THE MANCHESTER CHURCH OF CHRIST "WE ARE HERE & WE CARE" JUNE 22, 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 Work & Worship Week	23	24 Happy Birthday Jon Lamarine	25 Happy Anniversary Don & Chris Dion Happy Birthday Adam Dlutowski	26	27 Outreach & Service Meeting 6:00 @ Skerrys	28 Gander Brook Week I Elder/Deacon Meeting
29 Happy Birthday Jakob Owen 5th Sunday Contribution	30 Ladies Outing to Ogunquit	July I Happy Anniversary Gerry & Lynn Millette	2 Life Line Screening	3 Happy Anniversary Steve & Mary Roukey Happy Birthday Natalia Hombs	4 Happy Birthday America!	5 Gander Brook Week 2 Ladies Luncheon 11:30 Happy Birthday Karen Dugre
6 Happy Birthday Kathy Hamel Happy Anniversary Barry & Melanie Fogal	7 Monday Night for the Master	8 Happy Anniversary Bob & Carol Eskel	9	10	II Happy Birthday Jerome Paul	12 Gander Brook Week 3 Elder/Preacher meeting
13	14	15 Family Prayer Night 7:00	16 Happy Birthday Cade Dumas	17	18 Ladies Fun Night	l9 Gander Brook Week 4

TUESDAY-chill 7:00-8:00

at Jeff's!

stay tuned and

check the Facebook

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 29	WORSHIP LEADERS			
Gary Diaz	Songs			
Dave Skerry	Closing Prayer			
James Casella	Scripture			
Karl Davies	Lord's supper			
Rich Therrien	Worship Tech			
Ken Simon	Coordinator			
Gerry Millette	Call to Worship			
Steve Johnson	Songs pm			
June 25 Doug Paul	Wed Songs			
June 25 Mike Moser	Wed Devotional			

Statistics

Sunday morning attendance:
Sunday morning contribution:\$3134.00
Veekly budget\$3800.00
Pantry Served 4 Families this week.

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REMEMBER

"...there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." - Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh

Today, somewhere, somehow, the world will do its best to beat you down and make you question yourself. It does not want you looking in the mirror and seeing who you truly are. When we feel inadequate, fearful, worthless, or at the end of our ropes, the world knows we have a tendency to give up on ourselves and on God.

Here are ten truths God wants you to remember, even, or maybe especially, on the toughest days.

- 1. You can always pray.
- 2. It only takes faith the size of a mustard seed.
- 3. You are deeply loved, no matter what.
- 4. There is always enough grace.
- 5. You are never alone.
- 6. God is in charge...of everything.
- 7. Worship transforms worry.
- 8. It's not too late.
- 9. Taking one step starts you on your journey. 10. Jesus really is the answer.

My Jesus Resolution today is to remember. Sometimes when I am overwhelmed, it is hard to remember just how much I need to stop, breathe, and remember the basics. God understands that tough days are going to happen, so He arms us with the tools and truths that we need to keep standing by His side through the worst of what the world throws at us. Faith is the decision to remember that God can and God will even when I can't anymore.



NOTES FROM THE ELDERS:

Jesus was born in barn in a backwater town, had simple and hard working folks for his first followers, and shared his time with outcast, poor, and broken people. He didn't stick with the powerful elites of the church of the time, but soundly rejected them for rejecting the true heart of following God. We don't attend the church of Christ, we ARE His church (Romans 12:3-8). We don't need the church to have programs to reach out, we can embrace our identity in Christ and humbly try to live our lives as he did. Don't wait, just do it and God will be there to help. May you be blessed in your walk with Jesus this week!

page for upcoming activities!

The Manchester church of Christ

603.623.5559 mht church@comcast.net

Our Worship Services

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Sunday AM: 9:30 Bible Class: 11:00 Sunday PM: 6:00 (3rd Sunday congregational potluck @ noon) Small Groups: West Side: 5:30 at the Pauls' - Study of Acts. Merrimack: 5:30 - youth studies @ Concord: 5:30 at the Wilsons' Wednesday PM Devotional/Bible Classes: 7:00

Contact David Skerry with Benevolence/Pantry needs.



~Casandra Martin



We are so pleased that you have joined us for worship this morning. If you are visiting, we hope that you will feel warmly welcomed by our church family. Our prayer is that you may be encouraged and uplifted as we worship together. Please join us downstairs after worship for some coffee and fellowship, followed by bible classes for all ages.

Our Ministers:

Park Linscomb 540-0287 Jeff Smith 907-632-0171 **Our Elders:**

> Barry Fogal 487-2387 Larry Glass 887-1741 Gerry Millette 497-3105 Mike Moser 429-9487

Our Deacons:

Tony Casella- Finance Fred Hillhouse- Facilities **Doug Paul- Education** Stuart Peacock- Worship Pete Steffensen- Facilities David Skerry- Benevolence & Outreach

Elders' Link: June

Larry Glass 887-1741 larrycalling@yahoo.com Gerry Millette 497-3105 TaeKwonDoM@comcast.net

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

Our Family

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."~John 16:33



YOUNG ADULTS

If you are no longer "youth group" age and would like to enjoy Bible study and discussion with your peers, join us

in the annex conference room Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during class time. Mike Moser has volunteered to facilitate the class. Bring a friend! There is also a Facebook page for the group!

News & Important Dates:



- **June 22:** Work & worship week at Gander Brook
- June 27: Outreach & Service Meeting 6:00
- June 29: 5th Sunday Building Fund Collection
- July 2: Life Line Screening @ the building

New Directory- If you do not have a smart device or internet access, please sign up in the foyer for a printed directory. If you haven't had your picture taken, please see Susie ASAP.



