



HILLSIDE Monthly Dispatch

Newsletter of Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

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Modeling the Truth of God's Word

October 2008

Pray for Our Leaders

From the Pastor's Desk

Leadership Needs our Prayers

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Politics, Politics, Politics. It seems that all we see around us has to do with upcoming elections of all kinds. There are elections for president, governor, senator, congressmen, etc. You cannot even drive down the street without running into some sign of support for the candidate of choice. With each passing election the signs get more abundant and larger. Each sign is vying for your attention so that you will vote for that candidate as if one could be swayed by a lawn poster.

If by some miracle you have failed to see those signs, then television ads, radio ads, and billboard ads are constantly bombarding your various senses to make sure that you are getting the clue that we are in an election year.

With all those who would be public servants there is much at stake in our lives and in our society as a whole. I have a serious question to ask you in today's article that I pray will give you pause to contemplate your part in these elections. Have you prayed for them? Have you considered praying for the candidate of your choice or for the one who is in office already? Often we overlook the fact that we are commanded in scripture to pray for such people. In 1 Timothy 2:1-2 Paul writes, "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."

Paul tells us that we are to do four things for all men and those who are in authority in our government.

First, we are offer up entreaties for them. That means we go before God on their behalf and ask Him to give them guidance, wisdom, and understanding so that they may lead effectively. We need to entreat God on their behalf for their salvation and that they would obey his sovereign will. I know that often this is harder said than done because we do not always support the one in public office, but our liking such a person is not a requirement for us to go to God with entreaties on their behalf. Let me encourage you to not only entreat the Lord for your favorite public official but also

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Oct. 4, Noon – Christian Chicks Quarterly Lunch

Oct. 5, 7:30 a.m. – Men's First Prayer Breakfast

The men share a meal, then discuss the Book of Judges.

Oct. 5, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Oct. 12, noon – Stewardship Meeting

Time to prepare a budget for next year

Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. – Youth Bowling Challenge

Youth vs. adults

Oct. 25, 9-4 – Fall Work Day

Time to get the church ready for winter.

Oct. 26, noon – Church Council

Meet right after Worship Service to plan church activities and events for the next several months.

Entreat the Lord for those with whom you may disagree as well. With such prayers God will be pleased.

Secondly, Paul tells us that we need to pray for them.

This means that we are to consider them often within the framework of our prayer life. We need to remember them and lift their names up before the Lord so that he may intervene and work within their lives to bring about his divine will for the public official's life, for the government they oversee, and for society as a whole. By praying for them regularly we constantly thrust their name before the Lord, and God will listen to those prayers and act.

The third thing that we are also to do is to petition the Lord on their behalf. This is to make a formal request to the Lord to take notice of the public servant and to help or aid him or her in anyway needed. This makes it even more personal for the one who is praying. For the one who is praying is lining up next to the official and asking God to help them.

Many of our leaders may or may not go to God often for help and understanding so it is important for us to do this on their behalf. There may be a special bill or piece of

(See Pastor's Message on p.3)

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Christian Chicks

This month, the Chicks are having their quarterly luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 4th at noon. Bring a food dish to share. We'll have a great time of fellowship.

✝ Shannon Greenly

Men's Breakfast

Get to bed early so you can get up early and join us for food, fellowship, and philology. We take turns cooking up some breakfast so it's always a surprise, and good to eat, too.

The fellowship is encouraging since we get to talk about life and living and what's going on in each of our lives. And the Bible study is always edifying. This month we will continue in the Book of Judges.

✝ Michael Frascinella

Team Kids in Action



The Team Kids™ program is up and running again. The kids meet on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:15 p.m. Children aged 4 and up are welcome. The meetings consist of prayer time,

snack, Bible study, games, and **fun!**

On Sept. 30th we will be having movie night. Future activities include making puppets, painting T-shirts, and hosting a mission's dinner. Please pray for the children as they serve the Lord!

Blessings,

✝ Laurie Carpenter

Operation Christmas Child



In cooperation with Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse, Hillside is supporting Operation Christmas Child (OCC) by collecting gift items for needy boys and girls around the world. These gifts items will be packed in shoeboxes and delivered to

Samaritan's Purse in mid-November. We are going to fill as many shoe boxes as possible.

Each month until the end of November, we are collecting specific gift items. So far we have received donations of school supplies and personal hygiene items.

For October, we ask you to bring in small toys such as jacks, marbles, dolls or stuffed animals. Remember, these toys and the other gift items have to be small enough to fit into a shoe box. Place your donation in the collection box at the entrance to the sanctuary.

For more information about this ministry, go to www.samaritanpurse.org/index.php/OCC/index/

✝ Michael Frascinella

Property and Space Patrol

The leaves are falling and the temperatures are cooling down. Fall is upon us and we must prepare the church building and grounds for another winter.

To that end, we will hold a Fall Work Day on Saturday, Oct. 25 starting at 9 a.m. Come for the day, come for a few hours – whatever you can give.

We hope to have the air conditioners removed before then but there are other tasks we need to tackle. The main job will be clearing brush and cleaning the church interior. A longer list should be available as we get closer to the date.

