

THE BULLETIN

HOSPITALITY



Christians are taught in scripture to practice hospitality. The Greek term means “one who loves strangers.” This word occurs three times in the New Testament. The first is in I Timothy 3:2 where “*given to hospitality*” is a qualification for an elder (bishop). The second is in Titus 1:8 where it again is a for an elder. The third occurrence is in I Peter 4:9 where it applies to all Christians: “*use hospitality, one to another, without murmuring.*” The same thought is expressed in Hebrews 13:2: “*Forget not to show love unto strangers: for there-by some have entertained angels unawares.*”

Although the idea of hospitality applies primarily to strangers, we are also commanded to use hospitality “one to another,” that is, fellow Christians whom we may know quite well. How is it expressed? It can be expressed in many ways. We can invite people into our homes for meals – have you ever done this? We can take people out to restaurants for meals – have you ever done this? We can share a meal with visitors at the annex – have you ever done this?

But even without sharing a meal, we can have a welcoming attitude toward strangers. Some congregations are so ingrown that members just look right through visitors without recognizing or greeting them. Abraham’s hospitality resulted in “entertaining angels unawares.” We could also be so fortunate.

Earle West

The Manchester church of Christ

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mht_church@comcast.net
mhtchurch.org

Our Ministers:

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

Our Elders:

Barry Fogal 487-2387
Gerry Millette 497-3105

Our Deacons:

Finance - Tony Casella
Education - Doug Paul
Building & Grounds - Will Hamel / Pete Steffensen
Benevolence & Outreach - David Skerry

Regularly Scheduled Services

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

When the world
pushes you to your
knees, you are in a
perfect position to
pray.

Our Family

"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?

HELP NEEDED, ASAP

We need a new janitor. Please talk to one of the elders or call the church office.

WED. NIGHT SUPPER: Linda Paul is making poppyseed chicken & noodles this week (also, one without poppy seeds). A signup sheet is in the back of the auditorium. Please add your name to the list.

NEEDED: ADDITIONAL WEDNESDAY COOKS - *We need people to sign up from Oct. 19 forward.*

GROUND CARE: This building belongs to all of us and we need to tend to the exterior. Bring the kids to work as a family. A signup sheet will be posted for Snow Removal (maybe you get lucky and it doesn't snow your week!!!)

MNFM Cooks are needed. Sign-up sheet in the back of the auditorium.

LORD'S SUPPER to shut-ins: Brian Cleavitt & Louise Roy are taking communion for Oct. & Nov. Need volunteers beginning in Dec.

Family Workshop:

October 21-23 the church will host a family workshop with Dr. Joe Brumfield from Harding University. Childcare will not be provided in the evening.

Schedule

Friday @ 7pm

20 Qualities Successful Families Have in Common

Saturday @ 8am (men)

What Wives Long For

Saturday @ 12pm (ladies)

Satan's Lies That I Have Believed

Saturday @ 6pm

Decoding Your Spouse's Communication

Sunday @ 9:30am (sermon)

Spiritual Warfare for Today's Christian Family

Sunday @ 11am (Bible Class)

How To Make Your Spouse Crazy About You Again

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Friday evening we are having a dinner with Joe @ 5:30. If you would like to help, let Kathy in the church office know.
- After the Friday evening service, if someone would like to organize a dessert and coffee time to chat, please call the church office.
- We are looking for women to prepare & serve breakfast for the men and some men to prepare & serve lunch for the ladies.
- Park will organize something for the kids. **Volunteers needed!**

NEW - ADDITION TO LIBRARY

We have added media to the library. Please come use out assets.

SUNDAY AM ANNOUNCEMENTS

The only announcements made from the pulpit during Sunday morning worship are those that are called into the church office by Friday afternoon and pertain to the entire church Family. If there is something you want to share, there is a white board in the foyer 'Late News' where you can share other information with our Family.

THANKS

A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped at Work Day, yesterday.

We want to thank everyone for their encouragement and prayers throughout this last year as we have transitioned up here from Pennsylvania and have searched for jobs and a home and dealt with health issues. Your support has meant so much to us. And a very special thank you, too, to Steven, Brian, Margery, Nicole, Terry, Mark, and Jason who helped move us into our new home last weekend. We can't thank you enough!

In Christian Love,
The Mackeys

NEW PRAYER CONCERNS: THE EDGEWOOD CONGREGATION'S SPIRITUAL HEALTH, LYNN MILLETTE, THOM FORESTBURG MALACHI NORRIS, GENEVA BAUM

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS: MINISTERS, ELDERS, DEACONS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, GANDER BROOK **ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS** ARE ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE WORSHIP INSERT



A Word of Encouragement

"Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away" Hebrews 2:1 NKJV.

GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY

In all the writing about problems in the church it seems one problem has been ignored.....the problem of a lack of hospitality. This problem causes others, too.

The Holy Spirit announced through the apostle Paul in Rom 1:16 *'that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe it.'* He developed this theme in majestic form through eleven chapters. In view of all the marvels of God's scheme to redemption as stated in those eleven chapters, Paul begged Christians beginning in chapter 12 to conduct themselves in a manner becoming of those who had received the great salvation he so elaborately expounded on in the first 11 chapters. Among the many things Paul besought the Roman Christians to do, he told them to be given to hospitality (Rom. 12:13). Paul also stressed hospitality in giving the qualifications of elders when he wrote that a bishop (elder) must be given to hospitality (I Tim. 3:2). HOSPITALITY in Romans 12:13 and I Timothy 3:2 is a translation of a Greek word that means: 'hospitable, generous to guests; love to strangers'. Not just elders are to be given to hospitality, but they should set a good example of being hospitable. All Christians are commanded to be given to hospitality (Rom. 12:13).

