



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Newsletter of Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 8 No. 4

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

April 2009

KNOW THE PEACE THAT CHRIST OFFERS

From the Pastor's Desk

Peace in Christ

Matthew 11:28-30

Today is March 27, 2009 and I went to the beach. It was hot. The sand was warm swishing between my toes. There was barely a cloud in the sky. Hardly anyone was on the beach and the only noise I could hear was that of the wind and of the birds. Many of you by this point might be calling me a beach bum and lucky dog; others might want to call the men with the long-sleeved white jackets. Either way, eat your hearts out. No I am not on drugs. I went to the beach in my office.

On my wall is a picture of Alabama Beach off the Gulf of Mexico. It has a long white beach with a rickety fence. The beach is well groomed and the water looks inviting. The sky is blue and the scenery is outstanding. And that is where I went today. No I did not close my office doors and crank up the heat. No I did not slip into my swim shorts and sandals. No I did not pull out a coconut cup and fill it with my favorite soda and sip from a straw. No I did not wear sunglasses and cap. And I absolutely did not wear a grass skirt and do the hula.

Like many of you my life has been hectic and somewhat overwhelming. Deadlines and headlines seem to consume my life and my time. I was not able to really go anywhere so what I did do was go to the beach in my mind and heart. It was peaceful and relaxing and soothing for the short time I was able to do so. Really it was all I could afford, but sometimes the cheapest stuff is the best. As I think about that relaxing feeling I received from my mental vacation I am reminded of what Christ does for us when we go through stressful and difficult times in our lives. He promises us rest in Him. He promises peace in Him. He promises to help us through those times of difficulties.

In Mathew 11:28-30 Jesus says, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light (NKJV)." In this passage Jesus calls us to come to Him. He is calling all those who would receive Him to approach him with certainty and boldness.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Apr. 5 – Palm Sunday

Apr. 12, 8:00 a.m. – Easter Breakfast

A breakfast will be served for early risers;

No Sunday School today; **Worship Service** at 10:45 a.m.

Apr. 19, Noon – Christian Chicks

Tuesdays – The Truth Project DVD Series

He is calling us to publically go to Him in times of need and trials. This is the first step to knowing the rest for the soul He talks about in this passage. In order to know that peace and rest, one has to first go to Him. My hope and prayer is that you have already done so. If not, let me encourage you to do so today. For you cannot have rest unless you first go to Him and accept Him as your Lord and Savior.

The great thing about this passage is that He calls those who labor and are heavy laden. I don't care if you are the richest person in the world or the poorest person on the block, we all carry burdens. Some carry it better than others, but the truth of the matter is that Jesus is calling *everyone* to Himself in this passage. The ones who come are the ones who are willing to humble themselves and ask for Jesus to carry their burdens for them. The ones who will know true peace are the ones who know the true Prince of Peace.

Recently I read a bumper sticker that drove this point home. It read, "No Jesus, No Peace. Know Jesus, Know Peace." That truly sums up the Christian life in regards to this passage. Those who know Jesus have peace, but those who don't might have some semblance of peace, but they will never know peace in its fullness. And if you do not know peace in its fullness then really you don't have peace.

Jesus calls us to then take upon ourselves His yoke for it is easy. No He did not say I like my yokes over easy. The yoke is what a beast of burden must wear to pull plows and such. This is an item not for fashion but for purpose. It helps to guide and direct as well as take upon itself the entire pulling weight of the plow. It has to handle a great deal of torque so it is big and heavy and awkward. Jesus tells us that His yoke is not like this, but instead it is easy. His yoke is light.

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

Pastor's Message (from p.1)

What He calls us to do is to take off the yoke of burden that we carry and give it to Him and in turn we take up His which is light. That is not a fare exchange but Jesus is willing to do it for us so that we may walk this earth as one of His own. Like my beach excursion we don't physically remove this yoke and then put His on in its place, but we do so spiritually. We do so within our hearts and minds. Are you one who is walking this earth with a yoke that is heavy and that is difficult to carry? Do you wish you could remove that burden from your heart and mind? Don't you wish you could let someone else carry that load for you? Then hear what Jesus is saying in today's passage. He wants you to come to Him. He wants you to give Him your burdens. He wants you to carry His light burden instead of your heavy burden. He wants to give you peace. What an amazing gift. Isn't he to be praised? Today take the time to hand over the burdens you bear. Take the time to give it to Him. Take the time to break away from those cares and worries that weigh you down. Take that break that you need in Christ so that you can go on running the race of Christian faith after you have found peace and have been refreshed. May you know that peace that only Christ brings. God bless.

