# THE BULLETIN

## A Good Name

'A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches....'
(Proverbs 22:1)

When I was a boy, my father rarely spanked, but he had a method of correction I feared far worse that a sore backside! He would set me down, quietly telling me what a disappointment I had been. The feeling of failing all the Fellmans since my great-grandfather took the ship from Sweden, was enough to set me straight. Later, as I headed off to college, my dad gave me a plaque with our family name inscribed at the top and these lines below:

You got it from your father, it was all he had to give. So, it's yours to use and cherish for as long as you may live, If you lose the watch he gave you, it can always be replaced. But a black mark on your name, son, can never be erased. It was clean the day you took it, and a worthy name to bear. When he got it from his father, there was no dishonor there.

So be sure to guard it wisely, after all is said and done; You'll be glad the name is spotless when you give it to your son.

Looking at that plaque as it hangs in my office, I'm reminded of the other names I've received from my heavenly Father: Christian, meaning 'Christ's One'. In humble thanks to Him for my earthly father's example, I hope always to bring honor and never shame to either of my names. A good name can be sold, but it cannot be bought.

Eric Fellman

# The Manchester church of Christ

66 Mammoth Rd. Manchester NH 03109 603.623.5559 mht\_church@comcast.net

#### mhtchurch.org

#### **Our Ministers:**

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

#### **Our Elders:**

Barry Fogal 487-2387 Gerry Millette 497-3105

#### **Our Deacons:**

Finance - Tony Casella Education - Doug Paul Building & Grounds - Will Hamel / Pete Steffensen Benevolence & Outreach - David Skerry

### **Regularly Scheduled Services**

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

Wednesday Bible class: 7:00pm

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If you live close to God and His infinite grace, you don't have to tell; it shows on your face



"So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." Galatians 6:10, 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?

**SEARCH FOR NEW ELDERS** 

The Elders announced last Sunday that they would like to search for additional elders to join them in shepherding the flock here. Park will preach a couple of lessons on the eldership. After this, the process for suggesting names will be formally opened. In the meantime, please be praying for spiritually sound, good and caring men to be added to the eldership.

**Today** after Bible classes there will



be an informational session and **SCHOOL** registration session for

World Bible School during lunch. Soup and chili will be provided. If you'd like to bring chips or sandwiches, too, they'd be welcome. Here's a great chance to be a missionary right from your own home.

Turkey Baskets will be assembled and distributed on Tuesday, Nov. 22. A sign-up sheet for what you can bring is in the foyer. If you know someone who needs a

basket, please let Dave Skerry or Kathy know.

Our Annual Christmas Party will be held on December 10, 5:30 -9:00pm at the Skerry home. This is a wonderful time for our church family to gather and enjoy one another's company. Don't miss

**New Bible Class on Angels**: Rich Therrien is leading a new adult study in the back left classroom on Sundays. It should be a "Rich" study.:)

#### JANITOR

Steve Jones is our new janitor. Thank you to Wendy, George, Cade & Pedro for your interest. If the opening comes again you will be first to be notified.

### HELP <u>NEEDED</u>

#### Snow Removal / Ground Care

A signup sheet is posted for Snow Removal (maybe you get lucky and it doesn't snow your week!!!) This building belongs to all and we need to tend to the exterior. Bring the kids to work as a family. It's a grand way to serve the Lord together.

### Wednesday Night Supper:

This is a grand opportunity for **you** to "step up to the plate" (pun intended) and serve the church. If you are willing to help please tell Kathy, Park or Mark or call the church office.

### **Lord's Supper To Shut Ins:**

Volunteers are needed beginning in December, now.

#### THANK You

- For our teachers who prepare their classes and share God's word with young and old weekly.
- For those who open their homes to our teens
- For the work being done around the office building (door, electrical work)

### ELECTRONIC LIBRARY

We have added media to the library. Please come use out assets. Recently added are CDs from ladies' retreat and Dr. Joe's lessons.

#### OTHER NOTES

- NO Fellowship Lunch on Nov. 20; we'll be organizing for World Bible School instead you're coming, right?
- NO Wed Night Supper on Nov
- There is a wedding invitation from Sarah Bell in the foyer.

#### PRAYER

**New Prayer Concerns:** for the selection of additional elders for the congregation for the several families in the congregation who'll be traveling over the Thanksgiving holidays, for Thom and Deb Forestburg (Thom may be facing a foot amputation), for the success of World Bible School teachers in our congregation.

**ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS** are on the back page of the Worship

"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 ORGANIZATION OF THE LORD'S CHURCH

It shouldn't surprise the Bible student that the Lord has given a pattern for the church. In the construction of both the Tabernacle in the wilderness (Exodus 25-31) and the Temple in Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 28:11,12,19) patterns were given by God. And so also, for the New Testament Temple (the church, Ephesians 2:20-22 & 1 Corinthians 3:16) a pattern has been given:

- for entrance (e.g., Romans 6;17 & Acts 2:47),
- for worship (e.g., 1 Corinthians 14:1-33),
- for mission (e.g., Mark 16:15,16),
- for holiness (e.g., 1 Peter 1:15,16),
- for unity (e.g., Ephesians 4:1-6 & 1 Corinthians 3:16,17), and
- for organization (e.g., Ephesians 4:7-16).

