

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

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"*

## The House of God

The writings that God intended to become the Bible came as a result of specific instruction: **Isaiah 30:8** "write it in a book that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever." It is significant to note that God did not identify the writings as limited by time. He clearly indicated "for ever and ever". It is also significant to note that the writings of the Old Testament foretold the coming of the New Testament; and the New Testament confirmed the things written in the Old Testament. Consider **Matthew 13:17**, "Many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things that you see and have not seen them, and to hear those things that you hear and have not heard them." The explanation of Old Testament mysteries would come in New Testament times.

And so **Hebrews 1:1-2** says, "God spake in times past by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son." The things that were revealed to the prophets were indications of things to come. When Jesus said, "Many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things that you see and have not seen them, and to hear those things that you hear and have not heard them," He was referring to prophecies concerning the 'New Testament', the new dispensation, based upon "better promises" than those made to Abraham, **Hebrews 8:6**. And **Hebrews 8-10** clearly explains many of the parallels and differences between the old writings (important as they were) and the Christian age with Jesus as Savior!

It is this 'Christian Age' that has its beginning announced with Peter's confession in **Matthew 16: 13-19**. In this discourse between Jesus and Peter, Jesus asks the prominent question, "who do men say that I, the Son of man am?" Peter gives the most profound answer and sets the path for future references when he answered, "thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." There is no doubt that Peter understood the significance of his answer. It had been prophesied by many of the Messiah, the Son of God who would be the King over an everlasting Kingdom. It was this Kingdom written about by Daniel, by Isaiah, by Joel, Samuel and others. Look at the words spoken by the Prophet Nathan in **2 Samuel 7:12-16** "when thy days are fulfilled, I will set up thy seed after thee, and will establish his kingdom forever; and thy house and thy kingdom will be established forever." Obviously, David's son Solomon built the Temple in Jerusalem, but Jesus (also known as the seed/son of David) would build an everlasting kingdom, Known as the "House of God, the Church of the Living God" **1 Timothy 3:15**.

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 a visitor to our church, 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 .

**DAVID TARBET** will be speaking to the Rock Hill church on Jan. 29 on the progress of his mission work with the church of the Northeast, especially New Milford CT

**KIDS IN ACTION** — Our kids are collecting Items for the children's hospital in Frisco. We will be putting together love packs and taking them to the hospital around Valentine's Day. We did over 5 baskets full of items last year! There will be a list of donation ideas in the back and also in the bulletin.

**FOR THE CHURCH IN PITTSFIELD MA** — Trudi R. has started an ongoing monthly benevolence program. She will be collecting money to help the Berkshire County church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. If you would like to contribute to this, please see Trudi.

**A SPRING SINGING WORKSHOP** April 16th, Ken Dawdy will be here holding a singing workshop. Ken will teach on the subject of singing on



Sunday and then will hold workshops each evening Monday through Wednesday.

**A VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY** — for all adults is scheduled for Feb 11! There'll be a sign up sheet in the back. If you have any questions, please see Nancy J. or Dianne H.

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- Saturday January 21st for youth age 11 and up at the Strikes Bowling Alley in Frisco and sponsored by the Wallaces. This will be from 11am until 2pm.
- A March youth event for the younger children will be at Chuck E Cheese's with the date TBA.
- There will be Youth Sleepover on May 5th in the Fellowship Building. All ages are invited.

**LADIES' SPRING FLING** — Saturday April 22nd at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall. You each will receive an invitation with all the details as we get closer to the date.

**SINGING MINISTRY** — Several of us will be going going to sing to the residents at Bethesda Gardens in Frisco February 19th. at 3:30. JOIN US! The address is 10588 Legacy Dr., Frisco, Tx 75034. This will be the first of a monthly effort to reach out.

**CARE GROUP UPDATE** — Our Care Groups have been updated and we now have 4 groups; lists are on the table in the foyer. Each of our Care Groups will take turns being in charge of furnishing the light meal and cake for our monthly birthday cake nights. During that time

we'll meet in our groups. There is a calendar on the back bulletin board showing which month each Care Group will be in charge.

