

# THE BULLETIN

## "The Main Thing"

Someone once said, "The Main Thing is to keep The Main Thing, The Main Thing." Have you ever thought about what that means? Well, the world has so many distractions. Work, school, children, spouse, family...all these could be "The Main Thing." Or perhaps, different things could exchange places as "The Main Thing." What is your main thing?

To God, He is "The Main Thing." Nothing and no one should come before him. The writer of Ecclesiastes states in chapter 12, verse 13, "Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind." This one command has never changed since the creation of man.

In Matthew 22: 37, Jesus reminds a Pharisee, who was an expert in the law, of the greatest command found in Deuteronomy 6: 5. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Verse 38 states, "This is the first and greatest commandment."

So while we might worry about what we will eat drink or wear, Jesus reminds us to not worry tomorrow. "The Main Thing" is to "seek first his (the heavenly Father's) kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well," Matthew 6:33.



JO Anderson

## The Manchester church of Christ

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Manchester NH 03109 603.623.5559  
[mht\\_church@comcast.net](mailto:mht_church@comcast.net)  
[mhtchurch.org](http://mhtchurch.org)

### Our Minister:

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



Dear Lord, Make me respectful of  
all people, and when I become  
angry with my family and friends,  
let me be quick to forgive and  
forget. Let me be a patient, kind,  
loving Christian today and  
always. Amen



# Family Events

“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. 3** - BIBLE CLASS 'MOVE UP' DAY. This is for Cradle Roll through High School. If you are in an 'age class', i.e., '2s & 3s', stay with your age. If you are in school stay with your grade.
  - 1st & 2nd grade class,
  - 3rd-5th grade class,
  - Middle School class (6th-8th grade) and
  - High School Class
- **SEPT. 4** - LABOR DAY PICNIC AT FREDA'S. Sign up sheets at the back of the auditorium
- **SEPT. 10** - CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## FALL EVENTS

- **SEPT. 11** - MNFM - 6-8 PM
- **SEPT. 14-16** - LADIES RETREAT - Registrations forms in the foyer
- **SEPT. 21-23** - MEN'S RETREAT
- **OCT. 1** - AREA WIDE SING - Upper Valley church of Christ - 3-5pm
- **OCT. 31** - TRUNK OR TREAT
- **NOV. 3-5** - GOSPEL MEETING

## FALL MEETING

Nov. 3-5, David Rollert, will conduct a meeting - "What is this Gospel that People Talk About?" Begin to think & pray about the meeting and who you will invite.



**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 needs serious attention. A new building would cost \$750K+, so we will need to completely overhaul it— at the cost of about \$450K.

At this point \$225K has been pledged, but requires matching gifts of \$225K. 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. 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](http://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. WE need your help to keep things looking good. It gives a caring impression to those around.....if we care about the building, we must also care about souls.

## Lord's Supper to shut-in

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

## Pantry:

The pantry is thankful for all donations, please check expiration dates on food . If it's expired, don't bring, please. Anyone willing to participate at the pantry either Wed. evening or Sun. morning, please let Dave Skerry know

## THANKS

To all who step up to help with Youth Activities  
To our teachers

## ADDRESSES

Addresses for Cade Dumas & the Casella family are posted at the back of the auditorium.

## Family Bible Reading and Congregational Calendar for Aug . 27 - Sept. 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27- Luke 21	28- I Kings 15-16	29- I Kings 17-18	30 -I Kings 19-20 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Singing .....	31 - Luke 22	1- I Kings 21-22	2- 2 Kings 1-2
Darlene Chamberlain - BD	Avery Mackey - BD		Randall Chaffin - BD	Ken Bell - BD		

# Youth & Family News



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Be on the lookout for future events. If you can help lead an event, please volunteer! You can call the church office.

### **Family Movie Night: Sept. 23**

Because we are currently without a Youth Minister, the elders announced that we will not take a group to either

- The Teen Retreat at Gander Brook on 9/8 or;
- The Roxbury Youth Rally on 9/16.

