

# 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"*

## SPIRITUAL TIDBITS-LAND OF CANAAN

There are several spiritual tidbits that are revealed throughout the Old and New Testaments. These pieces of information can prove helpful by providing a deeper understanding of things making up the 'SUM' of our Bible Studies. The names of the people and the dates associated with the events are helpful to piece together the life of Jesus Christ and the formation of the Church with its effect upon mankind.

To establish a beginning for 'known facts' we will begin with the Abrahamic promise of Genesis 12:1-3 which occurred in the year (estimated) 2069 BC. According to Genesis 16:3, "Abram had lived in Canaan for 10 Years...when Sarai gave Hagar to be his wife." To further mark the date and place, Genesis 16:16 tells us "Abram was fourscore and six (86) years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram."

Although Abram and Sarai were already in the land of Canaan, this was not the time in which the land was given as a final resting place for the Children of Israel. If we look at Genesis 15:13-17, we see that there is an added prophesy mentioned here; "know of a surety, that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs and shall serve them; and be afflicted four hundred years...but in the 4th generation, they shall come hither again..." (Note: Exodus 12:40-41 "the sojourning of the children of Israel was 430 Years.")

For the record, the 430 years was only the time spent in Bondage in the land of Egypt. Matthew 1:17 tells us that there was a total of 42 generations from the promise made to Abram and the birth of Jesus, which is the fulfillment of the promise Galatians 3:16. Remember too, that time is counted backwards as we move toward the birth of the Savior. The promise having been made in approximately 2069 BC, and the birth of Jesus counted down to the first generation, AD-01 (Anno Domini a Latin word meaning 'The Year of Our Lord'). After departing Egypt, it was another 2 years before leaving Sinai and 40 years to wander 'in the wilderness'.

Historians determined that Joshua leads the Children of Israel at the return to the Land of Promise in the year 1407 BC to begin the occupancy thereof. The experiences and lessons learned by the children of Israel are recorded that we may avoid similar mistakes.

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 .

**FIRST SUNDAY SINGING** — The first Sunday of every month a number of us get together to learn some new songs. We meet at 5PM, just before evening worship. Join us!

**YOUTH ACTIVITY** — **Saturday, May 10th from 10-noon.** The kids will be making cookies to give to mothers on Mother's Day the 11th.

**ORA UPDATE** — Ora is doing very good after her surgery. She has no pain and is getting up, walking and doing exercises. She hopefully will be able to go home next week!

**SEWING MINISTRY** — We will be sewing on the 8th and the 22nd.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** — May 17<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.

**ADDRESS UPDATES??** — Please check our online address book and see if your information is correct. If not, please let Nancy Jones know.

**The Pittsfield MA church** — Those who wish to provide the Pittsfield MA church money for their benevolence fund monthly can see Trudy R. to contribute.

### LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES

- Our financial picture is looking better. We're catching up a little now, replenishing funds used for unexpected building problems.
- It was reported that we continue to reach quite a number of watchers during our streaming broadcasts on Facebook (sometimes doubling our physical attendance numbers).
- It was suggested that we look into a special meeting with "Financial Peace" and/or a set of lectures on

internet scams and how to avoid them. It was noted that it would not only be useful to our congregation, but would probably be very interesting to our neighborhood community.

- Courtyard landscaping...
  - Edging was installed in some areas to keep topsoil from washing away with rain. Flags will also be put up to facilitate seeing the edging at night and prevent tripping.
  - Grass seed was sown this past week.
- Baptistry railings will be installed coming out of the baptistry for safety.
- It was proposed that we return to the way we used to observe communion before COVID with separate trays of bread and fruit of the vine to give us more time to think about what it means and also emphasize the fellowship of the body as we pass the elements from person to person. Communion kits would still be available for those who prefer to be cautious. A casual poll of the congregation will be taken about it. New Request...
- Please add Michelle Lowe Juliana's friend), her 20-month-old daughter, Lana passed away in her sleep on Friday!
- Pray for Ora Holt's recovery from receiving her long awaited kidney transplant.

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Please pray for Eloise's recovery for a broken bone from a fall.
- Suzanne asks for strength for her mother Bonnie. She wants so badly to be able to attend services but does not have the physical strength to do so.
- From Juliana: Pray for Becky B., recovering from tongue cancer surgery.
- Our missionary in Pittsfield MA, the Staffords, now has their granddaughter, Peyton living with. Please pray for them in this transition.

- Kim B.— for a quick recovery from her surgery.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Ralph L. suffers from double vision. Pray for a quick recovery.
- Reiven H — Pray for a quick and complete recovery.
- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy to recover from Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie H.
- Jim B.'s daughter-in-law is terminal.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

### LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- 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

- ☐ May 4, 2 Kgs 17-18
- ☐ May 5, 2 Kgs 19-21
- ☐ May 6, 2 Kgs 22-24
- ☐ May 7, 1 Chron 1
- ☐ May 8, 1 Chron 2-4
- ☐ May 9, 1 Chron 5-6
- ☐ May 10, 1 Chron 7-9
- ☐ May 11, 1 Chron 10-12

*The less time you spend  
with truth, the easier  
it is to believe lies. —  
Leerae*

# 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.

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## WHAT SHAPES YOUR CONSCIENCE?

