



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Newsletter of Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 7 No. 5

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

May 2008

Are You Using the Gifts God Gave You?

From the Pastor's Desk

Significance in Christ

Sometime last fall I received a free calendar from a company called "Positive Promotions" for the 2008 calendar year. It's one of those promotional perks that the pastor is privy to every once and awhile. I often get pens, pins, books, or paper tablets with the church's name and address on it in, which I promptly shove in my desk, and when I have the need to use them, they are at my disposal.

Well, this particular calendar is nicely arranged with beautiful pictures for each month accompanied by a scripture reference of encouragement. This month's picture is one of a waterfall. Now it's nothing like the Victorian Falls or those found at Niagara, but instead it is a small one in the middle of nowhere. It isn't as powerful as the aforementioned mega falls, but it flows true nonetheless. Instead of being dreadfully scary in size, it stands just a simple twenty to thirty feet up. For all intents and purpose it is fairly unrecognizable and more than likely it will never receive the kind of fanfare that the bigwigs get. No, it just simple and plain.

Often we as Christians try to find our mark in time and history. Nobody wishes to pass into all eternity and not be remembered, so we hope and pray that our impact will be greater than it probably will be. The reality is – as Christians – we will probably never be known for more than just being regular people.

In the Bible we know of Paul, Peter, James, John, and the rest of the apostles, but there are several important characters who came after they were gone and we hardly know who they are. We know that eldership was established in all the churches, but we are only told a few by name, like that of Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. In today's world, not every one of us can be a Billy Graham, a Dr. Stanley, a Pat Robertson, or a Jerry Falwell. Just like that little waterfall on my calendar, we will probably be relatively unknown in our existence, as far as the world and history is concerned, but to Jesus we matter greatly.

We must remember that we are to work *for* God and His glory and under that umbrella He determines who receives

(See Pastor's Message, p. 2)

Upcoming Events and Meetings

May 1 – National Day of Prayer

May 3, 6:30 p.m. – Alan Frink & Friends Concert

A concert featuring Alan Frink, Gary Brunt of the Brunt Family Singers, and September Rain

May 4, 7:30 a.m. – Men's First Prayer Breakfast

The men share a meal, then discuss a Bible topic.

May 4, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

May 10, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Spring Cleanup

May 11 – Mother's Day

May 17, 8:15 a.m. – Christian Chicks

Trip to conference in Londonderry

May 18, noon – Business Meeting

Preceded by a Baptist Potluck Dinner

May 24, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. – Rain Date for Spring Clean Up

May 26, 11:00 a.m. – Memorial Day Cookout

Alan Frink and Friends

On Saturday May 3rd at 6:30 p.m, we have our first concert of the year. Alan Frink, a splendid tenor, will be joined by some musical friends, Gary Brunt of the Brunt Family Singers and September Rain, a six-member band from Littleton, NH that does contemporary Christian music.

If you read this and missed the concert, what can we say, you missed a great concert.



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On the web at <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org>

Pastor's Message (from p. 1)

certain talents and gifts, but He also selects those who are to obtain certain status and popularity.

The best illustration of this is found in Matthew 25:14-30. I was reading this passage just the other day and in there is no insignificant individual. Jesus tells of a master who was leaving the country and he called in three particular servants. To one he gave five talents (money), to another he gave two, and to the last he gave only one.

The parable explains that, after he departed, the one with five talents began to work immediately at producing five more, while the one with two did the same, producing two more. These two feared their master and wanted him to be pleased with their work, so they in turn took what he gave them and diligently worked to produce more. But the last one received only one talent and, instead of using it to produce more, he allowed fear to overtake him and thus he buried it and there it sat till his master returned.

Later the master returned and the one with five talents presented five more and he was well received by the master. The one with two talents also duplicated his sum and in turn presented two more to his master. Each one was congratulated in their accomplishments and was promised to be made rulers over more because of their faithfulness. The last servant who hid his one talent was there to present the talent untainted and unproductive. The master was angry with the servant because he was not productive and useful with what little he was given. He took the lazy way out and did not serve the interest of his master. The talent was taken from him and given to the one with ten and the servant was cast out and called wicked.

Like the little pictured waterfall on my calendar we too must run true with what God has given us to do. We can't worry about what we will accomplish or how popular we might become or allow fear to overtake us; we just need to be productive. Those who have been given much, much more will be required of them. Those who have been given little still are expected to produce.

