

# 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 12

One of the greatest verses in all of the New Testament is **Romans 12:1-2**. If there is a single verse that can fill-in God's expectation of His followers, this may be it. The verse says, *"I beseech thee brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to 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."* A high calling indeed.

I trust that this series of articles have helped to identify small pieces of God's Word and somehow indicate what God has in mind after the death, burial and resurrection of His Son. Simply put, the blood of Jesus sealed the covenant between Abraham, Isaac and Jacob *"through thy seed, all nations of the earth would be blessed."* However, until we accept that the Plan of God extends beyond the resurrection, and includes *"the instruction in righteousness"* provided within His Testament...we have yet to meet the objectives that God intended in His Plan.

Throughout the book of Hebrews, the inspired writer explains the extent of God's Plan concerning Jesus and the New Testament. In **Hebrews 5:9** *"He (Jesus) became the author of eternal salvation unto all that obey Him."* **Hebrews 7:22**, *"Jesus was made a surety (deposit) of a better covenant"* **Hebrews 8:7**, *"For if the first covenant (Old Law) had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second."*

Under the Old Testament, The Holy of Holies was the innermost portion of the Temple (tabernacle), wherein God would meet with the High Priest upon the Mercy Seat at the top of the Ark of the Covenant. It was a representation of our own access to God in Christ **Hebrews 9:11-12**, *"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a more perfect tabernacle...not of this building...not made with hands...neither by the blood of bulls or goats...but by His own blood...entered once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."* **Hebrews 9:15** *"And for this cause He is mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death...they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."*

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 .

**BIG NEWS** — After much work and prayer, the congregation has hired youth interns for the summer, Kent Cates and Avery Nicks. They are from Harding and highly recommended. Avery will be working especially with our young ladies and Kent with the whole youth group. Avery is a psychology major, and Kent is an Exercise Science major. They will be with us for a “getting to know you” visit to the congregation the April 19-21 weekend. The elders and Park are very excited about the boost this will be to our youth program.



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**EXTRA STORAGE IN THE FUTURE** — The elders have decided to build some extra storage for the church's things using part of the Bible class building porch. Look for work to begin soon.

**AN ECLIPSE PARTY** — April 8 tomorrow at about 1:40pm will have total eclipse of the sun. Bring a light lunch about noon to

the fellowship hall and watch it all together. Eclipse watching glasses will be furnished.

**OUR LADIES ANNUAL SPRING FLING** will be Saturday April 20th at 11:00 in the fellowship hall. More info will be coming your way soon.

**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 REQUESTS...

- Elizabeth's sister's friend Ginny Adickes who had emergency surgery recently and is in a medically induced coma
- Secondly, Elizabeth's, Faye Moritz, difficulty breathing.

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Melinda Stafford's mother in S. Africa is home now but in her last days. Meanwhile, Melinda's brother is rather ill. Pray for the family.
- Whitney Perez, in hospice
- Joan Votaw was with us last Sunday after back surgery. Please continue to pray for her.
- Bonnie Davidson has had a minor stroke. Please pray for Suzanne and Alice as they take care of their mother and for Bonnie to improve.
- Lynn Turner recovering from a broken leg, now in PT. Lynn also has cancer
- Burley Stinnett Jr. — various health issues

- Rachel W's friend, Madeline, with Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Zeke R. — PTSD, depression, a VA issues. Also, Zeke's sister-in-law Carmen R., eye sight
- 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 7, 2 Sam 1-3
- Apr 8, 2 Sam 4-7
- Apr 9, 2 Sam 8-11
- Apr 10, 2 Sam 12-13
- Apr 11, 2 Sam 14-15
- Apr 12, 2 Sam 16-17
- Apr 13, 2 Sam 18-19
- Apr 14, 2 Sam 20-22

Unity and peace are very delightful; but they are bought too dear if they are bought at the expense of Truth.  
— J.C. Ryle

# A word of Encouragement

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*"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.*

## WHEN ARE THE LOCUSTS COMING?

**A**s I write this article, I'm sitting in a hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. I came to New England for a friend's funeral. His death and the funeral was naturally melancholy, but funerals are a part of this old world, we'll all doubtlessly attend quite a few over the course of our lives.

But on the day after the funeral, Thursday, New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts got a "heavy snow" nor'easter, bringing down power lines and generally making a mess of things. I managed to drive through it to Boston and waited at the airport all day only to find out in the early evening that the flight had been cancelled due to weather and some regulations about the time that a flight crew could be flying in a 24 hour period. That also happens to folks from time to time, so I get in line for another flight home — waiting over an hour in line — only to find out that the first flight back to DFW would be Saturday.

So I needed to find a hotel, and I grabbed one for two nights. To get there I needed a taxi; I flagged one down at the airport, loaded my suitcase in the back and found that the back seat was apparently built for children (and you know my size). So, I crawled, yes crawled, into the back and we drove over some of the rougher Boston city streets (what a ride) to the hotel. I was pretty tired so I chatted with some friends and family about my "interesting day" and fell asleep quickly.

The next day after breakfast and during the time I was working on this bulletin and this Sunday's sermons, I felt considerable shaking; but since my room is right next to the elevator, I explained it away easily, until I got a report that we've had an earthquake — and then I felt the aftershocks.

As I was texting a friend, I wondered in jest, "When are the locusts supposed to come?" — and then I remembered that Monday is an eclipse and this summer is supposed to be a year with a double cicada generation coming to life — there's your locusts!

Ever had a season in your life like that? Sometimes life is just that way — one "interesting" thing after another. But I'm also reminded of how blessed

we Christians are during challenging days to have 1) the Lord's presence and assurances **and** 2) the encouragement and support of family, friends, and brethren.

The Lord will, of course, always be with us as long as we are with Him — what a comfort and blessed assurance — but I write all this primarily to underscore the fact that we often don't realize what a powerful and essential support we are to one another, when the wheels of life start falling off.

David as he was running from Saul found great comfort in his close friendship with faithful Jonathan (see 1 Samuel 20:17) who encouraged him, supported him (to his own disadvantage), and protected him against the unjust anger of his own father.

Paul in his dire straits of imprisonment, persecution, and even some opposition from brethren was obviously grateful for Tychicus, Aristarchus, and Justus (see Colossians 4:7-11), for Luke (see 2 Timothy 4:11) and for others who were encouragers to him, when he might have been wondering when the locusts were coming.

Indeed, one of the more important points of our coming together every first day of the week (beyond the obvious one to worship the Lord) is expressed this way, "and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:24,25). We all (from the elders to the kids) need the encouragement.

All this is to say that we should never underestimate the power of our presence, words of comfort, visiting, helping, or even joking around with brethren. Life is often challenging for **all** of us — much more than you might imagine — and because life is challenging, God gave us the blessing of one another, the church.

So be an encourager. We have lots of them in this congregation, but we can always use more.

Park Linscomb