**A**lthough they have been known to cause considerable pain, sleepless nights, and embarrassment, our consciences are a marvelous and precious gift from God. Like physical pain of the body, our consciences are given to us as alarms to tell us something is wrong. When our body physically hurts, we know something's amiss and needs to be fixed or healed. We really wouldn't want to be without pain. Indeed, there is a congenital condition (CIPA) in which pain nerves are not properly connected to the part of the brain that receives pain messages, and it is considered to be a very dangerous disorder. Similarly, lack of a conscience is called Antisocial Personality Disorder — or more commonly known as being a sociopath or psychopath.

Most of us, thankfully, have a "base model" provided to us by God.

*For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, (Romans 2:14,15)*

But it is only a "base model" at first, the essence of good and bad, fair and unfair. It continues to be matured, modified, sharpened, dulled, twisted, or enlightened throughout life as we allow it to be. The question is how we allow it to be formed.

### Parents

Our parents are our very first molders and reinforcers of conscience. Oftentimes that's really good, but sometimes it can be bad, if *their* consciences have been miseducated. It is at least part of the reason why some families seem to have generations of functional families and individuals and others have long lines of troubled or dysfunctional folks.

### Teachers and Mentors

Our teachers and mentors also help shape our consciences, usually regarding doing our best, acceptable social standards etc. But even here, especially in our day, such conscience formers can be shockingly off base as some of the books given to our youngest students regarding sexuality have recently revealed.

### Friends and Society

What our friends and social circles believe to be right and wrong will also try to inform and shape our consciences — sometimes in the right direction, but especially among the young in the wrong direction. Sexual morals,

suitable clothing, appropriate language, a standard of what's funny and what isn't, and even more are often constructed by what and who is popular and trendy — a rather poor yardstick for the conscience.

### Politics and Philosophy

Even political parties and popular philosophies will have an effect on us as they offer persuasive arguments to justify positions, lifestyles, policies, exceptions to standard morality, and actions. Some arguments might be so cleverly (and deceptively) constructed that our consciences are "conformed" (see Romans 12:2) to see moral issues differently and apply worldly principles to salve an otherwise wounded conscience.

### Personal Abuse

And we dare not neglect to remember that our own feelings and desires will often shape our consciences through continual conscience abuse. Ignore the pain of conscience often enough and eventually the conscience become calloused and numb.

Jiminy Cricket, a Disney character in *Pinocchio*, is famous for singing, "Always let your conscience be your guide." On one hand, moral guidance is indeed, the reason for our consciences, but on the other hand, as we have seen, our consciences can sometimes be mis-educated and deformed. Is there a reliable standard against which we can compare our consciences and keep them reliable as a guide?

### The Bible

The Scriptures, God's word, clearly the very best shaper, sculptor, educator, and foundation of conscience. God, whose very nature is holiness, righteousness, compassion, justice, mercy, and love, will never steer us in the wrong direction. Indeed, His way, though not always easy, is always good and in our best and others' best interests.

Our conscience is a precious gift, and a "good conscience" is an especially precious gift; so be very careful in how you allow it to be educated and formed. Don't ignore it or abuse it. Pay attention when you wound it, repent, and do right. And if you aren't a Christian, listen to this: "Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you — not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but **an appeal to God for a good conscience** — through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1Pet. 3:21 ).

Park Linscomb

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN MAY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Bible classes</li> <li>10:00AM Worship</li> <li>5:00PM First Sunday singing practice</li> <li>6:00PM Worship</li> </ul>	4 John & Koreen V ❤️	5 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class	6 7:00PM Wed. Bible class	7 Sewing ministry at 10AM	8 Baylee B. 🍌 Lori S. 🍌	9 Carol P. 🍌	10
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## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

### Week of May 4.....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....Jim B .....Jim B  
 Song Leading .....Doug J.....Scott W .....Reiven H  
 Opening Prayer .....Yaw F .....Jim B  
 Communion .....Reiven H .....Burley S  
 Closing Prayer.....Scott W .....Doug J  
 A/V Control.....John S .....Hunter M.....Charles H  
 Greeter.....John S

### Week of May 11.....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....John S .....John S  
 Song Leading .....Scott W .....Doug J .....Charles H  
 Opening Prayer .....Charles H.....John S  
 Communion .....Yaw F .....Hugh R  
 Closing Prayer.....Jim B .....Burley S  
 A/V Control.....Hunter M.....Charles H.....John S  
 Greeter.....Yaw F



## Sermon Notes...

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