

# THE BULLETIN

## I AM A NEWCOMER

Won't you please...

SMILE AT ME as I walk in the door. You are my first impression of the church, during the first few moments I am in your building, and this first impression will probably stay with me a long time.

HELP ME find my place in the service. I will not find your help an intrusion. In fact, I will remember your kindness.

SPEAK TO ME during the after-service fellowship time. I know you want to see your friends, but I may find it hard to believe that you truly care for each other unless I first see evidence that you care for the "stranger" in your midst.

TELL ME GOOD THINGS about the church, your elders, deacons, and ministers. I want to believe that they are doing something exciting and

YOU CAN'T CONTROL the length of your life – but you can control its width and depth.

YOU CAN'T CONTROL the contour of your face – but you can control its expression.

important for the Lord.

NOTICE ME even if I am not "family." I don't want to feel invisible just because I am unmarried, a single parent, a teenager, or an older person.

TALK TO ME AGAIN the second week when I come back and the third and fourth. I am still not a part of your church family.

INVITE ME to become a part of some church activity or small group. I need more contact with the church family.

--Bulletin Digest



YOU CAN'T CONTROL the weather – but you can control the atmosphere of your mind.

WHY WORRY about things you can't control, when you can keep yourself busy controlling the things that depend on you?

### The Manchester church of Christ

66 Mammoth Rd.  
Manchester NH 03109  
603.623.5559

[mht\\_church@comcast.net](mailto:mht_church@comcast.net)

[www.mhtcoc.org](http://www.mhtcoc.org)

### Elders' Link: July

Lee Davis 547-8876

ladnld@comcast.net

Larry Glass 887-1741

larrycalling@yahoo.com

*If you have any concerns that the elders should be aware of, or need to speak with them, please contact Lee or Larry this month.*

### Our Worship Services

Sunday AM: 8:30 & 11:00

Bible Class: 10:00

Sunday PM: 6:00

### Small Groups:

West Side Small Group:

6:15PM at Doug Paul's house

Merrimack Small Group:

5:30PM, contact Stuart

Peacock

Wednesday PM Devotional/Bible

Classes: 7:00

# OUR FAMILY

## NEWS TO USE

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household," Ephesians 2:19, NAS95

### Coming up in July...

*Help needed* Adam & Deb will need help loading their u-haul truck tomorrow, July 15<sup>th</sup> after 12pm. Please let them know if you will be available to help.

*Don't forget* This coming Sunday is the third Sunday of the month so there will no evening services here at the building. Please consider joining one of the small groups listed on the front of the bulletin.

### What else?

*Day of singing* The Greater Springfield church of Christ in Chicopee, MA invite us to join them on July 25<sup>th</sup> for a day of praise and worship. More information is posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

### This and that...

*Directory update* Adam & Deb's new address will be: 676 Deer Creek Rd Valencia, PA 16059 724-443-8626

*Prayers* There are 4 of our high school students at Harding for the next couple of weeks. Please pray for safe travels and an uplifting time.

*Update on Doreen* She is still in room C-121 at CMC. Cards and short visits are welcome.

*Food Drive* There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer listing items we need to resupply the food pantry. Please take a look to see how you can help this important ministry.

Dave is also looking for some volunteers to do follow-up Bible studies/Bible reading with interested food pantry contacts.

*VBS* is only 4 1/2 weeks away (August 16-18) so let's get busy inviting all of our friends. Freda is in charge of refreshments and would appreciate lots of cookies.

*Filling in* While Park and Linda are in Texas meeting their new grandson, Karl Davies, Mark Casel-

la and Zach Daggett will be bringing us the Wednesday devotionals. One of the elders and possibly Gary Diaz will be preaching on Sunday mornings.

*Worthy cause* A lot of kids would like to go to Gander Brook, but can't afford it. Gander Brook's policy is to never turn down a child for one week, but at \$275/week that sometimes puts quite a financial burden on the camp. However, church members at Manchester have often helped out with "campership" donations. If you'd like to help a child to experience Gander Brook through such a "campership", please see Mike Moser our treasurer.

*Attention men* The service schedule for July through September can be found on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

### Worship Leaders

#### 8:30

Songs.....Eric A.  
Closing Prayer.....Karl D.  
Scripture.....Jim C.  
Lord's Supper.....Stuart P.  
Coordinator.....Doug P.

#### 11:00

Songs.....Paul M.  
Closing Prayer.....Rich T.  
Scripture.....Gary D.  
Lord's Supper.....Pete S.  
Coordinator.....Pete S.

