

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



The Rock Hill church of Christ

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Frisco TX 75035

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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

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

THE TEMPLE TRANSITION, PART 2

The Building of the Tabernacle (Tent) and the more permanent structure (Temple) were of significant Spiritual symbol for the descendants of Abraham, Issac and Jacob (Israel). The covenant between God and Abraham ultimately included, a land flowing with milk and honey, prosperity, a great nation of people that cannot be numbered, a Great name, as well as one specific seed through whom, *"all nations (families) of the earth would be blessed"* **Genesis 12:1-3**, **Galatians 3:16**.

Although the promise to Abraham (Abram) was made as early as 2091 BC, the construction of the original Tabernacle did not take place until the children of Israel had arrived at Mt. Sinai after the Exodus from Egypt. Although the dates are questionable at best, the first Passover is dated 1446 BC. **Numbers 10:11-12** tells us, *"on the 20th day of the 2nd month, in the 2nd year...the cloud was taken up...and the children of Israel took (began) their journey."*

When considering the true significance of the "Most Holy Place", the original instructions should be identified. The purpose of the Tabernacle has been indicated in **Exodus 25:8**, *"Let them build me a sanctuary."* In **Exodus 25:21-22**, a clear indication of the Most Holy Place is declared by God, *"and thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the Ark...and there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the Mercy Seat, between the two cherubim which are upon the Ark of the Testimony."*

Although there are two (2) areas within both the Tabernacle and the Temple, the Holy Place was the first of the two. The Most Holy Place was the innermost. The Most Holy Place was the actual place where God would reside when present. Access to the Most Holy Place was restricted to the high priest where the blood sacrifice would be offered and the presence of God would receive it. Additional instructions to the children of Israel were also provided in the Most Holy Place. These would be relayed to the people by Moses (while living) or the high priest as required.

The function of the Most Holy Place would remain unchanged by our heavenly Father until which time the New Covenant was put in place. In large part, this is the 'mystery' of righteousness that the Word continues to refer to, and the "better Covenant".

More to follow...
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 .

THE LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES

- Our new budget for 2025 will be \$4596.00/week, due to a serious spike in insurance costs.
- Wednesday night Bible study will be canceled on Dec 25 and Jan. 1 to allow for family time. We will resume on Jan. 8.
- The church continues to post videos on Facebook once a week. Let others know. We recently had 179 people watching us online.
- Burley continues to do local evangelism with Indians.
- We are in need of more volunteers to operate the A/V for our streaming of services.
- We discussed the addition of a digital sign above our current sign.
- A bee keeper will be employed to get our bee problem solved.
- A financial peace seminar on avoiding online scams was suggested and will be considered.
- Park has been invited to be one of the speakers for McDermott Road's annual Wednesday summer series on July 9 with the title "Deeper Submission", the story of Naaman and Elisha.
- Kent and Avery will be with us on Jan. 5 and it was suggested that a light lunch be provided for us all to visit with them.



A TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY! — It will be today right after morning worship. It will include lunch at Chili's and when we get back to the church building, a devotional period, desserts, and gift exchange. There is a \$20 gift limit for gifts you would bring. RSVP (please let us know you're coming) to Jessica S. at 972-400-2262. *IT WILL BE SUPER FUN!*

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASSES will be cancelled for both Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Bible classes will resume on Jan. 8

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO... Kent and Avery our summer interns are planning to visit us the weekend of January 5. Teens (and anyone else), set that date aside; we'll plan something fun. It will be great to see them again!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP the Pittsfield MA church? We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute.

WANT TO HELP with the recovery from the disasters in NC and FL? The church of Christ Disaster Relief is recommended by the RH leadership. Here is a link to making a contribution. [HTTPS://WWW.DISASTERRELIEFFORT.ORG/](https://www.disasterrelieffort.org/)

NEW PRAYER REQUEST...

- Cleve S's father died. Please pray for Cleve and his family
- Dianne's brother Billy M was hospitalized for a possible stroke.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Lynn T. is in the hospital suffering from a lumbar fracture. He will hopefully be going to rehab soon, perhaps Stonemere in Frisco.
- Zeke R.'s family at his passing.

