

THE BULLETIN

GOADS AND NAILS

“The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails--given by one Shepherd.” Ecclesiastes 12:11, NIV.

The Scripture is like a goad. Its words will prod you and poke you and cause you to feel uncomfortable until you obey them. They will make you go where you would not ordinarily go, and do what you would not ordinarily do. All of us who read and take the Scriptures seriously have felt this goad pricking at us and prodding us along



Skeptic David Hume was seen walking in the snow long before daybreak one frigid morning. He, along with many others, was making his way to a little chapel where George Whitefield was preaching. Someone who knew the skeptic said to him, “Mr. Hume, I didn’t know you believed in the Scriptures!” He responded, “I don’t, but that man in the chapel does, and I can’t stay away.” There is something about the words of Scripture that goad even the skeptic. He can’t silence the message because they are prodding at him, pushing at him, exploding silently in his mind.

Solomon doesn't stop with “goads”. He goes on to say that the words of Scripture are like “nails firmly fixed”. You can hang on to them and hold fast to them in times of danger. They will give your life stability, when the storm comes.



Once when I was deeply troubled, my mind turned again and again to words spoken by Jesus to His worried disciples in the fourteenth chapter of John, “Let not your heart be troubled.” I was gripped by those two words, “Let not...” They said to me that a troubled heart is subject to the will of a Christian. He can let his heart be troubled, or he can let it not be troubled. The ground

for letting it not be troubled is in the words that immediately follow: “You believe in God, believe also in Me.” When the realization struck me that Jesus was with me and had the wisdom and power to take care of that which was troubling me, I felt the load of my anxiety lifted. That is the power of Scripture.

Why does it have this unique power? The reason is that “the collected sayings...have been given by one Shepherd.” These are inspired, God-breathed words. Put them to the test in your own life.

Harry Gipson

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Ministers:

Park Linscomb 540-0287
Mark Casella (501) 388-1687

Our Elders:


Barry Fogal 487-2387
Gerry Millette 497-3105

Our Deacons:

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

Regularly Scheduled Services

Sunday worship: 9:30am
Sunday Bible class: 11:00am
Sunday evening: 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible class: 7:00pm


WE MUST BE CAREFUL THAT
WE DO NOT BECOME
BROAD-MINDED FROM
SHALLOW THINKING



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.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Our next fellowship luncheon will be a cook out and will be in honor of our high school graduates! Come enjoy the food, fellowship, and time of congratulation to our young people.

Gerry Millette read from the pulpit last Sunday morning Mike Moser's statement of resignation as one of our elders. If you've any questions, please see Barry or Gerry to see Mike's statement. We thank him for his service.

The Concord Days Booth, sponsored by the Concord church has unfortunately been cancelled. A big thank you to those who signed up to man the booth.

Darlene Chamberlain continues to recover from her broken leg at home. She encourages folks in the Concord area to come by anytime. Her employer is saving her job for her; she's very happy about that. She may need some financial help over the next couple of months.

Teachers workshop—On June 12th after Bible class we will have the first of a series teachers' workshops. Please plan on attending, if you currently teach or would like to teach. We will be talking



about how classes are going, what we would like to do, a vision for the future, getting a better rotation going so teachers can have a break, and also giving people a chance to teach classes! If you have any interest at all please come and help us help each other!

AREA EVENTS COMING SOON...

There will be a Harding Night at Fenway Park on Tuesday, May 24. Tickets are \$25 and includes a \$10 concession voucher. If you'd like to come, pay Mark today. This is open to all!

Work and Worship Week— June 27-July 1—a week of family camping, a great way to contribute to Gander Brook, and a great spiritual uplift each evening. This year's speaker is Arnie Holmes.

Gander Brook Regular Camping Season, July 2 through August 13. Registration can be done both online or by paper.

NEEDING HELP

- **GB Camperships**—It's that time of year again to help out our church youth who wish to attend Gander Brook this summer. Camper fees this year are \$365.
 - Checks for *any amount* can be written to the Manchester church of Christ (write GB campership in the memo), and they are tax deductible.
 - If you need help to send your child to camp this year you can contact Tony Casella

(mht_church_treasurer@comcast.net) for a campership. We would love to see every child who wants to go have an opportunity to go.

- **If you'd like to help rebuild Gander Brook's director's cabin**, the camp has a webpage where you can contribute online. Otherwise, checks can be given to Park who'll forward them to GB's treasurer.
- **Gander Brook is going to be building a new dorm soon**, and likewise needs donations toward that project. Again checks can be given to Park to forward to camp's treasurer.

