

THE BULLETIN

THE IMPORTANCE OF DROPPING YOUR NETS

There is no question that many of us live in a very busy world. Even retirees have been heard to complain that they had never been so busy in their pre-retirement. There's just something about this modern age of labor-saving, time-saving devices that has somehow made time even less available.

At least that's the story that we often hear, when we speak of the need for more prayer and Bible study, or we're looking for folks to do work for the church.

But were you aware that the greatest heroes of the Bible were often called in the middle of jobs, careers, and trips?

- Peter, James, and John were all called by the Lord with fishing nets in their hands—which they dropped to follow Jesus.
- Matthew was sitting at a tax collection booth, when Jesus called. He left what he was doing (apparently, money and all) and followed.
- Paul (Saul of Tarsus) was in the middle of a mission to “purify” Judaism, when the Lord called him. After he was given time to reflect and repent, he was baptized followed zealously til the day he died.
- Moses was taking care of sheep at an advanced age (80), when the LORD called him. Although Moses tried to wriggle out of the calling, God did not give him a pass; Moses went to Egypt with a message for Pharaoh.
- Gideon was threshing wheat.
- David was a kid tending his family's flocks.
- Jeremiah was only a youth.

How do we overcome the busyness syndrome? Two suggestions:

Either...

- 1) We need to *make* our lives simple enough to allow for daily spiritual pursuits (like prayer and Bible study) and for God's call to serve others and His Kingdom in some way.

Or...

- 2) We need to learn how to drop nets—truly seek first the Lord's kingdom and let everything else take a comparative back seat (Matt. 6:33). Work is important for providing for our families, but we need to learn how to “drop the nets”, when called. Pursuing interests and hobbies is good for keeping the mind and heart fresh, but we need to be able to choose properly between that which is merely fun and that which is truly important.

Don't get too busy for the most important thing in the entire world.

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Ministers:

Park Linscomb 540-0287
Mark Casella (501) 388-1687

Our Elders:


Barry Fogal 487-2387
Gerry Millette 497-3105

Our Deacons:

Tony Casella- Finance
Doug Paul- Education
Stuart Peacock- Worship
Pete Steffensen- Facilities
David Skerry- Benevolence & Outreach

Regularly Scheduled Services

Sunday worship: 9:30am
Sunday Bible class: 11:00am
Sunday evening: 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible class: 7:00pm


**AS SCARCE AS TRUTH IS,
THE SUPPLY HAS ALWAYS
BEEN IN EXCESS OF THE
DEMAND.**



Our Family News

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household," Ephesians 2:19, NAS95.

If you're a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please don't hesitate to ask Park Linscomb our minister (the really tall guy) or any other church member.

WHAT'S GOING ON?



Today is our monthly fellowship luncheon—a cook out: and will be in honor of our high school graduates! Come enjoy the food, fellowship, and time of congratulation to our grads.

Substitutes: Mark will be in the pulpit for Park this morning, and Gerry Millette will replace Park as the auditorium Bible class teacher.

July 10 we will have a special guest with us, **Dr. Bruce McLarty**, president of Harding University. Bruce will be in the area for a conference in Boston and is planning to be with us to worship. Dr. McLarty will be



preaching for us that morning. Following worship there'll be a special class for our teens and their parents. If you have a student that may be college bound, Dr. McLarty would be a good person to talk with.

VBS is August 15-17. "Animal Tales" is our theme. Mark your calendars.

Families stay in touch! We will be updating our directory, so

when a form is given to you, please fill it out and return it as soon as you can, even if your info hasn't changed. Plus, we'll be taking some updated pictures—so everyone will be able to recognize you.

Family Workshop: This October 21-23 the church here will be hosting a family workshop featuring Dr. Joe Brumfield from Harding University. This is going to be a great opportunity to sharpen and improve our family skills and will be very worthwhile for visitors. Invite, invite, invite!

AREA EVENTS COMING SOON...

