
THE BULLETIN

THE PARADOX OF OUR TIME IN HISTORY

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways. but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.

We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgement; more experts, but more problems; more medicine. but less wellness.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.

We talk to much, love too seldom, and hate too often.. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years.

We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.

We've conquered outer space, but not inner space;

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudices.

We have higher incomes, but lower morals; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

There are times of tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.

These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. These are the days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes.

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom.

Author unknown

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Minister:

Park Linscomb 540-0287

Our Elders:

Barry Fogal 487-2387

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

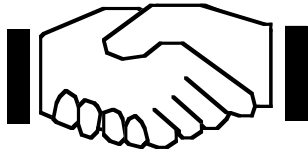
A Little Thoughtful Humor

- Two college students were talking:
Bob: "John, you look all broken up. What's the matter?"
John: "I wrote home for money for a study lamp."
Bob: "So, what's the problem?"
John: "They sent the lamp."
- A husband and wife drove a long way in silence following a terrible argument in which neither would budge. The husband eventually pointed to a mule in a field and ask, "Relative of yours?"
"Yes," she replied, "by marriage."

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.



Our

sermon this morning will be offered by Barry Fogal, one of our elders. Park is away on Gander Brook business and family obligations.

Mark Brown's father had a stroke last weekend. Many of you have asked about his condition. He is improving and has spoken briefly with his family. Mark and family are thrilled and grateful to God and all those who offered prayers on their behalf.

Mark Casella has been selected by the shepherds as a candidate to be the next Youth and Family minister for the church here in Manchester. Mark stated that if you would like to contact him directly with any questions or concerns or would just like to say hi, his email address is mcasella@harding.edu.

Monday Night for the Master, Our monthly

evening of service together was cancelled last Monday, due to the snow storm. It was rescheduled for tomorrow. It is starting at 6pm with a meal and then a variety of projects that range from cards, to visits, to maintenance projects, to benevolent work, to prayer hour. And the real bonus is that we get a chance to do it together! If you haven't come before, treat yourself to this wonderful evening of food, service, and fellowship.



Next Leadership Training:

February 21. A special series of monthly classes learn more about leading

in the worship. Our focus will be leading public prayer this month. We'll start at 10am and go to 12pm each time—donuts provided. Older brother, invite a younger brother to come with you!

Looking down the road, mark your calendars...

- March 7-14, Harding Spring Break Mission Team
- March 13,14—the New England Church Growth Conference



in Manchester CT. (see poster in foyer for details).

- March 27, the church here hosts Lifeline Screening
- April 24-26, the Manchester Youth Rally (ours)
- May 1-3, the New England Lectures in Taunton MA
- June 28-July 4, Gander Brook Work and Worship Week

Prayer List:

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

The Harding Spring Break Team, coming in March

Health: Anthony Davis, Natalie Cleavitt, Louise Linscomb, Peggy Mailloux, Curtis Winstead, Jean Cadet, Lynn Millette, Mary Jane, Dave Seguin, Barbara Ann, David Lovering, Gary Chase Jr., Linda Tetrault, Jim Kenison, Brian Day, John Matthew, Jamie Hazelton

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

Leadership: Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Teachers, Parents

Our Statistics for the week from February 1-7, 2015

Sunday morning worship	120
Wednesday evening Bible classes	c.65
Contribution	\$4626.50
Budget	\$2300

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.

THE WILL TO DISCIPLINE

It's not easy being a parent. Parents certainly want the best for their children: the best education they can get, the best in nutrition, the best in self-confidence, the best opportunities, nice clothes, etc. And we spend lots of time trying to provide them with the best in these material advantages. We labor hard at work, at school, at extra activities to provide them with these things—so hard sometimes that we overlook one of the most precious and (believe it or not) sought after gifts to our children, discipline. It is such a big mistake, when we fail to discipline, because we truly withhold something precious and important, a vacuum that will be felt for a lifetime. As a result of a lack of discipline in our current culture, we may well have the best educated rebels and nicest looking narcissists the world has ever known.

