

# THE BULLETIN

## Practical Suggestions on Prayer

### Pray Immediately Upon Rising

What better way can we begin a day than by thanking God for His protection and care during the night and by asking for His guidance during the coming day?

### Pray Before Every Meal

God has provided for our every need in such a bountiful manner. Surely, the least we can do is express our gratitude as we sit down to enjoy a meal! When we eat in restaurants, a few moments of silent prayer may serve for the audible prayer we pray around our tables at home.

### Pray At Set Times

The ancient Jews, and others, found it helpful to reserve certain periods of the day for prayer. We may find it helpful, too. Those regular times serve as reminders and help to keep the busy, on-rushing world from crowding out our periods of communion with God.

### Pray With the Whole Family

There is something particularly wonderful about a prayer in which both children and parents have a part.

### Pray When You Feel Discouraged

Most of us need little encouragement to pray when we feel discouraged or when we face some special problem. At such times, prayer comes unsought. It is a great comfort to know God listened to our prayers in times of crisis (1 Pet. 5:7). One of the greatest privileges of the Christian is the privilege of leaning upon the Lord in times of difficulty.

### Pray at Odd Times

Pray whenever you feel the desire. The real Christian will often find cause to pray - while driving his car, working at his desk, waiting for a friend, or doing a host of other things. When the desire to pray comes, pray. The prayer need not be long - perhaps only a sentence or two. It does not need to be spoken aloud, for God can hear 'silent' prayers, too.

### Pray When You Are Happy

It is easy to pray in times of crisis, and equally easy to forget to pray when the affairs of life are going well. Most Christians need to thank God for their happy, prosperous lives far more than they do.

'...men ought always to pray, and not to faint' Luke 18:1

Batsell Barrett Baxter

## The Manchester church of Christ

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Manchester NH 03109 603.623.5559  
[mht\\_church@comcast.net](mailto:mht_church@comcast.net)  
[mhtchurch.org](http://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

  
Evangelism is the secret of  
every growing church  


# Family News

“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

- **ELDER SEARCH:** The Elders want the names of any man you want to nominate as an additional elder, submitted in writing with your signature by Sunday, Jan. 8.

## THANK YOU

- Thank you to Freda, Rosemary and Kim for the delicious Wednesday night meal.
- Thank you to all who help clean the walks and stairs.
- Thank you to all who are helping maintain the carpet by not bringing food and drink into the auditorium.

## OTHER NEWS

- **Jan 15** at 2pm there is a baby shower for Ann Casella at Beth King's house - 3 Blevens Dr., Manchester.
- Please watch your children, the bathrooms are not a place to play.
- Today after Bible classes there will be an follow-up session for World Bible School during lunch.



**WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL**

Pizza will be provided. If you'd like to bring a dessert, that would be great.

### Help NEEDED

**Snow Removal / Ground Care NEEDED - NOW - A signup sheet is posted for Snow Removal.** Bring the kids to work as a family and serve the Lord together. To this point a few have come by to check and clear walks and steps. We need people signed up for every week to ensure that others can get into the building without incident. There are shovels, a snowblower, and ice melt in the shed here.

## 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. This is a fun opportunity to get to know each other better and make memories. **Jan 11** - Rich & Kathy are making scrambled eggs, sausage gravy & biscuits.

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the auditorium.

## Lord's Supper To Shut Ins:

Volunteers are needed, **now**. Please talk with Doug Paul about this.

## 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.

## PRAYER

### NEW PRAYER

**CONCERNS:** for the selection of additional elders, Hunter, the new grandson of the Neveux's, he's in the hospital not eating, Kas Dumas' grandmother (Vickie Chavanelrle) has a friend and family were in a bad accident in Gilford, Pete Steffensen, Will Hamel, and the Silva, Eskel & Therrien families.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS are on the back page of the Worship Insert.



# *A Word of Encouragement*

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“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.

## READY, AIM, FIRE!

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Being the beginning of the year, we often think a lot about what the future holds and what we'd like to do with it. You may have several things in mind for your 2017 that have to do with career, family, education, experiences, or general improvements. But one of the aspect of your life that I hope you're thinking about is your spiritual life. The next few paragraphs can probably apply to many a goal, but I'd like to make special application to the improvement of our spiritual lives and serving the Lord's church—the most important goals of growth and improvement you'll ever address.