Too Few Practice It

Usually, hospitality is practiced by entirely too few in a congregation. Often a new family moves into a city and visits. Such a family should never visit a congregation of the Lord's people without receiving at least a few invitations like: 'Come go home with us for lunch' these invitations should be genuine! Such genuine and generous hospitality will do great things for the church. Such hospitality is a symptom of deep spiritual quality. It is a sign of the love of souls and interest in people. One of the reasons some churches are not growing is due to a lack of interest in people.

Who Will Have the Preacher?

Many years ago a preacher preached for a church on a Sunday morning and evening service far from his home. After the morning service the preacher was not asked to go home with anyone. One couple did tell him they would pick up at a certain place that afternoon for a tour of the area. The preacher went to a restaurant and ate before the couple picked him up. Being a young preacher, he could have been somewhat discouraged by this lack of hospitality but he kept on preaching and enjoyed much hospitality as a preacher for about thirty years since then. This is a true story; I am that preacher. Do

not be afraid to have a preacher of the Gospel in your home for a meal. He does not have to be entertained. He is human, like you. Treat him as you would anyone else. It is my observation that a certain few in a congregation usually ask a visiting preacher for dinner, but for the sake of the church, more of the members should practice such hospitality.

Visiting With Each Other

Families in a congregation should visit each other more. There seems to be very little such hospitality practiced in most congregations. Christian families should invite non-Christian families into their homes and use such opportunities to save souls. The average Christian family has become so involved in work, school, sports, electronics and 'other things' that it finds little time to practice hospitality. Hospitality unites people and builds kindness, love and sympathy among God's people.

Do Not Have To Be 'Well Fixed'

Truly some are not as well fixed as others for having guests. But it is easy to find excuses for not doing what God wants us to do. You do not have to have everything in your home 'just right' in order to be hospitable. Hospitality is not excessively costly and sumptuous banquets, but simple and warm fellowship. It is the spirit and heart that hospitality generates that is important. Christian maturity causes a family not to be overly worried about not having an abundance of things, but it means inviting others to share what they do have and enjoying the fellowship.

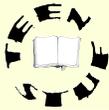
Without Grudges

'Use hospitality one to another without grudging' (I Peter 4:9). Hospitality should be without complaining. It costs, but it pays more than it costs. 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Where did a Christian get the idea that serving God is without financial cost? Hospitality is all the medicine some need to relieve tension. Hospitality practiced by many members can give a congregation new life! Life in this work is short. Material things are of little value unless we use them in doing God's will.

When Have You?

When have you invited someone home with you? When have you invited those with whom you were not well acquainted?

Basil Overton



Upcoming Events

- * Oct 16 - Mr. Mac's Lunch after Bible class
- * Oct 17 - Chill Night at Mark & Ann's @ 7-8:30
- * Oct. 21-23 - Marriage & Family Seminar - your help will be needed
- * Oct. 30 - Trunk or Treat - 5-7pm. Snacks must be prepackaged
 - Get your costumes ready and come have fun.
 - Sign up sheet in the foyer
 - Small package for best decorated car.
- * Calendars for November and December can be found in the foyer.

"This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life."
Psalms 119:50 ESV.

Hold On...

One of the many things that we can expect in life is that there will be affliction. Nothing is going to be perfectly easy and go off with no problems. Especially as Christians in a world that is quickly forgetting what it means to be Christian we face more afflictions every day.

Afflictions can come in many forms. They can be struggles with people who don't believe, they can be illnesses, money issues, family

issues, and maybe even God issues. The point is that they come in many shapes and sizes. Even when these things come at us on a daily basis, we need to hold onto a promise that we are given. Life.

No matter what is thrown our way, we can hold onto the promise of life. Jesus gave His life so that we could have life. When things get tough we know that we can go to our father because we have this life and that life is nothing that our afflictions or this world can take. Hold onto the promise of life.

Mark Casella

Thought Provoking Question: If you were at heaven's gates, and God asked "you why should I let you in?", what would you say?

Bible Reading Schedule for this Week			Oct 16	AM	PM	Oct 19
Sunday	Oct 16	James 5	Call to Worship	Barry Fogal		
Monday	Oct 17	Ezekiel 22-23	Song Leader	Gary Diaz	3rd	Stuart Peacock
Tuesday	Oct 18	1 Peter 1	Scripture	Mark Casella		
Wednesday	Oct 19	Ezekiel 24-26	Lord's Supper	Fred Hillhouse		
Thursday	Oct 20	1 Peter 2	Closing Prayer	Gerry Millette		
Friday	Oct 21	Ezekiel 27-29	Coordinator	Stuart Peacock		
Saturday	Oct 22	1 Peter 3	Worship Tech	George Abood		
			Devo			Park L

Our Congregational Calendar for October 16 - October 22

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 Worship @ 9:30am Bible class @ 11am Fellowship lunch@noon Bldg sm grp-- 6pm	17	18	19 6pm - Wed Night Supper 7pm Bible Study Freddie & Margery Hillhouse - anniv	20 Kalelb Owen - BD Wendy Lecat - BD Luke & Jessica Bergeron - anniv Leah & Chis Yancey - anniv	21 Lucille Levesque - BD	22