Service Opportunity!

There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for mowing the church yard over the summer. If several sign up for just one week, everyone would only have to mow one time! Please consider pitching in to

help keep our grounds looking neat and well-kept! (and since we don't have any goats, we really need PEOPLE to sign up. Thanks!)

- ENCOURAGEMENT— Alan Chamberlain; Ansar Rana; Judy Diaz; Mark Brown & his daughter Emma; Jim Kenison; Linda Tetrault; for Jean Cadet to come to know the Lord; Marilyn Nolan
- NEEDS EMPLOYMENT—Jim Kenison, Yann Lecat, Candy Chase
- HEALING & COMFORT -- Pauline Paul; Deb Dlutowski: Gary Chase; Bob Neveux; Mary Jane; David Black; Angela Beard; Rita Jones; James McLaughlin-leg & back pain; Peggy Mailloux; Linda Tetrault; Nedra Kinyon (Leah Yancy's grandmother); Debrah Parsons; Sherman Keenan (Susie's uncle).
- CANCER TREATMENTS-- Gary Cottrell; Curtis Winstead, Gina Jonston, Lynn Millette, Algie Beard, Dave Seguin, David Lovering, John Matthew-experimental chemo; Barbara Ann (Margery's cousin), Truman Gist.
- OUTREACH-- FriendSpeak, GAD contacts, Bible studies in progress, food pantry.

*If you have updates to prayer requests, please call the office or let Susie know.

FOR THE LADIES

June Service Project: "Granite State Children's Alliance Center"

June 20—Fun Night "Africa" theme 6:00 June 30—Field trip to Ogunquit Beach July 5—Luncheon 11:30 "All American" theme July 18—Fun Night "Night in the Tropics"

6:00



I love books; I always have. There's something almost magical about opening the cover of a book and looking inside for an escape from the ordinary or sit at the feet of people with something interesting to say. My day-off frequently includes a stop by Barnes and Nobles to scan the latest offerings in some of my favorite reading categories: action adventure, history (especially ancient and early American history), sociology, occasionally politics, and of course religion. Occasionally, I buy one.

When I buy fiction, I usually read through at a leisurely pace—occasionally having to go back and pick up the thread of the plot again, if I've been too leisurely. It's a story, a diversion, I can take it lightly, and I'm supposed to suspend my skeptical critique.

If its a non-fiction book, on the other hand, it's a different story. I'll often read it with a pen or pencil in hand, so that I can underline, comment, expand, apply, criticize, and basically have a conversation with the author in the margins of the book. Non-fiction books that I buy will never be resold as "practically new".

Why would I apply such a different approach to nonfiction books? Because while many things in a book may be true, not everything printed in a book written by a man is necessarily true. Tragically, sometimes folks read non-fiction as it were fiction—leisurely, gullibly, and uncritically. But everything making a claim to be true—men or the written words of men-must be challenged, critiqued, and compared with THE Book, the ultimate truth, the Bible. The inspired apostle John warned the early church (1 John 4:1), "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." And on the other hand, Jesus commended the Ephesian church (Revelation 2:2), "'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false." Those claiming to be prophets or apostles —some of them even had books that they wanted to call Gospels—needed to be tested against God's word, the Bible; and in many cases, they were found wanting.

You see, while books of men may be useful, they are still being written by men, who are fallible, sometimes agendadriven, sometimes well-meaning-but-lacking-enoughinformation, sometimes less-than-thorough-in-thought, and sometimes willing to simply tell us what we *want* to hear. They may be inspiring, but in the end they aren't inspired.

Books and THE Book



They may promise great insights and solutions for our personal lives, our spiritual lives, or even church growth; but men's wisdom will always pale in comparison to God's. Some authors will have an "alphabet soup" of letters behind their names from prestigious universities, but the three letters that matter the most—that none of them will have—are G O D.

And by the way, yes, I'm well aware that the Bible was physically written by men; but the crucial difference between books and THE book was and remains the Bible's Godbreathed inspiration. As Peter discussed the subject of true versus false prophets, he said this, (2 Peter 1:20, 21) "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."

And that God-breathed inspiration makes all the difference. Paul wrote by the Lord's inspiration, (1 Corinthians 1:18-20) "For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.' Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?" And you could read right on through chapter two for even more *inspired* wisdom about the *so-called* wisdom of the world. Put succinctly, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).

Thus, commentaries, theologies, devotional books, web sites, class lesson books, paraphrases, Christian novels, church growth literature, periodicals, preachers, etc.—even this bulletin article—are men's works which must be crosschecked (and "cross" checked, if I may be allowed a pun,) with the inspired word of God, and to be believed only after a healthy application of skepticism. Because truth matters (Prov. 23:23); accurate handling the word of truth matters (2 Tim. 2:15), teachings and doctrines matter (Gal. 1:8,9); and what we think and believe matters (Eph. 4:4-6). And sometimes men's works are off.

Am I advocating some sort of book-rejecting ignoramusism? No, not at all. Come into my office, see my own library of books, and ask that question again. I *am* encouraging readers of serious books that they cannot afford to swallow what they read "hook, line, and sinker", no matter how riveting, how inspirational, how academic, or how wellresearched the author's writings may seem to be. What I *am* advocating is that we must be thoughtful readers, crosschecking with Scripture, and "spitting out bones" as necessary. I want to urge that when we read, we *need* to pick-up on warning signs (e.g., no mention of Scripture, or the regular use of "I feel" and "I think"). And I am *fervently* advocating that we need to be strong students of the one book that is *always* true, the Bible.

Park Linscomb