



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Newsletter of Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 8 No. 11

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

November 2009

The Best Free Gift

From the Pastor's Desk

If It's Free, It's For Me!

Ephesians 2:8-9

Have you ever heard the phrase "There is no such thing as a free lunch?" Well in most cases that might be true, but for me this past week it wasn't. Not only did I get a free lunch, I got two free lunches two days in a row. Can I get a fist pump from the top row?

The opportunity arose at work where I have been doing some demolition and we had a little scrap metal left over. Now I have no claim to that stuff and for the most part my boss does not have to share it with me, but he did. He offered to buy my lunch in which we partook of the fine sea by having fish and chips.

The next day we went Far East and enjoyed American-style Chinese food. Oh yeah, going back to work after lunch on those two days was very difficult. We were calling for a cot to sleep it off. When it was all said and done, we were rubbing our bellies and picking our teeth. Yeah, lunch was free and it was good.

Now a free lunch appeals to my heritage. I come from a people group that is known for its frugality. The Scottish are known for cutting corners and being a little stingy. Do you know how tight fisted we are? Let me say one word, "Haggis." Yup, sheep's stomach stuffed with barley and herbs. Talk about not wanting to throw anything away!

Can you imagine a bunch of burly Scotsmen standing around the ole campfire whirling a sheep's stomach over their heads posing the question to what they should do with it? And can you imagine the one who actually offered the option of eating it? Obviously I can. That is how frugal a Scotsman tends to be.

You know how else to tell how frugal we are? Have you ever heard of a kilt? Yup they are so frugal that they decided it would be just as easy to cover yourself with a skirt and save on material by allowing your legs to be seen. They are so cheap that they refused to finish their clothes and make pants.

A few years back I heard someone say at work "If it's free, it's for me." That one has stuck with me, after all I am

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Oct. 31, midnight – Turn Clocks Back One Hour

Nov. 1, 7:30 a.m. – Men's First Prayer Breakfast

The men share a meal, then discuss the book of Luke.

Nov. 1, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Nov. 7, 10 a.m. – Pack Christmas Shoe Boxes

Nov. 8, Midday – Stewardship Meeting

Review the budget to be presented on Nov. 22

Nov. 24 – No Bible Study or Music Practice

Nov. 22, Midday – Thanksgiving Dinner and Business Meeting

A turkey and ham will be provided; please bring veggies or dessert

Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day

Give thanks with a grateful heart!

Nov. 29, 6:30 p.m. – Singspiration Night

A time to sing hymns and songs to one another while praising the Lord. A fifth Sunday event.

Scottish. I have personally used that phrase when the option has presented itself. Well one of the things that I have taken hold of that was free is the grace that I have received through Jesus Christ. There is a great passage in Ephesians 2:8-9 that says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

This passage is amazing. The biggest emphasis on this passage is that we could not earn our salvation. Not one of us who is born in Christ can claim that God owed us our salvation. We can never complete enough good works to necessitate God's compensation. Our grace in Christ Jesus, aka our salvation, is a gift of God freely given to us. He does this because He loves us.

Have you received that free gift in your life? I pray that you have. This is one of those situations in which I hope you opt to adopt the phrase "If it's free, it's for me." What better free lunch can you get, but that of the "Bread of Life" who has come down to us so that all who come to Him may know salvation and eternal life?

(See **If It's Free** on p. 2)

In This Issue: Pastor's Message · Upcoming Events | Christian Chicks | Men's Breakfast | Nov. Concert | Christmas Concert | Joyful Day | Property & Space Patrol | Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

If It's Free (from p. 1)

With Thanksgiving coming up, it is important to take time and remind oneself about all that God has given us. It is a time of reflection in which we take stock of our lives and see if we have been handling that which God gave us with great diligence and stewardship.

God owes us nothing, but he does choose to show us grace through the work of His Son. Any grace is by nature a free gift, and when we receive that free gift of salvation in Christ we experience the most tremendous gift of all—eternal life. My hope and prayer is that you will accept this gift offered to all men so that you may know the grace God wishes to pour down upon you.