So why don't we discipline? Most of the time it boils down to a matter of the will which has been significantly weakened in modern times. Let's take a look at why parents have so often failed in this most important parental issue of discipline.

- **Nobody wants to be the villain.** The fact is that if you discipline your children you will, at least for a few minutes, be the villain, the bad guy. Two things must be realized about this, however: (1) When done correctly, you are a villain for only a brief period of time. And when your children have grown, you will become a true hero to your child. (2) When parents are "on the same page" about discipline, are "backing each other up" on discipline, the disciplined child has no one with which to play the good guy/bad guy game and must face his/her actions and consequences squarely—and learn.
- **It's a lot of work and takes concentration.** It's true, and furthermore, kids tend to have more energy and concentration than parents—what else have they got to do except concentrate on getting

their way? Listen, nobody ever said that parenthood was going to be easy, but the interesting thing is that if you heavily "invest" in the discipline of your children early in their lives, it will take much less (notice I didn't say "zero") work and concentration later. Just do what it takes, you'll be glad you did later.

- **He/She is so cute.** Just about every parent believes their son or daughter is the cutest thing to hit the planet, right? But don't let their cuteness keep you from discipline. Cute or not, some things must be stopped, and parents must realize what a terrible mixed message a poor child gets, when running up and down the aisle was cute in church but get punishment at school. (And there are many more examples that could be given.)
- **I don't know how to do it right.** Many parents have been made afraid by the "Spockites" who have labeled spanking as abuse and discipline as parental oppression. Nonsense! Spanking and "no", when accompanied by love and instruction, are not only legitimate but very effective in the life of a child. If you need instruction, ask older parents, whose kids turned out well.
- **It hurts me!** It's really true, isn't it? But it'll hurt even more, if your teenage child is lacking that most important of virtues, self-discipline, because you didn't exercise discipline at 1-12. Ask any parent who's had to bail a child out of jail, take them to a de-tox clinic, or identify them at the morgue.

There could be more reasons for fooling yourself about child discipline, but don't buy them! Parents must find and exercise the will to discipline their children. It is their sacred duty as parents.

Park Linscomb

Our Congregational Calendar for February 8-21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am	9 MNFM rescheduled to tonight, 6PM	10	11 Bible class 7PM	12 Mike Girling BD	13 Steve Johnson BD	14 Valentine's Day Teen devo at the Linscomb home, 6:00pm
15 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am	16	17	18 Bible class 7PM Jason Therrien BD	19	20	21 Leadership Training 10am to noon

Bible Reading Schedule for this Week			SERVICE	SUNDAY, FEB 8	WEDNESDAY, FEB 11
Sunday	Feb 8	Genesis 49-50	<i>Call to worship</i>	Barry Fogal	
Monday	Feb 9	Exodus 1	<i>Songleading</i>	Gary Diaz	Steve Johnson
Tuesday	Feb 10	Exodus 2,3	<i>Scripture reading</i>	Jonah Peacock	
Wednesday	Feb 11	Matthew 14	<i>Communion</i>	Fred Hillhouse	
Thursday	Feb 12	Exodus 4,5	<i>Devo thought</i>		Barry Fogal
Friday	Feb 13	Exodus 6	<i>Closing prayer</i>	Steve Johnson	
Saturday	Feb 14	Exodus 7,8	<i>Coordinator</i>	Rich Therrien	
			<i>Tech</i>	George Abood	



Our next gathering will be at the Linscomb home, Feb. 14, a Saturday, at 6PM It will be a devo; don't miss it.

The Conway church of Christ is announcing its annual youth rally, to be held February 27 through March 1. Their speaker will be Tibor Siklosi and Jake Keefer from Ohio Valley University will lead singing. A singing group from Boston, "Revive", will also be there. Their theme is "First Ascent" The cost will be \$28 for teens/\$12 for chaperones—and we will need chaperones. Wanna go? Contact Terri Apgar or Susie Peacock.

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