- Ora H home from the hospital, but still not feeling well
- Anna S, a Christian sister who comes with Lynn and Alene T, is getting better, but still needing prayer.
- Elizabeth H's cousin, Tracy, is still in need of prayers for better health.
- The Staffords' requests —
 - Cleves family at the loss of his father,
 - the Pittsfield church.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Esther M health.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Lynn T: cancer
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Ora H, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff
- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Dec 22, 1 Peter all
- Dec 23, 2 Peter all
- Dec 24, 1 John all
- Dec 25, 2 /3 John/Jude all
- Dec 26, Revelation 1-3
- Dec 27, Revelation 4-8
- Dec 28, Revelation 9-12
- Dec 29, Revelation 13

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.

WHAT MADE THE WISE MEN WISE?

The story of the wise men (Magi) who visited Jesus in Matthew 2:1-18 is puzzling to many attentive Bible readers. Why in the world would an elite class of scholars, astrologers, diviners, scientists, and dream interpreters travel about 900 miles to visit a Jewish king (Matthew 2:2 "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?...")? And why would they come to worship a king of a small country, which was really just another province of the Roman Empire (Matthew 2:2 "... For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.")? The Magi had never sent a delegation to any other Jewish king. Why would these men from Chaldea, Babylon, Persia, and/or India have any interest in this Jewish king?

The difference now was the star. The Magi had been around for centuries; in fact, Daniel had been one of them—in fact, more than just one of them, he'd been the chief prefect from a relatively young age (see Daniel 2:48). And Daniel had an edge over the other Magi, he was also a prophet of the true and living God, who foretold future events to Gentile kings, some of which we have recorded (see Daniel 1-12). And since we know he did this, is it not possible that Daniel left a prophecy specific to the Magi themselves about a Jewish king, who would be the divine Savior? And that this prophecy might be given a sign that that the stargazing Magi would be sure to see, and did see?

Even so, why did they follow this sign in the sky, a star? Because they judged that the coming of the Savior of the world was important. Really important. Not important like "Don't forget to bring home some milk," or "You need to get an A on this test," or even "This project could make or break your career." They appear to have understood that

this was on a whole other level of importance—important like, "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

The Magi doubtlessly knew (Dan. 2:44) that it would be this king's kingdom that would never be destroyed, that would not be left for another people, that would crush and put an end to all other kingdoms, but itself would endure forever. The wise men were aware of the fact of God, of the next world, of their souls, and of the transcendent importance of spiritual reality. They had made the calculation that following the star was more important than "me-time", than a lazy Saturday, than ease, than hobbies, than any obstacles, than any distance, or than anything else that they could conceive of. These were wise men indeed.

And wise men still follow Jesus' "star" (the Light of the world, John 8:12)—despite any personal sacrifices, any obstacles, any difficulties, any endurance required, or any opposition met. How? Why? They, too, understand the supreme priority of believing in and serving the Lord, the extreme importance of paying attention to their souls, the infinite length (if such a term can be used) of eternity, and the inconceivably high stakes (Heaven or Hell) involved.

This biblical story tells us that Christmas can and should be about much more than warm sentimentality. It also can and should be a time of serious reflection about the incomparable importance of seeking for and following Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the living God. What's been at the top of your priority list?

Park Linscomb



FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER

22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Margeretta F. 🙏	Cleve & Melinda S ❤️	Martin K. 🙏	Christmas Day 🎅			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00AM Bible classes ■ 10:00AM Worship ■ 6:00PM Worship 	Eldon & Mary L. ❤️		Bible class cancelled			

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of December 22AM.....PM.....Wed.
AnnouncementsJim BJim B
Song LeadingDoug J.....Scott W.....none
Opening PrayerYaw FBurley S
CommunionMarty KCharles H
Closing Prayer.....Doug J.....Reiven H
A/V Control.....Hunter M.....Hunter M.....none
Greeter.....Hugh R



Sermon Notes...
