

THE BULLETIN

Investing in Your Future

What will you invest in for your future, the stock market, your 401K, Thrift Savings Plan, or other agency retirement plans? You work your entire career planning for retirement and saving income that will sustain you for the rest of your life. To attain this you may invest in achieving higher education, vocational training, different job skills or entrepreneurial dreams.

What about your salvation, your spiritual investment? Are you investing in God's Kingdom? Are you contributing to the finances of your congregation? Are you a loyal servant for the work of the church? Are you actively involved in teaching, congregational ministries, leading a ministry, serving others, helping to expand God's Kingdom? Your financial investment in your future is important, investing in God's Kingdom is imperative!

Your life on earth is short, your heavenly life is forever. What should your ultimate retirement goal be? If you invest in God's Kingdom you will never go bankrupt. We often invest our time, finances, and talents to gain earthly rewards that are temporary instead of seeking heavenly rewards.

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 9:6 "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." There are many different ways you can sow generously that are not limited to finances, but also your time and talents.

Matthew said in 6:19-20 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Our reward has been reserved for us in heaven because no bank on earth could contain the incomparable riches of serving Christ.

~adapted from Jackie Gill

The Manchester church of Christ

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Our Ministers:

Park Linscomb 540-0287

Our Elders:

Barry Fogal 487-2387

Gerry Millette 497-3105

Our Deacons:

Benevolence - David Skerry

Building & Grounds - Will

Hamel / Pete Steffensen

Education - Doug Paul

Worship Time:

Sun. Worship - 9:30am

Bible Class - 11:00am

Sun. Evening - 6:00pm

Wed. Bible Class - 7:00pm



Life is a book in volumes three - The past, the present, and the yet-to-be.

The past is written & laid away,

The present we're writing every day,

The last & best of volumes three is locked from sight - God keeps the

key



Family News

“So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.” Galatians 6:10, 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.



- **SEPT. 4** - LABOR DAY PICNIC AT FREDA'S. Sign up sheets at the back of the auditorium
- **SEPT. 11** - MNFM - 6-8 PM

FALL EVENTS

- **SEPT. 14-16** - LADIES RETREAT - Registrations forms in the foyer
- **SEPT. 21-23** - MEN'S RETREAT
- **OCT. 31** - TRUNK OR TREAT
- **NOV. 3-5** - GOSPEL MEETING



GB DORM PROJECT - The church here has been associated with and enjoyed Gander Brook for years. We all know how much the camp has meant to kids and adults alike. But now Gander Brook has a challenge before it; our dorm really needs replacement. Replacement will cost \$450k, and already over \$150k has been given. Now we need help especially from the churches and Christians of New England. One-time gifts are appreciated, but a monthly pledge from now through Dec.

31, 2018 may be more manageable. Imagine a year 'round facility for congregational retreats in late October, youth weekends January, deeper Bible study classes in February, or leadership classes in March! Imagine Gander Brook's hiking trails turned into cross country skiing trails or snow shoe paths—or even our waterfront turned into a skating area.

Please consider helping us. There are brochures in the foyer, complete with a tear-off section, if you should decide to provide a monthly pledge toward this great project, or go to www.ganderbrook.org/retreat-house.



Grounds Clean Up

The rains have been good to replenish the water supply. They also help the grass and weeds grow - a lot. Please select a week that is good for you and your family to come do yard work. It helps give a caring impression to those around.....if we care about the building, we must also care about souls

There are new locks on the sheds. Check with Will Hamel for the combination.

Lord's Supper to shut-in

Volunteers needed, **now**. Please talk with Doug Paul about this.

Pantry:

The pantry is so thankful for all donations, but please, check the expiration date on food you bring. If it's expired, donate it to your trash, please

Those willing to participate at the pantry either on Wed. evenings or Sunday mornings, please drop a text or email to Dave Skerry.

THANKS

- To all who helped with MNFM
- To all our teachers
- To Don Dion for taking the Sunday am Sr. High class
- To all who are stepping up to help with Youth Activities

FALL MEETING

Nov. 3-5, David Rollert, the minister at Tilton, will conduct our Gospel meeting. Begin to think & pray about the meeting and who you will invite.

ADDRESSES

Addresses for the following are posted at the back of the auditorium:

- Cade Dumas
- Mark & Ann Casella

PRAYERS

New Prayer Concerns: for the safe travel of all returning from Gander Brook and vacations, Jim Cordaro's mother & family, Kerstin Dumas, her sister and other family members, the continued health of many who have been in our prayers, for our elders, deacons, minister and all our families. Additional Prayer Requests and details are on the WORSHIP INSERT.



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.

HELPING YOUNG ADULTS TRANSITION INTO LEADERSHIP, PT. 1

Are great leaders born, or can a great leader be trained? Leadership theory is ever evolving, and for a period of time, the “great leader” concept pervaded leadership literature. The foundational idea was that one is either born a natural leader or not. This static view of human development created a complex in which churches believed they had little recourse to improve the level of leadership in their congregations.

