

THE BULLETIN

FACTS EVERY PERSON NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT JESUS

Jesus made us—He is Creator. John wrote, (John 1:1-3) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being." Then John identifies the Word as Jesus (John 1:14). Imagine! The Being who created the whole universe came to earth in the form of man! Yet, that's exactly who He is, and what happened.

Jesus died and rose again for us—He is Savior. Jesus did not come just to make the world a better place or to simply raise the standard of mankind's moral concepts. He came to save people from sin and the horrible punishment of Hell! (1 Timothy 1:15 and 1 John 4:14). He did it by taking our punishment on the cross and dying in our place. And He *proved* that we can be saved—that the cross was effective—by rising again from the dead on the third day! The only one who *can* save.

He has authority over us—He is King. After the resurrection, Jesus told His apostles, (Matthew 28:18-20) "And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'" He is the head of the church (Ephesians 1:22,23) and the One we *must* obey.

He will determine our destiny—He is Judge. Jesus said, (John 5:22) ""For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son." Paul added, 2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

article edited from
one written by Roger D. Campbell

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Elders:

Barry Fogal 487-2387
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Our Deacons:

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



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.

Chrissy Magnuson was baptized into Christ on March 22.

The angels in heaven were rejoicing. Please keep her in prayer, give her a hug when you see her at church, and drop her a card welcoming her into the Lord's church. Her phone is 857-719-3153.



Monday Night for the Master is tomorrow evening, April 6, at 6PM. Good food and good works!

The Menu for this Wednesday's dinner is *Turkey, dressing, potatoes, veggies, and dessert.*

Also, if you could help with planning and cooking one of these meal one week, it would be great! The Potters need an occasional break!

Next Leadership Training: April 11, 10am to noon. A good crowd of men came to yesterday's class to learn more about leading in the worship. Our focus for April will be devotional thoughts

and sermons. Donuts provided.

A Baby Shower for Leah Yancy will be held on May 2 at the church building. See Judy Diaz, Wendy LeCat, or Noreen Dutch for details. More information is on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Life-Line Screening Thanks to everyone who helped clear the auditorium of excess chairs, bring up tables, and collect fallen books, AND those who helped put the auditorium back together again on Thursday evening! The event seems to have been a success

Mark your calendars...

- April 6—MNFM
- April 10-12—the Conway ladies' day
- April 18, Concord NH church hosts an area-wide singing, 2pm-4pm, with dinner
- April 24-26, the Manchester Youth Rally (ours)
- May 1-3, the New England Lectures in Taunton MA
- May 16,17, "Dreaming with Your Eyes Opened"



Workshop at Kittery ME

- May 16, Ladies' Day at the Lakes Region church of Christ; speaker, Sharon Gardner; theme, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Prayer List:

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

Health: Anthony Davis, Natalie Cleavitt, Louise Linscomb, Peggy Mailoux, 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: Kathy Feuerhelm, Darlene Chamberlain, Mark Brown & Emma, Linda Tetrault, Jim Kenison.

Leadership: Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Teachers, Parents



Our Statistics for the week from March 29, 2015

Sunday morning worship	121
Wednesday evening Bible classes	c.70
Contribution	\$4381.01
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.

FOLLOWING JESUS INTO UNEXPECTED PLACES: A LOCKED UPPER ROOM

Jesus had been crucified. His body had been interred in a tomb close to the place called Calvary (also known as Golgotha). It had been a grief filled Passover in Jerusalem for the disciples and family that had gathered in Jerusalem. Just days before Jesus had been greeted with "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:9). But a different crowd had shouted down the efforts of a politically weak governor Pilate's efforts to release innocent Jesus. The sudden reversal of their situation had left those who loved Jesus in stunned and shocked mourning. But equally oppressive was the spiritual confusion—"But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened." (Luke 24:21). And then there was the guilt that some of his closest disciples carried for having abandoned Him and denying Him.

