



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Newsletter of Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 7 No. 9

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

September 2008

Without the Spirit

From the Pastor's Desk

The Man Without the Spirit

Gem 56 of C.H. Spurgeon

Friend, you don't have the Spirit. You are nothing better--whatever you are, or whatever you may be--than the fall of Adam left you. That is to say, you are a fallen creature, having only capacities to live here in sin, and to live forever in torment; but you don't have the capacity to live in heaven at all, for you have no Spirit; and therefore you are unable to know or enjoy spiritual things. And mark this, a man may be in this state, and be a carnal man, and yet he may have all the virtues that could grace a Christian; but with all these, if he doesn't have the Spirit, he has not advanced an inch further than where Adam's fall left him--that is, condemned and under the curse.

Yes, and he may practice religion with all his might--he may share in the Lord's Supper and be baptized, and may be the most devout person in church; but if he does not have the Spirit he has not moved a solitary inch from where he was, for he is still in "the bonds of sin," a lost soul.

Further, he may pick up religious phrases until he talks very fast about religion; he may read biographies until he seems to be a deeply taught child of God; he may be able to write an article upon the deep experience of a believer; but if this experience is not his own, if he has not received it by the Spirit of the living God, he is still nothing more than a carnal man, and heaven is to him a place to which there is no entrance.

Further, he might go so far as to become a minister of the gospel, and a successful minister too, and God may bless the word that he preaches to the salvation of sinners, but unless he has received the Spirit, be he as eloquent as Apollos, and as earnest as Paul, he is nothing more than a mere man, without a capacity for spiritual things.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Sept. 6, noon – Christian Chicks Quarterly Luncheon

Bring something to share

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

The men share a meal, then engage in a lively Bible study.

Sept. 7, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

At the end of the Worship Service

Sept. 9, 6:00 p.m. – Restart of midweek events

Now on Tuesdays

Sept. 13, 9-2 – Sunday School Training

At Providence Baptist Church, Epping, NH

Sept. 14, noon – Business Meeting

Preceded by a Baptist Potluck Dinner

Sept. 20, 8-3 – Disaster Relief Training

New Covenant Baptist Church, N. Berwick, Maine

No, to top it all, he might even have the power of working miracles, as Judas had--he might even be received into the Church as a believer, as was Simon Magus, and after all that, though he had cast out devils, though he had healed the sick, though he had worked miracles, he might have the gates of heaven shut in his face, if he had not received the Spirit. For this is the most important thing, without which all others are in vain--the receiving of the Spirit of the living God.

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Christian Chicks

On Saturday Sept. 6 at noon, the Christian Chicks will be holding their quarterly luncheon at the church. Bring something to share.

✝ Shannon Greenly

Men’s Breakfast

On Sept. 7 at 7:30 a.m. the men will meet at church for the monthly breakfast. There is always something good cooking and you’re always welcome. You just have to get there in time to chow down with us.

After breakfast, the Bible Study is lively and engaging and we always learn something from our discussions of the Word of God.

✝ Michael Frascinella

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, which is a Christian relief and evangelism organization led by Franklin Graham. Since the 1970s, the mission of Operation Christmas Child has been to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Operation Christmas Child gives hope to children living in desperate conditions by providing shoe boxes filled with small gifts and spreading the Good News of God’s love. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe.

This year Hillside is going to fill as many shoe boxes as possible. Each month until the end of November, we are collecting specific gift items.

For August, we collected a big box full of school supplies like pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, erasers, and small notepads. Thanks you for your generous help.

For September, we are collecting items of person hygiene. This includes hairbrushes, toothbrushes, combs, and barrettes.

The collection box is in the upstairs foyer near the information table.

Disaster Relief

Hillside was the headquarters for volunteers who help with the damage caused by the tornado that hit NH on July 24. Hillside provided housing and a staging area for several chain saw teams that came from Virginia. With these teams came assessors, chaplains, and overall command center coordinators. The operation was implemented by the North American Mission Board and the Baptist Convention of New England.

The volunteers set up cots and air mattresses wherever a spot was available in the church. A shower unit trailer from Vermont was set up behind the church. Meals were served in the church. The most people housed at one time was 24.

Families were helped along the tornado path from Deerfield to Alton, with the most jobs being in Barnstead in the Locke Lake area.

As if the tornado was not enough to deal with, a flood took place July 31 in the Lakes region. After all the out of state help left, our New Hampshire Baptist Association unit was called out to do a chain saw job in Pittsfield and a major mud out job in Ashland.

For anyone interested in working with Disaster Relief, training will be held at the New Covenant Baptist Church in North Berwick, Maine on September 20 from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. for both mud out and chain saw.

✝ Pastor Al Page

Look Beyond the Trials to See God’s Results

While on vacation I was blessed with the opportunity to attend chapel services each day. In the scripture, in Philippians, Chapter 1, I learned about Paul and his ministry. I realized that if we look beyond our trials or circumstances, we can see God’s results.

You see, Paul knew what suffering was. He was lashed, beat, shipwrecked, stoned, chained, and thrown in prison. Through his trials he looked beyond the temporary and focused on what is eternal. His purpose was to share God’s promises and further the kingdom of God. Through Paul’s trials the gospel was advanced. Many came to know Christ through his ministry.

Paul recognized the importance of prayer and trusted in the Holy Spirit for guidance. He experienced joy in the midst of his circumstances. Are you experiencing joy in your life? Can you see God’s results? Are you focusing on what is eternal?

✝ Laurie Carpenter

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

- 9/1 Julie Frascinella
- 9/17 Jack Howell
- 9/19 Timmy Morgan
- 9/25 Julie Russo
- 9/26 Carlye Bubacz

Hillside knows of no couples in the church who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this month. Hurry up, someone get married!

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 junodot com (punctuation spelled out on purpose).

On the Web

Go to <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org/> for more information about Hillside, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Next Issue

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

Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire Baptist Association, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



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