

BULLETIN

Except Ye Become as Children



'Except you become as children
Ye can no wise enter Heaven.'
This is the voice of the Master
Speaking to us today
As we hear the children singing,
Lifting the ancient carols
In praise to the infant Jesus,
Born on a bed of hay.
Something there is that is Holy
In the clear sweet voice of children;
Something there is of Jesus'
Own star in their lifted eyes,
And we who are worn and weary
Watching and harkening to them
Are suddenly lifted skyward,
So taken by surprise
That we once more are children,
Glad as they, and as wise.

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

Our Deacons:

Benevolence - David Skerry
Building & Grounds - Will
Hamel / Peter Steffensen
Education - Doug Paul

Worship Time:

Sun. Worship - 9:30AM
Bible Class - 11:00AM
Sun. Evening - 6:00PM
Wed. Bible Class - 7:00PM



Dear Lord,

Help me or not worry about
anything. But to pray and ask you
for everything I need.

Amen



Family Events

"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 are a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister, the really tall guy, or any other church member.



• **Jan. 8 - MNFM**



To all of our teachers, helpers, and those that fill in on short notice.
To the many that filled in for Park while he was gone

Wed. Night Supper

The number of people who have signed up to cook this year has made it so that no one has been cooking every Wednesday night, and a BIG thank you to all. As we begin a new year of Wednesday night suppers let's all take our turn providing supper. Please be sure to sign up if you are willing to cook.

After you sign up, call the church office if you want someone someone to cook with. Plan your menu and call the church office by Tuesday so it can be posted in the bulletin.



Pantry:

The pantry is thankful for all donations. Please check expiration dates to be sure the food is still safe.

This is such a giving time of year and once again, the family here

Lord's Supper to Shut-ins

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

Mowing and Grounds

- We need everyone's help to keep things tended. It gives a caring impression to those around...if we care about the building, we must also care about their souls.
- The snow is coming! There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for snow removal.
- We need to be sure the sidewalks and steps are clear so that people can safely navigate them.

Teachers

- If you are going to be out of town, please let Doug Paul know so your class can be covered.
- If you would like to teach a class or help with a class, please also let Doug know.

Thank You

- The Therrien's worked tirelessly to help with the Giving Tree and on behalf of them, we express our thank you to them for heading this and thank each of you for the donations you made to give many children a happier Christmas than they would have had otherwise.

Family Bible Reading, Birthday and Congregational Calendar for Dec. 24- Dec. 30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 - Job 17-18	25 - Job 19	26 - Job 20	27 - Job 21 Dorvin & Leigh Ellen Lively - Anniv Alan Chamberlain - BD Jolene Karafelis - BD	28 - Acts 10	29 - Job 22-23 Joanne Hazelton - BD	30 - Job 24



UPCOMING EVENTS

Be on the lookout for future events. If you want to lead an event, or help, please call the church office to check that the date is free and **PLEASE volunteer!**

MNFM - Jan. 8 at 6PM



**Weekly
Contribution**
12/17/2017
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Question of the Week

How do you describe love?
How does Jesus describe love?

Youth & Family News

A Description of Love

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV) - 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.



In Paul's second letter to Timothy, when he wrote these words, he was a prisoner in Rome and expected to be tried and executed, he knew his time on earth was coming to an end. He was looking back and remembered the challenges and triumphs over the course of his life, he was satisfied with what he saw. Paul may have been reflecting on his missionary journeys, his teaching the gospel and planting congregations. He persevered and suffered for Christ. He did not fall to sin. He kept the faith. He is looking forward to his crown of righteousness on judgement day.

This passage is usually read at funerals to memorialize loved ones who passed away. We do not have any way of knowing our time of departure from this earth. Are you fighting the good fight? Are you running your race? Are you prepared for judgement day? How do you want to be remembered? As of today, look back on your life. Have you lived a life pleasing to God? Are you active in congregational ministries, teaching bible classes, spreading the good news to others, and following the Apostles teaching? Are you fighting against the flesh, the world, and Satan? At your funeral, how do you want your family and friends to remember you, will they be proud of your journey? On judgement day will you be awarded your crown of righteousness?

We have no way of knowing our time of departure so let us all remember to keep the faith. We should always be prepared, so we can receive our crown of righteousness to spend eternity with the Lord.



Jackie Gill

A Parting 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.

Grace and Snow

Snow is an interesting thing. It is beautiful falling on a winter day, covering the ground and trees and rooftops so that everything ugly is covered up and even the beautiful things are outlined and enhanced in their beauty by a delicate layer of snow.

After the snowfall, when the sun comes out, the world is dazzled by that blindingly brilliant whiteness of the snow as it reflects the bright sunshine and everything looks cleaner than clean and fresher than fresh.

God's grace is like the snow. Souls scarred with the ugliness of sin, even seemingly indelible, scarlet sin, can be gently covered by the Grace of God - the ugliness covered and forgotten; and we are left cleaner than clean and fresher than fresh. And even our 'righteousness' is more beautiful as it becomes covered, framed, and sanctified by the Gift (grace) of the true righteousness of God.

After the cleansing, the dazzling Sonlight shining down on our souls, makes us, in as much as we stay covered in His grace, brilliant reflectors of the 'true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.' (John 1:9) the world can't help but see the beauty of a life covered in the grace of God.

It's God's sermon in a winter scene.

Park Linscomb