

THE BULLETIN

HOW TO HANDLE THE GOSPEL

Paul tells Timothy to be “handling aright the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). Wrestling the Scriptures is suicidal (2 Pet. 3:16). Since our world is so plagued by this fault, we will do well to review how to handle the Gospel properly.

BE NOT ASHAMED OF IT

Paul suffered hunger, beatings, imprisonment, stoning, probably even death. Why? He was not ashamed of the Gospel (Rom. 1:16). Those who become so worldly-wise and proud that they do not want to be identified with the Lord’s church are ashamed of the Gospel and thereby mishandle it.

DO NOT PERVERT IT

Some were doing this in the Galatian churches (Gal. 1:17). Man cannot be content with the only perfect message he will ever receive! But when we change it, it is no longer God’s good news; it is bad news.

OBEY IT

Christ will render vengeance on them that “obey not the Gospel” (2 Thess. 1:8). To pass from darkness to light, man must obey the Gospel plan of salvation. To “Walk in the light as He is in the light”, we must continue to obey the Gospel throughout our lives.

DEFEND IT

Some misguided people have been teaching that the Gospel does not need to be defended by its followers. It needs no defense, why not argue that it needs no offense? If it can defend itself, why can’t it also proclaim itself? Paul was in prison, because he defended the Gospel and he said he was ready to further defend it (Phil. 1:7,16). To fail to defend it is to mishandle it (Jude 3).

HOLD FAST TO IT

Our salvation depends upon loyalty to the Gospel in precept and practice (1 Cor. 15:1,2,58). Let us not drift away (Heb. 2:1-3) and make shipwreck of the faith (1 Tim. 1:19).

LIVE WORTHY OF IT

What a challenge this is, when the perfection of the Gospel is considered (Phil 1:27; Eph. 4:1). What do our neighbors and our fellow workers think of the church, because of our manner of speech and conduct?

PREACH IT

Salt is no good in the shaker. The Gospel must be shared, not shelved. “Woe is unto me, if I preach not the Gospel (1 Cor. 9:16).

Dub McClish
Granbury TX

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Minister:

Park Linscomb 540-0287

Our Elders:

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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: October

Gerry Millette 479-3105
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Mike Moser 429-9487
michaelmoser@comcast.net

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

Our Family News

"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.

If you're a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please don't hesitate to ask Park Linscomb our minister (the really tall guy) or any other church member.

VBS Excitement! Vacation Bible School isn't too far away now—August 11-13. We're studying the Wilderness Wandering of the Israelites! A sign will soon be up to advertise, props will be prepared on July 21 under Kass Dumas' direction, and lots of folks are getting involved. All we need now is KIDS to sign up. Not only do we want our own kids to show up, we'd like as many of community kids to show up as possible—your kids' friends, kids from your neighborhood, your nieces' or nephews' kids, etc. Some registration cards will be handed out starting today; please take a few and do your part to make this VBS the best ever!



Algie Beard—Diane tells us that the doctors have told Algie and Diane that there is no more that they can do for him. They are recommending hospice care at home with whatever medications will make him comfortable. Please pray for this family's strength in this hour of trial.

GANDER BROOK—Have you signed your kids up for Gander Brook this year? If expenses are a problem, don't hesitate to talk with Park, Rich, or Tony; some camperships are available. It's a

wonderful experience for your kids to not only make new friends, try new things, but fill themselves up spiritually. Gander Brook is one of the best things going for our youth every year.

Fall Retreats

One great way to grow in faith and fellowship is the annual Gander Brook retreat season beginning late summer and going through early fall. Here's a list for your calendar...



Manchester's Congregational Retreat is August 22-24. See Stuart Peacock or Dick Potter to "register".

The Gander Brook Labor Day Christian Encampment is Labor Day weekend from Friday through Monday. You can contact Leo Woodman (leo.woodman@gmail.com) for more info or to register.

The Manchester Teen Retreat is September 5-7 at Gander Brook. More details will follow soon.

The Gander Brook Women's Retreat is September 11-13. Info is online at ganderbrook.org

The Gander Brook Men's Retreat will be 18-20 and will feature Howard Norton as speaker! Info is online at ganderbrook.org

Ladies Fun Night in the Tropics—July 18. See Wendy Lecat for details.

Have you visited our church website recently? It carries a lot of the most

recent news updates for our church family, and the minister's podium has a lot of new and informative material that you or your friends might find useful.

Family Prayer Night will be July 15th at 7pm. Great things can happen when the church prays together, Acts 4:31. And speaking of prayer...

Prayer List:

Evangelism: VBS, Bible studies in progress, our website, MNFM, food pantry, Brethren who have forsaken the assembly

Our college students

Health: Barry Fogal, Peggy Mailloux, Pete Steffensen, Penny Ranger, Manley Jones, Zach Roehl (Harding), Deb Dlutowski, Gary Chase Jr., Debrah Parsons, Don Carty, Gary Cottrell, Curtis Winstead, Jean Cadet, Algie & Angela Beard, Lynn Millette, Dana Greenlay, Mary Jane, Dave Sequin, Barbara Ann, David Lovering

Struggles: Mark Brown & Emma, Linda Tetrault, Jim Kenison.

Leadership: Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Teachers, Parents



Our Statistics for the week from July 6-12, 2014

Sunday morning worship	116
Wednesday evening Bible classes	c.80
Contribution	\$2300.75
Budget	\$3800

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.

