

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ

Sharing the Gospel Thru Simple Evangelism



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
- Fernando Zapata

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

The Congregation of the Lord's Church who worship at Rock Hill have spent the last quarter Century or so in India, preaching the Gospel and teaching others to do so. At its peak, the effort included training and testing over 250 Preachers, baptizing as many as 35,000 in a single year, and converting entire denominational churches by the Truth of the Gospel. The work was cut short by a new Prime Minister who declared Hinduism the only recognizable 'Religion' allowed by Law and restricting legal accessibility to their Country.

For those who remain in this Congregation who were involved in direct evangelism in this foreign land, the experiences are unforgettable. We are burdened with the regret of the inability to continue the work but we thank God for the opportunity to have done so. Many seeds were planted, and we trust that God will truly continue to bring the increase as our brethren strive to carry on. Every Christian can experience the joy of introducing salvation to those who perhaps were unaware that such a privilege existed and see the powerful change it makes in the hope that it brings.

In **Matthew 28:19-20**, Jesus gave the 'GREAT COMMISSION' to His Apostles, and to us today. He said, "Go ye therefore and teach all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." In **Mark 16:15 & 16**, the inspired writer gets even more pointed with this assignment of Jesus when he writes, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be condemned."

It is difficult to imagine that there are still people in our Country who remain unaffected by the Word of God. Those who think that we as Christians are just 'playing Church'. I would invite you to make a practice of sharing your Faith. You will quickly learn how deeply committed you may or may not be to your Christian walk. When we share the Gospel with others in our neighborhoods, we learn things about ourselves of which we may have only speculated.

I would really like to make this personal for you; to expand in some way your outreach to be an example to those we can have a positive Spiritual influence over. Let's make the New Year a wonderful year of evangelism within and without. **Rom 1:16** "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation..."

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 .

THE LEADERS OF THE CONGREGATION are meeting this afternoon in the fellowship hall at 4PM.

LADIES’ PLANNING MEETING — for planning events for 2023 (Lord willing) will be Jan. 9, Monday, at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. All the ladies are invited!

THE LADIES FIRST “LADIES’ BIBLE CLASS” OF THE YEAR is meeting this Tuesday, Jan. 10, in the fellowship hall at 10AM. This is a great time of study, fellowship, and lunch!

WE’RE RETURNING to having a prayer time at 5PM on the 1st and 3rd Sunday, which will include special time to talk about who needs prayer and visits. Join us next week!

A MEN’S BREAKFAST is planned for Saturday, January 21, at 9am at the fellowship hall

A PITTSFIELD REPORT — Mel was fine, but then started working... Friday she is a little sore but not too bad... Tiffany had a baby boy two days ago; it suffered some distress and was taken to Springfield for further care. They told us earlier that he is doing well.

OUR NEW OUTREACH PROGRAM We continue to collect food and household items to con-

tribute to various food banks in the area. See the suggested items and collection tubs in the back of the church building by the water fountains. Please keep this outreach effort in your prayers.

GIVING OPTIONS — please be aware that there are now several ways to contribute. The collection plate will continue to be passed, but we also have online options at our website, rhcoc.org.

PRAYER LISTS...

Prayers needed

- Melinda Stafford, our Berkshire County missionary’s wife, had her gall bladder out on Tuesday. Pray for a quick recovery.
- Julia asks for prayers for her friend Wendy Harvey. Wendy has been diagnosed with breast cancer for the third time after just finishing chemotherapy. She is the young mother of 3 young daughters.
- Emma R. as a new Christian
- For Brooke and Logan Campbell, strength to continue caring for their mother
- Dianna Conkling’s undergoing chemo (to finish in March) so, prayers are still urged.
- Hugh R.’s sister Andrea, who is now home but still undergoing her chemo treatment.
- Sue Carter: please pray for more health improvement
- Chuck T. cancer treatments

Remember these often:

- 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 8Gen 24-25
- Jan 9Gen 26-28
- Jan 10,Gen 29-30
- Jan 11,Gen 31-32
- Jan 12Gen 33-35
- Jan 13Gen 36-38
- Jan 14Gen 39-41
- Jan 15Gen 42-44

What makes temptation so difficult is that we really don't want to discourage it completely

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.

Putting Fire in our Bones

"But if I say, 'I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name,' Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding it in, And I cannot endure it." (Jeremiah 20:9)

Poor Jeremiah! Selected to be a prophet of the LORD, but seldom telling any good news. Most of the time his theme was the deep sinfulness of the people and God's intention to send them away into exile far from home (Babylon). As God's spokesman, he counseled the people to surrender to the Babylonians and settle in at the new place you are going to be taken. To say the least, this was highly unpopular and politically incorrect. Apart from Messianic prophecies, the best news Jeremiah got from the LORD to pass on to his generation was that they were going to get to return to their homes in 70 years; that's a little bit like being told that you've been sentenced to 70 years in prison instead of "life". And Jeremiah got lots of heat for his trouble: derision, mockery, reproach, denouncement, prison, the stocks, a pit, and nearly being left to starve to death.

No wonder he wanted to just stop talking about the LORD and His message! But as Jeremiah considered just shutting up, his heart began to burn like a fire deep in his bones. What was this fire in his bones? It was a hope against all hope that Judah would listen, would repent and would possibly avoid the punishment the LORD has assigned to them (see Jeremiah 18:1-12). It was a deep desire for his people to avoid the slaughter, the death, and the destruction that was sure to be the result of resisting Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar, whom God had chosen to be His instrument of punishment against God's sinful people. Because he cared so deeply, because he couldn't bear the images of his people's certain destruction, and because repentance was their only hope; Jeremiah could not be silent.

Sharing God's word today is a little easier (at least in our country, for now), but it still is unpopular in most quarters and its topics of morality and religion are certainly politically incorrect. Indeed,

speaking God's word can still attract mockery, reproach, scorn, and denouncement from many — friends, family, and the community at large — and we can be very tempted to just shut up. And sadly some of us have succumbed to the temptation and heeded the rule of etiquette, which dictates that we never discuss politics or religion.

So we could use a little (maybe a lot) of that fire in our bones! Where do we find such fire? The same place Jeremiah found it — in truly caring for the souls of others — the same friends, family, and community at large who scorn the Lord's will and hold it in contempt.

Care for those souls who are wreaking destruction on themselves through sin in family dysfunction, depression, broken relationships, addictions, crime, violence, guilt, and much more. Those suffering the pain and misery that sin always brings — self-inflicted and inflicted by others.

Care for those souls who will be judged by Christ as unforgiven, unredeemed sinners, who'll spend an eternity in Hell away from the presence of the Lord through deafness to God's word and disobedience.

Care, knowing that repentance is their (everyone's) one and only hope. Repentance in believing in (and confessing) Jesus as the Son of God and our Savior; repentance in turning from our sinful, fleshly ways; and repentance in obedience to Jesus and following Him faithfully.

Please, care about the eternal souls of those around you; please, stoke the fire in your bones; please, never keep silent about the saving and powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is their one and only hope (John 14:6).

Park Linscomb

