

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"*

REACHING THE THRESHOLD

While in a recent hospital stay, the doctor asked me to rate the pain on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest. He explained that "we all have a different threshold of pain." Naturally, his intent was to gather a means by which he could determine, on an individual basis, how much pain medication may be necessary to relieve discomfort after a surgical procedure. Perhaps you have had a similar experience.

Light pain may require nothing more than Tylenol, while the pain of a surgical procedure could mean something much stronger. Although the Doctor is well informed on pain medication, he depends upon your personal 'threshold' to best determine the immediate need for pain reduction. Preaching and teaching the Word of God can be a similar issue. The personal spiritual 'need' of each individual varies greatly. It is assumed that any and all preaching is good for the soul, therefore, any single thing that is presented is probably good...for someone in the audience.

On a more personal level, it is most important that each individual honestly have a plan for spiritual development. How about a scale between 1 and 10 with 10 being the highest?

Regardless of where we land on the scale, there is always room for development. If this challenge is too great, perhaps we can mark a specific few small things that will lead to deeper understanding or perhaps greater involvement. Either can help develop a higher threshold for where we are on the spiritual scale.

Reading the Bible through on an annual basis is good exercise and improves familiarity with God's Word. Specific topic study helps us expand our threshold of knowledge and understanding (*II Timothy 2:15, II Peter 3:18*). One thing is certain: nothing about your service to God will change, if you do not decide to grow the spiritual need, level of knowledge, or dedication to it...which is our "reasonable service" *Romans 12:1-2*. The difference between reading God's Word and studying God's Word will quickly become apparent. Find or start a Bible study in your home or with others. We all have the same challenge for time, however, the effort and practice will pay great dividends when we stand before Christ.

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 .

HAPPY RESURRECTION DAY While we celebrate the Lord's resurrection each first day of the week, you might be visiting us today because it is Easter — Welcome!! We hope you decide to come again very soon, maybe even regularly. If you have any questions about what we do or why, please don't hesitate to ask; we encourage questions.

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.

BIRTHDAY CAKE — Next Sunday evening is our monthly birthday cake fellowship after services. Come and enjoy the food and the fellowship.

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



The Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

“Why do you seek the living One among the dead?”

work for the Lord by serving others and great fellowship between sisters.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

• **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...

• Dianne's 28-year-old nephew, Dakota Martindale, died suddenly last week.

• Please keep Kim Brackeen's husband and his family in your prayers. One of his cousin's was killed in a traffic accident last week.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Our missionary in Pittsfield MA, the Staffords, now has their granddaughter, 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.
- Ora H's health

- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Ralph L. suffers from double vision. Pray for a quick recovery.
- Reiven H — Pray for a quick and complete recovery.
- 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.
- 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 leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- 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 20, 1 Kgs 8
- 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

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.

WHAT ABOUT EASTER?

If you're not a regular church-goer, or just not an especially religious person, you might wonder what all the fuss is surrounding Easter. And even if you do come to church regularly you might sometimes wonder the same thing, even though you know a little more Bible. It's a good question.

ONCE A YEAR?

A once a year Easter celebration is not a Scripture-demanded holy day, although it is the one Christian celebration that we have a solid date for—it all happened at Passover. Instead of an annual event, what the Bible tells us is that we are celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus every first day of the week.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

About the name "Easter"—well, there's about a hundred theories about the origin of the name. Some claim the name has a pagan root while others claim that it has its origin in a German term (the old Teutonic form of *auferstehn*, *Auferstehung*, i. e. resurrection). But whatever the origin (and I favor the second), the meaning in modern English has nothing to do with paganism and everything to do with the resurrection of Jesus.

NO KIDDING

About the believability of the event of Jesus' resurrection: it is one of the best documented, best witnessed event in history. Despite 1) a fear of Jewish religious leaders that Jesus' disciples might try to steal the body, 2) a Roman seal being placed on the stone covering the tomb, 3) and a well-armed Roman cohort of guards being placed at the tomb; the tomb remains empty and Jesus' enemies **never** produced his body. Yet, He **was** seen, heard, and touched by well over 500 witnesses over the course of 40 days before His ascension, most of whom were skeptics at first. And one witness, Saul of Tarsus, at first hostile, completely changed his life from one of aggressive disbelief to one of aggressive promotion of the faith. And one more thing, despite persecution, imprisonment, torture, and death not one witness ever recanted his testimony—and really, who would die for a lie?

BIG DEAL—OR NO BIG DEAL?

Lastly, what is its importance? Now we're really getting to the good stuff; let me quote four passages from the Bible itself:

1 Corinthians 15:3, 4 "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." First, note that this event is not only important, it is of first importance. There are some things that are important,

and then there are things that are important enough that they demand that you drop all else and pay attention. The resurrection is one of those kinds of important things.

1 Corinthians 15:16, 17 "For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins." The resurrection is important because it is the proof that we are forgiven, that Jesus' death on the cross was more than just another example of human cruelty. Had Jesus not risen from the dead, then His death on the cross could legitimately be questioned as being effective for salvation. The resurrection says that Jesus was indeed God and that He indeed died for payment of the debt of sin that we have amassed.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22 "But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive." Third, Jesus' resurrection proves that this life is not all there is. Death is not a "dead end" (pun fully intended). There is an afterlife in which we will one day have to "face the music" of our deeds in this life. The resurrection proves that there is a Heaven to gain and a Hell to avoid.

1 Corinthians 15:54-58 "But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory. "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." The resurrection also assures us that all the difficulty that we put up with as Christians, all the trouble that we endure, all the temptation that we reject, all the sinful pleasures we abstain from, all good deeds, all the sharing of the Gospel, all the compassion, all the mercy shown, all the time spent in service to others and the Lord, all the toil in the Lord is meaningful, purposeful, and substantial—the opposite of vain and empty. It does count for something; and it counts big!

While Easter isn't a required holy day (it is only traditional), it still brings to our minds, and the minds of the whole world, that something really BIG happened about 2000 years ago; that changed the world then and still changes the world today.

Believe it, and let it change **you**.

Park Linscomb



FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN APRIL

	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00AM Bible classes ■ 10:00AM Worship ■ 6:00PM Worship 	Scott & Marie W		Rex H	Jessica S.	Julia & CJ A.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 11:00AM Ladies' Spring Fling
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class 			

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of April 20AM.....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

Week of April 27AM.....PM.....Wed.
 Announcements Burley S..... Burley S
 Song Leading Scott W..... Doug J..... Jim B
 Opening Prayer Jim B..... Hugh R
 Communion David J..... Jim B
 Closing Prayer..... Doug J..... Reiven H
 A/V Control..... Charles H..... John S..... Hunter M
 Greeter..... Jim B



Sermon Notes...