SUMMER TIME DANGERS

Summer is a wonderful time of the year. Full of recreation, yard and garden work, vacations, camping trips, beach trips, and other precious opportunities to "get away from it all". But in the midst of this summertime bliss are dangers. No, I'm not talking about sunburn, snakes, or Lyme Disease. I'm speaking of hazards of a spiritual nature, often going unrecognized, which makes them even more dangerous.

The temptation to forsake the assembly

When the weather is so nice, and the week (or even the winter) has been so long, it becomes easy to make excuses for ourselves about church attendance. Many of our denominational neighbors have long ago conceded to this tendency and typically call off services for parts of or all of the summer. *But it must not be so among God's people.* Hebrews 10:25 commands us to not forsake the assembling of ourselves together. Does God take vacation? Is there a season, when you don't need to glorify Him? Is there a week or two in your life, when you don't need Christian encouragement to live for Christ? Is there a season, when your Christian family doesn't need your encouragement? In case you were wondering, the answer to all these questions is "No!" My place, your place, and every Christian's place on the Lord's Day is with the Lord's people—here or elsewhere; don't abandon church services for even a single week.

The temptation to undress too much

Immodesty has become, in modern times a litmus test for sophistication and "high" fashion. Failure to show enough skin, enough cleavage, or enough contours is usually taken for proof that one is out of step and probably has Victorian morals (gasp!). *But it must not be so among God's people.*

Immodest dress is biblically condemned not only in specific prohibitions against sensuality, but also in the clearly implicit principles of the Bible's

stories. The first thing, for example, that Adam and Eve realized after eating the forbidden fruit was their nakedness, which they immediately attempted to correct with the first thing at hand, fig leaves (Gen 3:7). Immodest dress, among other things, violates the first principle of conscience.

This is not even to speak of the problem of being a stumbling block to someone else. And please don't even attempt to use the old "that's not my problem" rationalization. While none of us can control what others think, we all, with only a little common sense, know how to dress so as to stay cool (temperature-wise) and minimize lust. Jesus said (Matt. 18:6) that if we cause someone to stumble, it would have been better for us to have a heavy stone tied to us and be drowned. Now, while this principle applies to a broad range of things, immodest dress is certainly one of them. These are serious words for a serious problem.

The temptation to "repurpose" what we purposed

Being gone from our usual congregation and having heavy vacation expenses, etc. we can be tempted to "repurpose" our usual contribution to the Lord's work to other things—vacations, entertainment, etc. *But it must not be so among God's people.* As we *purposed* in our hearts to give (2 Cor. 9:7), we made a promise to our God that we really should not renege on or "repurpose" for vacation fun.

No matter the season...

In Matthew 6:33 Jesus exhorts us to "seek first the kingdom of God". Let us commit ourselves to putting the Lord upon the throne of our hearts on Sunday, in our wardrobes, and in our pocketbooks, no matter the season.

Park Linscomb

Our Congregational Calendar for July 13 through 26

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am PM Small groups	14	15 Family prayer night at 7pm	16 Bible class 7PM	17	18 Ladies' Fun Night in the Tropics	19 GB end of 3 rd week and start of 4 th week
20 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am Fellowship luncheon	21	22 Teen "Chill"	23 Bible class 7PM	24	25	26 GB end of 4 th week and start of 5 th week

VBS set building



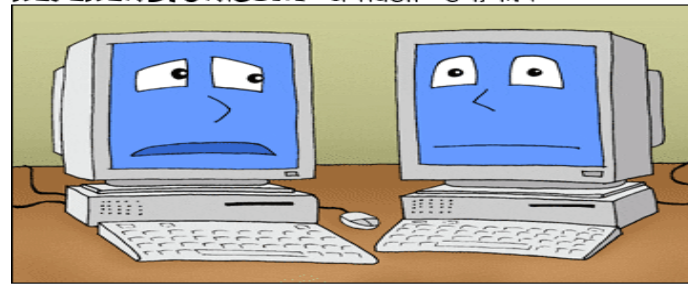
First of all —
GANDER BROOK.
Need we say more?
Are you signed up to
go yet? If not, you can
register online or call
camp at 207-998-4369. Do it NOW!

Second, You need to be planning
on being at the teen retreat at Gander
Brook the weekend after Labor Day,
Sept. 5-7. It's our traditional kick-off
of the youth program year: incorporating
new kids, growing closer to each
other, getting closer to the Lord,
setting the theme and direction of the
group for the following year, and—
well— just having a great time. Tell
you parents now; make plans to come.

Lastly, Jeff is gone this week, so
there'll be no "Chill", but it resumes
on July 22. Don't miss it; it'll be Jeff's
last one before he returns to school.

SERVICE	SUNDAY, JULY 13	WEDNESDAY, JULY 16
<i>Call to worship</i>	Gerry Millette	
<i>Songleading</i>	Doug Paul	Stewart Peacock
<i>Scripture reading</i>	Jonah Peacock	
<i>Communion</i>	John Osceola	
<i>Devo thought</i>		Park Linscomb
<i>Closing prayer</i>	Mike Moser	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Ken Simon	

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Thanks to Kerry Hodgkinson
OH MY NO ... HUMANS DIDN'T INVENT US AT
ALL ... WE EVOLVED FROM PLASTIC, WIRES,
AND LITTLE MICRO THINGERS

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