Work and Worship Week— June 25-July 1—a week of family camping, a great way to contribute to Gander Brook, and



a great spiritual uplift each evening. This year's speaker is Arnie Holmes.

Gander Brook Regular Camping Season, July 2 through August 13. Registration can be done both online or by paper.

NEEDING HELP

- **GB Camperships**—It's that time of year again to help out our church youth who wish to attend Gander Brook this summer. Camper fees this year are \$365.
- Checks for *any amount* can be written to the Manchester church of Christ (write GB

campership in the memo), and they are tax deductible.

- If you need help to send your child to camp this year contact Tony Casella (mht_church_treasurer@comcast.net) for a campership. We would love to see every child who wants to go have an opportunity to go.
- **Gander Brook's director's cabin**, is making progress. If you'd like to help through a contribution, you can do so online or through a check given to Park who'll forward them to GB's treasurer.

PRAYER CORNER:

NEW REQUESTS: Dick Potter's recovery from surgery, Steve Jones successful eye surgery and recovery,



CONTINUING REQUESTS: **Good Works:**

current Bible studies, our website, MNFM, food pantry, Penny Ranger's online evangelism

Health: Judy Diaz's neighbors health, David Skerry's brother-in-law (Eddie), Tom Jones, Lynn Millette, Penny's niece Chelsea, Mary Jane Parker, Natalie Cleavitt, David Lovering, Linda Tetrault and her brother Bob, John Matthew and Anni

Struggles: Randy Stevens; Jim Kenison; the spiritually weak.

Leadership: Ministers, Elders, Deacons, Teachers, Parents

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs 1:7

A Word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

CREATION IS TRUE

The theory of evolution has found its way into just about every nook and cranny of modern society. It preaches that man, along with other animals, evolved; man having most recently come from apes. It espouses that while we are the most intelligent animals on the earth, we are still animals and subject to instinct and passions like all the rest of the universe. And lastly it seems to "know" that all the universe is the product of the laws of physics and randomness—not God. The "high priests" of science—celebrity scientists, philosophers, and opinion makers of our day—all swear by it.

But here's the thing that gets overlooked again and again—the theory of evolution is only a theory and not a fact. Despite the loud claims to the contrary, the facts bearing on this question are far more in favor of creation than they are for evolution. Can I briefly—only briefly—point out a few?

The Bible Tells Us So

OK, I know that on the face of it, this seems to be a rather weak evidence, but hear me out on this. The Bible is demonstrably 100% accurate historically, prophetically, and in its pre-scientific knowledge. This is a record that no other book on earth can match, and it bears witness that the Bible is the inspired word of God—only God could be that accurate. *The only eyewitness to the beginning of the universe, God, testifies that it was done by creation.* Therefore, creation is true.

Missing Links

For over 150 years evolutionists have sought the missing link between species—any species—in the fossil record. But despite 150 years of impassioned searching, no missing link has been found between any species. Now there have been some who have attempted to manufacture missing links, but they've all been caught in their lies. The fossil record only shows species that adapted, but stayed within their species; but never has there been a documented jump of one species to another. The missing links testify that creation is true and evolution is false.

A Design Demands a Designer

South American archaeologists have recently added a new weapon to their arsenal of discovery, jungle penetrating radar. This radar has helped them to find Aztec and Mayan structures from the sky through the jungle canopy. How? They look for straight lines, blocks, and perfect circles—designed order which doesn't exist in chaotic nature. These archaeologists know they are man-made, because design demands designers (Aztecs and Mayans, in this case).

This applies to creation this way: the second law of thermodynamics (entropy) tells us that things naturally go from ordered and organized to disordered and mixed up. But evolution demands that things go from mixed up to organized, from simple to complex—the exact opposite of the law of entropy. The beautiful organization of life on earth, the ecological harmony of it all, the multiplied thousands of symbiotic relationships, the intricate complexity of even a single celled organism all stand as loud, daily witnesses of creation rather than evolution.

