AD 33 and we find the new converts being added to the Church in **Acts 2:47**. By this we can know that the Church was established in that same year, on this specific occasion, and they were baptized as they had been taught by the teaching they had received.

We also know that the beginning of the kingdom had arrived, based upon Jesus in **Mark 9:1**, "Verily I say unto you, that there be some standing here which shall not taste death until they have seen the kingdom come with power." Jesus tells His Apostles in **Acts 1:2-8**, "He commanded that they should not depart from Jerusalem but wait for the promise of the Father...ye shall be baptized by the Holy Ghost not many days hence...ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." This is unmistakably what Jesus instructed in **John 16:13**, "when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak and he will shew you things to come." (unlock the mysteries)

The Lord's church has always been intentional as a part of God's Plan for redemption. **1 Timothy 3:14-15** "These things I write unto thee...that thou mayest how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the House of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the Truth."

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 .

MEET OUR SUMMER INTERNS!

— Kent Cates and Avery Nicks will be joining us to work with our young people and the church in general this summer. They are here this weekend for a “meet and greet” opportunity. Yesterday we had a cookout for everyone to get a chance to meet them; if you weren't able to come, be sure to meet them this morning at Bible class or worship.



MARGARET TOMLINSON passed away on Thursday evening. There will be a graveside service on Saturday, April 27. We are grieved but knowing we'll see her again we rejoice that she is with her Lord.



OUR LADIES ANNUAL SPRING FLING got “flung” yesterday. What a great day of fellowship and fun. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this annual event the special fellowship for the ladies that it is.

LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES...

• Charles noted that our finances remain in good shape. He pointed out that we helped our missionaries with extra help for coming and reporting to us recently. He also reported that utility bills are going up like they are going up everywhere.

- Charles reported the method by which we'll make sure the summer interns are paid.
- We'll need a little extra money to pay for the storage addition.
- A new Mac Mini was purchased as a replacement for one that developed some output problems.
- We reviewed the viewer statistics that we have for our YouTube channel and our Vibe streaming advertisements. They both looked healthy and encouraging.
- Park will be making audio podcasts of Bible classes, and posting them on Apple's podcast website in the near future.
- Work still needs to be done on our Facebook page, but now that the church has purchased a dedicated cell phone (used for verification purposes), work should be easier.
- We discussed putting some kind of PA system into the fellowship hall, but nothing was decided.
- The class partitions have arrived and they work great
- Plans for the summer intern “meet and greet” weekend were described and approved
- We'll be fixing our downed basketball backboard.

THE PITTSFIELD MA CHURCH — We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the Berkshire County church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST

- Kirk asks for prayers for an upcoming colonoscopy

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Melinda Stafford's mother and brother in S. Africa
- Elizabeth's sister's friends Ginny Adickes, friend, Faye Moritz,

- Bonnie Davidson recovering from a minor stroke.
- Lynn Turner recovering from a fall. Lynn also has cancer
- Burley Stinnett Jr. — various health issues
- Rachel W's friend, Madeline, with Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Zeke R. — upcoming surgery for neuropathy
- Dianna C. for cancer treatment
- Sue Carter: digestive problems
- Freida R. recovering
- The Stafford's grand-daughter
- Ora Holt, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregational

LONG TERM REQUESTS

- Isela Hughes' sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff with cancer (very ill)
- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- The Zapata's friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Apr 21, 1 Kgs 9-10
- Apr 22, 1 Kgs 11-12
- Apr 23, 1 Kgs 13-14
- Apr 24, 1 Kgs 15-17
- Apr 25, 1 Kgs 18-19
- Apr 26, 1 Kgs 20-22
- Apr 27, 2 Kgs 1
- Apr 28, 2 Kgs 2-4

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.

PEARLS FROM PROVERBS — THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF KNOWLEDGE

The book of Proverbs is a wonderful book of wisdom, written by the wisest man who ever lived, Solomon. Despite this fabulous recommendation for reading it and poring over it, it is not an often read book. So, for the next few weeks in this bulletin space I thought I might offer a little something to think about from the book of Proverbs.

Let me start by pointing out what proverbs are and how they are to be used. Proverbs are short, pithy statements containing wisdom that can apply to a number of human situations for guidance and discernment. An English proverb will help to illustrate this: "A stitch in time saves nine." The obvious reference is to sewing and mending clothing and points out that dealing with a tear or seam problem early can save a lot of time and effort later. But, of course, the proverb has many applications beyond sewing; dealing with problems of all sorts early, saves much time and effort later, or the smaller efforts of maintaining machines or relationships along the way, saves big problems later, etc. Proverbs are wisdom condensed into a few words or a simple illustration.

So what is the wisdom of "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (Proverbs 1:7)?

At first blush we might recoil at a wisdom that would advocate fear toward God. After all, aren't we supposed to love Him and view Him as a Heavenly Father? Fear, to some people, insinuates abuse or something terrible. So let's "unpack" this idea of fear as it is used here.

First of all, fear is not necessarily the opposite of love. Every functional family unit with children knows that there is certainly a lot of love felt toward parents, but also a certain amount of fear and respect for their authority, if the rules of the house have been broken. So also with God we

may both love Him (because of all that He has done and continues to do for us) and fear Him (because He is our Creator and Judge).

But how is this sort of respectful fear the beginning of knowledge? This respectful fear toward God drives us to want to know Him better, seek the knowledge of God. If there is no fear of God, if God is simply loving and benign, if everyone is going to Heaven regardless of the life they might've lived; knowing God become irrelevant — and He is to this day to many people who believe those things about God. What motivation would anyone have to know what God calls right and wrong, to know what to do to please God, or to know what to do to be saved? Having a healthy fear, reverence, and respect for God causes us to want to read and know the Scriptures, the God-inspired font of spiritual knowledge and wisdom. It causes us to desire to find out what is righteous and what is condemned, and what is wise and what is foolish.

And beginning to know these things about God motivated by reverent fear, we also begin to learn about what deep trouble we are in with Him, being sinful. And this leads us to discovering His amazing grace, and what He has done for us in Jesus, and saved us from.

It is also that fear that leads us to the knowledge of what needs correcting in our lives — and discovering, in increasing measure the more we know God, the better, joy filled abundant life that God wants for us. Just like what children experience as they see the aim and wisdom of their parents' discipline.

Yes, fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge!

Park Linscomb