Part of that pattern of organization includes the establishment of elders (e.g., Titus 1:5 & Acts 14:22-23).

Some churches follow the Biblical pattern for church organization, others don't. We might categorize how men organize churches in four different ways.

Scripturally organized—As Paul sat in prison for his faith, he was determined that his mission of planting and nurturing churches not be stopped, he wrote instructions for both Timothy and Titus about how to encourage and organize new gatherings of disciples into functional churches. These instructions included the appointment of elders and deacons as part of a pattern of church organization. Churches that follow this pattern are Scripturally organized flocks of believers in Jesus, and this is the Lord's desire for us.

Scripturally <u>un</u>organized—Of course, New Testament churches don't start full grown and mature. As Paul went through southern Turkey and established churches, they were, for a while, without elders and deacons. As Paul doubled back on his mission route and returned to these new churches, he established elders in every city (Acts 14:22,23). He was able to do this, because he went first to the local synagogue and was able to convert already Biblically educated, morally upright, and spiritually practiced Jewish men to fill that position. Not every

group of believers has that advantage in our age; many smaller churches are without qualified elders for many years. Such churches remain Scripturally unorganized led by the men of the church, often by traditional customs like business meetings. It is not ideal, in the same way that we want our children to mature and grow up, but it remains within the pattern of the New Testament.

<u>Un</u>scripturally organized—There are those who have chosen to organize their churches by worldly wisdom. One of the more popular unscriptural organizations is pyramids—pyramids of bishops overseeing thousands of congregations with a human at the top overseeing them all. These pyramids come in a variety of "flavors", the most famous being centered in Rome. Other unscriptural organization would include women in leadership positions and "open fellowship" in which those who have not become Christians are encouraged to take leadership positions. Such organizations ("churches"?) have clearly added to and departed from the Biblical pattern—unscripturally organized.

<u>Un</u>scripturally <u>un</u>organized—Finally, there are churches who give lip service to following the Biblical pattern; but who deliberately neglect the appointment of elders and deacons, when there are qualified men willing to serve. The motivations for this neglect are various; but the end result is an unscripturally unorganized church, a stunted body of Christ, and one disobedient to the will of God. If the church has men who are both qualified and willing to shepherd God's flock, they should be appointed and followed (see the above scriptures).

God has indeed given us a plan for His New Testament Temple, the church. Let us, as faithful disciples, humbly submit to His will and wisdom, and let us organize His church His way.

Park Linscomb



- Calendars for November and December can be found in the foyer.
- Teens are at the youth rally today. We plan on being back by 3pm. Look for a text or call from your child when we leave.
- Teen Bible Class today will be with Rich in the Jr. High Class Room
- Devo on December 3rd from 7-9 at Mark and Ann's house.
- Be on the look out for the giving tree. Help other people in the congregation. Grab an item from the tree and return in by December 11th.

## Food for Thought...

In today's society there are a lot of people who are astonished by the number of teenagers who don't have good relationships with their parents. A parental-child relationship is something that needs to be worked on by both sides but here are some things that can be relationship ruiners.

- 1) Not Listening
- 2) Criticizing Excessively
- 3) Grilling them with questions.
- 4) Telling embarrassing stories or complain about them publicly.
- 5) Stereotyping their Behavior.
- 6) Fighting the wrong battles.
- 7) Expecting Instant compliance.
- 8) Maintaining Constant Suspicion.
- 9) Being stingy with your apologies.
- 10) Making them feel less important than your phone/car/friends/golf/work.

- 11) Nitpicking their appearance.
- 12) Comparing kids with each other.
- 13) Expecting prowess at sports, dance, music.

These are some things that a lot of parents and teenagers deal with. Which one of these stuck out to you? If you have a teenager, try to figure out which one of these you do too much to them. If your a teenager, which ones do you do to your parents? For relationships to work it is important for everyone involved to work at it. We need to support and build the family together instead of undermining each other.

Mark

How to Ruin Your Relationship with your Teenager: livepage.apple.com



## Thinking it over...

When was the last time you sat down and had personal time with God?

#### Family Bible Reading and Congregational Calendar for Nov 20- Nov 26 **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday** 21 - 2Hosea 5-8 22 - Rev. 2 23 - Hosea 9-11 24 - Rev. 3 25 - Hosea 20 - Rev. 1 26 - Rev. 4 12-14 9:30am Worship Casey Jones -6pm - Supper Ann Casella- BD Sam Spence -11am - Bible BD BD Class 6pm - Evening Ion Potter - BD Worship