Of course, some people are gifted with natural leadership traits like decisiveness or likeability, but innate skills can carry a leader only so far in effectiveness. A growth perspective in leadership is needed to help train young people into leaders. Elders need to move away from the act of identifying leaders and begin creating leadership pathways. Churches need to be intentional in *making* leaders, not *finding* leaders.

A shift to this mindset would match that of Christ. In Matthew 14:15-21, we see an example of Jesus coaching the disciples to greater effectiveness and leadership in the kingdom. The Lord provided some “on the job” training to His apostles in this story about the feeding of the five thousand, and we can see Jesus guiding His disciples to great leadership.

TEACH THEM TO OWN THE BURDEN

The first step in leadership is caring. Apathy never creates strong leaders. In Matt. 14:15, the disciples came to Jesus to shoo the people away: “Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Some fascinating dynamics are found within this verse.

We can see the disciples’ concern for the people’s welfare. The crowds needed some food, but there were limited supplies in their

barren location. The disciples placed the burden of the people on Jesus’ shoulders. They absolved themselves of responsibility by suggesting Jesus take care of the situation by sending the people away. They had a minuscule level of concern but not enough empathy to act themselves.

The disciples’ attitude here is similar to the attitudes of young people today who are engaged in activism. They can see that something needs to be done, but they don’t have the skills or desire to do anything, so they push it onto the leadership. The natural behavior that follows is that young people begin sinking into professional criticism within a congregation: the *elders* need to, the *minister* needs to, the *members* needs to. The focus is on the actions of others instead of owning the problems themselves.

Congregational leaders must navigate young people away from this critical posturing through mentoring and coaching. Teach them that merely identifying needs is not an act of leadership; solving problems is. The reality is that the burden of action is on them. Too often leadership in the church reacts poorly to the young, idealistic spirit within the congregation and treats it with isolation and silence when a better approach would be to ask proactive questions to coax the young people into taking personal responsibility for problems.

The disciples felt a burden for the welfare of the people but attempted to jettison it onto Jesus. Mature leaders must follow Jesus’ example and allow the burden to remain on the shoulders of the future leaders of the congregation.

Matthew W. Morine, Gospel Advocate

Churches need to be intentional in
making leaders, not **finding**
leaders.



Youth and Family News & Updates

Practical Suggestions on Prayer

UPCOMING EVENTS

Be on the lookout for future events. If you can help lead some volunteer!

Don Dion - new Sr. High class teacher

Family Movie Night: Sept. 23

Last Note from Mark...

Some last 'thank yous'...

- To all who joined Wednesday evening to wish us well as we leave.



- To those who helped load the truck on Thursday. Many young muscles helped us complete the task with some time to rest.

- To the Manchester Church family for all your support and help over the past 2 years. You will always have a special place in our hearts.

Love to all, Mark, Ann & Emmett

Pray Immediately Upon Rising

In what better way can we begin a day than by thanking God for His protection and care during the night and by asking for His guidance during the coming day?

Pray Before Every Meal

God has provided for our every need in such a bountiful manner. Surely, the least we can do is express our gratitude as we sit down to enjoy a meal! When we eat in restaurants, a few moments of silent prayer may serve for the audible prayer we pray around our tables at home.

Pray At Set Times

The ancient Jews, and others, found it helpful to reserve certain periods of the day for prayer. We may find it helpful, too. These regular times serve as reminders and help to keep the busy, on-rushing world from crowding out our periods of communion with God.

Pray With the Whole Family

There is something particularly wonderful about a prayer in which both children and parents have a part.

Pray When You Feel Discouraged

Most of us need little encouragement to pray when we feel discouraged or face some special problem. At such times, prayer comes unsought. It is a great comfort to know God listened to our prayers in times of crisis (1 Pet. 5:7). One of the greatest privileges of the Christian is the privilege of leaning upon the Lord in times of difficulty.

Pray at Odd Times

Pray whenever you feel the desire. The real Christian will often find cause to pray - while driving his car, working at his desk, waiting for a friend, or doing a host of other things. When the desire to pray comes, pray. The prayer need not be long - perhaps only a sentence or two. It does not need to be spoken aloud, for God hears 'silent' prayers, too.

Pray When You Are Happy

It is easy to pray in times of crisis, and equally easy to forget to pray when the affairs of life are going well. Most Christians need to thank God for their happy, prosperous lives far more than they do.

"...men ought always to pray, and not to faint" Luke 18:1

~adapted from Batsell Barrett Baxter

Thought Provoking Question *How can I improve my prayer life this week?*

Family Bible Reading and Congregational Calendar for Aug 13 - Aug 19

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13- 2 Sam. 21-22 Chris Dion - BD	14- Sam. 23-24	15- Luke 18	16 -I Kings 1	17- Kings 2 Park & Linda Linscomb - Anniv	18- I Kings 3-4	19- Luke 19