✝ Pastor Al Page

Youth Group Bowling Challenge

This month the Hillside youth are challenging all able-bodied Hillside adults to a few games of bowling. To participate, you must be a youth between 12 and 19.9 years old and be able to throw (actually roll) a candlepin ball about 50 feet straight along a hardwood floor and hit up to 10 tall cylindrical objects, to the amazement and adulation of your fellow Youth Team bowlers. This is a far cry from bowling in New York where I grew up, where the bowling balls were as big as canteloupes and the pins were big enough to hammer nails.

Also, you need to be accompanied by an adult or parent or both (if such a thing can be comprehended) who will be on the Adult team. You may bring along a friend of comparable age to you, and then both of you can compete against the poor hapless adult who came with you.

The Bowling Challenge will take place on Oct. 18 at Boutwell's Bowling Center in Concord. We will meet at the church at 6 p.m. and car pool if this is amenable to all participants. This will help us save on gas and also test how many youth we can cram into one vehicle before its springs bottom out.

Note that none of the adults to my knowledge has had very much recent experience with candlepin bowling (Bocci Ball notwithstanding), so the additional challenge is to see who – the youth or the adults – can master the necessary bowling skills with acumen and celerity (Sarah and Robert, consult your dictionaries) and achieve the higher score and win the Bowling Challenge.

✝ Michael Frascinella

Concert in Loudon

Alan Frink will be offering a concert of southern gospel and inspirational music on Nov. 15 at the Loudon Center Free Will Baptist Church in Loudon (Pastor Henry Frost's church). If you recall Hillside hosted a terrific "Alan Frink and Friends" concert back in May featuring Gary Brunt and September Rain.

This will be a good opportunity to attend another gospel concert, fellowship with some brothers and sisters in Loudon, and help support Alan's ministry (he has been going through some tough financial times recently).

God on the Internet

In a recent mailing from RBC Ministries (publisher of *Our Daily Bread* devotionals among other things), I came across a notice for a web site called www.christiancourses.com. This site offers dozens of free courses on the Bible and personal growth. They are self-paced and easy to use.

The Getting Started page offers good detail about why you should study the Bible, how to register, how to choose a course, and how to take the course and the built-in quizzes at the end of each lesson. (Yes, Virginia, without quizzes, you don't know if you learned anything.)

Courses are well-organized into logical groups:

- Old Testament Survey – These courses progress through the books of the Old Testament in a sequence, for example, Genesis to Leviticus and 2nd Samuel to 2nd Kings.
- New Testament Survey – This grouping starts with an intriguing course called "New Testament Basics: Things We Thought We Knew." The remaining courses group books in a more topical order, for example, "1 & 2 Corinthians: Two Letters to a Tough Church."
- There are several topical groups of courses such as "Know Why You Believe – Introduction to Christian Apologetics" which includes several courses on different facets of Christian beliefs.
- Another one that caught my eye was "History of the Christian Church" with one course covering the time from the early church to the Great Schism.

So go to this web site yourself and see if there is a course that interests you. You may discover that you are learning new and fascinating aspects about God and His Word, and you can be pleased about it because you made the choice based on your personal interests.

✠ Michael Frascinella

Pastor's Message (Cont'd. from p. 1)

legislation at stake. When we get to these crucial junctions we should stop and lift up a petition to the Lord so that He will hear our official request for His will to be accomplished in that bill or law.

The last command might be the most difficult because we are to offer up thanksgiving for them. That has many aspects to its meaning. We are to thank God for their willingness to serve. We are also to thank God for bringing them into a position to serve over us. We are to thank God for that which they have achieved in office and that which we hope they will achieve in office. We are to thank God for the very person they are for they are made in the image of God and thus they have great worth and value. Even if the politician does not know it, he or she is an agent of God and ultimately works on behalf of His divine will for our country and the world as a whole. These things are worthy of our thanks and so let me encourage you to thank God for those who serve over you.

Paul tells us that we are to do this for kings and those in authority over us so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet

life in godliness and dignity. When we pray for our leaders there are many reasons for why we should pray and we are to pray so that we may have the results mentioned above. Our country has only known this degree of blessings by God a short time in our history as a country. We knew this kind of peace as Christians when our country was formed and succeeded from England. We knew this kind of peace during the Great Awakening period. And the last time we knew this kind of existence in our country was during the mid fifties when it was popular for everyone to go to Church and many were God-fearing folk, including most politicians, but those times have passed us by.

We are getting ready for a very important election in less than a month. Have you prayed for those in office and those office? Let me encourage you to do so. It is commanded of us and ultimately it is for our best as well. We have many things at stake in this election, but the greatest thing we have at stake is the direction of our country and our freedom within this country to worship the one true God who is Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

It is only a matter of time before we see the loss of freedom of religion. We have already experienced a loss in our freedom of speech; freedom of religion stands next in line. Whoever is elected is in a position to change our world for good or bad, so let us go to God and offer up entreaties, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings on their behalf, because ultimately when we pray for them it benefits us as believers in Christ.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

10/17 Shannon Greenly
 10/18 Jessica Labonte
 10/18 Samantha Russo
 10/20 Ashley Sousa
 10/22 Jonathan Adams

Hillside also wishes we had some couples who were married in October so we could wish God's blessing on them.

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.

Contact Natalie at grammiec10@juno.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 Oct. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella@comcast.net.

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



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