WEDNESDAY DINNER: Chow Mein, salad, and dessert.

PRAYER CORNER:

Good Works: Bible studies in progress, our website, MNFM, food pantry, Penny Ranger's evangelistic efforts online

Health: Tom Jones, Cy Stafford, Deb Dlutowski, Marge Simon, Lynn Millette, Penny's niece Chelsea, Mary Jane Parker, Dave Seguin, Natalie Cleavitt, David Lovering, Linda Tetrault and her brother Bob, John Matthew and Anni

Struggles: Randy Stevens; Jim Kenison; and finally, brethren who have forsaken the assembly.

Leadership: Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Teachers, Parents



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.

A M O D E R N P A R A B L E

Last summer while at a youth camp in the Davis Mountains, a man was awakened one night by a scratching on his tent door. The moon was shining brightly as only a full moon can in the clear brisk atmosphere of those mountains. As the beams streamed through the open door, the man could see all too plainly that his visitor and the producer of the noises was a full grown skunk!

Lying within arm's reach was the man's sling shot and a handful of marbles that he had been using in target practice with his boys. It would have been a simple matter for him to have dispatched that skunk then and there. He possessed the skill, had the equipment, and was in plenty close range! But on second thought, the man lay very still. *Suppose, thought he, I do shoot his head half off, and kill him instantly. He will in the very act of dying ruin*

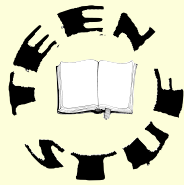
my clothing, my tent, my bed, and my books that I have been twenty-five years in getting together and, in addition, he will make me deathly sick.

So, it appeared to the man that he had all to gain and nothing to lose by just being quiet and still. In a few minutes Mr. Skunk walked slowly out of the tent and away, having done no harm at all.

And the man returned to his slumbers, peaceful, and happy that he had not created a "stink" by foolishly defending himself.

A most useful lesson had been brought by this lowly creature of the night. It is not always wise, even though you can, to try to answer every challenge, every dare that is thrown at you. It is the better part of wisdom to let some matters and some people completely alone.

Author unknown



*Today there is scheduled to be a teen cookout after class. The cost is 5 dollars to help cover the cost of food and drinks. PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT IN CASE WE CANCEL DUE TO WEATHER.

*June 11th is a Chill night at Mark and Ann's from 7-9.

* Teacher workshop is June 12th from 12-2ish. We will be talking about where our Bible classes have been, where we are currently at, our vision for the future, as well as ways to make it easier for our teachers and to get new teachers involved. There will be some form of lunch and we will have a short lesson for our teachers. Please plan on coming if you are currently a teacher, want to be a teacher,

or even have a slight interest in going. Please give Mark or Ann a heads up if you are coming so we can plan accordingly.

* Devo will be June 17th from 7:30-9:30. Place TBD

* Senior Sunday! Is June 19th. We will have a cookout after Bible Class. Please be looking for a sign up sheet for things to bring. Seniors... Please make every effort to be there that Sunday!

* Movie Night is June 25th from 7-9:30 at Mark and Ann's.

* Chuckster's Day! We are currently planning on going to Chuckster's on June 27th. We need to have 10 people go in order for us to get the rate we are looking at! We will be spending 3 hours there. You may bring friends as well. This is a 6th grade and up even

Bible Reading Schedule for this Week		
Sunday	May 22	Proverbs 14-15
Monday	May 23	2 Corinth 5
Tuesday	May 24	Proverbs 16-17
Wednesday	May 25	2 Corinth 6
Thursday	May 26	Proverbs 18-19
Friday	May 27	2 Corinth 7
Saturday	May 28	Proverbs 20-21

Service Schedule for May 22 and 25		
Call to Worship	Barry Fogal	
Song Leader	Doug Paul	Stuart Peacock
Scripture	David Skerry	
Lord's Supper	Gary Diaz	
Closing Prayer	Steve Johnson	
Worship Tech	George Abood	
Coordinator	Stuart Peacock	
Devo		Phil Gould

Our Congregational Calendar for May 22—June 4

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 Worship @ 9:30am Bible class @ 11am Bldg sm grp-- 6pm Karl D. BD	23	24 Cordaro anniv. Harding at Fenway	25 6pm dinner 7pm Bible study	26	27	28 Mandy H. BD
29 Worship @ 9:30am Bible class @ 11am Bldg sm grp-- 6pm	30 Faith H. BD	31 Julia Ogunsuyi BD	June 1 Jones anniv. 6pm dinner 7pm Bible study	June 2	June 3	June 4 Peacock anniv. Tony Casella BD