

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"*

ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE

God's word is called the "seed" in **Luke 8:5-15**....it is meant literally to be broadcast. It is the responsibility of the recipient to accept it or reject it. In **John 4:23-24**, it is God's intent "...the hour cometh and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth". If we wish to know what is truth, John tells us clearly in **John 17:17**, the Bible says "Sanctify them by thy truth...thy word is truth". Let us be clear about the word 'worship' in **John 4**; many in the world today 'claim' that they have a "*special relationship with God*" and that they worship God "*in their own way*"! Let me use a Biblical example for what this really is. Look at **Romans 10:2-3** where the Apostle Paul says of the children of Israel, "*I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge, for they being ignorant of God's righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God.*"

This tells us emphatically that following God, Knowing God, worshipping God can only be done according to the word of God! In order to do so, we must first know what God expects of us. It is the sole purpose of the Inspired word that we have within the Bible. Look again at **John 14:15** where Jesus says, "*If you love me, keep my commandments*". The things written in the Bible are the moral standards of GOD. Worship includes our daily walk and congregational worship in the church for which Christ died. We cannot know the way of God unless we spend time reading and studying the word of God and then apply what it teaches. God has never lowered His standard to meet the desires of the people. Over and again, we are told to repent of our worldly ways and find the pathway of righteousness that is beyond the "*strait gate*" referred to in **Matthew 7:13 & 14** "*which leads unto life*".

Many try and justify their lifestyle under the umbrella of God's grace. Let us consider what the grace of God is. Certainly the textbook answer is unmerited favor. Certainly we cannot do anything to gain our salvation without Christ. God devised a plan for reconciliation through the death burial and resurrection of his only begotten Son. It is because of this plan that we should come to understand the grace that God has so lovingly bestowed upon this and all generations. It is by the grace of God that we have the *opportunity* for salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

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! 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 .

MEETING WITH JACK EVANS has been scheduled for August 20-23 — *"In Christ Alone"* Its aim is Gospel outreach, so be thinking about who to invite.



- ...**AND** there are now door hangers about our meeting to put on a few of the doors in your neighborhood.
- There will be a light dinner each evening Monday through Wednesday of the meeting starting at 5:30 for anyone who wants to come.



HOUSE TO HOUSE, HEART TO HEART is an evangelistic publication that has been delivered to neighborhoods around us, and 200 have been delivered to the church here for personal distribution. Pick up a few and 1) canvas your own neighborhood, 2) send by mail to friends or family, or 3) leave them in a doctor's office — be creative.

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

LEADERSHIP MEETING August 20 at 4PM

LADIES' CLASS — Next gathering will be August 29 at 10AM

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- **NEWS ON THE COOPERS:** Dale was discharged from the hospital last Sunday, doing better from a shingles rash with a secondary infection. Walking better, talking better. Dale and Livonia will be moving over to the memory care side next week. It's stressful for Dalana. Dale and Livonia don't know — there is no point in telling them. It would just cause distress.
- **Norma B.** is now in PAM Rehabilitation Hospital, 1001 Raintree Circle, Allen TX, room #105.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Norma Bautista in physical rehab
- Jim P. — radiation therapy for prostate cancer.
- Fernando Z's father, Ramon — radiation treatment for lung cancer.
- Sandy L's sister, Lisa, in hospice care in Mississippi .
- Freida R, recovering at home
- Cleve Stafford's grand-daughter Peyton
- Isela Hughes'
 - sister Griselda Walters
 - friend Jeff, cancer
- Dianne H's sister-in-law with a brain tumor

- Sarai Lyons asks for prayers for Tiffany Myers.
- Dianna C's recuperation from chemo
- Bonnie D. broken shoulder
- Julia's friend Wendy with breast cancer
- Sue Carter
- Ora Holt, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our congregational leaders

LONG TERM REQUESTS

- 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

- Aug 6, Jer 1-3
- Aug 7, Jer 4-6
- Aug 8, Jer 7-9
- Aug 9, Jer 10-12
- Aug 10, Jer 13-15
- Aug 11, Jer 16-18
- Aug 12, Jer 19-22
- Aug 13, Jer 23-25

The mental cases most difficult to cure are the persons who are crazy about themselves.

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.

LOVE MANKIND BY LOVING PEOPLE

The creator of the comic strip "Peanuts", Charles Shultz, was remarkably perceptive of the human heart in a remark in one of his famous comic strips. Linus, one of the main characters, says with a perfectly straight face, "I love humanity, it's people I can't stand!" We're supposed to laugh at the irony, but sadly it is all too common and true to laugh much.

Often, as we hear great lessons from God's inspired word on the topic of evangelism, we find ourselves soaring to great, new levels of commitment, urgency, and dedication. And as we are exhorted to love men's souls, urging us to be great souls winners, we may find ourselves saying, "Yes, I do love men's souls and I want to be a great soul winner for Christ!!"

But what happens after the last soulful "Amen, let's win the world for Jesus!" is uttered? After the last echoes of all the noise and excitement fades? As we go back into the world? We begin to meet individual, lost souls, and we get tongue tied and lose our nerve. The newfound zeal for sharing Jesus suddenly just dissipates like steam from a tea kettle—to someone's eternal loss. And when we reflect on our day, we wonder, "What's wrong with me? I was sure that I loved the lost world; what went wrong?" Maybe it is that we have the same problem with people as Linus does—we love humanity but have a difficult time with individuals on a personal level.

Many times it has to do with one of two rather unflattering problems:

- we're afraid of what others will think of us. We want to be cool, want people to think well of us, don't want them to ridicule us, or hurt our feelings or...
- we are so self-absorbed that we become unconscious about the eternal needs others have for the truth of the Gospel.

Both have the problem of having self "front and center" and **in the way**.

Jesus didn't have such problems dealing with people, because He *loved* them. As He talked to individuals about their souls, His popularity wasn't in view, being cool wasn't a consideration, and being attacked by those opposed to His message wasn't even on His "radar". He just loved them. It was *not* about Him; it was *all about us*. Jesus came to serve, not to be served—to provide eternity for others, not be the coolest rabbi of the day. Isn't that the way it should be in our lives? Isn't that one of the things that attracts you personally to Jesus—that you know He cares for you as one person? That He died for your personally? When we can instill that same love in our own hearts for one person, and just "get out of the way", we really will have the evangelistic zeal God's people should have doing the work He commissioned each of us to do.

When was the last time you personally came up and shook a visitor's hand, got his name and address, and visited him because you were *interested* in *his* soul? The last time you asked the preacher about a contact that could use a visit? Called and encouraged a wayward member to return to God's fold? The last time you cared enough about an individual's soul—so precious that its worth is more than the wealth of a million worlds, so precious that Christ bled and died for it—that you did something?

Don't get caught in Linus' error. We cannot say that we love men's souls, and yet not make any effort or attempt to win an individual to Christ; nor can we say that we love the Lord's church, but make no effort to know names of its people, encourage its members to greater faith, or to work side by side with its individuals.

You can only love mankind by showing love to its individuals.

Park Linscomb