Irreducible Complexity

Evolution demands a slow, step-by-step series of changes to work, and here's a problem for evolution. There are many, many mechanisms within living things (living cells) that could not have occurred in tiny, individualized steps, over thousands or millions of years. They had to have appeared complete and whole or they would have been useless, and therefore eliminated by evolution—or worse, fatal to the organism. Such complexity that cannot be missing any piece, else it doesn't work, is called irreducible complexity.

Blood clotting is one of many examples that could be marshaled. Blood clotting starts with a cut, which starts a cascading of chemical reactions which result in a clot for our wound. If only one of these is missing—and sometimes it is—the blood doesn't clot and the organism dies. Evolution cannot explain how each and every special protein, enzyme, and factor (all 13 or more) was already in place in an early life form before the first scratch or bruise happened. But even more, the blood also needs to stop the clotting. Once a clot is formed, a new cascade of chemical reaction inhibits the forming of clots. If only one of these is missing—and sometimes it is—the life form keeps on clotting and the organism dies. Yet evolution tells us that these specialized proteins, enzymes, and factors appeared one at a time over eons of time in different animals, who somehow survived without the ability to clot, passing down all these otherwise useless special proteins, enzymes and factors down to their children, until we finally had the whole set and could finally afford the risk of getting cut or bruised. Really?

There are many more evidences, but in this short space, I've listed a few of the ones most convincing. And this is important to know, because you and I are more than mere animals, enslaved to instincts and passions; we've been made in the image of God and are morally accountable.

Park Linscomb



*Senior Sunday! Is June 19th. We will have a cookout after Bible Class.

*Movie Night is June 25th from 7-9:30 at Mark and Ann's.

*Chuckster's Day! We are currently planning on going to Chuckster's on June 27th. We need

to have 10 people go in order for us to get the rate we are looking at! We will be spending 3 hours there. You may bring friends as well. This is a 6th grade and up event. We leave from the building at 12:30 and should return around 4:30.

* Its An Animals Tale! VBS is around the corner! How can you help?

* Summer Lock In! Our Summer Lock In will take place on July 1-2nd. We will leave from the building at 7pm and return around noon on Saturday. Parents, don't worry about the travel! The driver's will have plenty of sleep and it has been incorporated into the schedule for them. Teens please make every effort to attend! it will be a lot of fun and the Church in Connecticut would love to do more with us!

* Please sign up for Bible Classes, Events, and other things in the foyer! It is important to look there and to help us plan!

* Mini VBS will be on the first two wednesday nights in July! Please bring your children if possible!

* Teen Lunch at Mr Mac's on July 10th

Bible Reading Schedule for this Week

Sunday	June 19	Song of Sol 6-8
Monday	June 20	Galatians 4
Tuesday	June 21	Isaiah 1-2
Wednesday	June 22	Galatians 5
Thursday	June 23	Isaiah 3-4
Friday	June 24	Galatians 6
Saturday	June 25	Isaiah 5-6

Service Schedule for June 19 & June 22

Call to Worship	Park Linscomb	
Song Leader	Mark Casella	Stuart Peacock
Scripture	Phil Gould	
Lord's Supper	Gary Diaz	
Closing Prayer	Fred Hillhouse	
Worship Tech	George Abood	
Coordinator	Rich Therrien	
Devo		Phil Gould

Our Congregational Calendar for June 19-July 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 Worship @ 9:30am Bible class @ 11am Bldg sm grp-- 6pm Senior Sunday	20 Mark & Ann Casella's first anniversary Jeff Moser BD	21	22 6pm dinner 7pm Bible study	23	24 Jon L. BD	25 Movie night at Mark's and Ann's Beginning of GB's Work and Worship Week Dion anniv.
26 Worship @ 9:30am Bible class @ 11am Bldg sm grp-- 6pm	27	28	29 Jakob Owen BD 6pm dinner 7pm Bible study	30	July 1 Milletie anniv	July 2 First week of GB

W o r k a n d W o r s h i p W e e k a t G a n d e r B r o o k

Teen Lock-in in Manchester CT