**PM Songs**.....Third Sunday

**Wed songs**.....Mark E.

### Prayer Concerns

**Health:** Doreen Lee, Duane Coss, Barry Fogal, Peggy Mailloux, Pete Steffensen, Penny Ranger, Manley Jones

**Leadership:** Ministers, Elders, Deacons

**Evangelism:** Bible studies in progress, our website, MNFM, food pantry, Give Away Day contacts

**Return to the Lord:** Brethren who have forsaken the assembly

# AM I GOOD ENOUGH?

An old story is told of three men who meet at the end of a dock on a Florida beach. One of the men is an alcoholic and homeless. The second is just an average guy. The third man is a fine, honorable man, well respected in the community. Suddenly, the alcoholic runs and jumps off the edge of the dock, landing five feet out into the water. The other two men standing on the dock yell, "What are you trying to do?"

The man in the water yells back, "I'm trying to jump across the Atlantic Ocean!"

The second man, the average Joe, says, "Watch me, I can do better than that!" He quickly runs across the dock, jumps and lands ten feet out into the water, twice as far as the alcoholic.

The third man, the outstanding man laughs and says, "That's nothing, watch this!" He backs up about fifty feet and makes a mad dash across the dock out into the water and lands twenty feet out, twice as far as average Joe, and four times as far as the homeless alcoholic.

If we were to actually see such an attempt we would think these three men were crazy for attempting to do the impossible – jump across the Atlantic Ocean! But people trying to earn their own

salvation are even more foolish. God can't be approached by man on the basis of man's own moral goodness. Sometimes people are heard to say, "I'm a good person. Won't God accept me and bring me to heaven?" This question shows a woeful lack of understanding of the grave nature of an individual's sin and the absolute holiness of God. If we were so good that we deserved heaven, salvation would be owed as a debt rather than something to be received as a gift of grace (cf. Romans 11:6).

A truth made absolutely clear in the Bible is this: "No, God will not accept me because I am not a good person." Isaiah wrote, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away" (Isaiah 64:6).

A person may look moral when compared with other people, but when compared with Christ, all people fall perilously short. This is why Paul states, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). No matter how moral any person might be, he or she has fallen short of the perfect mark of God's righteousness. This is why in the next verse Paul declares that we have been "justified

freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24).

There are a lot of people who do good things for others and demonstrate a level of morality. However, there is a big difference between morality and righteousness. Righteousness is defined and revealed by our "righteous Father" in heaven, or seen in His Son "Jesus Christ the righteous" (John 17:25; I John 2:1; Hebrews 4:15). To become righteous before God means that you are innocent or faultless in His sight. Such a person doesn't exist (cf. Romans 3:10). The only way anyone can stand in the presence of a righteous God is to be forgiven and declared righteous by faith in God's work in Christ (Philippians 3:9). We are only accepted "in the beloved" because we believe and trust in the righteous work that He did (Ephesians 1:6). When a person finally realizes this, he is on his way to realizing and receiving the free gift of God through Jesus Christ (Romans 6:23).

Howell Ferguson, Bells, Tennessee

***Our Congregational Calendar***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 Happy Birthday: Jerome Paul  <b>Body &amp; Soul workshop 1pm</b>	12 <b>Monday Night for the Master 6pm</b>	13	14	15 Happy Birthday: Warren Hazelton	16 Happy Birthday: Cade Dumas	17 <b>Gander Brook Week 3</b>
18	19	20 Happy Birthday: Logan Hazelton	21 Happy Birth- day: Veronica Caron	22 Happy Birthday: Becky Moser	23 Happy Birthday: Pete Steffensen	24 <b>Gander Brook Week 4</b> Happy Anniversary: Rick & Karen Dugre

*Stats*

*Sunday morning attendance.....No count*  
*Sunday morning contribution.....\$4131.01*  
*Weekly budget.....\$3710.00*

*Thought Food –*

All the water in the world however hard it tried,  
 Could never sink a ship unless it got inside.  
 All the hardships of this world might wear you pretty  
 thin,  
 But they won't hurt you one least bit unless you let  
 them in.

*Teen Stuff*

- July 15<sup>th</sup>... We are going to help the Dlutowski's load their u-haul truck. Please meet at their home at 138 Ward Street, Manchester shortly after 12 noon.
- July 15<sup>th</sup>... *Fisher Cats baseball game...* Meet at the building at 5pm.

The church of Christ  
 66 Mammoth Rd.  
 Manchester NH 03109