**Thought Provoking Questions?**  
**Is God the "Main Thing" in your life? Do you live so others know it?**

**Weekly Contribution**  
**Aug 20, 2017**  
**\$3378.00**

## PRAYER CORNER

**New Prayer Concerns:** for the safe travel as summer comes to an end, the Abood and Carroll families in the loss of their mother, for our elders, deacons, minister, teachers and all our families.

## CONTINUING PRAYERS

### • Health - Family

- Continuing Recovery
  - Kerstin Dumas
  - Lynn Millette
  - Don Dion
  - Linda Linscomb
  - Gage Dumas for his arm and eye

- Marge Simon.
- Pete Steffensen
- Casey Jones
- Brian Day
- Mary Jane Parker
- Tom Jones
- Penny Ranger - health issues & her niece, Chelsea

### • Sympathy

- The Abood & Carroll families in the loss of their mother.

### • Health - Family & Friends

- Jim Cordaro's mom is home on oxygen. They saw the doctor & have 3 options to

weigh - each with substantial risk.

Continued prayers for the family & her medical team.

- Diane Beard's cousin, Denise Noland is having some additional tests run, so continued prayers..
- David Lovering (Cancer)
- Natalie Cleavitt
- Linda Tetrault, illness
- John Matthew is still trying different things to help. Prayers for the entire family.

### • Struggles

- Darlene Cordaro and her daycare
- Barbara Lovering, David's declining health and her Parkinson's
- Those who have been absent in the assembly

### • Thanksgivings

- That Lynn Millette, Don Dion, Linda Linscomb and Marge Simon have been in worship with us.
- Kerstin has some good news...not all that was hoped for, but God is Good and is taking care of her.

# *A Parting Encouragement*

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“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.

## **LET YOUR JOY SHINE!**

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Christianity is not a negative religion. The world—very unfortunately—sees God’s word, Christ’s church, and Christians generally as very negative—a religion of “No”. We know why, of course; God often says, “No,” to the evil and harmful things that people in the world seem to love, but which hurt themselves and others, and violate God’s very nature. However, those who know the Lord understand that Christianity is very positive—and more than merely optimistic, it is full of faith and hope! The very things that make men pessimistic, cynical, curmudgeon-like, and defeatist have no power over the Christian!

For example, Christians know that our troubles will ultimately be turned upside down, if we follow the Lord’s commands. Paul reminds us, “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28, NAS95). There is no problem so difficult that God cannot fix it, if we are willing to follow His solution.

And of course, one of the two greatest problems that man has ever had to face is death (the other being sin)—the Lord has solved it! While other religions may make a claim to some sort of afterlife and “salvation”, Christianity has proven it through the resurrection of Jesus. Let that sink in; the event in this world that brings the most sorrow and dread has been solved! “O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?” (1 Corinthians 15:55, NAS95). Death is not the end of existence; there is much more. And for the Christian, the “much more” is more wonderful than words can express. With this sort of hope, it’s impossible to threaten a Christian with death!

Here’s another positive thing, the nature of individual men can be changed! In Jesus,

where a new kind of life is revealed, a clean slate is offered, and forgiveness is bestowed, the lives of men and women can be radically changed, not just for the better but for the best! God’s word and Jesus’ cross can make amazing changes in individuals and in the world, when it is sown into the hearts of men and men submit to it. God through Isaiah said, “So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:11, NAS95).

There is real joy in the fellowship of the saved. There is delight found in the commands of the Lord. There is hope for men in this world and iron-clad hope for the world to come. Even when we are persecuted in this world, we are confident in our victory, overcoming evil with good. We have abundant reasons to be joyful rather than cynical, dark, or suspicious.

And when we do dwell on the joy, on the hope, on the faith; we discover a strength for perseverance, endurance, and zeal in doing the Lord’s will—“Then he said to them, “Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”” (Nehemiah 8:10, NAS95).

This week, ponder the positive, enjoy the joy, and affirm the affirmative in your Christian life! Let that joy shine; people will wonder what you’re smiling about—and you can tell them. God is so very good, and He has given to us the hope, the peace, and the joy that cannot be touched by the world—if we don’t let it.

Park Linscomb