

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

Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

Mine No More

This week's title is taken from a popular hymn that we often sing together. Not only is it a popular tune with great lyrics, but it represents an important part of our Christian culture. The idea of giving up one's self and pursuing life as a devoted Christian is consistent with scriptural teaching. ***Ephesians 4:22-24*** is an example, and suggests, *"that ye put off the old man...and be renewed in the spirit of your mind...that ye put on the new man which is created in righteousness and true holiness."*

A new year is considered a time to explore resolutions that can make us better or help us to be motivated to make changes that we wish to make. Changes can be difficult and requires significant devotion to the alteration. A wise man said, *"it takes a great deal of dedication to successfully apply personal changes in habit and purpose."* Indeed, this is the case.

I suppose this is one reason for failure...the zeal with which we begin to plan the resolution fades with time and loses its luster. This could be said for the energy applied to the Christian life as well. It is for this reason that we can recite the lyrics of this song in order to help maintain our enthusiasm for spiritual growth. The lyrics say, *"I am mine no more...I've been bought with blood... Jesus is my Lord...He rules my life...He will come again...He will take me home...I am Mine no more"*.

There is a verse that includes a similar thought. Perhaps the average person should consider the verse more closely before thinking their body is a sacred tower that belongs to them. Consider ***1 Corinthians 6:19-20***, and teach to our children as the will of the Lord: *"know ye not that the body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and your spirit which are God's."*

The body is, in fact, a sacred tower, made in the very image of God (***Genesis 1:26-27***) and provided with an eternal spirit (***Genesis 2:7***) destined to be returned to Him. (***Ecclesiastes 12:7***). This makes the words of the song apply to every person. God has loaned us this vessel for a short while, Let us serve Him with it.

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 .

NEW YEAR'S EVE FELLOWSHIP — What a great time was enjoyed by everyone who came.

LADIES PLANNING MEETING is January 5 at 6:30PM. Come lend your voice and your hands to the good works the sisters plan for the congregation.

THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST will be January 10 at 9AM. The encouragement portion of the breakfast will focus on some instruction and encouragement in worship leadership, especially for those who don't have much experience. Doug will be in charge of the food.

THE NEXT LEADERSHIP MEETING will be January 11, next Sunday at 4PM. If you have anything you'd like them to discuss, please tell one of the elder, deacons, or Park.

SCRIPTURE READING will be added to our regular Sunday morning worship schedule just before the sermon.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

• **Sunday Morning Bible Class** — This adult class will soon be finishing up 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. A new study on the book of Ephesians will begin January 4th. Read it to harvest questions and comments for the class.

• **Wednesday evening Bible class** will soon be starting 2 Corinthians, probably January 14th. Read up and be prepared with questions and comments.

LADIES' CLASS — The gathering will resume at the church building on January 13, Lord willing.

A NEW READ-THE-BIBLE-THROUGH-IN-A-YEAR SCHEDULE is on the table in the foyer. This one will start in the New Testament first and then go to the Old.

WE'RE WORKING ON HAVING A SPRING MEETING using several area preachers on the theme "Great Passages in Romans".

THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE has gotten a fresh new look. Check it out and share with others www.rhcoc.org

*"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts."
—Marcus Aurelius*

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Dale Cooper was admitted to the hospital Thursday with a stroke, but is reported to be doing better on Friday.
- Richard Anderson came forward Sunday to be restored, requesting prayers for his spiritual growth.
- The Hays Family has asked for our prayers as they are fighting covid.

- The Cooper family in their grief in losing Lavonia
- Burley S. will be returning to his mission work in India on Jan, 7th
- Freida Rose failing health
- Susie Chaisson recovering from knee replacement
- Lynn Turner is in Belle Terra rehab in McKinney.
- Burley S.'s son, Burley Jr. recovering from heart oblation
- Nancy J's brother in very serious condition
- Linda Curry for her Afib
- Esther Myrick, low blood count
- The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, granddaughter Peyton living with them.
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- 1/4Matthew 10-12
- 1/5Matthew 13-14
- 1/6Matthew 15-17
- 1/7Matthew 18-20
- 1/8Matthew 21-22
- 1/9Matthew 23-24
- 1/10Matthew 25-26
- 1/11Matthew 27-28

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.

MAYBE YOU'VE BEEN MISINFORMED ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY

One of the more widely spread pieces of misinformation in the religious world has to do with the certainty of a believer's salvation — and the interesting thing is that it sort of cuts two ways in opposite directions. Let me briefly explain what they are and what the Bible actually says about it.

There is a religious doctrine commonly referred to as Calvinism. It comes with a number of false doctrines, but the one I want to focus on for now is theologically known as "perseverance of the saints"; but also more commonly known as "once saved, always saved". Its teaching is essentially that once a person is "saved" (usually by faith alone, but that's not the main point here) he can never, ever be lost again. According to this false teaching, it doesn't matter what you do after you are "saved", the Lord has chosen you to be saved and go to Heaven and to Heaven you must go, period.

But this is not at all what the Bible teaches. While there are a number of Old and New Testament passages that tell us that we must remain faithful to obtain Heaven, the book of Hebrews is probably among the most plain in warning against falling away...

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:1–3 NAS95)

"Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it." (Hebrews 4:1 NAS95)

"For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to

come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame. For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned." (Hebrews 6:4–8 NAS95)

So, is it possible fall away once we have been saved? A very definite and terrifying "Yes".

On the other hand, there is misinformation sometimes preached by those looking for lots of responses to their sermons that make Christians believe that they are continually teetering on the brink of Hell. When such misinformed Christians are asked if they are sure they are going to Heaven, they often respond timidly, "I hope so." What a shame that they should live in such insecurity, and what a shame that they have such an insecure salvation to offer to others.

The truth is that, although it is possible to fall away from the Lord, if we live with the right heart, a heart that seeks to do right, that repents of doing wrong, we do have great security.

"but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ... And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world." (1 John 1:7–2:2 NAS95)

Don't be misinformed by one extreme or the other. Rejoice in the certainty and security of the Lord's salvation, but don't take His grace for granted!

Park Linscomb

FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN JANUARY

4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Margaret T. 🙏 ■ 9:00AM Bible classes ■ 10:00AM Worship ■ 5:00PM First Sunday singing practice ■ 6:00PM Worship	Burley S. 🙏 Kaitlyn S. 🙏 ■ 6:30PM Ladies' planning meeting		Rachel W. 🙏 ■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class	Dan C. 🙏	Ralph/ Sandy ❤️	Freida R. 🙏 Lauri J. 🙏

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of January 4.....AMPMWed.
 AnnouncementsBurley SBurley S
 Song Leading.....Scott W.....Doug J.....Charles H
 Opening PrayerTom RCharles H
 Scripture.....Philippians 3:13
 CommunionJim BMarty K
 Closing PrayerCharles H.....Reiven H
 A/V Control.....Scott W.....Charles H...John S
 Greeter.....Yaw F

Week of January 11.....AMPMWed.
 AnnouncementsJim BJim B
 Song Leading.....Doug JScott WReiven H
 Opening PrayerReiven H.....Hugh R
 Scripture.....
 CommunionJim BMarty K
 Closing PrayerDoug JJohn S
 A/V Control.....John SScott WCharles H
 Greeter.....Hugh R



Sermon Notes...