With this story I hope you noticed that the master determined how much talents were given to each servant. So too for us, we are told in Scripture that we are endowed with the gifts and talents that the Lord has determined for us to have. The key is that we must use them and be diligent in serving him. May you not be caught up with how important you are in the eyes of others or of the world, but instead be concerned about how the Master sees you. Whether mighty or small, you still matter to Him and He wants you to produce good works for His glory.

My hope and prayer is that you will accept the gifts that God has given you with a glad heart and use them to the fullest for His glory. Just like the little waterfall stands alone and quiet in the middle of nowhere fulfilling its purpose, so too should we stand in the background if needed, praising our Savior through diligent service, fulfilling our purpose for His good pleasure.

✠ Pastor Jim

Christian Chicks Outing in May

The Christian Chicks had a surprise at our last meeting. We hopped into our cars and went to Friendly's for ice cream. There were eight of us and we had a great time.

On May 17th we will be meeting at church at 8:15 a.m. and going to the Christian Fellowship Baptist Church in Londonderry for a special half-day event. It's the annual Day of Discovery featuring Mrs. Sherrill Coberley as guest speaker. The registration fee of \$7.00 covers lunch. Oh and there is a breakfast at 9 a.m.

There will be worship time, special music, small groups and more. Mrs. Coberley will speak on "Where We Walk Daily—Not Just WHO We Are, but WHAT We Do! Her teaching is Biblical, engaging, and memorable.

You will be blessed as she teaches the Word of God in a manner that speaks specifically to the issues that Christian women face today. Please make a special effort to attend.

Blessings,

✠ Barbara Yeaton

Men's Prayer Breakfast

This month, you really need to get your bod in gear and join up with us at Men's Breakfast. This month, Dale Greenly is the chef so be ready to feed the body before you feed the soul. And there's always plenty of hot coffee to keep you going.

We are working our way through the Book of Judges and we always gain some new insights along the way. Join us. It's worth it.

✠ Michael Frascinella

Local Ministry Now In Fifth Year

Shirley Upton and 'Maranatha the Clown' visit the Twitchel Assisted Living Home in Concord on a monthly basis. This ministry is now in its fifth year. The visits include snacks, games, prizes, a hymn singalong, and prayer time. For the April visit, the Hillside TeamKids also joined forces and made greeting cards for each of the residents there.

It's wonderful to see how – through this ministry – God is not only using us for His glory, but He's also working in our own lives. We go there to share His love with others, but often we too leave with happier hearts.

✠ Laurie Carpenter
aka 'Maranatha the Clown'

Watch Your Tongue!

The following essay comes courtesy of RBC Ministries.

James, a "pillar in the early church" (Gal. 2:9), recognized the great destructive power and the danger of an uncontrolled tongue. He was not alone. Men and women in many cultures have warned us about the need to guard our speech. This bit of verse by an unknown writer says it well:

*"The boneless tongue, so small and weak,
Can crush and kill,"* declared the Greek.

The Persian proverb wisely saith,
“A lengthy tongue, an early death.”

Sometimes it takes this form instead:
“Don’t let your tongue cut off your head.”

While Arab sages this impart:
“The tongue’s great storehouse is the heart.”

From Hebrew wit, the maxim’s sprung:
“Though feet should slip, don’t let the tongue.”

A verse from Scripture crowns the whole:
“Who keeps the tongue doth keep his soul.”

Is it any wonder that James likened the tongue to a little fire that sets a great forest ablaze, or to the very small rudder that turns a mighty ship in a storm? (see James 3:4-6).

O Lord, help us to learn a lesson from the wise. Help us to hold our tongue and not let it slip. – [Haddon W. Robinson](#)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

This month, Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people for orbiting the sun one more time:

5/3 Todd Thomas
 5/5 Shirley Upton
 5/11 Heather Tobine
 5/12 Barbara Howell
 5/16 Mary Donnelly
 5/16 Michael Russo, Jr.
 5/22 Rachel Page
 5/26 Michael Frascinella
 5/31 Elizabeth Poitras

Hillside also wishes God’s blessing on the following couple who celebrates their wedding anniversaries this month:

5/16 Roger and Elizabeth Poitras

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for you—whether it be for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need – contact Natalie Carleton, Hillside’s Prayer Coordinator, and she will get the word out to the membership via e-mail or by phone.

It will be our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus our Lord. Contact Natalie at grammiec10 at junodotcom (punctuation spelled out on purpose).

On the Web

Go to <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org/> for up-to-the-minute news and information about Hillside, as well as for this newsletter in PDF format.

Next Issue

Deadline is Mmm. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



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