

# 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

### Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Doug Jones
- Burley Stinnett
- Fernando Zapata

### Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

## THE WORD OF TRUTH

I feel obligated to share with you a particular burden that I feel for much of the “PREACHING” that I hear these days through public radio broadcasts. I understand having to come up with a topic can be difficult, especially when you teach several times each week. However, some of what I hear is pretty outlandish. Even if I try and get it, I cannot find the Bible verses to confirm the teaching. The most important idea when teaching the Bible is to help others see the inherent VALUE of living a spiritual life, and the personal need that we have for the salvation of our souls. Somewhere along the way, many have lost the purpose of the Bible. This is true of both the one doing the teaching and the recipient of what is being taught.

As a matter of Bible truth, this exact condition is warned of in scripture. If you look at **Galatians 1:7-8** the Bible says, *“there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”* The use of the word “pervert” is interesting in this context. The actual meaning is to transform into something that is opposite in character. In other words, there are those who would try and change the meaning of God’s word, and make it something that it was never intended to be. And some of that can be heard on the radio.

In **Romans 1:16** Paul says, *“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe...”* The gospel is considered the “good news” and is actually “the word of the Lord” according to **1 Peter 1:25**. It is also called the “word of the Truth” in **Colossians 1:5**.

The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the theme of the gospel according to **1 Corinthians 15: 3-4**. If you look at verses **1 & 2 of chapter 15**, you will see that Paul confirms the nature and purpose of the gospel. Notice what he says, *“Moreover brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye received, and wherein ye stand: By which also ye are saved IF ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.”*

What Paul preached was not only the coming of Christ; not only the reason that he came, but to present a new, Higher Standard by which we all should live.

*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 .

**A NUMBER OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE** were at Camp Deer Run this past week. Please pray for our young people's spiritual growth.

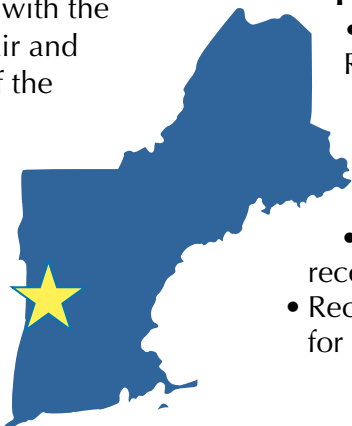
**A BAPTISM** — Elizabeth Booth, Allison's daughter (the Haley's granddaughter) is being baptized today at camp. Praise the Lord and pray for her spiritual growth.

**SINGING WEDNESDAY** is this Wednesday. Instead of Bible classes we'll join our voices in praise to the Lord and encouragement to each other.

**THE LEADERSHIP** of the congregation (elders, deacons, and preacher) will be meeting July 17 afternoon at 4 rather than next Sunday.

**NEW CARPETING** work is due to start next week and hopefully we'll be done with the complete repair and refurbishing of the building from the flooding damage.

**ROCK HILL IS PLANNING ON HELPING THE CHURCH IN PITTSFIELD**



**MA** in a Gospel meeting this fall, Sept. 25-28. The New England mission trip is still in the planning stages, but progress is being made. The group that is planning on going includes Charles, Park, Tom and Nancy Roberts, Hugh and Trudi Ruebush, Linda Stinnett and Elizabeth Hopkins. The trip will be during parts of the last 2 weeks of September. Park will be preaching a gospel meeting on the subject of "Next", about the afterlife. Please pray for fruitful efforts.

**A BABY SHOWER** Julianna's baby shower is scheduled on Saturday, September 10th. Look for more details.

**GIVING...** We can now give online (rhcoc.org), by mail (PO Box 2301, Frisco TX 75034), or of course in person at worship assembly.

### PRAYER LISTS...

#### Prayers needed

- Bonnie D's nephew, Robby Peterman, recovering from heart surgery
- Susie C. and infected ears
- Fernando's father's recovery
- Recovery from eye surgery for Ora Holt

To be almost saved is to still be lost.

• Isela H.'s Jeff Barnett with stage 4 brain cancer.

#### Remember these often:

- Please pray for Johnny Vaz's mother, Victoria Vaz.
- Ora Holt, kidney
- Our continued search for a part-time youth minister
- Doug Jones' brother, Don Jones with cancer
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our elders, deacons, and preacher

#### Long Term Requests

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

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

- Jul 3, Psa 108-116
- Jul 4, Psa 117-119:72
- Jul 5, Psa 119:73-176
- Jul 6, Psa 120-135
- Jul 7, Psa 136-142
- Jul 8, Psa 143-150
- Jul 9, Pro 1-4
- Jul 10, Pro 5-8

# 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.*

## The Christian and Liberty

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Tomorrow is July 4<sup>th</sup>, a day on which Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the freedoms that it ultimately procured for us in this nation. And as Americans, boy-oh-boy, do we revel in our freedoms and rights. And, indeed, it is a wonderful thing to have the many freedoms and rights we have, especially the freedom to worship the Lord as He commanded, rather than as some religious leader dictates.

But here's the thing, sometimes freedom can be pretty dangerous. Young people who go off to college and are "off the leash" for the first time are often in grave danger as they explore the proper limits of their freedom — and often make mistakes, sometimes big mistakes, sometimes life-altering or even life-ending mistakes. Israel also found freedom from Egypt dangerous. After they escaped the slavery of Egypt, they too made lots of mistakes, sometimes life-altering, and sometimes life-ending mistakes — physical and spiritual.

You see, freedom is only survived, when it is accompanied (in time) by responsibility and appropriate (godly) limits.

Paul rebuked and corrected some in the Corinthian church (1 Cor. 8-10), who being freed from Mosaic law and freed from the consequences of sin (through God's grace and forgiveness), had abused their new-found freedom by taking no care for how their actions would effect others, believers and unbelievers. The issue was about food and drink that was being offered to the gods of the Greeks in their temples and guild halls. Paul readily admits that there are no other gods, so technically the food and drink was being offered to — well, nothing. BUT not every Christian knew that — not just intellectually, but conscientiously, too. And the liberties taken by some was causing others to be shocked in conscience — "I thought worshipping other gods was wrong, but brother Whoever is eating from the table of the gods!" (See v. 7). And causing yet others to sin — "Well, if brother

Whatever worships at the temple of Zeus, I guess I can worship Zeus, too." And certainly causing a division in the church.

Those who were eating and drinking believed that they were well within their rights to do what they were doing, and they seemed to take great pride in their superior understanding, regardless of how it effected their brothers and sisters in Christ. That's why Paul says, "Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies" (1Cor. 8:1). And for the next several chapters in the letter, Paul teaches about liberty — that it needs to be used responsibly and with love toward others.

Bringing this teaching to the present day, we also need to use the liberties we may have with responsibility and love toward others — considering how it effects your brothers and sisters in Christ or even the world around us (1 Cor. 10:27). Sometimes the things we say, the things we wear, the things we seem to stand for, etc. can still cause a brother or sister to stumble or an unbeliever to get the wrong idea about Christ and His church.

Even more, we must be careful that we have not — in our exercise of liberty — let our desires and pride deceive us so as to step over the line into sin. This is the reason for Paul's warning, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall" (1Cor. 10:12). And also for this warning as Paul writes the Roman church about a similar problem: "The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves" (Rom. 14:22).

Paul summarized it well, "For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another" (Gal. 5:13).

*Park Linscomb*