✠ Pastor Jim

Christian Chicks

The Christian Chicks plan on meeting on Sunday, April 19 right after the Worship Service.

✠ Michelle Robertson

Men's Breakfast

Due to the Easter Sunday breakfast there will be no Men's Breakfast this month.

Easter Sunday Schedule



Our celebration of Resurrection Sunday commences with an Easter Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. The menu will consist of pancakes, baked French toast, bacon, sausage, assorted danishes, orange juice, and coffee. Donations are welcome, but not necessary.

There will be no Sunday School on that morning. This will allow for additional fellowship time before Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

✠ Dale Greenly

Springtime at Hillside

It's Spring! I've been sizing up the outdoor situation at church (and home). One project that needs attention right away is the ramp at the right front of the church building. We will be reconstructing that side and install a hand rail down to the parking lot. It doesn't look like a very expensive job, perhaps about \$500 as the project proceeds.

Wouldn't you know! In probing about doing measurements, I found an earthworm! Now Spring is the time that a young man's fancy turns to –ahhh – fishing! Trout streams are open, salmon are biting and cod/haddock season has started. The great outdoors beckons. For those who like to go fishing and have boats or need a ride, let's get together.

And speaking of the outdoors, I have access to clay pigeons and a launcher and a field in which to shoot. Anyone interested in some moving target shotgun practice let me know.

Oh yes, we still need to think about the ramp project.

✠ Pastor Al Page

Sermons Online for a Year

In March we reached a milestone with a new web site service. It was a year ago on March 2nd that we tried a new idea: recording each sermon by wireless technology, creating an mp3 audio file, and providing access to each sermon via Hillside's web site.

We hope that you have taken advantage of this service during the past year, especially if –on a given Sunday – you have been ill, out of town, or unable to attend.

Let Dale Greenly or Michael Frascinella know if you have listened to any online sermons, and especially if you have had any problem playing them.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

4/6 Ruth Bubacz

4/21 Laurie Carpenter

Hillside also wishes God's blessing on the following couples who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this month:

4/25 Jeff & Cathy Labonte

4/28 Al & Rachel Page

Come June, we hear that we'll have a new anniversary to celebrate.

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for you—whether it be for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need – contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, Dale Greenly, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership.

It will be our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus our Lord.

The Legend of the Sand Dollar

This poem presents an example of how the human imagination can visualize spiritual significance onto a common object found at the seashore. It may also be an example of how Darwinism and evolution fail when confronted by the will of the Master Designer.

There's a lovely little legend
That I would like to tell
Of the birth and death of Jesus
Found in this lovely shell.
If you examine closely
You'll see that you find here
Four nail holes and a fifth one
Made by a Roman's spear.
On one side the Easter Lily
In its center is the star
That appeared unto the shepherds
And led them from afar.
The Christmas Poinsettia
Etched on the other side
Reminds us of His Birthday
Our Happy Christmastide.
Now break the center open
And here you will release
The five white doves awaiting
To spread Good Will and Peace.
This simple little symbol
Christ left for you and me
To help us spread His Gospel
Through all Eternity.

Sunday Bulletin Bloopers

The following bloopers were found on the web supposedly gleaned from church Sunday bulletins. (If they were on the World Wide Web, they must be true, right? Don't bet your bippy on it!) Their authenticity cannot be verified but your chuckles will validate their ability to make you laugh.

1. Don't let worry kill you – let the church help.
2. Thursday night, Potluck Supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
3. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
4. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
5. The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.
6. This afternoon there will be a meeting in the South and North ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
7. Tuesday at 4:00 PM there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.
8. Wednesday the ladies liturgy will meet. Mrs. Johnson will sing "Put Me in My Little Bed" accompanied by the pastor.

9. Thursday at 5:00 PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All ladies wishing to be "Little Mothers" should meet with the Pastor in his study.

10. This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

11. The service will close with "Little Drops of Water." One of the ladies will start quietly and the rest of the congregation will join in.

12. Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.

13. The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They can be seen in the church basement on Saturday.

14. A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

15. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

On the Web

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

Next Issue

Deadline is Apr. 24. 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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