Three days had now passed, and bringing into this mixture of grief, spiritual confusion, and guilt was strange news. Some of the women in their group had gone at dawn to the tomb to finish the hasty embalming efforts made on the day of Jesus' death. They had returned from the tomb reporting that His tomb was empty and that they had seen an angel that said that Jesus had risen. Peter and John had literally run to the tomb themselves to investigate and came back scratching their heads about the mystery of the empty tomb. One woman, Mary Magdalene, later reported that she had seen the Lord. Most of Jesus' closest disciples gathered that evening in an upper room in Jerusalem behind a locked door to try to make sense of what had been reported. *His tomb was verifiably empty; there had been no mistake. Had the body been moved? And if so, by who? The Romans would have no interest in it, and the Jewish officials wouldn't have risked breaching the Roman seal on the tomb (punishable by death). And by the way, where were the guards? Yes, they knew that Jesus had spoken of rising from the dead, but weren't we all going to be raised at the judgment? And what of Mary Magdalene's claim that she saw the Lord? It was probably just a grief-generated case of mistaken identity made possible by teary eyes.* There was probably a lot of discussion, maybe some of it heated, none of it enlightened. And then to top it all off, there was a knock at the locked door. Were the religious officials here to snuff out the last of Jesus' inner circle? But it was Cleopas and his friend; let them in but lock the door behind them. And they came with more puzzling news: they had seen and talked with Jesus over an ex-

tended period of time. But skepticism and confusion was thick enough to cut with a knife in that upper room; one of the more vocal "realists" in the room probably argued, "C'mon, people don't just spontaneously rise from the dead."

And then—surprise. Jesus appears before them—in a locked room. Not like a ghost without any physical substance; but a flesh and blood Jesus you could touch, see, and hear. Oddly enough, the last person in the world that this skeptical room full of men expected to see (and touch) was Jesus.

It was an amazing journey for these men over the next 40 days. They'd previously given lip service to believing in the resurrection, but there was still a piece of them that hadn't yet believed enough in it to effect their thinking and living. So, they feared for their physical lives, abandoned the Lord, denied Jesus, hid in the shadows, and locked doors of the upper room. Then the resurrected Jesus appeared to them, the missing part of the equation; and they became committed, courageous, uncompromisable, convicted, vocal, and active disciples that turned the world upside down. The resurrection was the missing piece—the key truth they had "possessed" but never used—to make sense of everything and turn mice into men.

And it still happens. Yes, we know that this world and this life is not all there is; but consider how we often prioritize this physical life, things and experiences above spiritual realities. Consider how we sometimes lack the courage of our professed convictions in the face of worldly opposition. Consider how we so easily jettison church attendance for something fun or something "special" (are we saying that church isn't special?). Consider how we resist physical risks (aka "stepping out on faith") that we could or should be taking for the sake of the Kingdom. Somehow, the "realist" in us is still saying, "C'mon, people don't just spontaneously rise from the dead."

But the resurrection of Jesus has been verified, evidenced, and witnessed enough to enter the category of a fact. And being a fact, we can confidently believe that death is not the end, the sins of obedient believers are forgiven, Jesus is the Son of God, obedience matters, this physical world is not worthy of the attention and priority we usually give it, and we will all be resurrected on the Last Day—for some a resurrection to life but for others a resurrection to judgment (John 5:29).

Are you factoring the resurrection of Jesus into your life?

The resurrection was the missing piece—the key truth they had "possessed" but never used—to make sense of everything and turn mice into men.

Our Congregational Calendar for March 29 through April 11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am Easter Sunday	6 Monday Night for the Master	7	8 Bible class 7PM	9	10 Conway ladies' retreat-->	11 Men's Leadership Training 10am
12 Worship 9:30 Bible class 11am	13	14	15 Bible class 7PM	16	17	18 Singing in Concord

Bible Reading Schedule for this Week		
Sun	Apr 5	Leviticus 22
Mon	Apr 6	Matthew 28
Tue	Apr 7	Leviticus 23-24
Wed	Apr 8	Mark 1
Thu	Apr 9	Leviticus 25
Fri	Apr 10	Leviticus 26
Sat	Apr 11	Leviticus 27

SERVICE	SUNDAY, APRIL 5	WED., APRIL 8
<i>Call to worship</i>	Gerry Millette	
<i>Songleading</i>	Gary Diaz	Stuart Peacock
<i>Scripture reading</i>	Dave Skerry	
<i>Communion</i>	Rich Therrian	
<i>Devo thought</i>		Fred Hillhouse
<i>Closing prayer</i>	Steve Johnson	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Rich Therrian	
<i>Tech</i>	George Abood	



Have you thought about dropping an email, card, text or something to Mark Casella, our youth minister coming in June? His email is mcasella@harding.edu. His phone (text) is 603-380-6979. His Facebook Messenger address is [mark.casella.7](https://www.facebook.com/mark.casella.7)

Psalms 37:25 *"I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread."*

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