### **Ready**

Before anyone will really make any changes in their lives or launch out in special service to the church, they'll need to feel the need for the changes. The joke goes “How many psychologists does it take to change a light bulb?”; the answer: “Only one, but the light bulb has to want to change.” Trying to change our spiritual lives, when we really don't want to or feel like we need to (maybe because we merely feel like we should) will almost always be an impossible task. Taking on a task we aren't excited about seldom if ever succeeds. How do we do get motivated? One of the more effective ways is to do a serious inventory of ourselves as compared with Scripture. The more we read the Bible—its commands, its warnings, its examples of consequences of sin, its revelation of the blessings of obedience, the desperate need of lost souls—the more we'll be motivated to change. Get motivated.

### **Aim**

While we'd all like to be a spiritual giant overnight, it's just too overwhelming a task to take on all our spiritual deficiencies at once. Spiritual growth is almost always a process taking practice, effort, and therefore time. And we'd like to change the whole world overnight, but it's not likely. So, take aim at few things at a time that are manageable—a handful of specific things that you can concentrate on. I say specific, because simply saying, “I want to be stronger spiritually,” is not really aiming. To use a gun illustration, if you desire to hit a bullseye, you must

take careful aim. As they say, when you aim at nothing, you hit nothing every time. Aim specifically.

### **Equip**

Once you've got your motivation and your aim, you also will start to realize what sort of equipment you might need to hit your target. Is it knowledge? Is it a mentor to give a good example and help? Are there skills that you need to master? Is it practice? Do you need to chat with someone who is accomplishing something that you aspire to, in order to find out how to equip yourself? Prayer is always an essential piece of the equipment that accomplishes the goal; success comes with God's blessing. Equip yourself.

### **Plan**

Plans are often a critical part of the equipment needed. Getting to where you want to be spiritually is almost never easy, and plans will vary from person to person depending on where you're starting from. There are often smaller goals to be reached before the larger goal is obtained. Good plans will often have deadlines for those small goals. But good plans also must be flexible. Life often throws us curve balls, obstacles, and unexpected complications; and flexibility allows the serious disciple to not give up on his or her spiritual growth plan, because things didn't work out they way they imagined it. So plan.

### **Recruit**

Spiritual goals often require the help of others: mentors, examples, encouragers, prayers, and sometimes accountability helpers. Some spiritual goals are accomplished with groups of people (e.g., evangelistic goals), so find the people who'll agree to help you with what you aspire to do for your spiritual growth, or the larger Kingdom of God.

### **Fire**

No spiritual growth, no spiritual goal, can be accomplished by mere dreaming, talking, aiming, planning, equipping, or recruiting. We must pull the trigger. Fire!!!

Make this year one of accomplishment for yourself and the Kingdom. Ready. Aim. Equip. Plan. Recruit. Fire

Park Linscomb



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendars for February can be found in the foyer.

- January 14th from 7-8:30pm is Family Movie night at the church building.
- January 15h is our teen lunch day with a commercial shoot. Please bring 5 dollars for pizza! We will shoot at least one commercial and end by 3pm.
- Sunday Night Children's class will resume on January 8th.
- Teen Game Night will be on January 20th from 7-9. Bring a snack or a game to play.
- Chill will be Tuesday the 24th from 7-8 at Mark and Ann's. Come and chill. Thats all you have to do

## Food for Thought...

This section has a lot of space... The space allows me to fill it up with words and allows people to spend time reading. Imagine if I just left it blank

It would be a waste of space and time for you. Think about the time we have to share God's word to our families, friends, neighbors, and other people? If we don't use our time to speak of God isn't it a waste? What can we be doing to spread the story of Christ through our daily lives? - Mark

### *Thought Provoking Question*

**How are you using your time to get closer to God?**

There are pamphlets in the foyer, '***A Daily Walk with God***,' that you can take and keep in your Bible for reading through in 1 year.

### **Family Bible Reading and Congregational Calendar for Jan 8 - Jan 14**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>8- Matt. 8</b> 9:30am Worship 11am - Bible Class 6pm - Evening Worship	<b>9 - Gen. 13-15</b>	<b>10 - Matt. 5</b>	<b>11- Gen. 16-17</b>  6pm - Wednesday supper 7pm - Bible Class Sam & Nicole Spence - Annv Aiden Plybon - BD	<b>12 - Gen. 18</b>  Barbra Steffensen - BD Penny Ranger - BD	<b>13 - Gen. 19</b>	<b>14 - Matt. 6</b>