✠ Pastor Jim

Christian Chicks

There will be no ladies meeting this month due to other scheduled events. Stay tuned for news about future events.

✠ Michelle Robertson

Men's Breakfast

The men will meet on Nov. 1 at 7:30 a.m. as long as everyone remembers to turn their clocks back one hour to Standard Time. We are going through the Book of Luke

November Concert

On Saturday Nov. 21 at 7:00 p.m., local gospel singer Alan Frink will be giving a concert at Loudon Center Freewill Baptist Church where Henry Frost is pastor. This is a concert of southern gospel and inspirational music as only Alan can sing with his strong tenor voice.

There will be a "pot blessing" supper at 6:00 p.m. That's their version of a potluck supper.

The church is location on Clough Hill Rd. in Loudon, which is a right turn off Route 106, a little over a mile north of Shaker Rd. and the Beanstalk Store. It's close enough to Hillside so look at this as a night out with brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Christmas Concert

On Saturday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m., Hillside Baptist Church will present The Campbells, New England's First Family of Gospel Music, in their only Christmas Concert in the Manchester-Concord area.

This musical event blends their well-known Southern Gospel songs with music of the Christmas season. A good dose of humor rounds out their performance.

The Campbells musical legacy spans over thirty years of Gospel music. They have recorded several albums and also have traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada. They have appeared on local and national television, and on gospel singing cruises.

Admission to the concert is free and a freewill offering will be accepted. Bring your family, bring some friends.

Refreshments will be served afterward.

Don't miss this exciting evening of Christmas and gospel music with the Campbells on Saturday Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

✠ Michael Frascinella

A Joyful Day

The scent of barbecue chicken, cotton candy, popcorn, homemade donuts, and fresh apple cider was floating through the air. The sounds included singing, laughter, music, children, adults, and animals too. The sun was bright, and the air was cool. It was a perfect day to share the joy of the Lord.

As Maranatha the Clown, I had the opportunity to be part of that wonderful Columbus Day, on Oct. 12, 2009, at Maranatha Ministries in New Durham, NH. They were having their annual Family Fair Day.

It was an honor to be able to share my personal testimony and hand out treats to people of all ages, as I walked up and down the dirt paths. I was able to share how God changed my life, and why I keep a joyful smile all the time, even when trials come.

I have to say, the highlight of my day though was when a little girl about four years old stepped out of the rest room stall, looking innocently up at me, with one hand on her hip. She said, "Clown; what are you doing in here?" I just smiled and said, "Clowns go potty too!"

Clowns bring laughter but Joy comes from the Lord!

Blessings,

✠ Maranatha the Clown
aka Laurie Wasp

Property and Space Patrol

The Fall Cleanup Day was October 24. It rained hard so no outside work got done. But lots got done inside. Several ambitious members relocated the church office to the former Library and it looks very nice. It was a good idea since we got to throw away a lot of unused material and recycled a lot of old pamphlets, booklets, bulletin forms, and phone books. Also much got cleaned and dusted, and the air conditioners were removed and stored for the winter. The work day was a great time of fellowship complete with a tasty lunch.

In preparation for the office move, a new window and door was installed to allow better lighting and ventilation. Thanks to Dale and Shannon, the office got painted before moving in. The move was necessary so that the kitchen can be relocated to the former office space. Although the new office space is a little smaller than the old office space, we were able to fit everything that was needed into the space.

The coffee making equipment and supplies were moved up to the old office. People can now stay upstairs to have coffee and mingle and fellowship after Worship Service.

Construction has started on the outdoor ramp in front of the building and should be completed before the end of November. This ramp will allow wheelchair users to get to the lower level from the upper level.

There is a lot of work to do and the workers are few. Anyone who has some time during the week and can help, please give me a call at 219-6251.

✠ Pastor Al Page

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating a birthday this month:

- 11/11 Dale Greenly
- 11/18 Warren Hastings
- 11/25 Ernie Robinson
- 11/29 Michelle Robertson



Hillside also wishes that someone would get married in November so we can congratulate them.

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.

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 Nov. 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.



Hillside Baptist Church
547 Pembroke St.
Pembroke, NH 03275

Modeling the truth of God's Word