### PRAYER LISTS...

- Melinda Stafford
- Julia's friend Wendy Harvey. Wendy with breast cancer
- Dianna Conkling
- Hugh R.'s sister Andrea
- Sue Carter
- Chuck T. cancer treatments
- Isela H.'s friend Jeff with stage 4 brain cancer.
- Ora Holt, kidney
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our congregational leaders

### Long Term Requests

- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- The Zapata's teenage friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon
- Cheryl F.
- Ann S.

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

- Jan 15.....Gen 42-44
- Jan 16.....Gen 45-47
- Jan 17.....Gen 48-50
- Jan 18.....Exo 1-3
- Jan 19.....Exo 4-6
- Jan 20.....Exo 7-9
- Jan 21.....Exo 10-12
- Jan 22.....Exo 13-15

# 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.

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## "Just the Facts, Ma'am"

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A friend recently forwarded me a report in the news about a man, Emile Ratelband, a Netherlands media personality, who wants to change his age legally from 69 to 49, because he "identifies as a 49 year old", and because it will make him better able to attract younger women on an online dating site and more hireable for certain jobs. So, he wants his birth certificate changed to reflect how he identifies. We've all been told in recent years that we need to allow and accept those who "identify" as another gender, let them change their gender on their birth certificate, compete athletically against those of their opposite birth gender, go to the restroom or locker room of their choice, etc. It would appear more and more that truth and facts in this world really have become completely a matter of how we feel. Instead of delusions being a psychologically abnormal state, there is a deliberate effort being made to make delusion — "make believe" — the norm. Facts and truth are becoming so fluid as to be pretty much nonexistent. The absurdity of it would be hilarious, if it weren't so shockingly dangerous and often repugnant.

But of course, many of us might recognize that this has been going on a long time in the religious world.

For example, in spite of the proofs for the existence of God — nothing comes from nothing, design, and the moral proofs — some refuse to believe what they cannot see. Yet, they'll accept the "big bang" or the eternity of the universe without any (ANY!) proof that can be seen — and in spite of the scientific facts and laws mentioned just above.

The Bible's teaching about creation is rejected often not on the basis of any fact, but on the basis of what "everyone else" says it must be. Indeed, in spite of the fact that there has never been a single true transition between species discovered — the missing link is still missing after over 200 years of looking for it — many are "just certain" that evolution must be true. But the facts don't support the evolutionary "make believe".

As people read that Jesus is the way, the truth, and life, and that no man comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6); some would almost immediately respond that it simply couldn't be true. "There are surely many ways to the same Heaven (just by different

names)." However, the facts don't support this religious "make believe".

As people read what the book of Acts has to say about how to become a Christian (including Acts 2:38 and Acts 22:16), there is often a quick rejoinder that salvation is by faith *alone*; because that is what a prior minister told them one time. "I accepted Jesus into my heart and said the sinner's prayer and now I feel in my heart that I am saved." Nevertheless, the facts don't support this religious "make believe" either.

Despite reading passages like Revelation 20:15 as it speaks of the condemnation of the lost in Hell, it's not unusual to hear, "I just can't believe that a loving compassionate God could possibly send anyone to a place like Hell. I feel that the part about Hell must not really be true." But despite the sincere feelings, the biblical facts don't support such wishful "make believe".

Spiritual truth after spiritual truth is often rejected by men on the basis of how they feel. So they their way to the "right" church, feel their way in "worship", feel their way to "unity", to morality, to doctrinal truth — and more. Constantly groping for but never arriving at the truth (2 Tim. 3:7), because they don't read or believe the Bible (the one absolutely true source of spiritual knowledge).

God did indeed make human beings in His image, including our emotions; but emotions are not what determine truth. No one can simply feel or wish something to be true and have it become true. That's magical thinking — and no Harry Potter isn't true either. Anyone interested in getting to Heaven and avoiding Hell must realize this and operate in the spiritual world with the same rational approach as we should in the physical one.

In early television there was a police drama entitled *Dragnet* in which the lead detective, Sergeant Friday, frequently encouraged his witnesses with "Just the Facts, Ma'am". Maybe we'd all do a little better in this world — but especially in the spiritual world — if we just stuck to factual truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth — the Bible.

Park Linscomb

